



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 45. no 6 - June 2016
Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org

Kern Audubon's Year-end Gathering

TUESDAY JUNE 7 - 6:00PM

JASTRO PARK (TRUXTUN & MYRTLE, 3 BLOCKS EAST OF OAK ST.)

Featuring Falconer **DEBBY KROEGER**
& **SQUEAK**, the Red-tailed Hawk

Red-tailed hawks are seen frequently around our area, but generally from a distance. Squeak provides us an opportunity to see him up close and learn more about his species.



Plus....

DEEP PIT TRI TIP & CHICKEN DINNER

& ALL THE EXTRAS: RICE PILAF, RANCH BEANS, SALAD,
ROLLS, DRINKS & TEXAS SHEET CAKE!!!

\$12/ADULTS & \$5/CHILDREN

And....

ROD LEE, KEYBOARDIST

Join Kern Audubon for this end-of-the-year gathering as we install officers for 2016 - 17, enjoy a beautiful Red-Tailed Hawk, entertainment, wonderful food and fellowship!

QUESTIONS? CALL HARRY LOVE (805-1420)

JUNE & JULY FIELD TRIPS

Wed. June 8 ,2016 - Bitter Creek Condor Wildlife Refuge

This will be a Wednesday outing with the US Fish & Wildlife at Bitter Creek Reserve near Maricopa. Staff will be working on birds in the capture area so we are likely to see a number of condors and others. We will be on the reserve from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Four wheel vehicles are recommended to allow us more coverage of the reserve, so carpooling is important. Bring water, lunch, sunscreen, and binoculars. (Extra binocs available if needed.)

This trip is limited to 25 people by the USF&W so RSVP Deb See, 661-805-0232 for meet times and car pooling.

Sat. July 16, 6:15am - Kern River Preserve & environs

Alison Sheehey will lead this annual summer field trip to see the summer migrants at Audubon's KRPreserve: Summer Tanager ("Flying Neon Tomato"), Willow Flycatcher and (hopefully) the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, among many others. An early morning start is important to beat the heat! Bring water, snacks, a lunch, binocs, hat, sunscreen. Meet at Albertson's parking lot on Mt Vernon & Hiway 178 near the donut shop. Call Madi (549-2391) for information. (For those who want to continue birding with Ali, she plans to go into the Greenhorn Mtns. to look for woodpeckers.)

The President's Nest



Three years ago, I was elected president of Kern Audubon Society. I assumed an office that had been developed and molded by three illustrious people: Irene Heath, Ted Murphy, and Madi Elsea. It was also the 40th anniversary of this chapter's founding in 1973. My tenure was highlighted by tremendous support and guidance from board members who made it a point to see that this chapter grew in size and scope. The Tehachapi group was in its nascence, just emerging from the Tehachapi Mountain Birding Club. Now it is a strong and vibrant group with good leadership and largely attended programs and outings. I am especially proud of our youth education program, which has developed into a highly respected and requested program. KAS has also provided activities for CALM, organized learning stations for science camps at Panorama Vista Preserve, staffed table events at the Kern River Audubon Preserve, and given bird programs to youths at summer camps in Shafter. At our December meeting you were able to experience our new program, a puppet show developed by Susan and Barbara Castle. All of these accomplishments could not have occurred unless members volunteered. Many have given their time and skills, be it for an evening event, a Saturday activity, or an outing. Our chapter's slogan is that "Birds Matter" and we have lived this slogan for over 40 years. Every day that we volunteer our time and expertise the slogan grows stronger, more relevant. I want to thank you for your generous support. I leave this office to the great and competent hands of Kevin Fahey, your new chapter president!

Harry Love, President

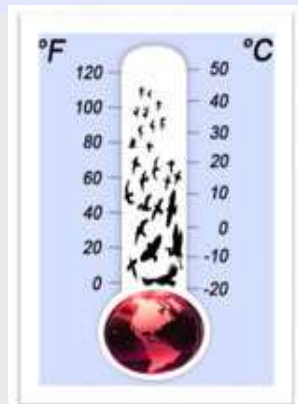


PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE WORKPARTY

Saturday, June 11, 8-10 AM, will be the final Kern Audubon work day before summer break. Task is to remove more pesky tumbleweeds which is showing success as last month's work crew had to walk awhile to find them! . PVP is located at the east end of Roberts Lane off of Manor Drive in east Bakersfield. Meet at the locked gate. Bring hat, gloves, water, hoe/shovel. David Schaad has graciously agreed to take over the position as coordinator. You can reach David at davidws@pacbell.net or call him at 428-2841 for information.

CLIMATE CHANGE CORNER: Dive into these 5 facts

1. First off, let's be clear: In general, the **greenhouse effect is a good thing**. Without greenhouse gases, the temperature on Earth would be too cold to support life. With too much, it would heat up beyond survivable levels
2. There is more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere today than at any point in the past 800,000 years, and the **U.S.** (with 5 % of world's population) **produces 25 percent** of the carbon dioxide pollution from fossil-fuel burning.
3. The Montana Glacier National Park has **only 25 glaciers left** from the 150 that were there in the year 1910.
4. **Melting ice caps** have caused sea levels in the north to rise. For the first time in hundreds of years, ships can pass through the fabled Northwest Passage above North America.
5. Over **100 million** people living in coastal regions will be displaced by just a one-yard rise in sea levels



On a recent field trip to Stallion Springs, leader Greg Hargleroad led a group to find the birds of the area. He noted that Warren, from Bear Valley Springs, came along to bird, but with no binoculars. He was blind. But the songs of the birds delighted him, producing smiles. He started to learn about birds by their songs. There are no limits to birding!

Editor's note: This is the last issue of the *Audubon's Warbler* until the September 2016 issue, which will be mailed in late August. Please check the website for updates about summer field trips: www.kernaudubonsociety.org. I hope you have a fun and safe summer and that you will enjoy birding wherever you are: backyard, mountains, the beach, wildlife refuges, vacation, etc. Remember to eBird your sightings at eBird.org and keep your hummingbird feeders clean! Change your solution every 2-3 days in the hot weather because it spoils quickly....because **BIRDS MATTER!!!!**

Madi Elsea, Editor

BIRTHDAY PARTY FUN

May 21st Kern Audubon participated in CALM's birthday with our booth. Thanks to Kevin, Laura, Louise, Barbara R., Barbara and Susan C., Paula for staffing the booth, with special help from Victoria, a teacher at Garces H.S. Over 180 children made bird feeders and there were two performances of the Castle's puppet show. A great and fun opportunity to help kids, the community, and KAS.

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 of events and it's free! To become a member go to www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon-Society and follow the easy instructions.



KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

"Like" us and add your comments, photos, bird sightings and get updates on activities!



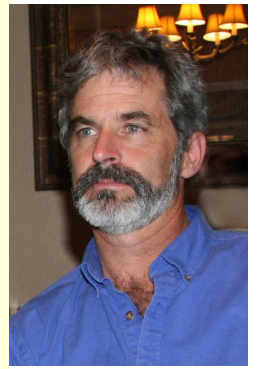
KERN AUDUBON - TEHACHAPI

Tues. August 30, 2016 - 7:00pm

Golden Hills School - 20215 Park Rd. Tehachapi

“Kern River Preserve with Reed Tollefson, Preserve Manager”

The quarterly meeting of Kern Audubon-Tehachapi will feature Audubon's Kern River Preserve, a 3000 acre preserve along the south fork of the Kern River containing one of California's finest remaining riparian forests, which provides habitat for endangered birds, including breeding populations of Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Summer Tanager and Willow Flycatcher. Reed Tollefson has been preserve manager since 1997 and has valuable experience in wildlife habitat protection and restoration of the South Fork Kern watershed. Join Kern Audubon-Tehachapi for an informative program about this beautiful and invaluable preserve in Kern County!



Audubon California's Mission to save the Tricolored Blackbird

The Tricolored Blackbird campaign has brought chapter volunteers from disparate regions together, rallied thoughtful landowners and farmers, and passed policy that will help a number of wildlife avoid human induced harms. If you aren't caught up on the work Audubon California has been doing on this charismatic species, here is an update:

Through collaboration with multiple agencies and partners, five colonies with roughly 67,000 nesting birds were saved from harvest in 2015 during nesting on agricultural fields. Colony identification, outreach, and protection activities are in progress for the 2016 nesting season for Tricolored Blackbird colonies in Fresno, Tulare, Kern, and Riverside Counties.

This year's California Endangered Species Act candidacy, last year's ESA emergency listing, and the associated regulatory protection that come with the review period, have helped make that happen. Additionally, a five year, \$2 million commitment from the California Farm Bureau, Western United Dairymen, Dairy Cares, Sustainable Conservation, and Natural Resources Conservation Service to partner with Audubon to save this species has provided additional support to the campaign by funding a program to compensate farmers for delayed harvest, carry out surveys in the Central Valley, and to publicize the story of the Tricolored Blackbird.

Audubon California also does a fair amount of on the ground conservation by creating and distributing materials to farmers explaining the importance of this species and providing information on financial programs available to help them protect a colony either by delaying harvest or other measures. This work coupled with an initiative to create and enhance safe natural habitat areas off of private managed land aid in long term colony protection. To date, we have five active habitat restoration projects aimed at attracting Tricolored Blackbird colonies who may otherwise nest on agricultural fields due to lack of habitat or resources. Kern, Kerncrest, San Bernardino, and Yolo Audubon Societies helped develop and implement these projects.

The aforementioned actions will support our objective to save 100 percent of Tricolored Blackbird colonies on agricultural fields in the Central Valley. Through collaborating with local chapters like Kern Audubon, landowners, and bird nerds everywhere we hope to support the recovery of this special species!

Desiree Loggins, Audubon California



Range map of Tricolored Blackbirds in California



Kern Audubon's Executive Board wishes to THANK all those who participated in another successful, fun, informative & inspirational year as a chapter of the National Audubon Society---thank you!!!

PROGRAM COMMITTEE - What a year of informative programs! We are already planning for September. Huge thanks to our dedicated Audubon volunteers who serve on this team: **Paula Mande, Ginger Moorhouse, Louise Clay, and Ginny Dallas**. Please contact any of them to share ideas for future programs.

PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE MONTHLY WORK TEAM

We extend our sincere gratitude to those who made our monthly work day at Panorama Vista Preserve a great success for 2015-2016. We were able to see the Preserve's plants grow and get healthier. It was the best two hours people could spend helping out a community asset like Panorama Vista Preserve. First, and foremost, thanks to **Andy Honig** for his guidance, knowledge, and encouragement. Second, **Jan Graves** brought the Interact Club students from Foothill High School, a great learning experience for all. Other stalwarts were: **David Schaad, Al Caetano, Ashleigh Pryor, Barbara Reifel, Dana Adams, Clyde Golden, Deb See, Harry Love, Ginny Dallas, Larry Emlet, Mac McCarthy, Madi Elsea, Larry Wailes, Ted Wright, and Maria Polite**. We hope all continue to help next year and that others join 'the team'.

AUDUBON'S WARBLER TEAM Kern Audubon's monthly newsletter serves the very important function of communicating the chapter's activities, programs and conservation concerns. We thank MADI ELSEA who has edited the Warbler for over ten years! This year the mailing team has consisted of **Linda McMillian**, who prints the labels, and **Cindy Caetano, Julie Horder, Barbara Long & Donna Adams**, who prepare all ten issues for mailing. **Rod Lee** colorizes & sends out the eWarbler. Thank you, team!

"BEHIND THE SCENE" VOLUNTEERS

We would like to thank those who have taken on a monthly task and do it, without fanfare. And the Chapter benefits. **David Schaad**, our librarian, diligently brings our collection of books for circulation to the Bakersfield meetings. At the Tehachapi group meetings, **Hal Morgan** provides refreshments and **Kristie Bret Harte** brings and displays items for the raffle. Their commitment of time and talent is a measurement of their belief that "Birds Matter".

CHRISTMAS AUCTION TEAM

One of the most exciting events is the auction that takes place at the December meeting. This year over 40 items for the auction were donated by businesses and members. All of this took place because of the efforts of two volunteers: **Barbara Long** and **Patty Richardson**. By soliciting businesses and asking friends, they were able to accumulate a fantastic list of items. A special note of appreciation for the handmade items provided for the live auction by **Randi Hodson, Madi Elsea, Sasha & Andy Honig** and **Al Caetano**. Finally, thanks to **Bill Moffat** for being the 'best auctioneer' for miles around.

Thank you to our Kern Audubon **FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE** which had quarterly brainstorming meetings at Al & Cindy Caetano's home and included **Al Caetano, Margaret Dolan, David Chilton, Kevin Fahey, Deb See, and Bill Moffat**. In addition to the tried and true trips, the group came up with some new ideas for birding outings this year. We are grateful to **John and Ginger Moorhouse** who generously invited us to their home along the Kern River for a delightful morning of birding. To both **Roger Coley** and **Al Cataeno**, thank you for leading wonderful walks using your bird expertise when we requested it. And huge thanks goes to **Bill Moffat** for the multitude of monthly walks in a wide variety of locations, enjoyed by many birders of different levels. A new leader this year was **Greg Hargleroad**, who took on leadership of our Tehachapi area field trips. Finally, we thank everyone who has come on these events as so many members have contributed to the success of our field trips by adding to the knowledge of others as we bird together, even being another set of eyes is a very important part of each trip!! Thank you all for the great year!

More volunteers next page!!!!

More dedicated volunteers we want to thank.....

A very important part of Kern Audubon is our **EDUCATION** program, which makes presentations about birds and the environment at numerous locations and is directed mainly at young people. Giving kids an opportunity to experience nature is sure to help their understanding of the environmental challenges ahead. Our message is "Birds Really Do Matter". Our thanks to an outstanding group of people not only for their presentations but for their efforts in creating a very meaningful experience for the participants (kids and adults). This program would not be possible without the help of these great volunteers: **Donna Adams, Barbara Castle, Susan Castle, Louise Clay, Kevin Fahey, Laura Fahey, Fran Hersh, Andy Honig, Sasha Honig, Harry Love, Kathy Love, Michelle McDonald Paula Mande, Bill Moffat, Nancy Putney, David Schindler, Deb See, Barbara Reifel**

Many thanks to the **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE** who have made coffee and arranged goodies for our monthly meetings: **Fran Hersh, Paula Mande, Pat Bonas, Linda Greene.** You are the greatest! We also thank all of you who brought finger foods, desserts and drinks to our meetings this year. Many of you volunteered to help out more than once! You all deserve a gold medal!

A special thank you to **Kathy Love**, who has been our Hospitality Coordinator since 2009! She has been a marvelous organizer & recruiter and we have enjoyed wonderful refreshments as a result!

We have some special people to thank for bringing the raffle prizes to our meetings every month. **Cindy and Al Caetano** did it for most of the year with **Margaret Dolan** assuming this responsibility recently. These three deserve 1st prize for all of their efforts!

TEHACHAPI BLUEBIRD TRAIL Volunteers are monitoring 62 nest boxes in the Tehachapi area. Currently the nest boxes have 42 eggs and 109 chicks. Additionally, 12 young have fledged so far this nesting season - all Western bluebirds. Volunteers start working before the nesting season begins to repair damaged boxes and build replacement boxes. When the birds begin nesting, volunteers monitor the boxes throughout the nesting season, from March to July. The final task is to input the data to Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch website. The total volunteer hours (person hours) per year is approximately 450 hours! Some of our current volunteers have been participating since 1998 while others have just joined us this year. Many volunteers come from the community as well as Kern Audubon-Tehachapi members: **Jean Moore, George Hammond, Mary & Mark Dufraim, Carol Gates, Ed Sterling, Jennifer Cook, Sandra Murray, Mark Pestana, Susi Martin, Kathleen and Blake Burris, Jeri Bartow, Linda McDermott, Lauren Hollen, Georgette Theotig, Elizabeth and Mike Hinkle, Adelle and Michael Gruett, Joan Cote, Erin Rohrer, and Karolyn Santos .**

WEBSITE...Rod Lee has been the webmaster for www.kernaudubonsociety.org for the past 10 years, contributing time, skill & creativity to this important means of Kern Audubon's communication--thank you, Rod!



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www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Tues. June 7, 6:00pm - Annual Picnic Jastro Park
- Wed. June 8 - Bittercreek Condor field trip
- Sat. July 16, 6:15am - Kern River Preserve

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 to National Audubon for \$20 to:

Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone # _____