



# The Chat



Kerncrest Audubon Society, Ridgecrest, California

October 2007

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

Thu	Oct 11	6pm	Board Meeting, Gravelles'
Sat	Oct 13	7am	GARAGE SALE
Sat	Oct 20	8am	Field trip

## !!GARAGE SALE!!

Sorry about the short notice. We were waiting for the Maturango Museum to decide on a fall flea market date. They're not having one. So, to clear our garages of clothing we couldn't hang at the last flea market because of the wind, and to allow folks to dispose of items saved, we're hosting our own garage sale at 735 Sonja Ave (the Burnetts') on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 8am to noon. Bring items any time, and come on Friday to help price!

## FIELD TRIP

### RIDGECREST WATCHABLE WILDLIFE PARK

**8am-Noon, Saturday, October 20.** Discover a variety of late fall migrant, winter resident, and water birds inside the limits of the City of Ridgecrest. Visit the City of Ridgecrest Watchable Wildlife Park and Desert Memorial Park. If time permits, the Cerro Coso College Campus will be visited as well. Leave **8am** from the Denny's east parking lot, NE corner of China Lake Blvd. and Ridgecrest Blvd., Ridgecrest. Proceed 5 minutes east to the wildlife park. Bring snacks and water.

Expert birder and professional birding guide Bob Barnes will lead this trip. Beginners more than welcome! Let Bob know if you need to borrow binoculars.

Contact: Bob Barnes, E: [bbarnes@lightspeed.net](mailto:bbarnes@lightspeed.net), P: 760-382-1260.

### KERNCREST AUDUBON WEB SITE UPDATED

The Kerncrest Audubon web site has been completely redone and is now up and ready for your browsing pleasure. Noel Gravelle has taken over web master duties so please send your feedback and suggestions to him at [noellene@ridgenet.net](mailto:noellene@ridgenet.net). The web site is still a work in progress so Noel would appreciate any suggestions that you have. You can visit the new site at the old URL : <http://www.kerncrestaudubon.org>.

## SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, November 7, 7:30p.m: Birds of Guatemala habitat restoration program presentation at the Maturango Museum. More next month!

## VALLEY SIGHTINGS, September 2007

The **Greater White Fronted Goose** at the ponds Sep 6 was a new early fall date by a week (SS).

The **California Quail** SW of Inyokern Aug 29 won the battle by stalking a bobcat until it left the area. Of course, with all those tasty quail around the bobcat returned later (LK).

A **Green Heron** was at the ponds Sep 19 (SS).

**Ospreys** were seen SW of Inyokern Aug 29 (LK) and at the ponds Sep 22 (SS).

A **Peregrine Falcon** was harassing the shorebirds at the ponds Sep 19 and 22 (SS).

**Semipalmated Sandpipers** were at the ponds Sep 2 (GH), 8 and 22 (BS).

The juvenile **Ruff** at the ponds Sep 17 was the 7<sup>th</sup> valley record (SS).

A juvenile **Sabine's Gull** was at the ponds Sep 10-11 and a juvenile **Common Tern** was seen there Sep 8 (SS).

A pair of **White-winged Doves** was in Ridgecrest May-Aug 12 and now a single bird is being seen (MA).

Flocks of **Pinyon Jays** were at the ponds Sep 2 (GH) and in SE Ridgecrest Sep 12 for yard bird #145 (LS).

**Purple Martins** were at the ponds Sep 2 (GH) and 22 (SS).

It looks like an invasion year for **Red-breasted Nuthatches** with eight at the college Sep 8 and two on the 22<sup>nd</sup> (JS, BS, SS) and two at the Ridgecrest post office on Sep 24 (L& SSh).

The **White-breasted Nuthatch** in Ridgecrest Sep 17 was a rare visitor (LT). A second **White-breasted Nuthatch** was at the college Sep 23 (JS).

An **American Redstart** was at the college Sep 18 (TM, LH).

A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was in SE Ridgecrest Sep 2 (LS).

**Vesper Sparrows** were at the ponds Sep 6, 13 and 22-25 with a high count of six on the 22<sup>nd</sup> (SS).

The **Lawrence's Goldfinch** at the college Sep 8 was the first since May 7, 2006 and only the 4<sup>th</sup> in the fall (JS). This bird was seen again on Sep 22.

First of Fall include: **Cassin's Vireo** Sep 21 S of Inyokern (SS), **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** at the ponds Sep 22 (SS), **Hermit Thrush** at the college Sep 22 (JS, BS, SS), **American Pipit** at the ponds Sep 8 (SS), **Cedar Waxwing** SE Ridgecrest Sep 22 (LS), **Yellow-rumped Warbler** SE Ridgecrest Sep 2 (LS) and **Townsend's Warbler** at the college Sep 23 (JS), **Lincoln's Sparrow** N of Inyokern Sep 18 (LA), **White-crowned Sparrow** at SW of Inyokern Sep 19 (LK), **Dark-eyed Junco** at the college Sep 18 (TM, LH).

Last reports of **Lesser Nighthawk** from the ponds Sep 17 and **Hooded Oriole** from S of Inyokern Sep 11 (SS). **Rufous Hummingbirds** continue to be seen, so keep your reports coming.

*Thanks to the following observers: Linda Andrews, Marge Anderson, Larry Harlan, Gjon Hazard, Louise Knecht, Terri Middlemiss, Joyce Seibold, Bob Steele, Lee & Shirley Sutton, Lynne Thompson*

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Webmaster	Noel Gravelle	375-2325
website: in the process of changing		

#### *Explanation of membership categories:*

National Audubon Society membership includes membership in the local chapter. It also includes a subscription to the Audubon magazine, and to the Kerncrest newsletter, *The Chat*. It also provides the right to vote in society elections, and inclusion on national society mailing lists for informational materials and solicitations for contributions.

Membership in the Kerncrest Audubon Society includes a subscription to *The Chat*, (not to *Audubon* magazine) and provides the right to vote in local society elections.

Inclusion on national mailing lists is optional.

A subscription to *The Chat* only does not provide the right to vote in elections.

## *The Chat*

Newsletter of the Kerncrest  
Audubon society

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