

# The Chat



Kerncrest Audubon Society, Ridgecrest, California

October, 2016

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

Wed	Oct 19	Board Meeting at Rose Whipple's
Thu	Oct 20	Program at Maturango Museum
Sat	Oct 29	Breakfast at Cerro Coso

## GENERAL MEETING

### Tricolored Blackbird Restoration Project In the Kern River Valley

A small population of Tricolored Blackbirds inhabit the Kern River Valley (KRV) year round. Unlike the majority of habitat used by these birds in California, the habitat used in the KRV is primarily native and natural. In 2014, the Southern Sierra Research Station, Kerncrest Audubon, Kern Audubon and multiple partners collaborated to enhance, create, and protect wetland areas at three locations in the Kern River Valley to specifically benefit Tricolored Blackbirds. For this presentation we will discuss the progress, approach, lessons learned, and the significance of this restoration project.

Jenna Stanek earned a B.A. in Environmental Policy and Spanish at Albright College in 2000, a B.S. in Biology/Ecology from Western State Colorado University in 2005, and an M.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from Clemson University in 2010. She has worked for the Southern Sierra Research Station since 2010 on a wide variety of projects and tasks, including riparian restoration and enhancement, population monitoring for threatened and endangered species, and educational outreach in the community.

Maturango Museum, 100 E Las Flores Ave, Ridgecrest at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 20.

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

The Maturango Museum gift shop now has copies of David Sibley's *SIBLEY GUIDE TO BIRDS SECOND EDITION*. Better color, more pictures, more information, more species than the first edition. Your editor considers it well worth buying.

## FIELD TRIP

### Breakfast Picnic and Birding at Cerro Coso College

We did this last year and had such a good time we're doing it again.

The weather has cooled off a bit, and mornings seem a pleasant time to go do some local birding and noshing. Bring a breakfast picnic and join us at Cerro Coso College to see what is migrating through and arriving for the winter.

Since it's a local outing, it's also a good time to invite family and non-birding friends for an introduction to birding, with lots of intermediate to almost-expert birders to help.

Meet Saturday, October 29 at 8 at the BLM trailhead parking just south of the gym, at the end of College Heights Boulevard.

Call Bob Parker at 760-446-2001 if you have any questions, or if you would like a ride to the college.

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

Yours truly is going on another camping trip and will not be home to get out a normal issue of the Chat for October. But something must get out, to publicize our program and field trip for the month. Thus this early, shortened version. November's Chat will contain Valley Sightings for the months of September and October -- likely the whole Fall migration season. (except for the early birds that came through in August and were in the September Chat)

## NEW AUDUBON PROGRAM

The National Audubon Society has a new program entitled **Plants for Birds**. It is described on their website, <https://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds>

It's all about finding native plants that are good for birds and will grow in your area. In this area, that of course means also good for water conservation. Tons of good information. Check it out!