



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 45, no 4 - APRIL 2016
Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org



Kern Audubon
TUES. APRIL 5, 2016 - 7:00pm
Kern Supt of Schools City Center
1300 17th St. (17th & L) Parking lot at 18th & K

"Colombia Birding Adventure"
Auduboner's on the Northern Colombia
Birding Trail: Ginny, Larry, Madi & Rod



Colombia, South America, is the birdiest country on the planet with over 1900 species of birds in a country diverse in geography and culture. Kern Audubon members Ginny Dallas, Larry Emlet, Madi Elsea and Rod Lee ventured to Colombia last July for two weeks of birding with one of Colombia's leading bird guides, Chris Calonje of Colombia Birdwatch. From the eastern Andes at 10,000ft to the hot dry scrub along the Caribbean Ocean, these four birders saw and photographed spectacular birds in their beautiful settings...as well as a few monkeys! From the endemic Santa Marta Parakeets to over 30 varieties of hummingbird species, from the Vermillion Cardinal to the Crimson-crested Woodpecker, come and enjoy their pictures, hear about traveling in this dynamic country, and learn about the work of Audubon International in developing the Northern Colombia Birding Trail.

APRIL FIELD TRIPS

April 16, Saturday, 8:00am - Tehachapi Mountain Park

Join leader Greg Hargelroad on this morning walk through pine forest habitat in the Tehachapi mountains. We will be looking for spring migrants as well as white-breasted nuthatch, chickadees, woodpeckers. Dress layered, bring water & snacks, binoculars. Bakersfield birders meet **7:15am** at the Stockdale ParknRide near Hiway 99 to carpool to meet Greg and Tehachapi birders **8:00am** at the Tehachapi Burger King (Kmart shopping center)

April 19th, Tuesday, 8:15 AM - Look and Lounge birding on the Kern River

Thanks to a generous offer from John & Ginger Moorhouse, Kern Audubon has the opportunity to bird a special section of the Kern River. Meet for carpooling at the Mt. Vernon Albertsons parking lot near the donut shop to leave by 8:15 AM. Bring snacks, water, field guides, folding chair (some benches are there,) and binoculars. Spotting scopes welcome. This will be a great outing for all level of birders.

April 23rd, Saturday, 7:45am -Tejon Ranch

Scot Pipkin will lead us along the San Joaquin Valley side of Tejon Ranch. To caravan/carpool be at the park-and-ride lot at Hwy 99 and Stockdale Highway to leave at 7:45AM. We will meet Scot at the Sebastian Rd. gate at 8:30AM. Dress for changing weather. Bring water, snacks, field guides and binoculars. Boots are advised in case some walking is needed. Beautiful landscape and great birding! Call Deb for more info: 805-0232

April 27th, Wednesday: 6:30 PM Twilight at Tule

Ranger Bill Moffat will take us on an early evening Auto Safari into the Tule Elk State Natural Reserve. At sunset, from the Day Use viewing platform, we will witness Tri-colored Blackbirds returning to roost in the wetlands. At the same time we may also observe feeding Lesser Nighthawks above the wetlands and open grasslands. Meet at **6:00pm** to carpool at the Kern Parkway parking lot on Stockdale across from CSUB. Call Bill for info: 201-9279. Light snacks provided.



May 1st, Sunday: The Nature Conservancy Lands in Caliente

A field trip visit with our May meeting speaker to ranch property acquired by The Nature Conservancy near Caliente. Details on meeting time and directions will be given to those who RSVP. Space is limited. Call Deb See at 661-805-0232

The President's Nest



"Citizen Scientist: You need to enlist!" If you were one of the lucky fifty-eight people who attended the March 1 KAS program, you understand the meaning of this slogan. Cindy Sherr of the John Muir Project gave a program on the environmental benefits of forest fires. But more than her message was her method of reaching out to the audience. By putting us *'into the fire area'* through her photos and storytelling, she made all of us "citizen scientists". The misguided practice of removing all burned trees adopted by the forest service after a fire can now be countered by all of us through our observations. The label *citizen scientist* is used by the Audubon Society as a way of saying that our members' eyes and ears make us aware of the needs of birds, plants, and other animals. Our observations have merit. The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is the most recognized form of citizen science and is used to help scientists learn more about birds. But there are many other projects for which you can earn the label of *'citizen scientist'*. Visit the following website to learn more: <http://ca.audubon.org/join-our-citizen-science-network>



PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE WORKPARTY

On **Saturday, April 9, 8-10 AM**, Kern Audubon will be having its monthly workday at the Preserve. As you have already guessed, with recent rains, our task will be to weed around the young plants. Please bring gloves, sun hat, water, and a shovel or hoe. If you need more information, contact Harry Love (love3@bak.rr.com 805-1420). Meet at east end of Roberts Lane off Manor Drive 8am!

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,
Attention: Chance Mueleck
225 Varrick Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10014

Questions? Contact Linda McMillian, KAS Membership Coordinator: lamcmillian@sbcglobal.net or 661-205-3521.

SPRING FESTIVAL - Kern River Preserve

On **Saturday, April 25, 7AM-1PM**, the Audubon Kern River Preserve in Weldon is having its annual spring festival. The event begins at 7 AM with a bird walk. Throughout the morning there will be more outings, displays, and activities for children. Kern Audubon will have its children's booth there, 10 AM-noon, with children making bird feeders and learning about birds. Bill Moffat, representing the State Parks, will have a display about the Tule elk. During lunch, local bluegrass musicians will be playing. The day concludes at about 1 PM. For more information go to: <http://kern.audubon.org>.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE Pursuant to Article 7 of the Kern Audubon Society By-Laws, the Executive Board appointed Lucy Clark, Chr. and Cindy Caetano to serve as the Nominating Committee 2015-16 elections. They will report at the April 5th KAS meeting. Questions? Contact Lucy at lucyg391@gmail.com

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
lamcmillian@sbcglobal.net; 205-3521

Carol Gates, Tehachapi Rep.
Carol.gates18@gmail.com; 300-1429

Mary Dufrain, Tehachapi Rep.
marysalternative@yahoo.com; 972-4355

Madi Elsea, Past President/Warbler Editor
madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470

Looking ahead to the KAS Tues. May 3rd joint meeting with Sierra Club & Native Plant Society: **"Missing Link: A Race to Protect a Crucial Wildlife Corridor"** by Zach Principe, Nature Conservancy scientist.

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 Kern Audubon Society. When you buy

something, just go to the Smile site. It's easy and Kern Audubon will benefit!



KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

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

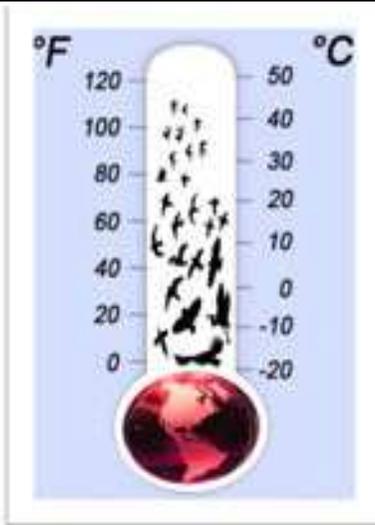
KERN AUDUBON-TEHACHAPI
Tues. April 26, 2016 - 7:00pm
Golden Hills Elementary Cafeteria
20215 Park Rd. Tehachapi

"On the Bluebird Trail in Tehachapi"

Karen Pestana, Bluebird Trail Coordinator

Guest Speaker Karen Pestana will present a slide show about the Tehachapi bluebird nest box program, which was recognized by the national NestWatch program as one of the top 20 NestWatch All Stars for 2011 nationally. In addition to an update on the local bluebird trail, she will include instructions on attracting bluebirds, installing a nest box in your yard, and how to become a nest box monitor.

Since 2000 she has coordinated the volunteers who maintain the nest boxes and monitor the birds' nesting progress, and then reports the findings to Cornell's Lab of Ornithology NestWatch program. She is a wildlife biologist at Edwards Air Force Base.



CLIMATE CHANGE CORNER - 7 Scary Facts

1. FACT: If everyone in the world lived the way people do in the U.S., it would take five Earths to provide enough resources for everyone
2. FACT: 2015 was the world's hottest year on record
3. FACT: Average global sea level is expected to rise 7 – 23 inches before the end of this century
4. FACT: More than a million species face potential extinction as a result of disappearing habitats, changing ecosystems, and acidifying oceans
5. FACT: The Arctic region may have its first completely ice-free summer by 20406.
6. FACT: 99.84% of the land in the state of California is suffering from drought7.
7. FACT: From 1979 to 2003, excessive heat exposure contributed to more than 8,000 premature deaths in the United States

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

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

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

www.godwitdays.org

Keynote speaker is David Sibley

BALD EAGLE

This beautiful Bald Eagle (right) was photographed by Andy Honig on March 11, 2016 at the Panorama Vista Preserve located below the Panorama Bluffs. This was an unusual sighting and Andy got some great shots!



EAGLE CAM

A pair of Bald Eagles have built a nest near the White House at the US National Arboretum and now have a family with two eaglets that made it to the national news, thanks to a video camera covering their every move. The eagles, named Mr. President and The First Lady, and their offspring (dubbed DC2 & DC3) can be viewed at <http://www.eagles.org/dceaglecam/>

Thank you, Volunteers! Being an organization of 'volunteers', Kern Audubon is always seeking members who want to contribute to our success. **Margaret Dolan** has agreed to be the new keeper of raffle items for the monthly meetings, taking over for **Al & Cindy Caetano**. Margaret stepped up! A big 'thanks' to her and to Al and Cindy for their service.

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.



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

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www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Tues. April 5, 7:00pm - KAS Meeting & program
- Sat. April 9, 8am - Panorama Vista workparty
- Sat. April 16, 8am - Tehachapi Mtn. Park outing
- Tues. April 19, 8:15am - Look & Lounge Kern Rv
- Sat. April 23, 7:45am - Tejon Ranch outing
- Tues. April 26, 7pm - Kern Audubon-Tehachapi meeting & program on Bluebirds
- Wed. April 27, 6:30pm - Twilight at Tule Elk

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 to National Audubon for \$20 to:

Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone # _____