



# AUDUBON'S WARBLER

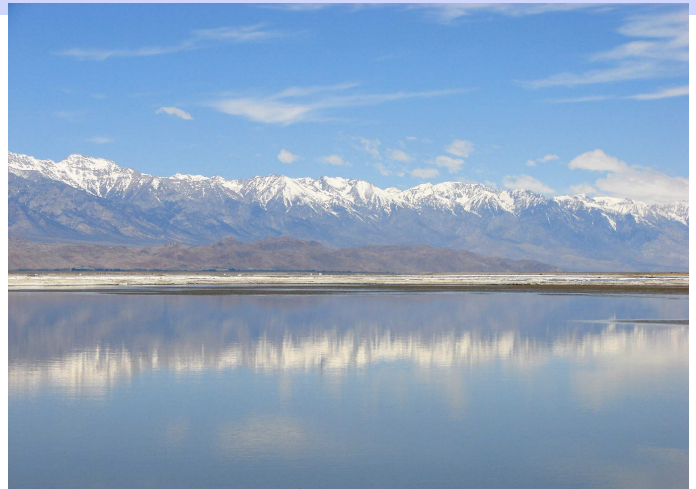
Vol. 44. no. 7- SEPTEMBER 2015  
Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**  
A chapter of National Audubon Society  
[www.kernaudubonsociety.org](http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org)

**Kern Audubon**  
**Tues. SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 - 7:00pm**  
Kern Supt of Schools City Center  
17th & L Sts. - (parking lot @18th & K Sts.)

**"THE OWENS LAKE STORY: Restoration & Migration"**  
**Andrea Jones, Director of Conservation**  
**Audubon California**



Andrea Jones, Director of Bird Conservation for Audubon California, will kick-off Kern Audubon's program year with a presentation about Owens Lake and Audubon's role in creating a long-term conservation vision for this eastern Sierra lake. The lake has been returning to life since Los Angeles Department of Water and Power began rewatering the playa to control dust in 2004. Owens Lake is listed as a Globally Important Bird Area that attracts hundreds of thousands of migrating shorebirds, breeding shorebirds, waterfowl, and meadow birds. Audubon California, in partnership with Eastern Sierra Audubon, began a process in 2008 to ensure that the lake would remain a refuge for birds into the future. Andrea will describe the conservation process, its successes and challenges, and describe the spectacle of bird migration that occurs at Owens Lake and along the eastern Sierra and its part in the Pacific Flyway.



## SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIPS

### **Tuesday, September 15, 8:30am- Lake Ming**

Join Roger Coley for a morning of late summer birding at Lake Ming. Meet at the first parking lot at the lake and bring binocs, snacks, water. Plan on some walking along the lakeshore. If the lake is too low we may head to Hart Park. Questions? Call Roger: 832-1820. (Lake Ming is located 7 miles east of Bakersfield, just off of Alfred Harrell Highway. Take Highway 178 east to Alfred Harrell and turn left a few miles to Rio Bravo stop sign, then right to the lake.)

### **Sat. Sept. 12, 8:00am - Brite Lake, Tehacapi**

Join leader Greg Hargleroad for a morning of birding at Tehachapi's Brite Lake. Meet at the free parking lot near the gate of the Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District office at 22901 Banducci Road. Bring binoculars, snacks, etc. Contact Greg at 818/645-3664 or [gregory.hargleroad@hotmail.com](mailto:gregory.hargleroad@hotmail.com) for more information.

### **Sat. September 26th, 7:00 am - 3:00 pm - Kern River Preserve Turkey Vulture Festival**

Join us for the annual TV Festival with birdwalks, vendors and activities for children and adults. We will carpool from the Albertsons's parking lot at Mt. Vernon and Highway 178 at **7:00am**, arriving at the Reserve around 8am or else you can drive early to the Reserve for 7am birding. Call Bill Moffat for more info. 661-201-9279



## PRESIDENT'S NEST



The National Audubon Society held its bi-annual convention on July 10-12 in Leesburg, Virginia, a short distance from Washington D.C. Two years ago past president Madi Elsea and husband, Rod Lee, went to the convention that was held in Washington state. This year, I and my spouse, Kathy as well as our vice-president Kevin Fahey and his wife Laura attended, thanks to financial support approved by your Executive Board. Besides acquiring information and techniques to make our chapter more effective and to grow, we also met people from other chapters. When a topic arose in the conversation that both chapters viewed as important, we shared experiences, including successes and failures. And friendships formed. Finally we were able to meet Audubon staff from California, the New York & Washington DC offices, and chapter services in Montana. The synergy between volunteers and staff is awesome in the Audubon Society. Kern Audubon's effectiveness as an environmental organization, both on regional and state issues, is attributed to this working relationship. We are all thankful for it. In addition to participating in the convention, the four of us were able to do a special birding outing to a nature area in the vicinity, as well as seeing Washington DC. And coming from a state with a severe drought, we also noted the trees, green grass, and, of course, the humidity!

Harry Love, President



## WORKPARTY AT PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE

On **Saturday, September 12, 8-10 AM** we will kick off our new year at the Preserve. Over the summer, most of the plants in the nursery were planted and because of the rains and the irrigation system, the trees and bushes are doing very well. Our job this month is to prepare a new crop of plants. We will be placing oaks in starter trays and potting some of the young ones. And those pesky tumbleweeds still need "harvesting"! . Want to join the fun? Want to be part of this event to help the community? All are welcome and it's just **2 hours!!** Bring water, sun hat, and a shovel/hoe. Call **Harry Love (805-1420)** for info. Directions: Take Manor Drive to Roberts Lane and go east to the locked gate.

## E-WARBLER RESPONSE

A letter was recently sent to Kern Audubon members encouraging willingness to receive this newsletter by email, both to save postage and trees. The response was very good with over 60 people being added to the E-Warbler mailing list. It's not too late for others to participate, so just send an email to [Rodmlee@aol.com](mailto:Rodmlee@aol.com) saying "send me the E-Warbler!"

You can print your own copy...and remember, the E-Warbler is in color!

## RENEWING YOUR AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewal notices are sent to Audubon members by the National Audubon Society. You can also find the expiration date of your membership on the address label of this newsletter or *Audubon* magazine. You can also check your membership status and renew membership online at [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org) and click on "Member Center" at the **very top of the homepage**. Or send your renewal check in the amount of \$15 (one year), \$25 (two years), \$35 (three years) to: National Audubon Member Center, PO Box 422250, Palm Coast FL 32142

If you have questions about membership, contact Pat Turner, Kern Audubon's membership coordinator: 717-4174 or [patriciajt@att.net](mailto:patriciajt@att.net).

**Looking ahead to Tues. October 6, 2015:**  
**ALISON SHEEHEY on Kern County birding.**  
**Join us for "Wonderful World of Birds" and bring a friend!**

## HUMMINGBIRDS & FEEDERS

Hummers are migrating so you might see a Black-chinned or a Rufous at your feeder. Hummingbird solution should be changed every 2-3 days as it sours quickly in the heat. Refresh the solution and thoroughly clean feeders with a light mix of vinegar & water each time. Spoiled sugar water is bad for the birds!

Use a sugar solution of 4 parts hot water to one part sugar (e.g. 1 cup boiled water/1/4 cup white sugar). Red coloring is unnecessary. Extra solution can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 10 days.

Audubon would like participation in its hummingbird citizen science program, so go to [www.hummingbirdsathome.org](http://www.hummingbirdsathome.org) to sign-up and learn more about these important pollinators and be a part of protecting these beautiful birds!

## WEBSITES to check out...

**Info about birds?** Go to [www.birds.cornell.edu](http://www.birds.cornell.edu), the website of Cornell Lab of Ornithology, world leader in the study and conservation of birds

**Kern Birding** For a great website about Kern County birding spots: [www.natureali.org/birding.htm](http://www.natureali.org/birding.htm).

**Audubon California** has an excellent website: [www.Audubon-ca.org](http://www.Audubon-ca.org)

**Audubon in the news** - To learn about National Audubon go to: [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org) or [chapterleaders@audubon.org](mailto:chapterleaders@audubon.org)

**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](http://www.Americanbirding.org/festivals)  
[www.birdwatchersdigest.com](http://www.birdwatchersdigest.com)



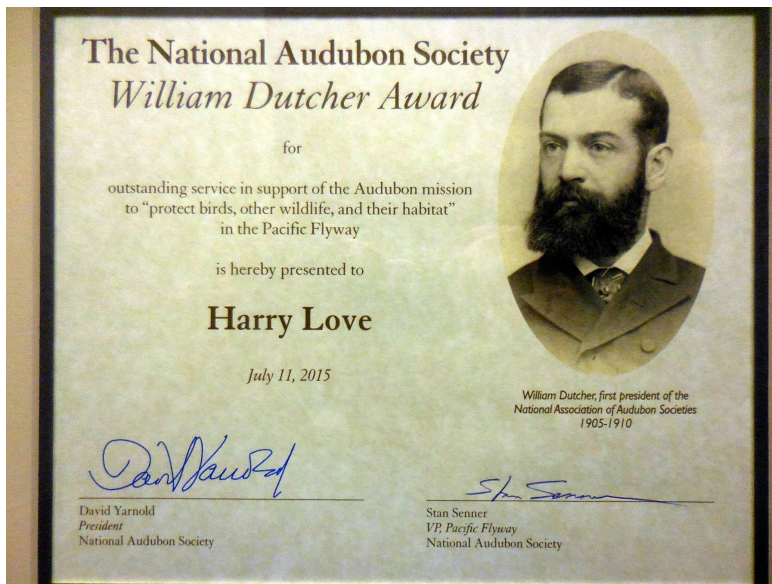
## KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

"Like" us on FACEBOOK! Add your comments, photos, bird sightings and get updates on field trips and programs!



## NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR HARRY LOVE

Our very own Kern Audubon president, HARRY LOVE, received national recognition by the Audubon Society when he was presented with the William Dutcher Award at the recent national convention in Virginia. Harry received the award, much to his surprise, during the Pacific Flyway meeting. The award was presented by Garry George, Chapter Network Director for Audubon California and was given in recognition of Harry's leadership of Kern Audubon in conservation, particularly on renewable energy and birds, tricolored blackbird restoration, climate presentations at County Board of Supervisor and City Council meetings, signing up to be a Climate Activist, and for his energy and enthusiasm – all in the Pacific Flyway. Audubon gives two Dutcher awards – named for William Dutcher the first President of Audubon – in each flyway. ***Kern Audubon is proud of Harry and pleased about this recognition of his ongoing work and dedication to the mission of Audubon, especially in Kern County!***



Harry Love (center) is pictured with Garry George (left), Chapter Network Director, and Stan Senner, VP Pacific Flyway. (photo by Kevin Fahey)



## EDUCATION TEAM SCORES BIG IN SHAFTER

The Shafter Youth Center invited Kern Audubon to tell the children in summer day camp about the wonderful world of birds. On Thursday, July 30, a team (pictured below right) made up of Kathy Love, Barbara Castle, Susan Castle, Barbara Reifel, Fran Hersh, Kevin Fahey, and Harry Love gave a one and a half hour presentation about birds. Meeting the month before, the team decided the best way to handle 40 children was to divide them into 6 teams and to rotate around 6 stations. The location was a gym. The stations dealt with owls and raptors, binoculars and spotting scopes, drawing birds, food birds eat, a Jeopardy game about birds, and how birds are found in our daily lives. The children also received a folder with information about the Audubon Society, Tule elk, brochures on different birds, and a fun fact sheet about birds. One brochure was in Spanish. Susan started with the children doing a group Reader's Theater about why birds matter. It was followed by an hour of teams going from station to station. Yes, our volunteers were tired. But the smiles of children faces and proof that they remembered bird facts made all the work and effort worthwhile. Hopefully you can join the next education team....and join in the fun!



Susan Castle, Barbara Reifel & Fran Hersh lead day camp students in a reader's theater about birds, written by Susan.





Editor's note: In May 2015 the Kern Audubon Executive Board approved a \$700 donation to Audubon California for the Kern River Preserve and its ongoing conservation work. This letter of thank-you was received from Brigid McCormack, Executive Director of Audubon California.



# Audubon CALIFORNIA

May 29, 2015

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San Francisco, CA 94104-3443  
Tel: 415-644-4600  
ca.audubon.org

Kern Audubon Society  
PO Box 3581  
Bakersfield, CA 93385-3581

Dear Friends,

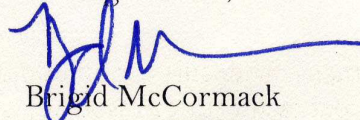
Thank you for being a friend to birds -- and people! -- at the Kern River Preserve and for your generous gift of \$700. Your support will help continue the conservation work done over the last 30 years by Audubon Kern River Preserve, **and with our partners**, will help protect this ecological treasure. Our protection of land and water rights, our fight against invasive weeds, our restoration of habitat, along with research and community outreach, has created many wins. Your support makes these wins possible.

You are an important partner in this work, and we are deeply grateful to you! Your gift will enable us to engage with partners like California State Parks to implement the very best management on the 28,000 acres they recently purchased in the Jawbone, Butterbrecht Canyon and Kelso Valley. These areas are vital to protecting migrating songbirds, raptors, and up to 30,000 Turkey Vultures that fly through here each autumn on their way south into Mexico. Your support will help us stop further wind energy development in this area, ensuring that those projects are installed in more suitable locations.

Your support will help us to host school groups and visitors, combat invasive weeds, protect land and to restore habitat in the Kern River Watershed. You are helping the effort to aid the threatened Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Willow Flycatcher, Tri-colored Blackbirds and many other species. Our conservation work plays a critical role in the effort to recover this imperiled species.

Thank you again, for supporting the Kern River Preserve. You make this work possible.

With gratitude,

  
Brigid McCormack  
Executive Director

Thank you for  
all you do for  
birds!



## NEW LAW TAKES EFFECT

On July 1, 2015, new lead ammunition regulations went into effect in California as a result of the passing of Assembly Bill 711. Opponents of the legislation predicted economic disaster for the businesses that supply ammunition. This has not happened! All animals, especially condors, are the better for it. This is a tremendous first step in removing dangerous poison from our environment. Your letter writing and response to emails from Audubon California made this possible. Thank you!



## MEETUP

Kern Audubon's website ([www.kernaudubonsociety.org](http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org)) is one place to look for info about Kern Audubon field trips and MEETUP is another! And if you'd like to find out what similar groups are doing, well, the easy answer is a social media web site called **Meetup**. You get email reminders of events, instructions on how to join, and, it's free! To become a member of Meetup, go to [www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon-Society](http://www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon-Society) and follow the easy instructions. A big thanks to member, Heather Ellison, for setting up our site!

## eBird--GLOBAL TOOL FOR BIRDERS, CRITICAL DATA FOR SCIENCE: [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org)

- Record the birds you see
- Keep track of your bird lists
- Explore dynamic maps and graphs
- Share your sightings and join the eBird community
- Contribute to science and conservation

eBird is a real-time, online checklist program which has revolutionized the way the birding community reports and accesses information about birds. Launched in 2002 by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, eBird provides rich data sources for basic information on bird abundance and distribution at a variety of spatial and temporal scales.

Go to [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org) and begin recording your bird sightings---it's fun and it's free!

## TREASURER'S REPORT 2014-2015

### INCOME:

Yearly Appeal/Bequest	\$31,037
Grant (Drought Monitoring)	3,465
Ntl Audubon membership share	1,687
Raffles	1,128
December Auction	2,136
BBQ tickets	576
Interest income (Bequest)	1,470
Miscellaneous	70
Total:	\$41,569

### EXPENSE:

Printing	\$2,220
Postage/bulkmail permit	965
Speaker honorariums	1,055
Donations	3,300
Drought monitoring project	1,830
Insurance	578
Conferences	630
BBQ	750
Miscellaneous	1,250
Total:	\$12,576

Bequest (Vanguard)	\$101,765
CD Time deposit	1,302

## KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

### 2015-2016

Harry Love, President/Conservation  
[love3@bak.rr.com](mailto:love3@bak.rr.com); 589-6245  
Kevin Fahey, Vice-President  
[kjfahey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kjfahey@sbcglobal.net); 706-7459 (cell)  
Sasha Honig, Secretary  
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Mary Durfrain, Tehachapi Rep.  
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Madi Elsea, Past President/Warbler Editor  
[madielsea@aol.com](mailto:madielsea@aol.com); 322-7470

## A REMEMBRANCE

During the summer, one of our members, Mark Van Voorhis, passed away at the age of 83. Mark was not a true birder, but he greatly enjoyed birds and our programs. Frequently he would ask a presenter or a member about a bird he had recently seen. His enthusiasm for birds was extraordinary. At meetings, he always brought an item for the raffle (usually a bottle of wine!) and bought many tickets. On a personal note, I knew Mark for over 45 years. He was a social studies teacher like me. His entire teaching career was at East Bakersfield High School where he was also the tennis coach. He was also the head of a student foreign exchange program that brought students to our high schools from European countries. We all will miss Mark's smile and enthusiasm for birds. And I will miss a former colleague.

Harry Love

## 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. SEPT 1st, 7:00pm - Meeting & Program on Owens Lake
- Sat. Sept 12, 8-10am - PVP Workparty
- Sat. Sept 12, 8:00am - Brite Lake field trip
- Tues. Sept 15, 8:30am - Lake Ming field trip
- Sat. Sept 25 - Turkey Vulture Festival at Kern River Preserve, 7am - 3pm

### Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C4ZC300Z)

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: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_