



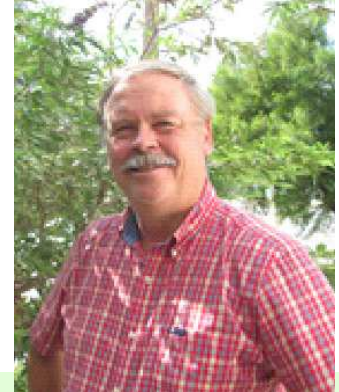
AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 45, no 2 - FEBRUARY 2016
Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org

Kern Audubon
TUES. FEBRUARY 2, 2016 - 7:00pm
Kern Supt of Schools City Center
1300 L Sts. (17th & L) Parking lot at 18th & K

"Bird Friendly, Drought Tolerant Landscaping"

Dr. John Karlik, Advisor
Environmental Horticulture/Environmental Sciences
Cooperative Extension Kern County



John Karlik is Extension Advisor for the University of California Extension program in Kern County, specializing in environmental horticulture and environmental science. His presentation will focus on practical suggestions for gardeners, especially related to creating a drought tolerant landscape. We will learn hands-on methods to conserve water, how to select decorative bird-friendly plants, and how to identify and eliminate water guzzling garden practices. Dr. Karlik is well-known in Kern County for teaching the popular Master Gardener certificate program through Kern County's UC Cooperative Extension program.

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIPS

Sat. Feb. 6, 9:00am - Bakersfield area ponds

Al Caetano will lead this morning excursion (9am - noon) to three ponds: Oswell re-charge pond, Lake Ming and Hart Lake. Winter waterfowl and shorebirds should be observable and a good opportunity to practice ID skills. Meet at the recharge pond near the corner of Hiway 58 and Oswell. along the frontage road. Call Al for more information: 833-6705

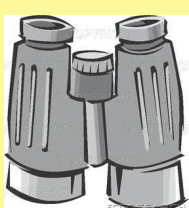
Great Backyard Bird Count, February 12-15, 2016 --Count birds wherever you are! www.birdcount.org

Sat. Feb. 20 - Tom Sawyer Lake, Tehachapi

Join leader Greg Hargelroad for a morning of birding at Tom Sawyer Lake and along Brite Creek. Recent rains have brought water to the lake and creek so we should see some interesting birds. Bakersfield birders should meet at the Park n Ride (Stockdale Hiway between Hiway 99 & Real Rd.) for carpooling to Tehachapi, meeting Greg and others at 8:00am. Dress warmly, bring water/snacks, binoculars. Call Greg for info: 818-645-3664.

Tuesday. Feb. 23rd, 8:30 am - Truxtun Lake

Bill Moffat will lead this outing around Truxtun Lakes where we can expect to see late migrants, wintering waterfowl, shorebirds and year-round residents. Beginning birders especially welcome! Meet at the Truxtun Extension parking lot between Mohawk and the painted watertower. Good walking shoes, water/snacks, binocs are suggested. Contact Bill (661-201-9279) for more information.



Sunday Feb. 28, 1:15pm - Kern & Pixley Nat'l Wildlife Refuges

Join us for an afternoon and early evening outing to nearby wildlife refuges. We will visit Kern NWR first to view late wintering ducks and shorebirds before traveling to Pixley NWR to watch the Sandhill Cranes as they fly onto the refuge at sunset. The cranes will head north in early March to their Canadian nesting grounds, so this is the last opportunity to see this beautiful spectacle of cranes and their haunting sound. Meet at the Rosedale Costco parking lot near the gas station. Bring snacks or sack dinner, binoculars, walking shoes. We will return by 7pm. Call Madi for info: 322-7470.

PRESIDENT'S NEST

In September 2014, the National Audubon Society published its lengthy scientific report on Climate Change and Birds. The data indicated that 314 birds were 'on the brink' of being displaced and threatened by climate change. It indicated that people, businesses, and the government need to take immediate steps so these species can survive instead of going the way of the Passenger Pigeon. Since then, Audubon California has taken dramatic steps to make its members in California become aware of how climate change will affect the range and population of 140 California birds from the original 314 bird list. To 'get the message out', several workshops for chapter leaders have taken place throughout the state. Two of our leaders, Vice-president **KEVIN FAHEY** and Tehachapi outings/meetings leader **GREG HARGLEROAD**, attended a workshop in Ridgecrest. Members from Kerncrest Audubon, which covers eastern Kern County, also attended. Both Kevin and Greg received information about how to get this important message out to our members and the public. Please look forward to communications from them about how you can get involved. Remember, we are all in this together!

Harry Love, President



PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE WORKPARTY

Happy New Year! On **Saturday, February 13, 9-11 AM**, we will have our monthly workday at the Preserve. Tasks will be to clear away grass and mustard from trees and drip lines. We will also clear out patches to plant milkweed seeds (the favorite plant of Monarch butterflies). Bring a hat, gloves, shovel/hoe, and water. Meet at the entrance gate at east end of Roberts Lane. Want to join the fun? Contact Harry Love (love3@bak.rr.com 805-1420) for details and directions.

RENEWING YOUR AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewal notices are sent to Audubon members by the National Audubon Society. You can also find the expiration date of your membership on the address label of this newsletter or *Audubon* magazine. You can also check your membership status and renew membership online at www.audubon.org and click on "Member Center" at the **very top of the homepage**. Or send your renewal check in the amount of \$20 to: National Audubon Member Center, PO Box 422250, Palm Coast Fl. 32142

We are pleased that LINDA MCMILLIAN has accepted the position of Membership Coordinator, so feel free to contact her with questions or concerns: lammcmillian@sbcglobal.net or 661-205-3521.

AMAZON SMILE....Do you shop on the internet? Do you



use Amazon? If so, you can help Kern Audubon through **Amazon Smile**, a site that allows you to shop for the same items as Amazon but with the added feature that .5% of what you pay to Amazon will go to KAS. You have the same choices and pay no more. Go to smile.amazon.com to register and select your charity of choice, Kern Audubon Society. When you buy something, just go to the Smile site. It's easy and Kern Audubon will benefit!

KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

2015-2016

Harry Love, President/Conservation

love3@bak.rr.com; 805-1420

Kevin Fahey, Vice-President

kjfahey@sbcglobal.net; 706-7459 (cell)

Sasha Honig, Secretary

sashahonig@gmail.com; 325-0026

Gary McKibbin, Treasurer

gmckibbin42@gmail.com; 392-1403

Deb See & Bill Moffat, Field Trips

seemoffats@aol.com; 805-0232

Ginny Dallas, Programs

vdallas@bak.rr.com - 301-8188

Kathy Love, Hospitality

kathylove64@gmail.com; 589-6245

Linda McMillian, Membership Data

lammcmillian@sbcglobal.net; 205-3521

Carol Gates, Tehachapi Rep.

Carol.gates18@gmail.com; 300-1429

Mary Dufraim, Tehachapi Rep.

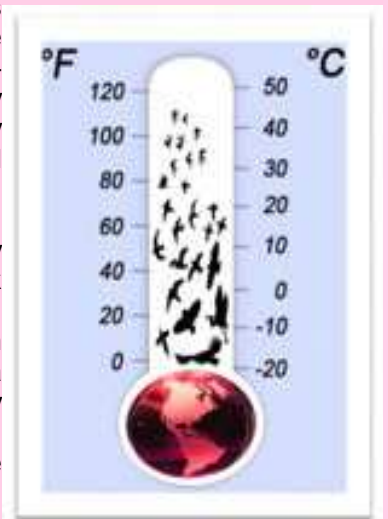
marysalternative@yahoo.com; 972-4355

Madi Elsea, Past President/Warbler Editor

madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470

The Climate Change Performance Index,

produced by Germanwatch and Climate Action Network Europe, ranks countries based on their greenhouse gas emissions, emissions-reduction efforts, energy efficiency, renewable energy portfolios, and policies aimed at slowing climate change. Here's the top 10 list from this year, with every country being European: 1. Denmark 2. United Kingdom 3. Portugal 4. Sweden 5. Switzerland 6. Malta 7. France 8. Hungary 9. Ireland 10. Iceland. FYI: The U.S. is 40th, just above China.



KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

"Like" us and add your comments, photos, bird sightings and get updates on field trips and programs!

YEAR-END APPEAL... Once again there has been a generous response to the end-of-the-year appeal in the amount of **\$1645!!** The Kern Audubon Executive Board wishes to acknowledge and thank the following persons for your extra gifts toward KAS' continuing efforts to "create a culture of conservation in Kern County" in 2016...

Catherine & James Anthony
 Arlene & Jim Burrow
 Steve & Ann Carey
 Marcia Cox
 Gary & Carla File
 Irene Heath
 Mark & Randi Hodson
 Jerry & Caryl Kay
 Rex & Mary Mason
 Ginger & John Moorhouse
 Joanne & Paul Newberry
 Janice Polletta
 Georgette Theotig
 Wm. C. Whiteside

Gordon Black
 Al & Cindy Caetano
 Louise Clay
 Ginny Dallas-Dull
 Patricia Gasper
 Kristie Bret Harte
 Keith & Julie Horder
 Eva M. Loeb
 -Gary McKibbin
 Larry & Pat Mumford
 Donna Panasiewicz
 Sylvia L. Simms
 Larry Wailes
 J. Rhett Wyatt

Gene M. Bonas
 Kathleen Cassil
 Bill Cooper
 Margaret Duriga
 WH Handley
 Lamar Estelle Hiatt
 Lynn James
 Vicki Lohr
 Linda Mcmillian
 Ted Murphy
 Coleen Philips
 Joanie Steckel
 Mike White

Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial 1916-2016: Celebrating 100 Years of Migratory Bird Conservation

The year 2016 marks the centennial of the Convention between the United States and Great Britain (for Canada) for the Protection of Migratory Birds (also called the Migratory Bird Treaty), signed on Aug. 16, 1916. The Migratory Bird Treaty, and three others that followed, form the cornerstones of our efforts to conserve birds that migrate across international borders. The Treaty connects the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service with our federal, state, private, non-governmental, tribal, and international partners, who share a long, successful history of conserving, protecting, and managing migratory bird populations and their habitats. Celebrating the centennial of the first Treaty allows us to bring together those who have contributed to its success, and to galvanize efforts to protect migratory birds for the generations to come.

Migratory birds:

- Connect people with nature and add beauty, sound and color to our world. They provide countless opportunities for enjoyment by birders, hunters, and outdoor enthusiasts and have cultural and spiritual importance.
- Contribute environmental benefits, including pollination, insect and rodent control, and seed dispersal. They are good indicators of environmental health because they are so visible and relatively easy to study. Studying birds can give us a picture of what is going on in the world.
- Play a key role in the U.S. economy, supporting recreational opportunities that create jobs and generate billions of dollars in revenue. Throughout this year and in 2016 the US Fish & Wildlife Service will work with partners to create awareness, promote actions, increase support, and expand engagement in the conservation of migratory birds. A national strategy provides a framework for working together to achieve mutual goals and objectives. (Source: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)

BIRD FESTIVALS For information about festivals around the country, go to...

www.Americanbirding.org/festivals
www.birdwatchersdigest.com

March 3-6, 2016 SAN DIEGO BIRD FEST

www.sandiegoaudubon.org

46th Annual Audubon's NEBRASKA CRANE FESTIVAL March 17-20, 2016 - Kearney, Neb.

<http://nebraskacranefestival.org/>

April 14-18, 2016 - GODWIT DAYS (Arcata CA)

www.godwitdays.org

Keynote speaker is David Sibley

WEBSITES to check out...

Info about birds? Go to www.birds.cornell.edu, the website of Cornell Lab of Ornithology, world leader in the study and conservation of birds

Kern Birding www.natureali.org/birding.htm.

Audubon California has an excellent website: www.Audubon-ca.org

Audubon in the news - To learn about National Audubon go to: www.audubon.org

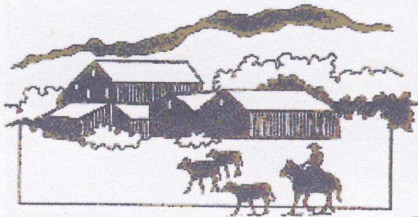
MEETUP If you'd like to find out what similar groups to Audubon are doing, consider a social media website called **Meetup**, which sends email reminders of events and it's free! To become a member go to www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon-Society and follow the easy instructions.



HABITAT TO BE PURCHASED

Adjacent to the established 18 acre Bob Powers Gateway Preserve in the Kern River Valley is a 190 acre parcel of land in what is referred to as Hot Springs Valley. Both areas are prime bird habitat, especially for Red-wing and Tricolored Blackbirds. The Kern River Valley Heritage Foundation, a land trust, has the option to purchase this 190 acre parcel if it can raise \$900,000. When complete, the area will have birding trails and interpretive signage. **Many of our members have donated \$10 towards reaching this goal and the Kern Audubon Board has designated \$1,000 for this project.** Below are two "thank-you's" acknowledging Kern Audubon's donation toward this project.

(If you are interested in donating, you may do so through the Kern River Valley Heritage Foundation PO Box 1249 Lake Isabella CA 93240. Questions? Contact Bob Barnes 760-382-1260.)



KERN RIVER VALLEY HERITAGE FOUNDATION

*Protecting the natural, scenic, agricultural & historic lands of the Kern River Valley
through stewardship, restoration and education*

P.O. Box 1249 • Lake Isabella, California 93240 • (760) 379-3379

November 23, 2015

Kern Audubon Society
P.O. Box 3581
Bakersfield, CA 93385

To the Kern Audubon Society:

On behalf of the Kern River Valley Heritage Foundation and its collaborators in the Bob Powers Gateway Preserve project, I wish to thank the Society for its generous donation.

Your gift will be used to help acquire the Hot Springs Valley Wetlands property, add it to the Preserve and to initiate compatible public access. With this acquisition and the possible addition of two small BLM parcels, under a cooperative management agreement, the Preserve will be approaching 225 acres.

In addition to its valuable wetlands habitat the expanded Preserve will be home to the second largest known population of Alkali Mariposa Lily. Further, we expect it to offer breeding habitat for the tricolored blackbird and the Kern red-winged blackbird.

Your contribution of **\$1,000.00** is deductible to the extent allowed by law and no goods or services were provided to the Society in return. Again, thank you for this meaningful gift.

Sincerely,

Tom Anderson
President

Dear Kern Audubon Executive Board,

Thank you immensely for the Kern Audubon donation of \$1000 toward the purchase of the 189.26 acre Hot Springs Valley Wetlands Project property and initial infrastructure development allowing compatible public access. We appreciate your support!

Here's hoping that all of you have a happy, productive and rewarding new year 2016.

Best always, Bob Barnes, Board Member
Kern River Valley Heritage Foundation



GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

FEBRUARY 12-15, 2016

WWW.BIRDCOUNT.ORG

IT'S AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3!

1. **Register for the count or use your existing login name and password.** If you have never participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count or any other Cornell Lab citizen-science project, you'll need to create a new account by going to www.birdcount.org
2. **Count birds for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the GBBC.** You can count for longer than that if you wish! Count birds in as many places and on as many days as you like—one day, two days, or all four days. Submit a separate checklist for each new day, for each new location, or for the same location if you counted at a different time of day. Estimate the number of individuals of each species you saw during your count period.
3. **Enter your results on the GBBC website by clicking “Submit Observations” on the home page.** Or download the free eBird Mobile app to enter data on a mobile device. If you already participate in the eBird citizen-science project, please use eBird to submit your sightings during the GBBC. Your checklists will count toward the GBBC.

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is an annual four-day event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts.

It's free, fun, and easy. Each checklist submitted during the GBBC helps researchers at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society learn more about how birds are doing, and how to protect them and the environment we share. Last year, more than 144,000 online checklists were turned in, creating the world's largest instantaneous snapshot of bird populations ever recorded.

To register and get further information, go to www.birdcount.org. It's fun....participate!!

Looking ahead to the **March 1, 2016**
Kern Audubon meeting....The
program will feature Christy Sherr, Field
Biologist & Education Coordinator for the
John Muir Project, speaking on
“*Surprising Benefits of Beetles and
Wildfires*”.

PHOTOS NEEDED

The Kern Audubon Executive Board is working on a long-overdue brochure about this chapter and its activities and community outreach. Kevin Fahey is coordinating this project and needs pictures of Kern Audubon activities, such as people birding, group shots, etc. Pictures need to be high resolution and can be emailed (as an attachment) to Kevin:

kjfahey@sbcglobal.net

Or call Kevin for more information: 706-7459

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. February 2, 7pm - KAS Program/meeting
- Sat. Feb. 6, 9am - Local ponds field trip
- Sat. Feb. 13, 9-11am - PVP Workparty
- Sat. Feb. 20 - Tom Sawyer Lake field trip
- Tues. Feb. 23, 8:30am - Truxtun Lake field trip
- Sun. 1:15pm - Nat'l Wildlife Refuge field trip

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 for \$20 to:

Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone # _____