



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 45, no 7 - September 2016
Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org

Kern Audubon
TUES. SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 - 7:00pm
Kern Supt of Schools City Center
1300 17th St. (17th & L) Parking lot at 18th & K

**"SALTON SEA: A Looming Crisis for Birds,
the Environment and People"**
Michael Lynes, Director of Public Policy
Audubon California



The Salton Sea has been shrinking rapidly since 2003, when a water transfer agreement began to send portions of Imperial Valley's water to urban areas. As the sea continues to shrink, it will expose up to 100 square miles of lakebed, resulting in massive air pollution in a region that already has some of the worst air pollution and public health rates in the state. Moreover, birds will lose tens of thousands of acres of shoreline and deep water habitat. If a long-range management plan for a smaller, sustainable sea is not created and funded by the State of California, the sea will become so salty and polluted that it will be inhospitable to fish, invertebrates, and birds. Our speaker will update us on this critical situation and Audubon California's efforts to find solutions.

Michael Lynes is the Director of Public Policy for Audubon California and one of the leads for Audubon's work at the Salton Sea. Prior to joining Audubon California in 2014, Mike was the Conservation Director and Executive Director of the Golden Gate Audubon Society in the San Francisco Bay Area, where he focused on regional planning and improving conditions for Bay Area birds. Before then, Mike worked as an attorney representing nonprofit groups in environmental protection lawsuits. Mike started his career as a biologist with the Point Reyes Bird Observatory (now Point Blue Conservation Science), where he focused on birds in riparian, wetland, and oak woodland habitats. Mike lives in Davis, California with his wife and two sons, who are currently more interested in catching Pokemon than watching birds!

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIPS

Tuesday, Sept. 13 - 8:00-10:30 AM - Uplands Kern River Walk

Join Kern Audubon on the Kern River for the first walk of the fall season. Bill Moffat will be taking us along the flowing Kern and the river uplands near Stramler/Sam Lynn Baseball Park (4009 Chester Ave.). We will see herons, egrets, wading birds and some early migrants. Bring water, snacks, binoculars and spotting scopes. Loaner binoculars provided if needed.

Sam Lynn Baseball Park is on Chester Ave., north of the Kern Co. Museum. Turn left at Sam Lynn on 40th St., drive past the batting cages and the baseball park to first fenced baseball field. Turn right and follow the short gravel road to parking area behind the baseball park. We will walk across the bridge/bike path to the shaded viewing area along the river (It has some seating.) There will be a small amount of walking to other viewing areas close by.

Call Deb See for more information at 661-805-0232.

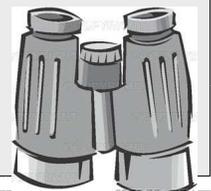
Saturday, Sept. 17th - 8:00-11:00 AM - Beginning Birding at Hart Park

Expert birder John Wilson will be leading a morning of beginning birding at Hart Park. This will be an excellent opportunity for those new to birding to learn more about the how's & what's of birding. Expect to see waterbirds, resident birds and fall migrants. Meet at the east side of Hart Park at the intersection of Alfred Harrell Hwy and River Road. Bring water, snacks, and binoculars. Loaner binoculars available. Call Deb for information at 661-805-0232.

Saturday, Sept. 24th -- Tom Sawyer Lake & Brite Creek, Tehachapi

Greg Hargleroad, member of Kern Audubon-Tehachapi, will led this morning outing to this newly created nature preserve and open space in the Tehachapi area along Wofford-Tehachapi Rd. Meet to carpool at the Tehachapi Burger King in the Kmart shopping center at 8:00am. Bakersfield birders meet at 7:15am at the Stockdale ParknRide (between Hiway 99 & Kaiser) to carpool to Tehachapi.

Call Greg for more info: 818/645-3664.



The President's Bird Blabberings

What's new now that Harry Love has retired as president? Not much. Kern Audubon has been managed in excellent fashion for the last three years and my plan is to keep up the good work. Big shoes to follow! Kern Audubon has evolved into a very impressive group, dedicated to its members and the community. Its accomplishments are significant. The goals set by the past board are ongoing projects that I hope to continue. Goals include conservation, youth education and public outreach.

One of the biggest challenges we have is ensuring a continuous flow of dedicated leaders to meet the needs of our group. We need your help. Consider joining the KAS management team today. Board and committee members are dedicated to serving our members and the nature community. Involvement in Kern Audubon Society can be very rewarding & no training necessary. Let any board member know if you are interested in becoming one of our team members. The board meets on the third Tuesday of every month. Call me for details (706-7459) and all are welcome to attend.

We have great plans for this fall and hope to see all of you at the September 6th meeting. The scheduled program on the Salton Sea promises to inform and entertain. Tell your friends, I know they would enjoy the meeting and numerous opportunities available to Kern Audubon members.

See you at the meeting!

Kevin Fahey, President



PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE WORKPARTY

Saturday, September 10, 8-10 AM, will be the first workday at the Preserve after the summer break. This is a great time to remove those nasty weeds that grew this summer. What to bring: *hat, water, gloves, and a hoe/shovel*. Meet at east end of Roberts Lane off Manor Drive 8am! Contact David Schaad (davidws@pacbell.net 428-2841) for more information. Hope you can come and join this great team!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ANNOUNCEMENT

National Audubon Society has recently changed its membership renewal procedure. **Starting immediately, renewal of membership will be done through this local chapter, Kern Audubon Society.** The expiration date of your membership is printed on the *Audubon Warbler* newsletter label and on the *Audubon Magazine* label. In addition, Membership Coordinator Linda McMillian will send reminder postcards. Please use the membership form on the back page and send with your \$20 renewal check made out to National Audubon and mail to Kern Audubon, PO Box 3581, Bakersfield CA 93385.

We regret the confusion but hopefully this simpler process will work better for you, faithful members!

MAYA THEATER PREVIEWS WATER DOCUMENTARY

The documentary film, "**Blue Gold: World Water Wars**", will be shown on Thursday, **September 8, 7 PM** at the **Maya Theater** (1000 California Ave). There is **no charge** for admission and is sponsored by the Buena Vista Group of the local Sierra Club chapter and coordinates with the One Book One Bakersfield read, "The Big Thirst". The film, narrated by Malcolm McDowell, explores water issues in the world, especially in our own Central Valley. It encourages residents to reduce their use of water. The film received an award at the Vancouver International Film Festival.

MEETUP If you'd like to find out what similar groups to Audubon are doing, consider a social media website called **Meetup**, which sends email reminders and it's free! To become a member go to www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon-Society and follow the easy instructions. We now have over **152 members!** **Carly Summers** updates the site.



KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

"Like" us and add your comments, photos, bird sightings and get updates on field trips and programs! Thanks to Anke Hodenpjl for updates!



KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD 2016-2017

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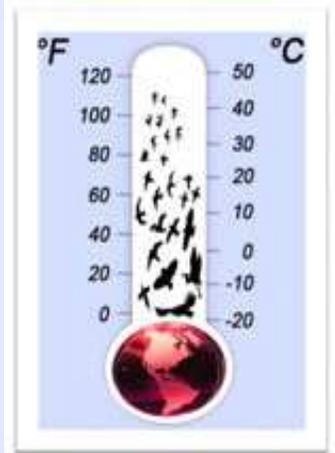
Madi Elsea, Warbler Editor

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CLIMATE CHANGE CORNER: Election 2016

Presidential candidate **Hillary Clinton**: "The reality of climate change is unforgiving no matter what the deniers say. I have set a goal to produce 33 percent of the nation's electricity from renewable sources by 2027, up from 7 percent today — a higher goal than the 20 percent that President Obama has called for by 2030. I call for installing a half-billion solar panels by 2020, a sevenfold increase from today, and to generate enough energy from carbon-free sources within 10 years to power every home in America."

Presidential candidate **Donald Trump**: "Well, I think the climate change is just a very, very expensive form of tax. A lot of people are making a lot of money. I know much about climate change. I'd be — received environmental awards. And I often joke that this is done for the benefit of China. Obviously, I joke. But this is done for the benefit of China, because China does not do anything to help climate change. They burn everything you could burn; they couldn't care less. They have very — you know, their standards are nothing. But they — in the meantime, they can undercut us on price. So it's very hard on our business."



CENTRAL VALLEY BIRDING SYMPOSIUM

The Central Valley Bird Club will be hosting the 20th Annual Central Valley Birding Symposium **Nov. 17-20, 2016**, at the Stockton Hilton Hotel in Stockton, CA. Please join us for this special 20th anniversary CVBS! Come meet the board and staff members! Reconnect with old friends and meet new ones! Enjoy the scrumptious Hors D'oeuvres buffet & No Host Bar on Thursday night.

The CVBS gets off to a great start with Thursday Night's Keynote speaker, professional bird photographer Bob Steele, presenting a program on "***Birding in the Central Valley Over the Past 20 Years***".

Friday Night's keynote program is presented by Kimball Garrett on "***The Central Valley's Prominent Place in the Past and Present of California Field Ornithology***".

Saturday Night's keynote program is presented by Ed Harper and friends on "***Celebrating 20 Years of the CVBC and the CVBS.***"

Workshops include: "***Specimen Workshop***" with Andy Engilis, "***Convincing Details and Other Birding Fiction***" by Joe Morlan, "***Challenging Shorebirds ID Workshop***" by Jon Dunn, and "***CVBC/CVBS Studies in Review***", a series of 15-20 minute programs by Dan Airola and Ed Pandolfino. Plus, attend informative workshops by Bob Steele (Image Editing), Keith Hansen (Bird Sketching), Sal Salerno (Beginning Birding) and Jim Burcio (Carving).

Field trips, offered Friday, Saturday and Sunday, always turn up exciting birds. Add in the entertaining and educational Bird ID Panel, the wonderful display of art and gifts at the Birder's Market and the camaraderie of hundreds of like-minded folks, and you know you'll have a good time! There's something for everyone interested in birds. Come and join us to bird, learn, and just have fun!

To look over the line-up of speakers, workshops, and fieldtrips, check out our website at: <http://www.cvbsreg.org>
Registration begins September 7, 2016.



Looking ahead to Kern Audubon's **October 4th** meeting...**Naturalist John Schmitt on Turkey Vultures and Condors!**

LEFT: July 9, 2016 field trip at the Kern River Preserve with leader/photographer Alison Sheehey

Fall Turkey Vulture Festival

SAT. SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

AUDUBON CALIFORNIA KERN RIVER PRESERVE

Fall is here and the birds are moving from their summer breeding grounds in North America to the wintering grounds in Central and South America. As birds fly south they need places like the Kern River Preserve to rest and replenish on their way. One of the largest concentrations of migrating Turkey Vultures in North America comes down the Sierra Nevada and through the Kern Valley. If we are lucky we may see "kettles" of vultures swirling up into the morning sky around **8:30 am**. This is a great time of year to get out and enjoy the Kern River Preserve.

:00 am – Early Bird Walk -The nature trails at the Kern River Preserve are beautiful in the fall. Take this walk with local guide to see birds and wildlife.

8:15am-10am – Bird Walk (beginner to expert). Easy walking on flat preserve road & trail westward from Kern River Preserve Headquarters.

9 AM to 2 PM-Information Booth-Staff and volunteers will keep you informed about this event and the Kern River Preserve. Stop in and buy a t-shirt or learn how to become a supporter of the Kern River Preserve. We have T-shirts with beautiful bird art work by John Schmitt and other artist in many sizes.

10:00AM – Natural History Walk – Learn about the plants animals and ecology of the Kern River Preserve on this walk with a local conservation biologist.

10 AM to Noon-Children's Activities - a great way to learn about birds and wildlife. Kids can do nature art, dissect owl pellets (yuck), learn bird identification and make bagel bird feeders.

Noon to 1:00pm - Live Music - Local bands provides lovely acoustic music for the enjoyment of our guests. Sit in the shade and enjoy the Preserve and music while having a leisurely lunch. **BYO lunch and a cool drink.**

All events are at Kern River Preserve-18747 Hwy 178, Weldon, California 93283. For directions and general information on Audubon's Kern River Preserve please visit our webpage at <http://kern.audubon.org>. Questions e-mail rtollefson@audubon.org or call [760-378-2531](tel:760-378-2531).

KERN AUDUBON WILL HAVE A BOOTH---Kevin Fahey would love some help, so please contact him: 706-7459. Just a couple hours commitment and so much FUN!!!

PUT YOUR STAMP ON CONSERVATION

Originally known as the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, the Duck Stamp was conceived in 1934 when Congress passed and President Franklin D., Roosevelt signed the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act. The first Duck Stamp was designed by JN "Ding" Darling, then director of the Bureau of Biological Survey, forerunner to today's US Fish & Wildlife Service.

The Federal Duck Stamps are conservation revenue stamps--98% of the purchase price goes directly to help acquire and protect wetland habitat and purchase conservation easements for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Buying Duck Stamps is among the simplest ways that anyone (hunters & birders) can participate in wildlife and habitat conservation. Duck stamps are a required annual purchase for waterfowl hunters 16 and older and a current duck stamp grants the bearer free entrance to any national wildlife refuge. But whether a hunter, birder or other outdoor enthusiast or you simply want to help preserve our natural resources for future generations to enjoy, you can contribute to conservation by buying Duck Stamps.

Duck Stamps can be purchased at many major sporting goods stores, local post offices (call ahead to make sure they have them), American Birding Association (aba.org/abasaales/), Kern National Wildlife Refuge. Your \$25 Duck Stamp purchase supports bird conservation!



The 2016-17 Federal Duck Stamp (above) features art by five-time Duck Stamp Contest winner Joseph Hautman of Plymouth, Minn. It's now on sale--buy yours and support wildlife conservation!

Protect California's Plastic Bag Ban

This year, California became the first state in the nation to ban single-use plastic carry out grocery bags. Gov. Jerry Brown signed the groundbreaking law that had support from a vast coalition of supporters including local governments, business groups, workers unions, retailers, environmental organizations and more. More than one-third of Californians now live in a community with no single-use plastic grocery bags. In California, 147 cities and counties have joined those across the world banning plastic shopping bags, reducing litter and ushering in a new culture of reusable carryout bags. Non-biodegradable, plastic bags persist in the environment for decades, while their useful life is typically measured in minutes. Plastic bags pollute our waterways and beaches, litter our neighborhoods and parks, and gravely threaten wildlife, especially birds and marine life. California cities and counties spend an estimated \$428 million annually to clean up litter and prevent marine pollution. Plastics bags contribute \$34 million to \$107 million to these costs.

Unfortunately, on the November 8 ballot is a proposition intended to undo this law...supported by the plastic bag industry! If you wish to know more about this threat to the law, visit <https://protectplasticbagban.org>. Your financial contribution and support will be greatly appreciated.

Harry Love, Conservation Chr.

Phoebe Snetsinger Google doodle marks 85th birthday of famous bird watcher

Snetsinger is credited with seeing 8,393 bird species in her life timeline - the most of any birder at the time of her death.

Arny Gesenhsuss on June 9, 2016 at 6:50 am

Phoebe Snetsinger: June 9, 1931 - Nov 23, 1999

Posted on Google June 9, 2016



Today's Google doodle honors the renown birder Phoebe Snetsinger. The colorful, animated image includes Snetsinger with her binoculars, and five of her most notable finds: the blackburnian warbler, red-shouldered vanga, village weaverbird, eastern bluebird, and red-capped manakin.

According to the [Google Doodle Blog](#), Snetsinger traveled around the world to witness a number of obscure birds. She saw a total of 8,393 bird species – the highest count of any other birder in the world at that time.

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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. September 6, 7pm - KAS Meeting & program
- Sat. Sept. 10, 8am - Panorama Vista workparty
- Tues. Sept. 13, 8am - Uplands Kern River field trip
- Sat. Sept. 17, 8am - Beginning Birding/Hart Park
- Sat. Sept. 24 - Turkey Vulture Festival, Weldon
- Sat. Sept. 24 - Tom Sawyer Lake, Tehachapi

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

Renewal \$20

Make check payable to **NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**

SEND this form and your check to National Audubon to:

Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone # _____