



# AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 43 no. 1 - January 2014  
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society  
A chapter of National Audubon Society  
www.kernaudubonsociety.org  
www.kastehachapibird.org

Kern Audubon Society  
Tuesday January 7, 2014 - 7:00pm  
Kern Supt of Schools, 17th & L Sts.

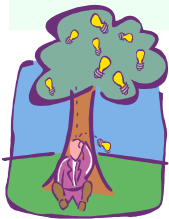
## "BEHIND THE FEATHERS"

Gary Lindquist, DVM, Photographer

Due to urban sprawl and the large expanses of corporate farming monoculture, the natural habitat of the central valley is quickly disappearing. Wildlife suffers from loss of migratory corridors, shelter, food supply and even fresh water. In a powerpoint presentation entitled "Behind the Feathers", Gary Lindquist will offer tips on attracting birds to your yard. The presentation will cover water, shelter and the type of foods and feeders needed to support birds in an urban environment. He'll also talk about the risks and dangers of being a bird in the modern world.

*Gary Lindquist is a retired small-animal veterinarian and Visalia resident where he has been active for many years with Tulare Audubon. Currently he serves as co-leader for the chapter's bi-monthly field trips. He is a well known valley photographer who has been taking pictures since the slide film era. His photo (above) of the Common Cuckoo found in Watsonville, California was the recent cover photo for Western Ornithology Magazine. He feels there is much more to birding than just identifying the bird and putting it on a list. "In my photos I strive to capture a behavior or trait that makes that bird special. I love trivia about birds."*

Start 2014 with a fascinating look at birds....join us!!



## PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE WORKDAY

On **Saturday, January 11, 9-11 AM**, Kern Audubon will be having its monthly workday at the Preserve. Tasks to be done: pruning, checking water lines, and general maintenance. This is a great opportunity to help restore the native vegetation. **Want to know how you can join this great team?** Contact Harry Love (love3@bak.rr.com) or 805-1420. Join us at the gate to the preserve (east end of Roberts Lane off Manor Drive) at 9:00am. Hope you can make it!

## JANUARY FIELD TRIPS

**Sunday January 12, 8:00am** - Kern National Wildlife Refuge

Join State Park Ranger Bill Moffat on this outing to one of Kern County's premier winter birding spots - the Kern Wildlife Refuge 45 miles north of Bakersfield. Thousands of ducks, grebes and shorebirds make their winter home here. Meet at Kern Parkway parking lot across from CSUB on Stockdale & Don Hart Dr. for carpooling. Bring water, snacks, lunch, \$10 for transportation. Call Bill for info: 805-0232. Return after lunch.

**Sat. Jan 25, 8:30am** - Bakersfield Wastewater Treatment Ponds

Yes, the sewer ponds are great locations to see wintering ducks, shorebirds & raptors! Gary File & Michael McQuerry will co-lead this outing. Meet at the south end of Mt Vernon off Hiway 58 where the road ends at the treatment plant. Bring binocs, & snacks. Call Al for info: 833-6705.

**Christmas Birds Counts** - Volunteers needed for some local January bird counts. Call the compiler for info:

**Fri. 3 Jan** - Bear Valley Springs CBC (Ron Melin, compiler - 310/540-2775)

**Sat. 4 Jan** - South Fork Valley CBC (Denise LaBerteaux, compiler - 760/378-4278)

**Jan. 5 Jan** - Kern River Valley CBC (Alison Sheehey, compiler - 760/417-0286)

## KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

**2013 - 2014**

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madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470

# Tehachapi Birding



## KERN AUDUBON-TEHACHAPI

Tues. January 28, 2014  
7:00pm - Golden Hills School  
20215 Park Rd. Tehachapi

### "The Big Picture in a Small Frame: Natural History of Kern County & Central California"

**Alison Sheehey, Speaker**

Why does landlocked Kern County have such an impressive list of flora and fauna? A diversity of geology and biology unparalleled for any area in North America, north of Mexico is why! Come learn about the natural history of Kern County and Central California from its beginnings: geology, paleontology, Floristic Provinces, Native Americans, early settlers and about the diverse assemblage of flora and fauna in the modern day.

Ali Sheehey, aka, Nature Ali, is an avid naturalist and anthropologist. She is the Programs Director for Sequoia ForestKeeper, a non-profit organization that protects the Giant Sequoias.

As a child Ali was fascinated with nature but her education about the natural world really began in Kern Co. in 1980 with explorations of the Temblor Range. Seeing beauty in every natural niche is one of the many talents of "Nature Ali". She has studied the natural history of North America and is the principle researcher of the Rose-ringed Parakeets of Bakersfield. An enthusiastic member of Audubon since 1985, she volunteered in various roles including president of Kern Audubon.

Ali is a staunch advocate for the environmental protection of Kern County and the planet and prefers to quietly affect policy through education. Her extensive natural history website can be found at <http://www.natureali.org/>.

## EAGLES & WIND POWER

A December 2013 rule by the U.S. Department of the Interior weakens protections for eagles by making it possible for wind energy companies to acquire **30-year permits** to kill and injure eagles. Audubon strongly supports properly sited wind energy, but this new Interior Department rule fails to provide the protection eagles need. Audubon President and CEO David Yarnold issued the following statement: "Instead of balancing the need for conservation and renewable energy, Interior wrote the wind industry a blank check. It's outrageous that the government is sanctioning the killing of America's symbol, the Bald Eagle...We have no choice but to challenge this decision..."

**What can you do?** Send a message to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell that the rule needs to be rescinded. You can contact her online through Audubon's Action Center ([www.audubonaction.org](http://www.audubonaction.org)) or by mail to: Secretary Sally Jewell, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Washington DC 20240.  
**Do it today!**

## WEBSITES to check out...

**Info about birds?** To learn more 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)



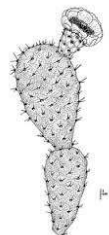
## KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

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

Looking ahead to February 4th Kern Audubon meeting: Bill & Greta Lydecker will talk about their summer birding adventure in Norway...with pics!

## WIND WOLVES PROJECT

Wildlands Conservancy will be planting the endangered Bakersfield Cactus at Wind Wolves Preserve and needs help! You're invited to participate on Sat. January 4. Rangers will supply the tools as well as a delicious dinner. Bring family & friends! Contact Ranger Robert (858-1115) or email: [Robert.s@twc-ca.org](mailto:Robert.s@twc-ca.org)



## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO SEE CONDOR DOCUMENTARY

On Thursday January 23, 7-8:30 PM at Garces High School, science students from Bakersfield area high schools will view a new documentary on the California condor recovery program. Entitled "***The Condor's Shadow***", the program demonstrates the efforts by USFWS biologist Joseph Brandt and others to help reestablish a viable population of condors. It is filmed in the Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge west of Maricopa. Joseph Brandt, along with filmmaker Jeff McLoughlin, will be there to present the film and answer questions. Last September, Joseph made a presentation to Kern Audubon about this recovery effort. Kern Audubon Executive Board felt this film was a great opportunity to educate students about the condor recovery effort and will be sponsoring this outreach. Garces High School is donating the use of its auditorium.



Photo by Dave Schindler

## GOING, GOING, GONE! AUCTION UPDATE

To all who participated in the silent and live auction at the December 3 holiday gathering, **thank you!** The success of the event was due to the work of **Heather Ellison** and **Patty Richardson** who planned the event. The funds raised (a total of **\$1490!!**) will be used to support a variety of projects that the Chapter has identified for the coming year. Nancy Putney and Andy Honig donated their own art work while Greg Iger, the presenter, contributed one of his photo books. Randy Hodson's fantastic nature quilt was the highlight of the live auction. Thank you to EVERYONE who contributed items. Please patronize the following businesses that donated items and let them know that you appreciate their contribution: *Windwolves, Sequoia Sandwich Shop, TSC, Dewar's, Trader Joe's, Lassen's, Bakersfield Symphony, CALM, and Costco.*

## SB4 AND THE OIL INDUSTRY

We have heard about fracking and the problems potentially related to it. The state of California has heard the concerns. Senate Bill 4 was signed into law earlier this year. It requires the Department of Conservation, through its Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) to develop a plan to efficiently regulate the drilling for natural gas and oil that uses the fracking method. CEQA requires that the plan address the concerns of the public. Currently the Department is seeking public advice as to what information should be sought and then what rules/mitigation measures need to be developed based on the data.

This law was made at the request of the people, not the oil companies. Now it is your turn to give advice on topics such as: water (both surface and ground), chemicals used, fault zones, monitoring, biological protection, etc.

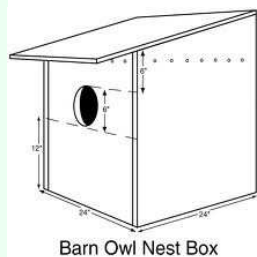
The easiest way to accomplish this is to send an email with your thoughts. Make your comments constructive. The Department's role is to be the 'policeman for the people' when it comes to extracting natural resources. That is, what 'tools' does the Department need to become a valued trustee for the people?

Send your comments to: [SB4EIR@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:SB4EIR@conservation.ca.gov)

Contact Harry Love, Kern Audubon's Conservation Chair and President, if you have questions:  
805-1420 or [love3@bak.rr.com](mailto:love3@bak.rr.com)

## OWL BOXES & THE PARKWAY

Along the Kern River Parkway, ground squirrels have created burrows that have undermined trails, creating holes that have caused injuries to runners, walkers, birders, cyclists. The use of rodenticides is outlawed by the state, but nature provides the best solution: OWLS. Phil Shepherd and a group of Boy Scouts are building owl nest boxes to be placed along the parkway and Kern Audubon will be funding the cost of 4 boxes (\$200). Your Audubon donations at work!



## BIRD BROCHURES AVAILABLE

Kern Audubon has recently acquired new brochures of members to purchase. These are pocket guides that help you become more knowledgeable about birds and nature. They are waterproof. Titles are: ***Birds of Prey***, ***Bird Feeding Basics***, and ***California Trees & Wildflowers***. **Price: only \$5.00.** Available at the next program meeting on January 7.

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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. Jan. 7, 7:00pm - Program & meeting
- Sat. Jan. 11, 9 - 11am - PVP Workparty
- Sun. Jan 12, 8:00am - Kern Wildlife Refuge outing
- Sat. Jan. 25, 8:30am - City Sewer ponds birding

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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