



# AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 36 No. 7 - SEPTEMBER 2007  
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society  
A chapter of National Audubon Society  
[www.kernaudubonsociety.org](http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org)

## FALL AUDUBON GATHERING

Tuesday September 4, 2007 - 7:00PM

Location: Kern Superintendent of Schools (17th & L Sts.)  
(Street parking or in the lot at 18th & K)

## "Important Bird Areas"

**Andrea Jones, IBA Program Coordinator**

### **Audubon California**

*Important Bird Areas*, or IBAs, are sites providing essential habitat for one or more sensitive species of birds and are usually biologically and geographically distinct. BirdLife Int'l initiated the first IBA program in Europe and Africa in the mid-1980's and Audubon launched an IBA program in the US in 1995. The California IBA program was initiated by Audubon CA in 2004, identifying 148 IBAs, including eleven in (or near) Kern County. Audubon CA staff ANDREA JONES will speak at the Sept. 4th meeting on this significant program with special emphasis on seven of the Kern County sites: Kern NWR, Goose Lake, Carrizo Plain, South Fork Kern River Valley, Kelso Creek, Techachapi Oaks, Antelope Valley.

Come and learn about the great diversity of habitat and bird life in our own county and how we can be involved with helping to ensure these sites continue to provide habitat for those species that triggered designation as IBAs!

Join us as we gather together following the summer break and for the opportunity to meet one of Audubon California's excellent staff members!

*Refreshments served and great RAFFLE prizes...come and bring a friend!!*

### **Sat. SEPT. 15th - Field Trip**

**Kern National Wildlife Refuge**

**6:45am - 1:30pm**

Leader: Jihadda Govan

Deputy Project Leader, KNWR

The Kern Nat'l Wildlife Refuge is one of the IBA's (Important Bird Areas) identified by Audubon CA and will be highlighted by Andrea Jones at the Sept. 4th Kern Audubon meeting. The refuge is an important wintering spot for migrating shorebirds & waterfowl and we will have the opportunity to observe many of early arriving species. There will be water on the refuge!

Meet at the parking lot north of CSUB on Stockdale Hiway, 6:45am to carpool. Bring water, snacks/lunch, binoculars. Call Roger Coley (832-1820) for more information or <http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org/>

### **Turkey Vulture Festival**

**Field Trip - Sat. Sept. 29th**

**6:45am - 1:30pm**

If you haven't seen a flock of Turkey Vultures "drop-in" or "lift-off", it really is an amazing sight! September is peak migration and the Kern River Valley has the largest known turkey vulture migration over a single point north of Mexico---over 20,000! Besides vultures there will be other migrants to see! Meet at the Shell Station at Union & Brundage (Union exit off Hiway 178), 6:45am and bring snacks, lunch, binocs., etc. Call Roger for information (832-1820) or check [www.Audubon-ca.org/kernriverpreserve](http://www.Audubon-ca.org/kernriverpreserve).

## FOR THE BIRDS...

Where'd the summer go?! It went fast and already Kern Audubon will have our first meeting of the fall on Tues. September 4th with a kick-off program featuring Andrea Jones, Audubon CA staff member and coordinator for the Important Bird Area program. Ted Murphy and I are looking forward to seeing you after the summer break!

We are also very pleased with the outstanding group of people who make up the Executive Board. Please note the slate of officers on the next page and keep this list handy. Officers will welcome your calls to volunteer, to give ideas and input and even to hear "thank-you"!

I also want to thank two officers for their service this past year: Ann Etue, our Treasurer, and Mary Griffin, who has chaired Conservation for many years. Both have given dedicated service and we appreciate all they have done! Doug Dodd will be the new Conservation chair and we are looking for someone with an interest in finances to serve as treasurer. Contact me or Ted for more information.

One of the activities I am happy to relinquish is "raffle coordinator" which Dawn Bradley has agreed to take on! Dawn is the person who organized our wonderful BBQ at FACT last June--thank you to Dawn and all those who helped her! The monthly raffle is a great fund-raiser, so if you have bird-related items or just something really good you'd like to donate, contact Dawn or bring it to the meeting!

The City Council has announced a vacancy on the "Keep Bakersfield Beautiful Committee," which is a group of volunteers interested in improving Bakersfield thru recycling, educational events, litter removal, etc., as well as recommending programs to the City. It would be great if a member of Kern Audubon would apply! Applications are available at the city clerk's office (326-3767) or at [www.bakersfieldcity.us/administration](http://www.bakersfieldcity.us/administration) until Sept. 13th.

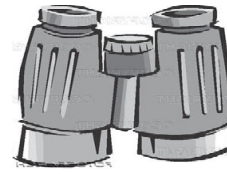
Invite a friend, neighbor or co-worker to our next meeting or field trip...let's continue to grow this chapter of Audubon!

The mission of Audubon: *to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.* There are many ways we can do this in our community and region as well as for the planet. I urge all of us to get involved and inspire others to do the same!

Madi Elsea, Co-Chair

## TUESDAY BIRDERS

The Tuesday Birders will meet Tuesday mornings September 4 & 18. Beginning birders as well as the experienced are welcome! Contact Brenda Kyle (871-4867) for meeting time and place.



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

## **Kern County Bird Sightings/photos**

What's unusual in Kern County birding? Go to [kerncobirding@yahooogroups.com](mailto:kerncobirding@yahooogroups.com) for recent bird sightings, reports by Bob Barnes, Mike McQuerry, Alison Sheehy, pictures by Ken Kyle and others.

**ASK AUDUBON...** The newest addition to Audubon's Newswire: submit questions re: consumer choices and the effect on the environment: [cblayer@audubon.org](mailto:cblayer@audubon.org).

**www.Audubon-ca.org** is a great website all about the activities and organization of Audubon California

## **GOT E-MAIL?**

If Kern Audubon doesn't have your email address and you would like to receive updates about field trips and other announcements between newsletters, send your address to [madielsea@aol.com](mailto:madielsea@aol.com).

e-Warbler...if you would like to receive the Kern *Audubon Warbler* as a pdf file instead of the hardcopy, send an e-mail with PDF Warbler as the subject to [rodmlee@aol.com](mailto:rodmlee@aol.com).

**Monterey Bay Birding Festival** will be held Sept 21-23, 2007 with field trips, walks for children, birding activities for beginners, etc. For information and registration go to [www.montereybaybirding.org](http://www.montereybaybirding.org)

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

## **September Outings to Consider**

**Twilight Tour at the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound** in Rosamond, Saturday, Sept. 15, 5:30 p.m. to after dark. Cost \$15/person. This is one of only 3 nights in the year when the compound is open at night -- the cats are more active, they are all given enrichment items to simulate wild activities, and visitors can wander into usually-closed areas, seeing rare and endangered cats from all over the world. Website: <http://www.cathouse-fcc.org/evntinfo.html> with info on ordering tickets. Food (hamburgers, etc.) is available on site. Roger & Barb Coley (832-1820) have attended this in the past, and report that it's truly an interesting event.

**Turkey Vulture Festival, Saturday/Sunday, Sept. 29-30th**, at Audubon's Kern River Preserve in Weldon. Friday night, the vultures generally arrive between 5 & 7 p.m., and so can we! From 5 - 8 p.m. there's a Vulture Drop-In No-Host dinner at the Sierra Vista restaurant: watch them arrive while you dine. Saturday there's a birdwalk at the Preserve and a No-Host lift-off breakfast from 8 - 10 a.m. at the Sierra Vista restaurant. Many workshops and exhibits all day long at the Preserve on Saturday, with another drop-in dinner from 5-7 p.m. Sunday there are field trips to view fall migrants in the Kern River Valley. Info at [http://www.audubon.org/local/sanctuary/kernriver/tvfest\\_activities.htm](http://www.audubon.org/local/sanctuary/kernriver/tvfest_activities.htm)

## KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

We are pleased to announce that for the first time since Kern Audubon's reorganization, we have a nearly full complement of officers! This is your Executive Board and we invite you to contact us about serving as a part of one of these teams during this coming year. The more people involved the bigger the difference we can make!

Don & Yvonne Turkal, Program Coordinators

tloveanimals@bak.rr.com; 393-4778

*Program ideas, plans and arrangements for meetings.*

Doug Dodd, Conservation

dd@csub.edu; 837-0868

*Local, regional & national conservation issues.*

Roger Coley, Field Trip Coordinator

rcoley@bak.rr.com; 832-1820

*Plans and arranges monthly field trips*

Linda Greene, Publicity

lgreene@bak.rr.com; 322-9954

*Communications with the media*

Rod Lee, Website

Rodmlee@aol.com; 322-7470

*Maintains KAS website*

Kathy Love, Hospitality

love3@bak.rr.com; 589-6254

*Refreshments*

Ginny Dallas-Dull, Education

vdallas@bak.rr.com; 587-6323

*Education activities and Audubon Adventures*

Annette Wells, Membership

awells0526@yahoo.com; 333-4019

*Membership applications and data*

Lisa Twiford, Secretary

letwiford@aol.com

Madi Elsea, Co-Chair

madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470

Ted Murphy, Co-Chair

tmurphy@bak.rr.com; 325-0307

**BURROWING OWL SURVEY...** Kudos and applause to BILL LYDECKER for organizing the Bakersfield area burrowing owl survey and to the following members of Kern Audubon who participated in the survey. Last year no blocks were surveyed buth in 2007 over 20 3 x 3 mi. blocks were surveyed! Thank you, everyone!

Jim and Judy Collier

Roger and Barbara Coley

Pam Williams

Xiaohong Huang

Linda & Rich Greene

David Chilton

Greta, Bill & Sarah Lydecker

Chloe Anderson

Marilyn Perry

Madi Elsea & Rod Lee

Bill Moffat & Debra See

Lisa Twiford

Joe Mier

Dawn & Josh Bradley & friends

Ginny Dallas



Looking ahead to **OCTOBER 2, 7:00PM** The next meeting of Kern Audubon Society will feature a presentation by Bill Moffatt, manager of the Tule Elk Reserve, on efforts to preserve the herd of Tule Elk housed on the reserve just west of Interstate 5. A field trip will follow to the reserve on Sat. October 6th.

# AUDUBON'S WARBLER

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. Sept. 4, 7:00pm - Kern Audubon meeting/program with Andrea Jones, staff of Audubon CA: "Important Bird Areas"
- Sat. Sept. 15 - Field trip to Kern Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, 6:45am
- Sat. Sept. 29 - Field trip - Turkey Vulture Festival at Kern River Preserve, 6:45am

All meetings & activities are open to the public ---bring your friends and family!

### Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (7XCHC30)

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**

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 # \_\_\_\_\_