



# AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 39 No. 3 -MARCH 2010  
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society  
A chapter of National Audubon Society  
[www.kernaudubonsociety.org](http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org)

Kern Audubon Society

**Tuesday March 2, 2010 - 7:00pm**

Location: Kern Sup't of Schools

17th & L Sts., Bakersfield

(Street parking or the KSS lot at 18th & K)

## NATURE PRESERVES OF KERN COUNTY

**Greg Warrick, Preserves Manager**



In 1997 the Center for Natural Lands Management acquired three nature preserves in the western part of Kern County: Lokern, Semitropic, and Sand Ridge, plus one in Tulare County, the Pixley Vernal Pools. Biologist Greg Warrick manages all four preserves which feature many species of endangered and threatened animals, including San Joaquin kit fox, blunt-nosed lizard, Tipton kangaroo rat, and endangered plants such as Bakersfield cactus and Kern mallow. Bird species of interest are LeConte's Thrasher, Burrowing owl, and Golden Eagle. Greg will discuss these unique preserves along with a slide presentation. He is very familiar with the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley having worked with the environmental group at Elk Hills Naval Petroleum Preserve and with the Endangered Species Recovery program.

### March Field Trips

Sat. March 6, 8:00am "Wildflower Wander" - Kern River Preserve

Alison Sheehey, Kern River Preserve Outreach Coordinator and superb naturalist, is leading a wildflower walk around the preserve and we are invited! Meet for carpooling in the Albertson's parking lot, Mt. Vernon exit & Hiway 178 at 8am. (near the doughnut shop). Bring snacks, water, binoculars, lunch. This will be a walking field trip, so comfortable shoes are a good idea. Contact Madi (322-7470) for info.

Sat.-Sun March 13-14 Carrizo Plain & Morro Bay

Scott Frazer, avid birder and naturalist, will be leading this weekend field trip (or Saturday only, if you prefer) to bird along the way to and thru the Carrizo Plain National Monument on Saturday, and birding hotspots in Morro Bay on Sunday. The group will meet for caravanning )at 6:15am on Sat. the 13th. Bring a lunch, snacks, water, binoculars and overnight stuff if you plan to go for the weekend. Contact Scott to let him know if you are planning to attend: 319-1243. See next page for more details!!

Sat. March 27, 7:00AM Tejon Ranch

We will be co-field tripping with Santa Barbara Audubon on this return visit to the Antelope Valley side of Tejon Ranch to see spring migrants and early wildflowers. Space is limited to 20, so please RSVP to [madielsea@aol.com](mailto:madielsea@aol.com) if you are interested in attending. Details will follow.

## KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

Madi Elsea, Co-Chair  
madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470  
Ted Murphy, Co-Chair  
tmurphy@bak.rr.com; 325-0307  
Harry Love, Conservation  
love3@bak.rr.com; 589-6254  
Tim Lynch, Publicity  
Lynchtim1968@yahoo.com; 428-4455  
Kathy Love, Hospitality  
love3@bak.rr.com; 589-6254  
Ginny Dallas-Dull, Education  
vdallas@bak.rr.com; 587-6323  
Annette Wells, Membership  
awells0526@yahoo.com; 333-4019  
Lisa Twiford, Secretary  
letwiford@aol.com  
Bill McDonald, Treasurer  
WJLJMCD@aol.com; 665-2111  
Madi Elsea, Warbler Editor  
madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470

The Kern Audubon Executive Board meets monthly on the third Wednesday, 7pm. Meetings are open to interested members, so contact Ted or Madi for information about meeting locations.

## UPCOMING BIRD FESTIVALS

*40th Annual Rivers & Wildlife Celebration*  
Sandhill Crane Migration  
March 18-21, 2010  
Kearney Nebraska  
www.nebraska.audubon.org

**Sat. May 1, 2010**

**Field trips April 29 - May 4**  
**Kern Valley Spring Nature Festival**  
For information & registration go to:  
**<http://kern.audubon.org>**

If you like travel, birding, fun and education, consider a birding festival. For more information:

**[www.birdwatchersdigest.com](http://www.birdwatchersdigest.com)**  
**[www.Americanbirding.org/festivals](http://www.Americanbirding.org/festivals)**



We thank Joseph V. Higbee for the Audubon's Warbler photo used as the newsletter logo. Used by permission.  
([www.pbbase.com/jvhigbee](http://www.pbbase.com/jvhigbee))

## FEB-MARCH AT PANORAMA VISTA

On a cool, cloudy Saturday morning, February 6, many people came to help pot cuttings at the Panorama Preserve with Lucy Clark and Clyde Golden, Deb See and Bill Moffett, Madi Elsea, Bill Cooper, and I representing Kern Audubon. A surprise was volunteers who believed it is great to be a 'good neighbor': a neighbor of the Preserve, Lori, and her two girls along with another family who rode their bicycles to the Preserve. It was great to see such a variety of ages at work. With such a large group, and with Andy and Sasha Honig giving us directions on what needed to be done, by noon most of the cuttings were planted. Bill Moffett also brought box lunches for the crew. The willow cuttings were starting to bud out and many had already produced roots while in water.

On **Saturday, March 6**, Kern Audubon will have its monthly work day at the Preserve. Come out and help plant more cuttings. The weather should be great! **Time: 9-11 AM**. Location: east end of Roberts Lane. Email me ([love3@bak.rr.com](mailto:love3@bak.rr.com)) or call me (cell 805-1420) if you would like to help. Come and enjoy the 'neighborly fun'!

Harry Love, KAS Conservation Chr.

## WEBSITES to check out...

**Kern Birding** For a comprehensive website about numerous Kern County birding locations go to [www.natureali.org/birding.htm](http://www.natureali.org/birding.htm).

**Kern County Bird Sightings/photos** Go to this website for what's unusual in Kern County: [kerncobirding@yahoogroups.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:chapterleaders@audubon.org)

## WEEKEND FIELD TRIP - MARCH 13-14, 2010

### **CARRIZO PLAIN & MORRO BAY**

Join Kern Audubon for a weekend birding trip similar to last year, which explored several interesting birding spots in the CARRIZO PLAIN NATIONAL MONUMENT and MORRO BAY. On the 2009 trip we saw Golden eagles, Short-eared owl, Great horned owls on nest, barn owl, Western bluebirds, a great selection of shorebirds and waterfowl.

This will be a caravanning field trip with Scott Frazer as field trip leader. Participants will meet on Sat. March 13 at **6:30am** in the Denny's parking lot at the southwest corner of Merle Haggard/7th Standard Rd. & Hiway 65 (Porterville Hiway). From there we will carpool traveling west on Hiway 46, birding on the way to Carrizo Plain and on the monument as well. After lunch (bring your own) we will head for Morro Bay for dinner and lodging. On Sunday birding begins at 8AM at the Morro Bay Museum and will include stops at the estuary and Morro Bay hotspots, concluding at noon.

Participants need to make own motel reservations as soon as possible. The Blue Sail Inn (888/337-0707) is on Market street across from Dorn's Café in Morro Bay and there is also a Motel 6 (805/772-5641), plus many others.

If you cannot attend both days of the field trip, you are welcome to participate on either day or leave early on Sunday. If you are interested in participating, please contact SCOTT FRAZER (Scott\_Frazer@fws.gov) or 319-1243...soon!. Space is not limited, however Scott needs a head count for trip planning.



### **WIND WOLVES FIELD TRIP - Sat. April 3**

A wildflower/birding outing to Wind Wolves Preserve will take place on Sat. April 3, 8:00am. Because the size of the group was unwieldy last year, Wind Wolves has asked us to limit the registrations to 25 persons. If you are interested in attending, please sign-up through Ginny Dallas (587-6323) or vdallas@bak.rr.com. Details will follow.



### **KERN RIVER FESTIVAL** **MAY 22, 2010, 12-5PM**

The first KERN RIVER FESTIVAL is being planned for a Saturday afternoon, may 22nd, to enjoy and raise awareness about Hart Park and the Kern River Parkway. This festival is being sponsored by Kern River Parkway Foundation, the Stewards of Kern River Park (Hart Park) and Kern Co. Parks & Recreation. Lots of volunteers are needed, so if you'd like to get involved, contact Kenny Beal, Chr of Stewards of Hart Park Comm. kennybeal@gmail.com

### **More About Tejon Ranch**

At the chapter's February meeting, Tom Maloney of the Tejon Ranch Conservancy spoke to the group about the birding and outing prospects at Tejon Ranch. On February 11, the Conservancy sponsored a meeting of interested parties from Audubon, Sierra Club, and the community near the Ranch to give input as to developing a public access program for the Ranch now and in the future. I attended on behalf of Kern Audubon along with some others from Bakersfield and the desert communities. The Conservancy's goal is to allow individual, groups, and schools to have access to the rich diversity of the Ranch. Our chapter will be having outings there this year. However, you have the chance to learn more about the Conservancy and to be informed about coming activities. Go to the website, <http://tejonconservancy.org>, sign up for email updates and learn more about the Conservancy. Enjoy and have input on management of this great treasure just south of us!

Harry Love, Conservation Chair

Looking ahead to Tues. April 6th, 7:00pm...The restoration of Owens Lake on the beautiful east side of the Sierra Nevadas will be the topic of the April 6th meeting. The presenter will be Mike Prather, who has been involved with the mammoth effort over the past 25 years to restore this important stop-over on the Pacific Flyway. Owens Lake is a designated Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society.

## AUDUBON CA SUPPORTS BALLOT MEASURE TO PROTECT STATE PARKS

Continuing its long support for California State Parks, Audubon California has endorsed the State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010, a proposed statewide initiative slated for the November 2010 ballot that, if approved by voters, would provide a stable source of funding that would keep state parks open.

The State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010 would ensure a dedicated and reliable funding stream for state parks through an **\$18 annual surcharge on most California vehicles**. By law, the trust fund could only be spent on state parks, urban river parkways, wildlife, natural lands and ocean conservation programs. Vehicles subject to the surcharge would receive **free, year-round admission** to all state parks. Californians will no longer pay day-use fees at any state parks.

California's 278 state parks, which include state beaches and state historic parks, are priceless public assets and a vital legacy for our children and future generations. Twice in the past two years, state parks were on the brink of being shut down. Only last-minute budget reprieves kept them open. But nearly 60 state parks will be shut down part-time or their hours of operation reduced because of this year's budget cuts, and more park closure proposals and budget cuts are expected next year.

With this announcement, Audubon California joins a coalition of supporters including the California State Parks Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, The Trust for Public Land, Sierra Club California, Save the Redwoods League, Defenders of Wildlife, Surfrider Foundation, California State Park Rangers Association, California State Lifeguard Association and Ocean Conservancy.

*Note: Harry Love, KAS Conservation Chr. will have copies of the petition at the March 2nd Kern Audubon meeting or contact him directly to sign the petition: love3@bak.rr.com.*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*We want to welcome these persons who joined Kern Audubon in 2009 from cities and communities of western Kern County: Bakersfield, Caliente, Delano, Frazier Park, Lebec, Shafter, Tehachapi:*

Donna Rodriguez  
Trisse Camacho  
Jewel Erberich  
VT Walhood  
Anna Hesler-Marler  
Yolanda Gibson  
Elizabeth Trainor  
Elizabeth Williams  
Jeff Matthews  
Lorraine J. Ward  
Monica Price  
Alice Jandt  
Louise Wilson  
Joann Phillips  
Joy Bruce  
Eleanor DeHart  
Elizabeth Gossett  
Fanny Laborde  
Laurel E. Hayes  
Cheryl J. Burroughs  
T. Goff  
Cherri Duran  
Mary L. Palmer  
Mark Mutz  
Susan Jayne Hotchkiss  
Carol Lawrence Gates  
Sue H. Ryt  
Lantie M. Bell  
Cynthia Gussman  
John Place  
Margaret Bridges  
Peggy Decuir  
Elizabeth Fox

J. Wesley Sanderson  
Linda Lancaster  
Manuel Dominguez  
Virginia Gregg  
Carole Heninger  
Calvin Bidwell  
Bakersfield City Library  
Jason H. Kang  
Graciela Griebing  
Lloyd Schultz  
Derek Abbott  
Andrew Dayamude  
Nathan Keith  
Kathy Perkinson  
George G. Ross, Jr.  
Sylvia Simms  
Judith Gleason  
Edward Keith  
Judy Allen  
Anke Hodenpijl  
Diana Mills  
Sheryl Ferguson  
Scott Cossey  
William Forrest  
Claire Urata  
Calen Wood  
Larry Arbanas  
Walt Wortendyke  
Donald E. Trout  
V. Tones  
Janet Lund  
Marilyn McCune

Carol Overstreet  
Curtis Newman  
Lynne Schindler  
Dawn Lopez  
Helen Wheatley  
Barbara Jackson  
Marvin C. Beck  
Shirley Castro  
John Schwamb  
Ruth OvertonM  
Paul Gullam  
Marty Mertz  
ILewis Betty  
Chris McCune  
Geraldine Yerry  
Barbara Lane  
Amy E. Gray  
Gwen Condit  
Gloria M. Barron  
Amy Angeli  
Chris Niemala  
Roberta j. Owen  
CR Swanbeck  
Judy Stone  
Jessica & Sarah Cravens  
Harold Johnston  
Beatrice McCubbin  
James & Cheryl Wilson  
Carolyn Douglas  
Florence Norman  
Wanda Formhals  
Sharon Hench

## **GRANTS BRING NEW LIFE TO PANORAMA VISTA RESTORATION**

.....tremely fortunate to have its Panorama Vista Preserve adopted as a conservation project by Kern Audubon Society. In the past year our vision for habitat restoration of Panorama Vista has been greatly expanded because of several grants we have received totaling almost \$60,000. Most of this grant money came to be realized because Scott Frazer, Partners for Fish and Wildlife biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for Kern County and member of Kern Audubon, learned about the Preserve when an appeal was made for cat litter jugs and buckets at an Audubon meeting last spring. Thank you, Scott!

The mission of Partners for Fish and Wildlife is to provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners for conservation and/or restoration of their native habitat. Upon learning more about it, Scott found that the Preserve was a perfect candidate for Partners assistance with its 950 acres and 3 miles of native riparian forest along the Kern River. Scott soon helped us get a \$25,000 grant from Partners, has provided us with invaluable technical assistance and also helped us obtain a grant of \$23,500 from the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service. With this money and some matching funds provided by the KRCE we were able to commission an extensive study of our preserve by River Partners of Modesto, a non-profit founded to facilitate the restoration of riparian land. In addition to these two major grants we have received \$5,000 for a water tank and pump from the Kern Wildlife Commission and \$5000 from Chevron toward putting back into production an old agricultural well on Preserve property. We were assisted by Kern Audubon's Bill Cooper in obtaining the Wildlife Commission grant.

These grant monies will enable us to put in an irrigation system to support the 6,000 trees that we have been "creating" through cuttings and plantings from native trees and shrubs on the Preserve, such as willow, cottonwood, wildrose. The goal is to have the irrigation in soon so trees can be planted this spring!

Bill and another Audubon member, Rich O'Neil along with donating many hours of work at the Preserve have on numerous occasions spent their own money on Preserve projects and are responsible for the Preserve receiving a Kern River Parkway Foundation donation. The Kern chapter of California Retired Teachers has also donated much appreciated funds as well as Audubon member and volunteer Lucy Clark (who is especially interested in native plant propagation). Lastly we have made good use of a 500 gallon water tank donated by Audubon members, Pat and Larry Mumford

And the cat litter jugs and buckets?! The jugs are still used to carry water now and then and the buckets are being used to store cottonwood and willow cuttings.

We especially wish to thank Harry Love who has coordinated Audubon work parties at the Preserve and given many hours of sweat labor to this project. With thanks to Kern Audubon and its members, Panorama Vista is on its way to being a source of pride for not just for Bakersfield but the entire San Joaquin Valley. So please accept our thanks and warm appreciation, Kern Audubon! After all, the end result we all hope for will be increased numbers of birds and other critters in this restored area of the Kern River!

Andy Honig



## 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. March 2, 7:00pm - Meeting/program featuring Nature Preserves of western Kern County
- Sat. March 6, 9:00am - Panorama Vista Preserve Work Party
- March 13-14 - Carrizo Plain/Morro Bay Field Trip
- Sat. March 27 - Tejon Ranch Field Trip

## Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C9ZC300Z)

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 check & form 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 # \_\_\_\_\_