



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 39 No 8 - October 2010
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org

KERN AUDUBON

Tues. October 5, 2010
7:00pm - Kern Supt of Schools
17th & L Sts. (parking garage 18th & K)

KILL YOUR LAWN

Garry George, Chapter Network Director
Audubon California



In 1995, Garry George killed his lawn in mid-town Los Angeles and planted California native plants to attract birds. Fifteen years later he has a nature sanctuary in an urban jungle, with over 80 species of birds and unusual species of insects and reptiles in a garden of discovery and environmental and ecological health. Garry took to heart the mission of Audubon: **"To conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity."**

Garry is Chapter Network Director for Audubon California working with the 48 chapters of Audubon Society in California, as well as volunteer Conservation Chair for Los Angeles Audubon Society. He transitioned to the non-profit world following a successful career in the music industry as an artist manager.

OCTOBER FIELD TRIPS

Sun. Oct. 17, 7am - 5pm - Indian Wells Valley

An adventure awaits as we visit two private properties in Inyokern with guide Bob Barnes, to look for desert species, winter season species, and late fall migrants. We will look for Costa's Hummingbird, Verdin, Sage Sparrow, and Black-throated Sparrow at the Middlemiss property which is featured in the American Birding Association's "A Birder's Guide to Southern California." Another nearby private property will be visited with the goal of experiencing Loggerhead Shrikes and Le Conte's Thrashers "up close and personal." If time and group energy permits, we will visit one or two other desert oases or wetland areas. The birding day will be broken up by lunch in Inyokern or Ridgecrest. Added features of this trip will include the Middlemiss "feliary" and a geodesic dome home at the second site. We'll head home for Bakersfield around 3pm. Meet for carpooling at the Park n Ride on Stockdale between Real Rd. & Hiway 99 at 7am. Roger Coley (832-1820) for information. Bring water, binoculars, snacks, \$10 donation for gas.

Introducing....Wednesday Walks with Bill Moffat, State Park Ranger.

Wed. October 20, 8:00am join Kern Audubon at the TULE ELK RESERVE for a birding walk led by Kern Audubon member and State Park Ranger, Bill Moffat. Meet at the Tule Elk Reserve--take Stockdale Hiway west past Interstate 5. Go about 1 mile to the Tule Elk Reserve sign...turn left (south) to the reserve. Call Bill for more information: 201-9279

Wed. November 17, 8:00am meet at the Park n Ride on Stockdale to carpool to FT. TEJON STATE HISTORIC PARK, a great place for birding and history. More info in the next *Warbler*.

Looking ahead....

Return of the Cranes Festival

Sat. November 13, 2010

2:30pm thru Sunset

Pixley Wildlife Refuge

Join Kern Audubon on this field trip to witness the evening fly-in of thousands of Sandhill Cranes as they come to the refuge to roost. Last year, the Pixley National Wildlife Refuge staff hosted birders and nature enthusiasts from Kern and Tulare counties for the first "Return of the Cranes" event which included refreshments and a brief introduction of Sandhill Crane ecology and the importance of the Pixley Refuge for this population, followed by a stroll to the observation platform to see the cranes fly-in. This year's event will be similar with the addition that Kern Audubon has received a grant to provide bus transportation to the refuge. More details will be coming, but you may plan ahead and make bus reservations by calling Kern/Pixley Nat'l Wildlife Refuge: (661) 725-2767, indicating you are with Kern Audubon!



KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD 2010 - 2011

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The Kern Audubon Executive Board meets monthly on the third Wednesday, 7pm. Meetings are open to interested members; contact a board member for meeting locations.

EXTRA 2011 CALENDARS???

Inundated with free 2011 calendars? If you have more than you can use, please note that the Alliance Against Family Violence has an ongoing need for calendars. If you have extras, you may drop them by the Alliance office on 19th Street, or bring them to the next Audubon meeting for Barbara Coley (she'll be doing the raffle), who will collect and deliver them to the office. Thanks!

KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK???

National Audubon is encouraging local chapters to get involved in the world of social media as a way of attracting new and younger members, especially those interested in nature and the environment. If you might be interested in helping Kern Audubon develop a Facebook page, contact Rod Lee, 322-7470 or rodmlee@aol.com

GULF SPILL INFORMATION

For up-to-date information about how the National Audubon Society is responding to the devastating oil spill effecting the Gulf Coast and how you can offer financial support, go to www.audubon.org

NEED INFORMATION ABOUT BIRDS?

One of the best websites for learning about birds and bird behavior is www.cornellbirds@cornell.edu. This is the website of Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the world leader in the study and conservation of birds.

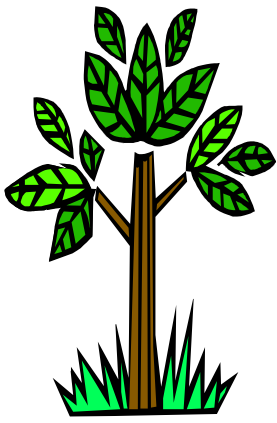
WEBSITES to check out...

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

Kern County Bird Sightings/photos For what's unusual in Kern County, go to kerncobirding@yahoogroups.com You'll find recent bird sightings, reports by Bob Barnes, Michael McQuerry, Alison Sheehy, pictures by Ken Kyle 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 happenings through an informative electronic newsletter, email chapterleaders@audubon.org



PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE WORKPARTY

The next workparty for the preserve is **Saturday, October 2, 8 AM-10 AM**. The tasks will be weeding, putting mulch around trees and trimming. Last month, our first Saturday workparty brought out one the other largest group of workers yet: Clyde Golden, Becky Rule, Judy Long, Madi Elsea, Lynn James, Bill and Lynn McDonald, Carol Gates, Deb See and Tucker, plus new volunteers Al Caetano and Wendy Wayne. Of special note was the large group of INTERACT Club members from Foothill High School that Jan Graves brought. They were exceptionally hard workers. Carol Gates gets the award for coming the farthest--from Tehachapi!

Directions: Take Manor Drive to Roberts Lane and go east to the white, locked gate. Hope to see you this Saturday! Harry Love (805-1420)

"From Bird Song to Motion Picture" On Saturday, October 23, 2 – 4:30pm (including appetizers) come hear the motion picture industry's most sought-after sound experts discuss conservation in a whole new way. Featured speakers will be:

- Louis Agassiz Fuertes Director of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, **Dr. John W. Fitzpatrick**
- **Grammy award-winning** sound engineer **Bill McQuay**
- **Oscar-winning** sound designer **Gary Rydstrom** of Pixar
- Radio Expeditions producer and **award-winning investigative journalist Alex Chadwick** of Conservation Sound

At this event you'll hear a sound exhibition from the natural world and a demonstration of how these sounds are used in the motion picture industry.

Location: Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Linwood Dunn Theater
1313 Vine Street, Hollywood **Cost:** \$25.00

PROPOSITION 21--IMPORTANT FOR WILDLIFE & PARKS

If California voters support Proposition 21 – the State Parks Access Pass – we will have not only a stable funding source for state parks, but a much-needed boost of \$35 million annually for our state wildlife areas and ecological reserves. The measure would give every Californian FREE day use of state parks in exchange for a new \$18 vehicle license fee. 7% of this revenue would go to public lands managed by the California Department of Fish & Game (DFG).



There are 240 of these properties scattered throughout California, totaling almost a million acres and providing habitat for more than 1,275 species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and fish, including many that are listed as threatened or endangered. These lands also provide Californians with excellent opportunities to enjoy the outdoors through wildlife viewing, fishing, and hunting.

If you have ever visited Mendota Wildlife Area, Los Banos Wildlife Area, or Yolo Wildlife Area, you have witnessed the rich abundance of wildlife that DFG works hard to preserve. In fact, DFG manages these lands to provide diverse habitats such as seasonal wetlands, permanent ponds, semi-permanent and standing grain, flooded riparian woodlands, and flooded pastures. At Shasta Valley Wildlife Area in Siskiyou County, managed grazing systems have created a diverse mix of shortgrass pasture habitats for both geese and cranes. At Upper Butte Basin Wildlife Area, restored riparian habitat is benefiting a host of neotropical migrant songbirds and a variety of other wildlife. Planting of native willows and cottonwoods at Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, enhanced habitat for all wildlife and provided greater opportunities for wildlife viewing.

At the 14 major wetland wildlife areas in the state (mostly in the Central Valley), DFG emphasizes the production of food plants preferred by waterfowl, striving to assure the availability of adequate quantities of natural waterfowl food throughout the fall and winter months. This helps to support the winter waterfowl migration through the Pacific Flyway.

The \$35 million that Proposition 21 will generate for wildlife lands outside of state parks will go to restoration projects, land management, law enforcement and public safety (more wardens!), public access, and science.

Audubon California supports Proposition 21!

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www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Sat. Oct. 2, 8 - 10am ~ Workparty at Panorama Vista Preserve
- Tues. Oct. 5, 7:00pm ~ Program on creating backyard urban bird sanctuaries with Garry George, Audubon CA staff
- Sun. Oct. 17, 7am - Desert Birding field trip led by Bob Barnes & Roger Coley to Inyokern
- Wed. Oct. 20, 8:00am - Field Trip outing to Tule Elk Reserve

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C30)

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** (not Kern Audubon)

Send this form and your check (payable to National Audubon Society) 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 # _____