



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 41 no. 59 - NOVEMBER 2012
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org
www.kastehachapibird.org

KERN AUDUBON

Tues. November 6, 2012 - 7:00pm
Kern Sup't of Schools
17th & L Sts. Bakersfield

"On the Bluebird Trail: Tehachapi's Bluebird Recovery Project" Karen Pestana, Project Leader



Kern Audubon's Tehachapi sub-chapter has maintained and monitored a "Bluebird Trail" of Western Bluebird nest boxes for 13 years. The program reports its findings to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch program and in 2011 the Tehachapi bluebird trail team was recognized by Cornell as one of the "Top 20 NestWatch All Stars" for the number of nests monitored in 2011. The data collected is submitted to the online database in a continent-wide effort to better understand and manage the impacts of environmental change on bird populations. Karen Pestana's talk will give historical background on bluebird populations; outline the process of maintaining a monitoring program; and share results from these efforts to recover the species. Karen is a wildlife biologist with the Environmental Management Group at Edwards Air Force Base, where she is responsible for wildlife research, monitoring, and federal compliance programs for various species such as the Desert Tortoise. Karen has also coordinated and managed the Western Bluebird nest box monitoring program in the Tehachapi Mountains since it started in 1999.

NOVEMBER FIELD TRIPS

Sat. Nov. 3rd, 8:00am - Techapi Lakes

Angela Guy will lead this field trip to Brite Lake and other Tehachapi area lakes to see wintering waterfowl as well as year-round birds. Dress warmly, bring water & snacks, binoculars. Meet at the Burger King parking lot in the Kmart shopping center on Tehachapi Blvd. at 8am. Call Angela (821-7702) for information.

Sat. Nov 10, 5 pm "Owling on Breckenridge!"

Michael McQuerry will lead us on an owling adventure up Breckenridge Mountain. Bring binoculars, flashlights, a "sack dinner" and dress warmly. Michael will have owl calls and a bright spotlight. Meet at the intersection of Breckenridge Rd. and Comanche at 5 pm. For more information call Deb, 805-0232.

Wed. Nov 14, 7:30 am "Wednesday Walk - Old Fort Tejon SHP and vicinity"

State Park Ranger Bill Moffat will lead this birding trip around the old Fort grounds and Digier Road to the north of it. Bring water, snacks, binoculars. Meet at Kern River Parkway parking lot on Stockdale across from CSUB to carpool. For more information call Bill, 201-9279.. Suggested donation for transportation: \$10

Sat. Nov 17 -- Atwell Island and Pixley National Wildlife Refuge

Double Birding Day! Birding midday at Atwell Island, then "Return of the Sandhill Cranes" celebration at Pixley NWR late afternoon to sunset. Meet 11 am at the Rosedale Costco pkg lot near the gas pumps to carpool to Atwell Island. Late lunch in Alpaugh is an option and then on to Pixley NWR to the Sandhill Crane event, which starts at 4 pm .

3:00pm - Birders who only wish to go to the Sandhill Crane event can meet at the Costco pkg lot at 3 pm to carpool. Bring binoculars (binoculars to borrow available), water, snacks. Call Bill 201-9279 or Deb 805-0232.

Carpoolers are encouraged to donate \$10 to the drivers for the Atwell Island & Pixley field trips...thank you!

Seeing the Sandhill Cranes at sunset flying onto the refuge from nearby fields is a spectacular experience!!

HOLIDAY AUCTION & POTLUCK

Set aside this date - TUES. DEC. 4TH, 6:30PM - for KernAudubon's annual holiday party and auction (live & silent). This is always a fun event and an important fund raiser for our chapter.

Help is needed to organize the auction and donations of items to sell are needed, so look for those special items or gift sor heirloom you no longer want...and donate it for the auction. You can bring your items to the November 6th meeting as well as the night of the holiday party.

Call Madi (322-7470) to volunteer your services for this event!



KERN AUDUBON LIBRARY

We are pleased to announce that DAVID SCHAAD has agreed to become the keeper of Kern Audubon's library and will be bringing books from the collection to the November 6th meeting. If you have books that you have checked out, now will be a good time to return them. For a list of the books in our collection, check out the website: www.kernaudubonsociety.org and click on "Library." Thank you, David!

One of the books in the library is ***Birding on Borrowed Time*** by Phoebe Snetsinger :*This story in the author's own words tells how Phoebe saw more birds in her life than any other human being in the history of the world. She began at 34, when she first laid eyes on a resplendent Blackburnian Warbler. She began traveling across the globe, to all seven continents, observing and learning about the world's thousands of bird species. Her intensity and urgency quickened when a cancer diagnosis gave her one-year to live. This is a lively chronicle of birding adventures and a profoundly moving human document of a truly extraordinary woman.* Check it out!

e-Warbler

If you would like to receive the *Audubon Warbler* by email, please email Rod Lee, rodmlee@aol.com, and he will put you on the e-Warbler list. Help us save trees & postage!

Tule Elk Reserve Auto Safaris

On the second and fourth Sundays of the month the public is invited to get an "up close & personal" look at the Tule Elk and other wildlife at the Tule Elk Reserve less than 30 miles west of Bakersfield. Interpretive staff will be leading these automobile tours 11am - 12:30pm. Cost is \$8 per car. Call 764-6881 for information and to reserve a space!

KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

2012 - 2013

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FEAST FOR THE BEASTS DAY @ CALM FRIDAY NOV. 23, 9am - 3pm

The California Living Museum located on Alfred Harrel Hiway (between Hart Park & Lake Ming) invites the public to a free day at the zoo the day after Thanksgiving and the opportunity to help stockpile food for the animals this winter. Individual visitors will be admitted FREE in exchange for one of the following food items for the animals per person:

- 3 pounds nuts (pecans, walnuts, almonds , peanuts in the shell without salt or flavoring)
- 5 pounds frozen mixed vegetables
- 2 pound jar of peanut butter, jam or honey
- 2 pounds dried fruit (raisins, apricots, banana chips, etc.)
- 5 pound bag of wild birdseed
- 3.5lb bag of cat (Purina) or dog food
- 4 boxes Ziploc freezer bags (qt or gal)
- 2 reams white copy paper
- Admission for 2 adults/2 children would be a \$25 gift certificate from any pet, grocery, hardware or office supply store.

Zoo hours are 9am - 3pm. Feast for the Beasts marks the start of holiday season at CALM.

CALM Director Tom Anspach reports that "Everything on this list is vitally needed and helps keep the ever-rising good costs down."

www.calmzoo.org

Kern Audubon Society, founded in 1974, is a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Its mission is to provide educational programs and services that build awareness of the importance of birds and other wildlife and to promote conservation and restoration of natural habitats, primarily in Kern County.



NOVEMBER WORKPARTY - PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE

On **Saturday, November 10, 9-11 AM**, Kern Audubon will be having its monthly workday at the Preserve. Note the new time for the winter. At the October outing, Donna Adams, Stephen Yaws, Lynn James, Andy Honig, Harry Love and new member, Vicki Boehning, placed mulch around many trees. Stephen also spotted a bobcat crossing the road towards the river. By next month, the willows and cottonwoods of the area will have changed to fall colors, a great time to work on the new and established trees. *There is lots of work to do to get the Preserve ready for the winter months.* Hope you can make it on November 10th!! For more information, call Harry (805-1420) or email him (love3@bak.rr.com)

BECOME A FEEDERWATCHER

Help learn about the habits of backyard birds by participating in Project FeederWatch. Anyone with an interest in birds and nature can participate in the project and become a "citizen scientist." The information you and others report online helps scientists at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology track changes in the numbers and distribution of birds across the continent.

"By watching and keeping track of the birds in your own neighborhood, you really can make a difference," says project leader David Bonter, "The more people watching, the more we can learn about the birds that brighten the winter landscape."

More than 50,000 people have participated in FeederWatch, and new participants are welcome to join at any time. The 26th season of Project FeederWatch begins November 10. Join now and receive your FeederWatch kit: www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/



Photo by Roger Coley

Kern Audubon Treasurer's Report 2011-2012

INCOME

Donations/Annual Appeal	\$3795
Raffles	840
Auction	1350
National Audubon incentive	1447
Annual BBQ	465
Miscellaneous	409
Memberships (National Audubon)	230
Audubon CA Grant (Birds of Kern brochure)	2500
Total:	\$11,036

EXPENSES

Postage (1st Class & Bulk)	\$ 884
Printing (newsletter)	1895
Memberships (Nat'l Audubon)	240
Donations	675
Non-profit Group Insurance	265
BBQ (food/park reservation)	585
Membership Data Coordinator	200
Guest speakers	1100
Misc (supplies, walkie-talkies , literature)	1676
Grant expenses: <i>Birds of Kern</i> brochure	2425
Total:	\$9945

Checking Balance 6/30/11 - \$6160
 Checking Balance 6/30/12 - \$7148
 CD Deposit: 2/27/12 - \$1293

Submitted with annual report to National Audubon.

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@yahogroups.com You'll find recent bird sightings, reports by Bob Barnes, Michael McQuerry, Alison Sheehey, 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 or go to www.audubon.org



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

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www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Sat. Nov. 3, 8am - Tehachapi lakes field trip
- Tues. Nov. 6, 7:00pm - Meeting & Program
- Sat. Nov. 10, 5:00pm - Owling Field Trip
- Sat. Nov. 10, 9-11am - Panorama Vista Preserve

Workparty

- Wed. Nov. 14, 7:30am - Tejon State Park field trip
- Sat. Nov. 17th - Atwell Island & Sandhill Crane Festival

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C2ZC300Z)

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 _____ E-mail _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Phone # _____

Please indicate if you would like to receive your *Audubon's Warbler* electronically: ____yes ____no