

AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 47 no. 6 – June 2018

Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**
A chapter of National Audubon Society

Join us for a picnic at Yokuts Park
Tues, June 5th 6pm



Steve Shaw, Master Falconer, will join us at Yokuts Park 6:00PM. We enjoyed an outstanding and educational visit with him at our Nov. 7 meeting. If conditions are right Steve will actually fly his falcon.

**Cost of our tri -tip
and/or chicken meal
with all the extras plus
dessert and drink is
only \$15.**

Address
4000 Empire Dr,
Bakersfield, CA 93309
off Truxton Ave.



URGENT

**WE WILL NO LONGER BE MAILING THE WARBLER...
THIS IS THE LAST PRINTED ISSUE!**

Countdown to electronic Warbler ONLY. Don't be left out!

Instructions

If you already receive the eWarbler, do nothing.

If you don't, send your email to: ewarbler@kernaudubonsociety.org.

Important Note: The change is taking place because the printing/ mailing cost of the Warbler is over \$2000 per year and we are a conservation group that is interested in protecting trees (and birds!)

- Please send your email address TODAY -

SUMMER FIELD TRIPS

Sat. June 2nd Bad News. Our joint field trip with Tulare Audubon to post-burned forests has been **cancelled** due to no available Tulare Audubon leaders.

Sat. June 16, 8am - Kern River Preserve in Weldon on Hwy 178. Join Antelope Valley Audubon for a bird walk at this globally significant birding spot managed by Audubon California. Mickey Dyke, a member of both Kern and Antelope Valley Audubon, will be the leader. Best bathrooms are at the KOA campground on HWY 178 just before the Preserve entrance. Bakersfield carpoolers may meet in the Albertson's parking lot on Mt Vernon at Hwy 178. Questions? Email Mickey at mickeydyke@icloud.com.

Tues. June 19, 9:15am - Bitter Creek Condor Wildlife Refuge near Maricopa. US Fish & Wildlife staff plans to be working on Condors at the capture pen, so we are likely to see a Condor. We will be on the refuge from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Four wheel or high clearance vehicles are recommended, so carpooling is important. This trip is limited to **20** people by the USF&W. So **RSVP** to Kevin Fahey, 661-706-7459 to reserve a place. Meeting time and place is 9:15am in Maricopa at the gas station/pkg store on the SE corner of HWYs 166 and 33. Carpoolers from Bakersfield may meet at 8:45am in the parking lot across from CSUB at Stockdale Hwy & Don Harte Dr. Bring water, lunch, sunscreen, and binoculars. (Extra binocs available if needed.)

Sat. August 4, 7:30am - Kern River Preserve in Weldon on Hwy 178. Ali Sheehey will lead this annual summer field trip to see the summer residents at Audubon's Kern River Preserve (KRP): Summer Tanager ("Flying Neon Tomato"), Yellow Warbler, Willow Flycatcher (unlikely), and maybe the Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo, among many others. Aug 4 date selected to try to catch

the peak of Hummingbird migration. **Carpoolers from Bakersfield meet at 6:00am at Albertson's parking lot at Mt Vernon and Hwy 178.** For questions, call Mac at 661-589-7768.

--- After the group finishes at KRP, Ali will lead carte blanche birding in the Kern River Valley and Greenhorn Mountains.

--- For early riser birding, meet Ali at dawn (5:36am) at the KOA campground in Weldon. (RSVP Ali at for this at 760-417-0268)

--- It will be hot, wear a hat, sunscreen, layered clothing, bug spray, and bring your binoculars, drinks, and snacks/lunch. If you choose to go on the afternoon excursion, we will stop for sandwiches to go and eat while we bird. Best bathrooms are at the KOA campground on Hwy 178 just before the Preserve entrance.

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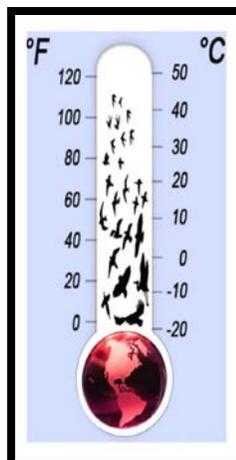
(661) 345-7859



*April 28
outing in
Tehachapi
lead by Greg
Hargleroad*

Climate Change Corner: UC, Irvine shows what can be done

UC Irvine shows that 100 percent renewable is 100 percent doable. Recently, it became the first school in the US to convert to an all-electric bus fleet. Yes, UC Irvine gets a lot of power from onsite PV solar panels. But it has complemented this focus on production with a focus on where the majority of energy is actually consumed: buildings. UC Irvine has been a [pioneer for LEED](#) buildings on campus, constructing new facilities to be highly efficient while retrofitting old buildings to conserve energy. It was the first institution in the nation to meet goals outlined by President Obama's Better Buildings Challenge in 2011, and it did so [seven years ahead of schedule](#). Since then, the California school has been a leader in clean tech innovations. In yet another national first, UC Irvine found a way to use a power-to-gas (P2G) system to [utilize excess wind and solar electricity](#) that would otherwise go to waste. (Humorous note: UC Irvine's mascot is the anteater)



HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS

Hummingbird solution should be changed every 2-3 days in the summer as it sours very quickly in the heat. Please refresh your solution and thoroughly clean your feeders with a light mix of vinegar & water each time. Spoiled sugar water is bad for the birds! Remember to 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. Do not use honey in your sugar water mix!



Laura Fahey, KAS Facebook Coordinator, uses her techie skills as a volunteer at the CALM Birthday May 19. Photo by: Andy Honig

To see great Audubon photos, visit our Facebook page@ Kern Audubon Society

EASY WAY TO DONATE

Now you can donate towards supporting the many projects important to the Kern Audubon Society at any time. How? Go to our website (kernaudubonsociety.org) and click on the DONATE button in the top right hand corner. You can use your credit card or PayPal. It is that easy!

KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

"Like" us and add your comments, photos, bird sightings, and get updates on field trips and programs! Laura Fahey manages our Facebook, email her at: ityzmom@sbcglobal.net.



We are pleased to announce that Kern Audubon received a grant from the Virginia and Alfred Harrell Foundation. With the funds we will purchase a full size wing-span banner for use at Science Camp and Outreach Programs. Also, we will protect our birds, Horned Owl and Red-tailed Hawk, with cases so we can display them in a variety of settings. We thank the foundation, headed by Audubon member Ginger Moorhouse, for this much needed assistance!

Want to know about upcoming outings for Kern Audubon? Want to find out what similar groups are doing? Sign up for **Meetup!**

[www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon Society](http://www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon-Society)



Many thanks to **Carly Summers** for updating events on the site.

Owens Lake: Former toxic dust bowl transformed into environmental success

Fearsome gusts of desert wind routinely kicked up swirling clouds of choking dust over Owens Lake on the east side of the Sierra Nevada after 1913, when its treasured snowmelt and spring water was first diverted into the Los Angeles Aqueduct. It was not until 2001, and under a court order, that the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power began transforming the lake's grim heritage, flooding portions where toxic, powder-fine dust exceeded federal pollution standards.

On April 28, Owens Lake was designated a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network site of international importance, joining an exclusive group of 104 areas between Alaska and the southern end of South America certified for their outstanding numbers of birds. This designation is part of a growing movement across the nation and around the world that sees wetlands as crucial connections to natural vistas that are receding as the planet heats up and development spreads.



Rob Clay, director of the shorebird reserve network headquartered in Plymouth, Mass., said it is also testament to a Los Angeles dust mitigation project that "demonstrates how human welfare and biodiversity conservation are intrinsically linked." "The designation coincided with the fourth annual Owens Lake Bird Festival, which is co-hosted by the LADWP and many of the conservationists who played a large role in holding L.A. accountable for massive dust storms that have besieged the Inyo County territory of striking geographic contrasts where 14,000-foot Sierra Nevada peaks and the Mojave Desert intersect. *Tom and Jo Heindel*, of the nearby community of Big Pine, who are nearing completion of a comprehensive scientific survey of every species and subspecies of bird ever documented in Inyo County over the last 150 years. "When we moved to Owens Valley in 1972, there were only a few wet spots on the lake bed," Jo, 79, recalled. "Now, it's a whole new world."

Source: LA Times

(Note: *Tom and Jo Heindel* are the parents of one of our members, *Kelli Levinson*)



Do you use Amazon for your shopping needs? If so, sign up for **AmazonSmile**. A percent (0.5%) of your purchases will go to the Kern Audubon Society. Sign up today on your Amazon account home page. There is no cost to KAS or to you, an AmazonSmile customer.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

- Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities:**
- Tues. June 5, 6pm – Kern Audubon Picnic at Yokuts Park off Truxton
 - Sat. June 16, 8am – Kern River Preserve in Weldon on Hwy 178
 - Tues. June 19, 9:15am – BitterCreek Condor Wildlife Refuge near Maricopa
 - Sat. Aug. 4, 7:30am – Kern River Preserve in Weldon on Hwy 178

Membership Application – KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C4ZC300Z)

If you would like to be apart 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

Send this form and your check made to National Audubon for \$20 to:

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Kern Audubon
PO BOX 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

Name(s): _____ Amount enclosed: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____