



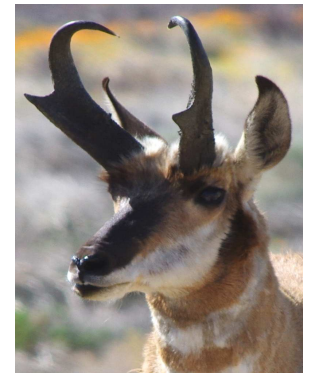
AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 44. no. 3 - MARCH 2015
Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org

Kern Audubon
Tues. March 3, 2015
7:00pm - City Center (17th & L Sts.)
(parking lot @18th & K Sts.)

"California's Southernmost Pronghorn Population - -An Upclose Perspective"

Bill Lydecker, Presenter



The American mammal most people in the United States call an antelope is arguably the most distinctly American mammal in all of North America. Unlike antelope which evolved in the old world and are native to Eurasia and Africa, pronghorn are the only remaining species of a type of hoofed animal that evolved in North America.

Pronghorn (*Antilocarpa americana*) were present in historic times in the Antelope Valley but were extirpated in the early part of the last century. In 1985 and 1987, a total of 91 pronghorn were reintroduced from Modoc County to Tejon Ranch. This population has decreased over time, with recent population estimates ranging from the low twenties to high thirties.

Since November 2013, Bill Lydecker, member of Kern Audubon, has been working as a volunteer with others at Tejon Ranch Conservancy surveying the pronghorn herd at Tejon Ranch in the Antelope Valley. He will show photographs taken over the last year that demonstrate how pronghorn behave through the year, how different animals can be identified as individuals, and how physical characteristics and behaviors make pronghorn unique.

Join Kern Audubon on March 3rd for a fascinating look at this iconic American species!

MARCH FIELD TRIPS

Sat. March 7, 8:30am - Hart Park

Join Michael McQuerry & Gary File in a morning of birding at one of Kern County's birding hotspots. There should be early spring migrants as well as wintering and year round birds. All birders welcome but there will be a special emphasis on beginning birders. Meet on Mirror Drive at the west end of Hart Park between the two lakes. Bring binocs, snacks, etc. Call Deb for info: 805-0232 (Loaner binoculars available.)

Tues. March 17, 8:30am - Bird n Bike at Tule Elk Reserve

Join Park Ranger Bill Moffat on a biking adventure thru Tule Elk Reserve. See birds, the elk, and hopefully wildflowers! Bring bicycles (mountain-type bikes encouraged), binocs, water, snacks, and a sack lunch for those who would like to stay for lunch at the reserve picnic area. Tule Elk Reserve is located at 8653 Station Road. Take Stockdale Hiway two miles west of Interstate 5. Turn left at the sign to Tule Elk Reserve. Call Bill or Deb for info: 805-0232.

Sun. March 22 - Wind Wolves Preserve

This is a limited space outing so RSVP by calling Deb: 805-0232. Wind Wolves staff will provide a private tour thanks to a generous member at the December auction! Space is limited, so call if you are interested!



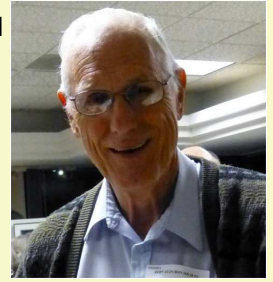
Sunday March 29 - Flowing Wells Ranch/Mojave Desert

Join Kern Audubon-Tehachapi for a birding trip to the desert oasis of Flowing Wells Ranch near Cantil, CA. . We should see plenty of waterfowl and spring migrants. Access to this private club is limited so don't miss it. Birders of all levels welcome. We need to get an early start! Bakersfield birders should meet at **6:00am at the Stockdale ParknRide** (between Real Rd & Hiway 99), then meeting at Tehachapi Kmart parking lot near the **Burger King at 6:45** for car pooling to Flowing Wells. Dress in layers and bring lunch, water, and binoculars. (Cameras and scopes, too). Loaner binoculars available. Cost is \$5 plus \$5 for drivers. (There is walking involved but no benches along the way. If you have a portable & light camping chair, feel free to bring it along.) Call Angela for info: 304-6816.



PRESIDENT'S NEST

Do you remember those days when you needed a book and went to the library? Maybe Amazon and Google have reduced our need for a traditional library, but not Kern Audubon. And we have our own librarian, **David Schaad!** (see photo) Each month he brings our collection of books to the monthly meeting. Sometimes he offers a review of a book. You can check out a book and have it as long as you need. David also gladly gives advice on books to read. After substitute teaching during the day, he also goes out to Panorama Vista Preserve, on his own, to remove the new crop of tumbleweeds. We appreciate his dedication to Kern Audubon, Panorama Vista Preserve, and the environment. The next time you see David, thank him for his dedication.

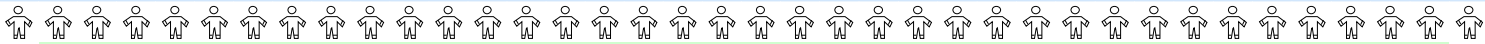


Harry Love, President

Editor's note: A list of the library books is on the Kern Audubon website: www.kernaudubonsociety.org

PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE

Saturday, March 14, 8-10 AM, is the next monthly workday at the Preserve. With warmer weather and recent rains, it is time to do maintenance, such as weeding. Newly sprouted tumbleweeds are just waiting to be pulled! And since we took the month off in February, our work will be needed. *What to bring: hat, gloves, water, shovel/ho.* Location: East end of Roberts Lane, at the gate. This is an opportunity to help restore a great community asset!



FIELD N 'DALE FUN RUN: Sat. March 21, 9am

Panorama Vista Preserve and Covenant Coffee present the first "Field n 'Dale" 6K-12K Fun Run on Saturday March 21, 2015, 9am...Join in this new and exciting TRAIL RUN through the preserve and on Panorama Bluffs with proceeds to benefit Panorama Vista Preserve.

- Pre-register before March 14: \$25 at www.panoramavista.org, click on Events and scroll to bottom of page to register online

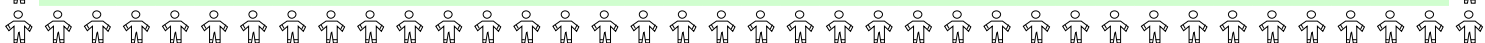
- Registration limited to 300 participants only
- Custom race awards 1st & 2nd place in all age groups
 - Raffle and free massages
 - Wicking T-shirt for registering
- Breakfast provided by Covenant Coffee & Deli
- Course map at www.panorama.vista.org

- **Pre-race T-shirt, bib & runners packet pick-up & registration at COVENANT COFFEE, 1700 N. Chester on Fri. March 20th, 3:00-6:00pm - \$35 registration fee**

- **Race day registration at Covenant Coffee, 7am - 8:15am - \$35 registration fee**

Staging area for the race is at 901 East Roberts Lane, approximately 1/2 mile east of Manor St. at gate. Contact Mic Hall 324-0311 for course information. Make checks payable to Panorama Vista Preserve.

Race day volunteers are needed to help with registration, parking, water stations, directing course, etc. Contact Andy Honig andym5@bak.rr.com, phone 325-0026 or Carolyn or Joe Belli at jgbelli@bak.rr.com, phone 872-3569.



GET THE E-WARBLER

We are asking everyone with email to receive the *Warbler* electronically to save money as well as trees! You can read it online or print your own copy and it's in color! PLEASE take a few moments to send your email address to: rodmlee@aol.com....thank you!!

Science Camp at Panorama Vista Preserve

March 6 & 13 are the next scheduled Science Camps (8AM-12PM) at PVP for elementary and middle school children. ***We are in need of volunteers to help at the camp. At least three people are needed each morning.*** All of the materials are provided. Students, in groups of 25, come to Audubon's learning station to find out about birds, especially owls, and are at the station for about 20 minutes. It's easy & fun and the excitement of the students is wonderful! This is Kern Audubon's third year working with this great education and outreach program. Contact Kevin Fahey (706-7459) for more information and to say "yes" to a few hours for the birds...and kids!

Looking ahead to Tues. April 7th...Samantha Arthur, Project Manager for Audubon California, will update us on Tricolored Blackbirds, a California species of concern

State Parks Completes Purchase of 25,000 Acres of Prime Bird Habitat in Kern County

California State Parks has completed the purchase of approximately 25,000 acres in Kern County – ranging from the Mojave Desert to the Southern Sierra. The land in the Kelso Valley includes **Butterbredt Springs** and Jawbone Canyon, both of which are highly prized bird habitat within the Southern Sierra Desert Canyon Important Bird Area (IBA). Audubon supported this purchase to help ensure that State Parks will stop further wind energy development in this area, as well as increase protection for these critical habitat areas.



Butterbredt Springs is widely known in the birding community for the tens of thousands of migratory birds that can be seen here at the peak of spring migration. One of the largest documented migrations of Turkey Vultures as well

Nearby wind energy developments have killed dozens of golden eagles as well as having some of the highest bird mortality in the country per kilowatt generated, making that sort of development inappropriate within this Important Bird Area. California State Parks purchased the last acreage through its Off-highway Vehicle Recreation Division, which will bring added resources to improve law enforcement, restoration and management of the off-highway recreation use in the area, and address problems that have proliferated over the last decades. By improving the off-highway vehicle trails and infrastructure, it is likely that State Parks will concentrate use away from the high-value habitat areas, and improve access for birders and other nature enthusiasts.

Source: Audubon California Audublog

Photo above: **Hermit Warbler at Butterbredt Springs**

Note from Harry Love, President: Recently, Audubon representatives from Kern County (Reed Tollefson of Kern River Preserve, Bob Barnes and Brenda Burnett, president of Kerncrest Audubon) met with Kathy Weatherman of California State Parks at Butterbredt Springs to discuss the protections the Springs would have when the park is developed. It appears that concerns of Audubon are being listened to by the Parks Department. It is recommended that concerns by members of Kern Audubon should be addressed through Reed Tollefson, manager for Audubon California's Kern River Preserve. So if you have ideas, questions or issues about the future of Butterbredt Springs, please email Reed at rtollefson@audubon.org

THANK YOU to these additional donors who contributed to the End-of-Year Appeal:

Larry & Joan Carlson Pam Deschwanden
Genevieve Frabrizius Patricia Gaspers
Tracy & Sharon Huyck Otilie Huskins
Lynn James

Total for the appeal now stands at \$3070....thank you all!

BIRDING FESTIVALS

Bird festivals are fun! You meet other birders, visit new places, see lots of birds, hear interesting presentations, support local economies and much more. For information about festivals around the country, go to...

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

KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

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

Tehachapi Birding



KERN AUDUBON-TEHACHAPI

Tuesday April 28, 2015

7:00 p.m.

**Golden Hills Elementary School
20215 Park Road**

"On the Bluebird Recovery Trail"

Karen Pestana

Join us for an informative evening plus refreshments & raffle!
(972-4355 or 823-4305 for info)

See page 1 for information on the Kern Audubon-Tehachapi field trip to the Mojave Desert (Flowing Wells Ranch) on Sun. March 29

KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

2014 - 2015

Harry Love, President/Conservation

love3@bak.rr.com; 589-6245

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

Jo Richards, Publicity

jo_richards@rocketmail.com; 909-226-9879

Pat Turner, Membership Data

patriciajt@att.net; 398-8387

Carol Gates, Tehachapi Rep.

Carol.gates18@gmail.com; 823-4305

Mary Durfrain, Tehachapi Rep.

marysalternative@yahoo.com; 972-4355

Madi Elsea, Past President/Warbler Editor

madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470

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Kern Audubon Society
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Tues. March 3, 7:00pm - Meeting & Program
- Sun. March 7, 8:30am - Hart Park Field Trip
- Sat. March 14 - PVP Workparty
- Tues. March 17, 8:30am - BirdnBike Tule Elk Res
- Sun. March 29 - Flowing Wells/Mojave Desert 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 # _____