



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 42 no. 4 - APRIL 2013
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org
www.kastehachapibird.org

KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY

Tues. April 2, 2013 - 7:00PM

****VALLEY OAKS CHARTER SCHOOL****

**3501 Chester Ave. (between Ice House & Kern
Co. Museum**

***Please note meeting location change!!*

"COLOMBIA: LAND OF BIRDS"

Chris Calonje, Birdwatch Tours & Photography



The program consists of a photographic tour of Colombia and its birds, with information on Colombian geography, its cuisine, culture, and people. Chris will talk about the increasingly better security situation; the Colombian government, at all levels, has made great strides in bringing peace and prosperity to Colombia. Colombia boasts the world's longest list of birds, now over **1890 species** (more than North America and Europe combined). Much of this diversity is due to the country's complex topography, which includes three Andean ranges and the valleys between these ranges, Atlantic and Pacific coasts, vast grasslands bordering Venezuela and a large portion of the Amazon Basin. Birding in Colombia promotes responsible environmental and social ecotourism and provides an opportunity of a lifetime for birdwatchers.

Christopher Calonje was born and raised in Cali, Colombia, and earned a degree from Humboldt State University in Natural Resources Planning. He has been conducting birding tours (Colombia Birdwatch) in his native Colombia for many years, and has had the pleasure to travel throughout the entire country photographing its amazing avian diversity.

FIELD TRIPS

Sat. March 30, 7:30AM - Wind Wolves Preserve

Naturalist Dave Schindler will lead this outing in southern Kern County with opportunity to see lots of raptors & wildflowers. Meet at the Stockdale ParknRide at 7:15am, leaving at 7:30. Bring lunch, water, snacks, binocs, \$10 transportation. This will be a mostly driving field trip. We will return after lunch. Call Deb 805-0232 for info.

April 7, Sunday, 1:30 pm. Woody 'Y'- Granite Station Vicinity. We'll visit a landowner-enhanced Tri-colored blackbird habitat, and will explore and bird nearby areas. The trip will be led by Lucy Clark, an Audubon member who resides in this area. and Ali Sheehey. The wildflowers here should put on a show as well. Meet at the Sugar Mill Restaurant on North Chester Ave. & China Grade Loop at 1:30 pm. to carpool - \$5. Call Deb at 805-0232 for more info.

April 10, Wednesday, 8:00 am. LoKern Natural Preserve. Ranger Bill Moffat will lead the trip to this Important Birding Area (IBA) west of Buttonwillow, which supports a population of San Joaquin LeConte's thrashers. Meet at the parking lot across from CSUB on Stockdale at Don Hart Drive to carpool. Call Bill at 201-9279 for more information.

Sat. April 20, 6:00am - Butterbredt Springs and Sageland Ranch

Butterbredt Springs is a desert oasis in the Mojave Desert within the Jawbone-Butterbredt Area of Critical Environmental Concern. The springs are located in a canyon that naturally funnels northbound migrants such as arblers, vireos, tanagers, grosbeaks, and flycatchers. Afterwards we hope to go to Keith Axelson's Sageland Ranch for lunch and more birding. The ranch is another migrant trap that promises even more sightings. Meet at the Tehachapi Blvd. K Mart parking lot near Burger King at **6 AM** to carpool. We know that sounds early but it is later than usual for this trip. Remember the early birder gets the bird! Bring water, snacks, lunch, binocs. Return by 3pm.

April 27, Saturday, 8:00 am. Hart Park. For **Beginning Birders** and other bird lovers, this will be an excellent opportunity to learn and improve upon bird identification skills with leader Alison Sheehey. Meet at the west end of the park on Mirror Dr. between the two lakes. \$5.00/bring water. Information:805-0232



**KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD
2012 - 2013**

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KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

"Like" us on FACEBOOK and add your comments, photos, bird sightings, etc. as well as get information on field trips and programs!



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

April 26-28, 2013 is the **Pt Reyes Birding & Nature Festival**. Enjoy birding at the height of spring migration with some of the best naturalists around.
www.pointreyesbirdingfestival.org

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 great website about Kern County birding spots: www.natureali.org/birding.htm.

Kern County Bird Sightings/photos
For what's unusual in Kern County, go to kerncobirding@yahoo.com You'll find recent bird sightings, reports by Bob Barnes, Michael McQuerry, Alison Sheehy and others.

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

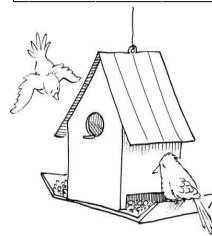
Audubon in the news - To find out more about National Audubon go to: www.audubon.org or chapterleaders@audubon.org

MEMBERSHIP DATA COORDINATOR

The Kern Audubon Executive Board is seeking someone who enjoys computer work to consider becoming the Coordinator of membership data. A small stipend is being offered for the position, which involves 4-6 hours a month and requires knowledge of Excel. If you might be interested, contact Madi Elsea, President: 322-7470.

We thank Joseph V. Higbee for the Audubon's Warbler photo used as the newsletter logo. Used by permission.

RAFFLE PRIZES are needed for the monthly raffle....if you have items of interest, bring to the meeting. We don't mind being "re-gifted"!



KEEP BIRD FEEDERS CLEAN

Remember to clean your birdfeeders regularly, using a mild vinegar or bleach solution. Rinse thoroughly and dry. This includes hummingbird feeders which collect mold easily!

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.

Spring Workday Day at Panorama Vista Preserve

On **Saturday, April 13**, Kern Audubon will be having its monthly workday at the Preserve. **Time: 9-11 AM**. Last month, on a cold and rainy day, Andy Honig, Bill Cooper, and Harry Love worked at 'rounding up' the tumbleweeds, which are now ready to be burned. Two students from the Bakersfield College agricultural program worked as well. What jobs need to be done in April? Because of the recent rains, weeding and more 'herding' of tumbleweeds is in store. Bring hat, water, gloves, and a shovel/hoe/pitchfork. Need more information or directions? Call Harry (805-1420). Hope to see you on 4/13!



KERN AUDUBON LIBRARY

David Schaad (428-2841) offers this review of one of the books in our "library". Check it out!

Fair Weather Duck by Vincent G. Dethier - This is the interactions of a nature savvy biology professor, his wife and 2 sons with nature and especially with two adopted ducklings. His descriptions give us warm insights into the bird world. Caring for a bird is a lot of work! But watching their mutual attachment as the ducklings grow makes a comforting story.

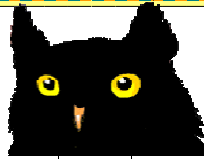
MISSING BOOKS FROM KERN AUDUBON'S LIBRARY

If you have one of these books, please return so others can enjoy them!

100 Birds and How They Got Their Names
Enslaved by Ducks
Bird Brains (A Sierra Club Book)
The Fort Tejon Letters
The Kern Plateau by Joe Fontaine
Wild Flowers of the Santa Monica Mts.
Hawaii's Beautiful Birds

The Big Year
Off the Beaten Path (Stories of Place)
The Grail Bird
In Search of the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker
To See Every Bird on Earth
Master Guide to Birding Vol. 3
Listening to Whales

Tehachapi Birding



Kern Audubon -Tehachapi

Join us for the next meeting:
Tuesday Evening, April 30th
7:00 p.m.

Golden Hills Elementary School Cafeteria
20215 Park Road, Tehachapi
Guest Speaker: **Karen Pestana**

For more than ten years Karen has managed the Bluebird nest box monitoring program in Tehachapi. She and a number of dedicated volunteers have maintained and monitored over fifty boxes, collecting data and submitting it to Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch program. In 2011 the group was recognized by Cornell as one of the "Top Twenty NestWatch All Stars" in the country!

Please join us for Karen's program and an evening of sharing bird sightings and related stories.
Refreshments and a raffle are an added bonus!

Call Angela Guy (304-6816) or Carol Gates (822-9214) for information.

KERN COUNTY'S "BIG WEEKEND OF BIRDING"

Bob Barnes has announced the dates of the annual Birdiest Inland County weekend: Thurs. May 2 (beginning at 3:30pm) through 3:30pm Sunday May 5, 2013. More information to follow, so put these dates on your calendar.

BIRD CAMS - NEST CAMS

Watching online nest cams can give birders an intimate glimpse of the life of a baby bird from the moment the eggs are laid until that first, terrifying flight of a young bird. For many birders, watching nest cams is a way to observe their favorite species without disturbing them, and many conservation organizations and awareness groups host seasonal nest cams to introduce tech-savvy birders to the joys of nest monitoring. If you haven't watched a live streaming of a bird on the nest, go to www.birdcams@Cornell.edu. It's fun & educational!



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

It's that time of the year when Kern Audubon will be seeking enthusiastic and interested people to serve as "executive" officers for the chapter: president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. If you would like to be considered or would like more information, contact the Chair, Ginny Dallas: 301-8188.

AUDUBON'S WARBLER

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www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please note:
Kern Audubon will meet at...
VALLEY OAKS CHARTER SCHOOL
for the April 2nd meeting. - 7:00pm
Location: 3501 Chester Ave (between the Ice
House & Kern Co. Museum)

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