



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 37 No. 3- MARCH 2008
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org



Kern Audubon Gathering
TUES. MARCH 4, 2008 - 7:00pm
Kern Co. Supt of Schools
17th & L Streets, Bakersfield

BOB STEELE, PHOTOGRAPHER "BIRDS OF TROPICAL AUSTRALIA"



Bob Steele is a professional birding photographer and resident of Kern County for over 20 years. His photos have graced the covers of *National Geographic Field Guide to Birds of Colorado* and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology *Bird Songs of California* and are seen regularly in *Birding* and *Birder's World* magazines. His collection of images includes over 500 species of birds, habitat photos and images of local flowers, butterflies and dragonflies. In 2007 Bob spent six weeks summer birding and photographing in northeast Australia where he saw over 300 species of birds and photographed 200 species. Join us for a fascinating look at the beautiful species found in the unique habitats of tropical Australia. For a sneak peak at his work, go to www.bobsteelephoto.com
Refreshments served...plus great RAFFLE prizes!

MARCH FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, March 15 - Kern Water Bank Trip leader will be Cheryl Harding, manager of the Kern Water Bank Authority. Meet at the parking lot on Stockdale Highway across from CSUB at 7:20 a.m. for a 7:30 departure, and carpooling to the Water Bank. Or meet the group at the green Water Bank gates on the west side of Enos Lane south of Stockdale Highway at 8:00 a.m. (The gates are located just north of where Enos Lane crosses the Water Bank canal, north of the bridge crossing the Kern River.) There will be water in the canals, and because of recent rains the countryside should be green and there may be wildflowers. The trip will be mostly driving and we will be CARPOOLING while on the Water Bank, completing the field trip before noon. There may be some walking on level ground. Bring water, snacks, sunscreen, insect repellent, and binoculars. For more information, call Roger at 832-1820.

Saturday, March 29 - BLM's Atwell Island Restoration Project. Trip leader will be Dr. Steve Laymon, Atwell Island Project Manager. Meet at 6:50 a.m. in the Costco parking lot on Rosedale Highway (behind Hungry Hunter) near the gas pumps, for 7:00 a.m. departure. Or meet the group at 8:00 a.m. at the BLM office in Alpaugh (at the 4-way stop sign intersection of Ave. 54 & Tule Rd, go south on Tule Rd. [it becomes Rd. 38] approx. 1-1/2 miles; the BLM office is on the west side of Rd. 38). The trip should last until early afternoon. Now in its fifth year, this Bureau of Land Management project is restoring 7000 acres of valley grassland and alkali sink beds; we will tour restored habitat, home to several listed and sensitive species. Bring water, snacks & lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent and binoculars. For more information, call Roger at 832-1820.

KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

Madi Elsea, Co-Chair
madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470
Ted Murphy, Co-Chair
tmurphy@bak.rr.com; 325-0307

Don & Yvonne Turkal, Program Coordinators
tloveanimals@bak.rr.com; 393-4778

Doug Dodd, Conservation
ddodd@csu.edu; 837-0868

Roger Coley, Field Trip Coordinator
rcoley@bak.rr.com; 832-1820

Linda Greene, Publicity
lgreene@bak.rr.com; 322-9954

Kathy Love, Hospitality
love3@bak.rr.com; 589-6254

Ginny Dallas-Dull, Education
vdallas@bak.rr.com; 587-6323

Annette Wells, Membership
awells0526@yahoo.com; 333-4019

Lisa Twiford, Secretary
letwiford@aol.com

Bill McDonald, Treasurer
WJLJMCD@aol.com; 665-2111

NATIONAL CALL-IN DAY FOR WETLANDS

March 5th--National Audubon Society is urging members to put this date on our calendars and plan on joining thousands of other concerned citizens by calling on the US House of Representatives to pass the **Clean Water Restoration Act**. This legislation is vital to restoring the broad coverage of the Clean Water Act of 1972 by clarifying that it applies to ALL of the nation's waters, including fragile wetlands and streams.

On **March 5th**, please call Rep. Kevin McCarthy (202) 225-2915 or Rep. Jim Costa (202)225-3341 and urge them to support the Clean Water Restoration Act (HR2421). *Mark your calendars!*

Websites to check out...

Kern Birding For a comprehensive website about numerous Kern County birding locations go to www.natureali.org/birding.htm.

Kern County Bird Sightings/photos

What's unusual in Kern County birding? Go to kerncobirding@yahoogroups.com for recent bird sightings, reports by Bob Barnes, Mike McQuerry, Alison Sheehy, pictures by Ken Kyle and others.

www.Audubon-ca.org is a great website all about the activities and organization of Audubon California

AUDUBON IN THE NEWS - To find out more about Audubon happenings around the country, you can receive an informative electronic newsletter. Just email chapterleaders@audubon.org

Remember to check out Kern Audubon's own website.....**www.kernaudubonsociety.org**

E-WARBLER If you would like to receive the *Audubon Warbler* by email instead of hardcopy, send an e-mail to tmurphy@bak.rr.com. Save some trees!

Sign up today to receive **Audubon ACTION ALERT** online! Using Audubon's simple, online action tools, you can influence decision makers on important Audubon conservation priorities.

Audubon California:

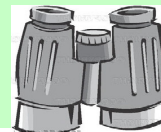
<http://audubonaction.org/California/join.html>

National Audubon Society:

<http://audubonaction.org/audubon/join.html>

TUESDAY BIRDERS MEET 3RD TUES.

Tues. MARCH 18TH will be the next outing of the *Tuesday Birders*. Beginners as well as the experienced are welcome! Contact Brenda Kyle (871-4867) for information about time and place.



We thank Joseph V. Higbee for the Audubon's Warbler photo used as the newsletter logo. Used by permission. (www.pbase.com/jvhigbee)

Looking ahead to **TUES. APRIL 1ST (no foolin'!) 7:00PM....**Join Kern Audubon for an evening with **SCOTT FRAZER**, wildlife biologist with the Kern National Wildlife Refuge and photographer for a program on his recent birding trip to Peru.

Kern River Valley Spring Nature Festival

April 30 - May 6, 2008

<http://kern.audubon.org/bioregion.htm>

You are invited to the Kern River Valley Spring Nature Festival, April 30 - May 6, 2008, held annually at Audubon's Kern River Preserve in Weldon and Circle Park in Kernville! This festival celebrates the biodiversity of the Kern River Valley and Southern Sierra Nevada. home to over 200 nesting species of birds, 100 species of mammals, 130+ species of butterflies, and over 2000 species of plants. This great diversity comes from being at the intersection of three of North America's ten Floristic Provinces (Great Basin Desert Province, Mojave Desert subprovince of the Sonoran Desert Province, and Californian Province).

This year, festival artist, John Schmitt, will present a new t-shirt design featuring "Spring Warblers of the Kern River Valley and Southern Sierra Nevada". Friday night keynote speaker will be photographer Bob Steele (www.bobsteelephoto.com), who will give a presentation on "Warblers: nesting, migrant, and vagrant of the Kern River Valley and Southern Sierra Nevada, plus bonus regional specialty birds". Saturday night's keynoter will be John Muir Laws (www.johnmuirlaws.com) who will give a presentation on "An Evening Exploring the Natural World of the Sierra Nevada". Bob will give workshops on photography on Saturday and John will offer workshops on painting nature and will be available to autograph his book, *The Laws Field Guide to the Sierra Nevada*.

There are 30 different field trip choices featuring birding, wildflower, geology, natural history and butterflies. Weekend workshops are offered on bird photography; gardening with native plants; Native American uses of plants; how to draw nature; bird, reptile, amphibian, and plant identification; and more, plus demonstrations on bird banding, pond turtles and falconry.

Many field trip destinations are offered all seven days, with half-day field trips offered Saturday and Sunday. In addition to our traditional field trips, new offerings for the festival are new owling destinations, Little Lake/Owens Lake, and Frog Spring/Kelso Creek Sanctuary. Field trip sign-ups are now open but several sections for specific days have already sold out...so sign-up early!

Except for the paid field trips, workshops and dinners, the rest of the festival activities are free and sponsored by Audubon California's Kern River Preserve, Bob Barnes and Associates, Kern River Valley Revitalization and Sequoia National Forest.

Contact Bob Barnes (bbarnes@lightspeed.net) to register or get information on paid field trips and workshops. Contact Alison Sheehey (krpfriends@lightspeed.net) for information on dinners and free events. Visit the festival website to find out about activities and the latest information. <http://kern.audubon.org/bioregion.htm>

To save paper and keep costs down, printed information is not available but there is a printable schedule on the website.

Bob Barnes, Field Trips Chair, Ridgecrest, Kern County, CA
Kern River Valley Spring Nature Festival
P: 760-382-1260
E: bbarnes@lightspeed.net

Alison Sheehey, Festival Chair & Webmaster, Weldon, Kern County, CA
Kern River Valley Spring Nature Festival
P: 760-378-2029
E: krpfriends@lightspeed.net

AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Kern Audubon Society
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385



www.kernaudubonsociety.org

Non-Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Bakersfield CA
Permit #93

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Tues. March 4, 7:00pm - Meeting & program with Bob Steele, professional bird & wildlife photographer
- Sat. March 15, 7:30am - Field trip to the Kern Water Bank - ducks and shorebirds!
- Mon. March 29, 7:00am - Field trip to Atwell Island Restoration Project, Alpaugh

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (7XCHC30)

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*. (11 issues)

____ New Member \$20 ____ Renewal \$35

Make check payable to **National Audubon Society**

Send check & form to ...Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

I am enclosing an additional tax-deductible donation for the work of Kern Audubon in the amount of _____. (Check payable to Kern Audubon)

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Phone # _____