

Burrowing Owl

March - May 2014 Vol. 43, No. 3

Welcome to the Central New Mexico Audubon Society!

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Come join us. All our meetings and field trips are open to the public.

cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org

Central New Mexico



Audubon Society

16th Annual Birding Academy

March 20 - 7pm

New Mexico's Top 25 Birding Hotspots

Cole Wolf

A major part of birding is being in the right place at the right time. New Mexico straddles east/west and north/south divides that give the state an exceptionally diverse range of habitats for birders to explore, from high mountain peaks to hot deserts and open plains. Cole Wolf will review the best sites for birds across the state, including when to visit and some expected species at each location. Along the way he'll describe how our bird community changes over the year, and give tips on picking the "perfect" date and location for your next birding trip.

Cole has been the CNMAS recording secretary and field trip coordinator for the past six years. He plans on graduating from the University of New Mexico this spring with majors in biology and statistics, and hopes to attend graduate school after that.

April 17 - 7pm

Birding by Ear: How to Learn the Nuances of Bird Songs and Calls

Panel - Christopher Rustay, Jason Kitting, Cole Wolf and Raymond VanBuskirk

Have you been on a birding trip and heard someone call out the name of a bird without even seeing it - and wondered how they did it? What is the difference between a bird's song and its call? What about 'regional dialects'? Even a basic understanding of vocalizations can expand your knowledge and awareness of the bird life in your area. This will be your opportunity to learn tips and their individualized learning styles from four of CNMAS's best birding-by-ear experts. The panel will be moderated by Lee Hopwood who will keep things moving and focused on helping you.

1st Annual CNMAS General Membership Meeting and Potluck

May 22 - 6 pm - Adelante

We invite you to join us for a night of CNMAS fun! For the first time ever our general membership meeting will be held as a meeting all of its own and combined with a potluck social. This is a perfect chance to meet local members of Audubon, see what your chapter has been up to, vote for this year's slate of officers and discover how to get involved. After dinner there will be a PowerPoint presentation by the president, committee chairs, and board of directors covering the Past, Present and Future of CNMAS. This presentation promises to be both informative and entertaining. We are excited to share with you our vision for our local chapter and look forward to seeing you all there!

When: Thursday, May 22, 2014 from 6-8:30 pm.

Where: Adelante Development Center, 3900 Osuna Rd NE (same place as our monthly meetings and Birding Academy)

Please RSVP with # in your party and what food item you plan to bring to Raymond VanBuskirk at: CNMASpresident@gmail.com or (505) 217-8514.

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SANDIA MOUNTAINS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT REPORT

The Sandia Mountains Christmas Bird Count was held on Thursday, December 26, 2013, with 39 people participating in the count. The total number of species seen was 67. Our goal on the count is to reach 70 species or higher, which we've only done four times. Many of the counters talked about how "slow" it was that day and that was reflected in a decrease in the total number of birds seen. The Loggerhead Shrike was seen for the first time in ten years whereas it used to be regular on the count. Other good sightings were an American Wigeon flyover, Cactus Wren, Rock Wren, Canyon Wren, American Three-toed Woodpecker, Evening Grosbeak, and Western Screech-Owl.

The wrap-up party at O'Niell's pub was a perfect ending to the count. Rebecca Gracey – count organizer
Nick Pederson –count compiler

Field Trip Reports

Maxwell & Las Vegas NWR

The Birders at Maxwell were greeted with mild temperatures, clear skies and no wind. After meeting at the closed Visitor Center, we went to Lake 13. There was very little activity on the lake. We had Common Goldeneyes, Buffleheads and a large flock of Canada with several Cackling Geese mixed in. Also around the lake there were Song Sparrow, American Tree Sparrow and a Northern Shrike. Both the Northern and a Loggerhead we would see later gave us amazing views. We had the usual raptors expected including Ferruginous hawk, Bald and Golden Eagle and several Red-tailed Hawks. After birding Maxwell the group left for Las Vegas NWR. At Las Vegas we found all the lakes almost completely dry. Doing the loop produced only 3 species. It was very disappointing to have such a low number of birds. There were few birds about. After this the trip concluded. Total species for the day was 30 between both Refuges.
--Jim Mosley

Bosque del Apache NWR and Farm-Market Road

10 participants joined Judy Liddell on Feb. 1. Winding our way along the Farm-Market Road, we were delighted by hundreds of Mountain Bluebirds in the farm fields, among other species. We stopped so everyone could get good looks at the wintering Palm Warbler in a horse pasture in San Antonio. At the refuge Visitor Center, all were able to see the Golden-crowned Sparrow, as well as numerous White-throated Sparrows. An early Green-tailed Towhee popped in and out from the underbrush. While touring the refuge, the group saw the usual waterfowl and lots of Red-tailed Hawks and Northern Harriers, as well as Bald Eagles. Two of the participants spotted a Golden Eagle. The trip total was 55 species.
--Judy Liddell

Birdathon! 2014

Audubon, Birdathon, and your pledge: They're all for the birds! What was the last bird you saw? What's your most anticipated migrant? Which bird song makes your heart rise in your throat? And what's it worth to you to protect that bird, its habitat, and the chance for your grandkid to experience the same thrill?

Join a team, create a team, make a pledge, and ask your spouse/parent/sibling/best friend/neighbor/co-worker to sponsor you or your favorite team as CNMAS raises money that stays in New Mexico for conservation and environmental education. If you join us, you'll have a day in the field with great people and great birds. If you can't be there in person, your support encourages your friends and betters your community. And either way, your gift is tax-deductible. Help keep us – and the birds – flying high!

Thursday Birder Birdathon May 8 & 9

This event is a fundraiser for Central NM Audubon and Audubon NM, as well as 24 hours of birding fun. The Birdathon will commence at 10:00 a.m. at Bonnie Long's home in the SE mountains and include stops at Manzano Pond and Quarai National Monument off Hwy 55, and end at Bosque del Apache NWR the evening of the first day. The group will overnight in Socorro and begin at 6:00 a.m. the next day at the Macey Center in Socorro, then Box and Water Canyons off Hwy 60 west of Socorro before ending at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 9th. To confirm participation and receive a detailed itinerary, contact Bonnie Long or Judy Liddell.

Bonnie Long: 505-379-1985, cantrade_1@yahoo.com and
Judy Liddell: 505-271-0912, jliddell@msn.com



Earth Beat Birdathon 2014

Raymond VanBuskirk and Cole Wolf will be joined by new team members Jason Kitting and Cassidy Ruge as they run a closed young birders Big Day. Last year the team beat the all-time New Mexico record with a total of 204 species in 24 hours. This year they'll be running a shorter route that is entirely within the Rio Grande Valley, but with careful planning and a lot of scouting they hope to end up with close to 200. The Big Day will start at 12:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 4th in the Black Range near Silver City and finish up in Sandia Mountains that

night! Please help support CNMAS and Audubon New Mexico by pledging per bird or a lump sum to this Birdathon team! Contact Raymond VanBuskirk (505) 217-8514 newmexicobirder@gmail.com, or Cole Wolf (505) 553-4831 colejwolf@gmail.com with your pledges!



“LEAVE ME ALONE!”

No, not me. Them. Those irresistible baby birds. Have you found one? Here's how to help...

- 1) Is it injured? Keep it warm while you take it to a permitted rehabilitator!
- 2) Not hurt? How developed is the baby?
 - a) Tiny hatchlings (eyes still closed) and naked or fuzzy nestlings (eyes open) need to be in a nest to stay warm. Search for the nest and gently put the baby back. If you can't find or reach the nest, make a one from a suitable basket or tub, wire it to a bush or tree in a shady spot, add some soft cloth and baby. Then leave the area, hide and watch. The baby will peep or squeak, a parent will find it and continue to care for it. Rejoice! Parents really do the best job. If they don't show up, then you'll need that rehabilitator.
 - b) A baby with wing feathers and a short tail is a fledgling. He's probably just jumped out of the nest but found that flying takes a bit more practice. This is a normal stage, but it does leave him very vulnerable to pets, other wildlife, or people. You might move him off the ground into a nearby bush. He'll call for mom or dad and they will continue to care for him until he can follow them. Keep pets and people away for a couple of days. Again, if the parents don't return or if the area is just too dangerous, transport to help. A small box or paper bag will keep him contained during the trip.
- 3) Hummingbird babies still in their nest should be silent. If peeping, something has happened to mom. They need help right away.
- 4) Do not try to raise a baby bird yourself! Do not give food or water! The death rate is so high that it is illegal. Instead, go help the rehabilitator!

Teacher Resource Grants Awarded

Three educators in the Albuquerque area have been awarded Teacher Resource Grants from the Central New Mexico Audubon Society. Michael Bellamy, primary grade teacher at Dorn Community Charter School, received a grant for the school's "Early Birders" program. The students are writing a bilingual field guide of the 25 most common birds of South Broadway in Albuquerque. The grant is also being used to reach out to parents by providing thistle and suet feeders for backyard use while promoting good bird stewardship.

Angela Kunkel, librarian, and Lynn Schuler, reading teacher, both at Truman Middle School, received grants for natural history books. Angela facilitates a project-based learning experience for all 7th grade life science classes. These books will be used by students for research. Lynn is using the grant to expand the natural history topics available in her reading classroom.

CNMAS and BRANT Join Wings to Raise Money for Conservation!

CNMAS is excited to announce that we are partnering with Birding Research And Nature Tours (BRANT) to help boost CNMAS fundraising efforts! BRANT is a locally owned and operated birding tour company that is working hard to not only provide excellent tours and workshops but also to ensure the future of our birds by supporting local conservation and education projects wherever they go! BRANT and CNMAS have two exciting birding opportunities that will also generate funds for CNMAS!

Workshops!

BRANT and CNMAS have teamed up to offer New Mexico locals a series of birding Field Workshops! These workshops include an evening classroom session followed by an all day field outing and are geared at teaching you some great new birding skills. We will have several workshops offered throughout the year, each focusing on a different group of birds. Best of all, 20% of all profits will be going straight back to CNMAS! Check out the Field Workshops article for more details about upcoming workshops and how you can register or visit: <http://www.branttours.com/workshops/>

Costa Rica Tour!

Our second announcement is a bit more exotic! BRANT will be sponsoring a fundraising trip to COSTA RICA next year, March 2015! The trip will be run in partnership with our friends at Hawks Aloft Inc. (HAI) and BRANT has generously agreed to donate nearly 100% of profits to be split evenly between CNMAS and HAI. The CNMAS portion of the proceeds will be put into the Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Scholarship Fund to help support our aspiring youth biologists around the state! See the Costa Rica Article on page 9 of the digital edition of the *Burrowing Owl* for more details about the trip including how you can register!



Green Honeycreeper - Dwayne Longenbaugh



AUDUBON THURSDAY BIRDERS SCHEDULE SPRING 2014

TO CHECK FOR POSSIBLE TRIP CANCELLATIONS, visit the Audubon web site: www.newmexicoaudubon.org/cnmas. Click on TRIPS, then go to THURSDAY BIRDERS.

MARCH 6 ·

Walk in the Corrales bosque with Lannois Neely: 505-890-7881. flneely@aol.com. Meet at 8:50 a.m. for a 9:00 departure from the shopping area north of Alameda Road/NM 528 and east of NM 448/Coors/Corrales Road. The parking area is across Alameda Boulevard from McDonald's on the south. People should park away from the businesses there. The group will carpool from there to different areas in the bosque. Lunch afterwards at Village Pizza in Corrales.

MARCH 13 ·

Tour Bernardo Wildlife Management Area with Judy Liddell: 505-271-0912, jliddell@msn.com. Meet at 7:50 a.m. for an 8:00 departure from the parking lot behind the Hawthorn Suites located at Gibson and University. The refuge is 50 miles south of Albuquerque on I-25. Take the exit to US 60, go under the overpass and get on the east frontage road and drive north 0.5 miles to the entrance on the east. Bring lunch. For those not driving the shared gas expense is \$5 at five cents per mile. The trip will end by mid-afternoon.

MARCH 20 ·

Visit the Open Space Visitor Center with Rebecca Gracey: 505-242-3821, maryrebeccagracey@gmail.com. Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the center's parking lot. Turn east from Coors Boulevard on Bosque Meadows Road, between Montano Road on the south and Paseo del Norte on the north. It will be an easy 1.5 mile walk. Brunch afterwards at nearby Hannah and Nate's Market Café, 6521 Riverside Plaza Lane.

MARCH 27 ·

Visit the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park with Lefty Arnold: 505-514-9398, wanderingtattlerja@yahoo.com. Meet at 8:29 a.m. by the parking lot blind. There is a \$3 parking fee if you do not have a State Parks Pass or Friends of the RGNC Pass. Both passes may be purchased inside the Visitor Center after 10:00 a.m. The one-mile walk will end before noon.

APRIL 3 ·

Hike in the Elena Gallegos Open Space at 8:30 a.m. with Leah Henzler: 505-293-0191. lfairns@gmail.com. Turn east on Simm's Park Road from Tramway Boulevard between San Rafael Avenue on the north and Spain Road on the south. There are many parking areas there, so after paying the \$1 parking fee, drive counter-clockwise around the entry station and drive north toward the Kiwanis Group Reservation Area. Use the parking lot for Cottonwood Trail. This is an easy 1.5 mile walk that will end before noon.

APRIL 10 ·

Walk in the Durand Open Space in the South Valley with Becky Purvis: 505-877-2517, rpurvis3@yahoo.com. Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the open space parking lot at 4736 Isleta SW. From I-25, exit on Rio Bravo, drive west on Rio Bravo and turn south onto Isleta

Boulevard. Drive two miles to the property on the east. The walk will be about one mile in length and will end before noon.

APRIL 17 ·

Visit the Shady Lakes Fishing Ponds with Maurice Mackey: 505-897-0415, moemackey@comcast.net. Meet at the ponds at 8:30 a.m. The ponds are north of Alameda Boulevard, just beyond the location where north 2nd and 4th streets become one road, that being NM 313 to Bernalillo. There will be an easy one mile walk around the property with the walk ending before noon.

APRIL 24 ·

Drive to Manzano Pond and Quarai National Monument with Bonnie Long: 505-379-1985, cantrade_1@yahoo.com. Meet at 7:50 a.m. for an 8:00 departure from the west side of the Four Hills Shopping Village on Central Avenue between Juan Tabo and Tramway Boulevard or at 8:50 a.m. at the junction of NM 337 and NM 55. Bring lunch. The trip will end in the early afternoon. For those not driving the shared gas expense is \$5 at five cents per mile.

MAY 1 ·

Travel to the Belen Marsh in Belen, NM, and the Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area with Linda Heinze: 505-565-1441, manzanogal@gamil.com. Meet at 7:50 a.m. for an 8:00 departure from the parking lot behind the Hawthorn Suites on Gibson and University or 8:30 at the Belen Marsh. To reach the marsh, take the first Belen exit from I-25, Exit 195, drive east one mile, turn south, and park behind the Taco Bell. Then the group will visit the Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area on NM 47. The group will have lunch in Los Lunas at Teofilo's on Main/NM 6 near the intersection with NM 314. For those not driving, the shared gas expense is \$3.50 at five cents per mile.

MAY 8 & 9 ·

The Thursday Birder Birdathon - See details on page 2



MAY 15 · Hike in Otero Canyon with Barbara Hussey: 505-385-1165, brhussey@flash.net. Meet at 7:50 a.m. for an 8:00 departure from the Sandia Ranger Station on NM 337 in Tijeras.

The group will carpool from there to the canyon, a few miles south on NM 337. It will be an easy 1.5 mile walk ending before noon.

MAY 22 ·

Drive to the White Lakes Playa north of Clines Corners, and west to Stanley, NM, with Rebecca Gracey: 505-242-3821, maryrebeccagracey@gmail.com, in search of Mountain Plover and Long-billed Curlew. Meet at 6:50 a.m. for a 7:00 departure from the west side of the Four Hills Shopping Village on Central Avenue between Juan Tabo and Tramway. Bring lunch. The trip should end in the early afternoon. For those not driving the shared gas expense is \$6.50 at five cents per mile.

MAY 29 ·

Hike Embudito Canyon with Joe Schelling: 505-797-9018, joeschelling@msn.com. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the trailhead parking lot. To reach the canyon, drive east on Montgomery past Tramway, then turn left on Glenwood Hills. Continue 0.4 of a mile, turn right on Trailhead Road, and drive to the parking lot. This is an easy 1.5 mile walk ending before noon.



THURSDAY BIRDER TRIP REPORTS

Judy Liddell's blog: <http://windandsong.wordpress.com>
 Joe Schelling's blog: <http://joeschelling.wordpress.com> and
 photo website: www.sandianet.com
 Lou Feltz's photographs: www.flickr.com/photos/lvfeltz
 Phil Trine's photographs: www.flickr.com/photos/thbirds
 NM Rare Bird Alert www.nmbirds.org
 Rare Bird Alerts for all states www.birdingonthe.net
 To report NM rare birds, contact Matt Baumann at mb687@yahoo.com, 264-1052.

eBird To find where reported bird species have been sighted, go to www.ebird.org. Click on 'Explore Data', then 'Range and Point Maps', and type in the species name and general location. To obtain current information on eBird Hotspot sightings, use Hotspot Explorer on the Explore Data tab and enter the name of the Hotspot. Or, use the Find Nearby Hotspots on the BirdsEye app.

Other Birding Opportunities

Sandia Mountain Bird Walks

May through October, TUESDAY MORNING GUIDED BIRD WALKS in the Sandia Mountains sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service. Birders meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Sandia Ranger Station, 11776 Highway 337, in Tijeras, N.M.

Rio Grande Nature Center State Park Bird Walks

Join Saturday and Sunday morning bird walks at the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park located at the far west end of Candelaria. The walks start at 8:30 a.m. all year. There is a \$3 day-use fee without a State Parks Pass or Friends of the Rio Grande Nature Center Pass. Both may be purchased in the visitor's center after 10:00 a.m.

NMOS 2014 Annual Meeting

The 52nd Annual Meeting of the New Mexico Ornithological Society will be held on April 26, 2014, at the Best Western Rio Grande Inn in Albuquerque. As they become available, details will be posted on the NMOS website: www.nmbirds.org



Daniel S. Kilby

**Soaring the South Valley:
with Birds and Planes**

May 10 from 8 a.m.—12 p.m.
 At Durand Open Space, 4750 Isleta Blvd. SW
 (2 miles south of Rio Bravo Blvd.)

This Bernalillo County Open Space event is organized in partnership with the New Mexico Ornithological Society and Central New Mexico Audubon Society.

Durand Open Space was once home to Westernair Inc., an airplane maintenance business owned by the Durand family. Today, the property commemorates more natural airborne creatures, birds. There will be a number of exciting things happening both on the ground and in the air, including the following bird activities:

- Guided bird walks, bird banding, and live birds of prey
- Birding 101 tips and tricks, featuring the SV Bird Guide
- Birds of a Feather, and other Kids Activities

Weekend Field Trips

Sangre de Cristo Audubon Field Trips

Saturday, April 20 - Maxwell NWR Migrating Species
 Leaders: Gail Szpatura, 505-471-4426, gailsz@earthlink.net Mary Ristow, 505-820-0906, mrlistow@newmexico.com
 This trip to Maxwell National Wildlife Refuge, an Audubon Important Bird Area, should yield songbirds, waterfowl and shorebirds. Contact leaders for trip status and other information.

Sunday, May 19 - Socorro County Birding Challenge
 Leader: Wyatt Egelhoff, 505-946-8028, redknot42@gmail.com
 This fast-paced trip is intended to find 100 species in one county in one day. The trip will start in Socorro at 6 or 6:30 a.m. The trip is not suitable for beginning birders. You must call the leader for information about the early meeting time and place. You must bring all supplies for the day. Limited to 12 participants. Until one week before the trip preference will be given to Sangre de Cristo chapter members. Contact leader for trip status and other information.

Saturday, June 8 - Pritzlaff Ranch

Leader: Jerry Friedman, 505-753-1946, jerry_friedman@yahoo.com
 This is an all-day trip. This 3,250-acre ranch, about a half-hour north of Las Vegas, has riparian, scrub-oak, and ponderosa pine habitat. Plan to walk a lot. Meet at 7:00 at Pecos Trail Cafe.

Central New Mexico Audubon Society assumes no responsibility for injuries, personal or otherwise, incurred while attending society sponsored activities and will not be held liable for such accidents.
 You attend at your own risk.



Cats Indoors

The American Bird Conservancy's campaign to convince pet owners to keep cats indoors has had some success—bird deaths have declined by a third in areas that passed ordinances against free-ranging cats.

We have such an ordinance in the City of Albuquerque, in the Village of Corrales, and in the entirety of Bernalillo County. These ordinances prohibit owners of companion animals (Cats & Dogs) from allowing their pets to run at large outside their property at any time. Lack of education about this ordinance is causing people to think it does not apply to Cats. Responsible pet ownership cannot be legislated; it must be learned.

Everyone can become an educator by example:

1. Spay/Neuter your Cat
2. Keep your cat indoors or inside an escape-proof fence. (Yes, you can fence in a cat!)
3. Never abandon a cat.
4. Ask your Neighborhood Association to have a "Be a good pet neighbor" Month.
5. Share the "Cats, Birds & You" brochure with your neighbors. Or download information from <http://abcbirds.org/cats>



Birds Killed* Cause

1 billion	Cats
970 million	Flying into buildings
174 million	Flying into power lines
80 million	Vehicle collisions
72 million	Pesticides
5 million	Flying into communication towers
440,000	Flying into wind turbines

Source: US Fish and Wildlife Service

*Highest reliable estimate



Burrowing Owl Digital Edition

**EXTRA!!
EXTRA!!**

We now have an extra-special digital edition of the Burrowing Owl, so that YOU, Dear Reader, will be tempted, cajoled, influenced, and otherwise persuaded to switch to on-line delivery. Besides having all the "extras" delivered to your inbox, you'll be helping us to save trees (good for birds) and money (also good for birds, because then we'll have more to spend on conservation projects which preserve bird habitat!)

Check out our new digital edition for more articles, including...

- Color artwork! (who doesn't want to see more colorful birds?)
- Extra pages of news
- A printable poster for CNMAS Birding Academy (for your fridge, your library, your neighbor, your parakeet!)

Contact Membership Chair Ed Dover at whitecliffs@comcast.net or 242-5427 to say, "Yes, Please switch my subscription to on-line delivery!"

NEW MEETING PLACE

CNMAS is now holding our program meetings in the Community Room at the Adelante Development Center, 3900 Osuna Road NE. The meeting room is accessed right off of their paved and well-lighted parking lot along Osuna. Come early for refreshments at 7:00 p.m., announcements and program at 7:15 p.m.



The Burrowing Owl newsletter is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December by Central New Mexico Audubon Society, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002. Subscription is free to National Audubon Society members, \$15 to nonmembers.

Whom to Contact

National Audubon Society
 Membership Hotline (800) 274-4201,
chadd@audubon.org
 Activist Hotline (800) 659-2622
 Audubon Take Action
www.audubonaction.org/audubon/
 New Mexico Audubon Office
 Randall Davey Audubon Center
 P.O. Box 9314 Santa Fe, NM 87504
 (505) 983-4609 <http://nm.audubon.org>
newmexico@audubon.org
 The President
 The White House
 Washington, DC 20500
 (202) 456-1111
president@whitehouse.gov
 Department of the Interior
 1849 C Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20240
 (202) 208-3100, www.doi.gov
 Senator Tom Udall
 B40D Dirksen Senate Office Building
 Washington, DC 20510
 505-346-6791 tomudall.senate.gov
 Senator Martin Heinrich
 B40D Dirksen Senate Office Bldg
 Washington, D.C. 20510
 Phone Number: (202) 224-5521
<http://www.heinrich.senate.gov>
 Congressman Steve Pearce
www.house.gov (202) 224-3121

Congressman Ben R. Lujan
 (202) 225-6190
 Congressman Michelle Lujan Grisham
lujangrisham.house.gov
 Governor Susana Martinez
 State Capitol, Room 400
 Santa Fe, NM 87501 (505) 476-2200
 US Fish and Wildlife Service
 500 Gold Avenue, SW, ABQ, NM
 87102 External Affairs Office
 (505) 248-6911
 New Mexico Dept. of Game & Fish
 P.O. Box 25112 Santa Fe, NM 87504
 (505)476-8000
www.wildlife.state.nm.us
 Sandia Ranger District
 US Forest Service
 11776 Highway 337
 Tijeras, NM 87059 (505) 281-3304
 Bosque del Apache NWR
 (575) 838-2120
 Friends of the Bosque del Apache
 (575) 835-1828
www.friendsofthebosque.org
 Rio Grande Nature Center State Park
 (505) 344-7240
www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/riograndenaturecenterstatepark.html
 Friends of RGNC
friendsofrgnc.org, www.rgnc.org
 Wildlife Rescue (505)344-2500
<http://www.wrinm.org/>

The 16th Annual Audubon Birding Academy
Birding 101: Back to the Basics
Registration Form

- March 20 - Cole Wolf \$6
Where to Go – NM's Top 25 Birding Hotspots
 - April 17 - Birding by Ear – How to Learn the Nuances of Bird Songs and Calls \$6
 - Become a NEW Audubon member and get the Birding Academy classes for FREE \$20
- NAS chapter code C1ZQ510Z • Source code 79M7

Total Enclosed: _____

Name/s: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

I want to get the Burrowing Owl via the web

Email: _____

NEW member checks (exclusively) make payable to **National Audubon Society**.
 If you're **not** a NEW member, make it payable to **CNMAS**.

Everybody send your check to: CNMAS Birding Academy, P.O. Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002 CNMAS ABA 2014

!!BIRDS and BEERS!!

Birds and Beers! events continue, and if YOU'RE interested in birds and birding in the Albuquerque area, then YOU'RE invited!

WHO? Anyone who is interested in birds and birding

WHAT? **Birds and Beers** - Informal gathering sponsored by New Mexico Ornithological Society and CNMAS.

Bring bird photos on a jump drive if you have some to share; be prepared to share with your peers; be ready for fun (like bird I.D. quizzes and contests); come hungry and thirsty!

WHERE? **O'Niell's – Event Space**, 3301 Juan Tabo (In front of Defined Fitness just north of Candelaria) **NEW LOCATION!**
<http://oniells.com/>

(park around back off of Washington St.)

WHEN? Usually the last Tuesday of the month 5:00 p.m. - ???

(any planned activities will start at 6:00) Be sure to check the CNMAS website for date and location details in upcoming months

FROM: Dave Krueper & Janet Ruth, NMOS; Raymond Van-Buskirk, CNMAS; Robert Munro, CNMAS and O'Niell's

Burrowing Owl Deadline

Information and articles to be included in the Summer 2014 issue of the *Burrowing Owl* must be received by May 5, 2014.

Contact Laurel Ladwig at 505-362-6871 or BUROWLnm@gmail.com.



photo by Laurel Ladwig

Central New Mexico Audubon Society Application
 Form For **New National Members Only**



Make checks payable to the **National Audubon Society, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002.**

FOR NEW NATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS ONLY.

Your National Audubon membership RENEWAL cannot be processed by the Chapter; it must be sent directly to National Audubon.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone (with Area Code) _____

E-mail Address: _____

The following rates include the *National Audubon Magazine* and the CNMAS Newsletter the *Burrowing Owl*. Please check your preference.

- \$20 New Member, special introductory rate for one year.
- \$30 New Member, special introductory rate for two years.

As part of our commitment to protecting our natural environment we are encouraging members to opt to receive their copies of the Burrowing Owl online, where they can read it on their computers or print it out at home. This will significantly reduce the amount of paper generated by mailing hard copies. We will, of course, honor those requests from members who wish to continue receiving the hard copies through the mail. Please indicate your preference below.

- I would like to receive the Burrowing Owl online.
Be sure to enter your e-mail address on the address section above.
- I would prefer to receive the Burrowing Owl via printed copy by regular mail.

For the Burrowing Owl Only

For annual subscription to the Burrowing Owl within our Chapter area or outside of it:

- \$15.00 (Check delivery choice above.)

For this subscription make checks payable to **CNMAS, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002.**

Thanks to the Typo Wranglers, Beth Hurst-Waitz and Melissa Howard, from the Production Wrangler. Any errors that remain are my own.



Contacting National Audubon

For questions regarding magazines, national mailings, premiums (calendars, tote bags, etc), address changes for national mailing, requests for removals from mailing lists, or any other membership issues, please contact Audubon's Customer Service Partner, Palm Coast Data (PCD) at (800) 274-4201 or audubon@emailcustomerservice.com. Audubon is now providing service six days a week (Mondays-Fridays 8a.m.-9p.m., Saturdays 9a.m.-6p.m. EST) through PCD.



Central New Mexico Audubon Society

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the National Audubon Society, Inc.

*Our missions: "To appreciate, experience, and conserve birds, other wildlife and their habitats;
and to encourage and support environmental education in New Mexico."*

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Bat in Trouble? (Talking Talons)

Call before you intervene: 281-1133 or 281-1515

New Mexico Rare Bird Alert

Compiler: Matt J. Baumann 505-264-1052, mb687@yahoo.com

<http://www.nmbirds.org/>

Rosy-Finch Project

Alan Mickelson (505)281-3471 gonefishin820@earthlink.net

<http://www.rosyfinch.com/>

Wildlife Rescue

If you find a sick or injured bird, call 344-2500

Wild Bird Rescue in Corrales, Rio Rancho, or Sandoval County

ON A WING AND A PRAYER, Corrales NM, 505-897-0439



Welcome to the digital edition of the Burrowing Owl with extra pages of content and a printable poster of upcoming CNMAS programs.

Digital Extras

<i>Rio Grande Nature Center Herb Fest</i>	page 10	<i>CNMAS, BRANT, HAI - Costa Rica flyer</i>	page 13
<i>Valle de Oro NWR Fundraiser, Sandia Hawkwatch</i>	page 10	<i>Bosque Educational Forums</i>	page 14
<i>Valle de Oro NWR Open House</i>	page 11	<i>CNMAS Fall Program poster</i>	last page
<i>Soaring Over the South Valley</i>	page 12		

Costa Rica March 2015!

In a little over a year, CNMAS and Hawks Aloft will be headed to Costa Rica for a fundraising tour! Developed and led by the expert guides at BRANT Tours, nearly 100% of profits will be donated to and split between HAI and CNMAS! Just imagine exploring the breathtaking birds and scenery of the Costa Rican rainforest with your fellow birding buddies and supporting CNMAS at the same time! If you haven't heard, Costa Rica is one of the most species rich countries on the planet with well over 800 different birds packed into a country the size of West Virginia!

The trip will be an all inclusive, professionally guided, 13 day, 12 night tour. You'll be staying at beautiful, eco-friendly lodges and visiting some of the best birding locations Costa Rica has to offer. Experience the lowland forests of La Selva, the marshes of Cano Negro, the steep slopes of Arenal Volcano and the ancient cloud forests of Monteverde, home of the Resplendent Quetzal! Here's some basic info about the tour.

When: March 22nd to April 3rd, 2015

How Much: \$3,645 (+ tax & airfare) Remember, 50% of the profits will directly benefit CNMAS

Who's invited: Members of CNMAS and Hawks Aloft along with their friends and family

How Many: The group is limited to 14 people and it's first come first serve!

There's far too much about this trip to stuff into this article but you can find out all you need to know at the BRANT website. Type in the url below (sorry it's long) or give BRANT a call at (505) 259-0581.

<http://www.branttours.com/tours/setdepartures/centralamerica/cr-cnmarshai/>



Collared Aracari - Linda Chittum

BRANT Field Workshops

BRANT Tours is offering field workshops throughout the year. These are evening lectures followed by full day field outings aimed at building your birding skills. Each class is geared towards a different set of birds or style of birding. Are you ready to boost your birding ability? Then join us for a workshop!



Best of all, 20% of the profits of every workshop are donated back to CNMAS!

Upcoming Workshops

Peeps & Plovers: Shorebird ID

April 19th (Lecture on the 18th)

\$125 (+ tax)

Join BRANT as we help you turn that intimidating flock of "peeps" into something you can actually check off your list. Shorebirds are complex and can be difficult, but with the right skills you'll be able to sort them out like the pros!



Killdeer - Linda Chittum

Hoo Are You? The Art of Owling

May 24th (Lecture on the 23rd)

\$125 (+ tax)

Wandering into the woods in the middle of night in search of owls is often an intimidating prospect, especially if you end up with nothing but a Great Horned Owl hoot to show for it. This workshop aims to teach you not so much how to identify owls, but how to plan and carry out a successful owling trip. BRANT will teach you the tools and tricks of the trade to make your next nighttime outing that much more successful!

To register, follow the url below to the BRANT website, or give BRANT a call at (505) 259-0581

<http://www.branttours.com/workshops/>



GIVING BACK SUNDAYS



MAR

9

12-9PM

20% of our food sales for the day will be donated to:

B2B BISTRONOMY

BEERS TO BURGERS

3118 CENTRAL AVE SE

IN THE HEART OF NOB HILL

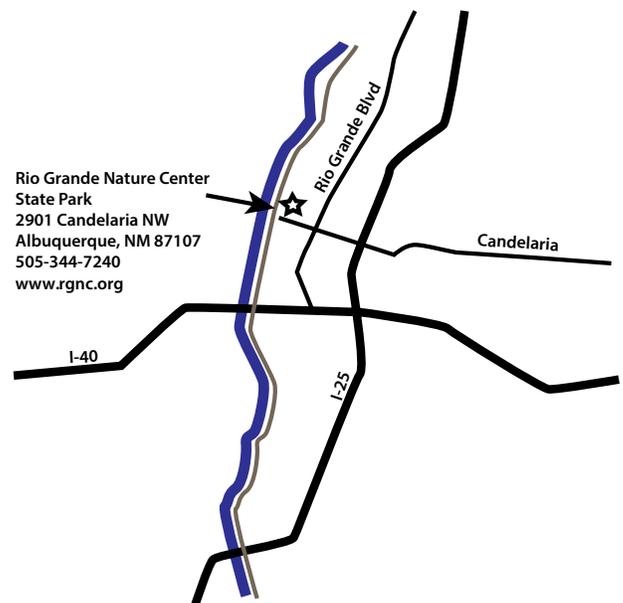
Friends of Valle de Oro

National Wildlife Refuge

Rio Grande Nature Center Herb Fest 2014

Saturday and Sunday
May 10-11

Visit rgnc.org for details!

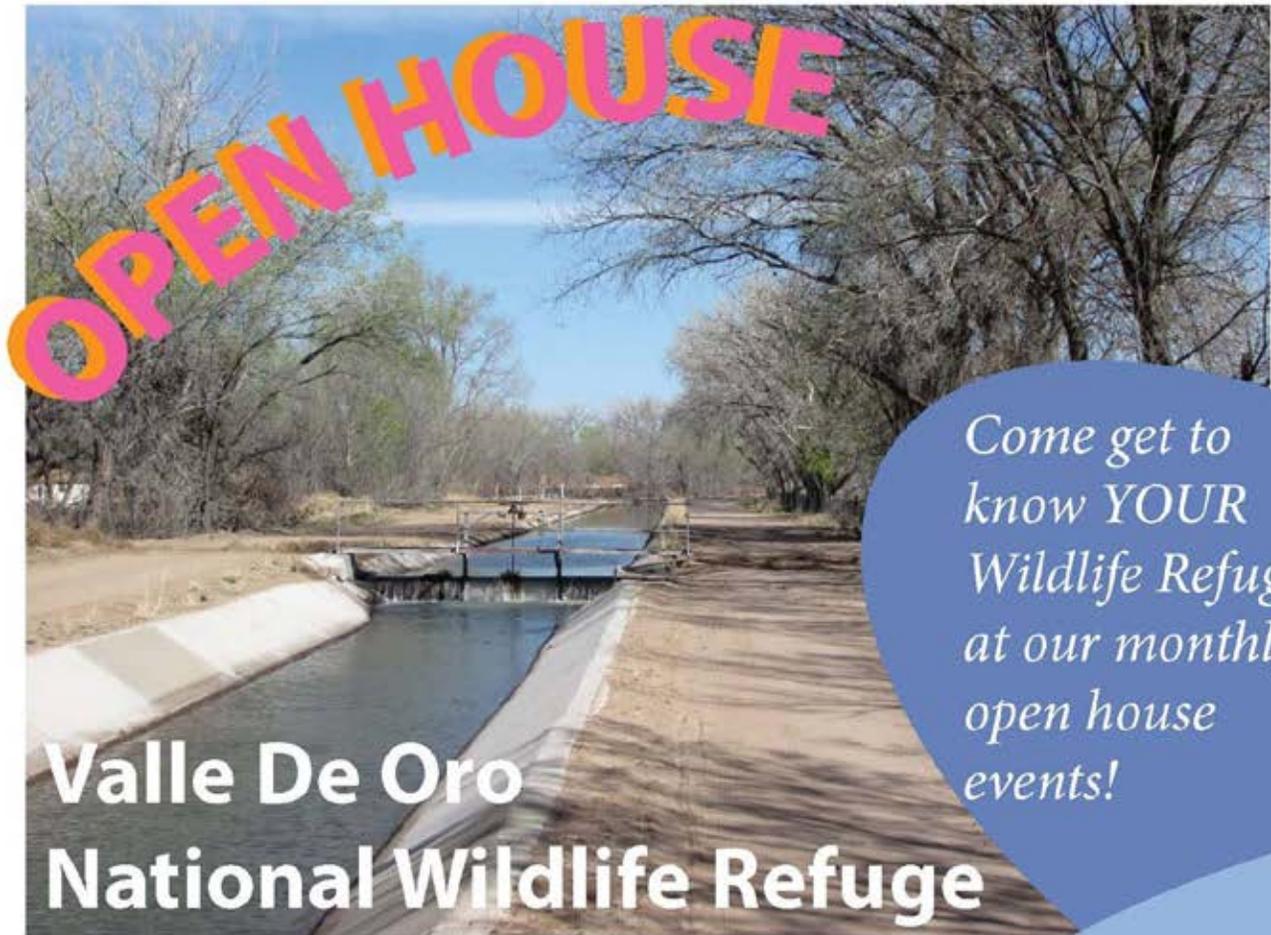


Sandia Hawkwatch

Although it's no longer being monitored by HWI, over 4,000 raptors will pass within view of the observation point during March and April. Remember to take extra clothing, water, sunscreen, and wear proper footwear. Again Roger Grimshaw will visit the site during the last two weeks in March. If you're interested in being there at the same time, let Bobbie know (hwabq@hawkwatch.org).

Directions: Drive East out of Albuquerque on I-40. Take the first exit east of Tramway Boulevard at Carnuel. Continue East on US-66 approximately 1.8 miles. Turn left into the subdivision of Monticello, where you will see a large white sign at the entrance. The paved road jogs to the right, then left. Continue north uphill on Monticello Drive and turn left onto the 5th side street, which is Allegre. Turn right on the second side street, Siempre Verde, which dead-ends in a parking area. From the north end of the parking area, hike north on the Three Gun Spring Trail. Turn east (right) after the fence, and follow the trail to the southern most end of cliffs. The observation point is a large rock pile 2/3rds of the way up to the cliff face. The trail to the observation site is 1.5 miles uphill (1,500' elevation gain), and the hike may take about one hour or more one way.

For more information on the Hawkwatch Trail:
<http://www.sandiahiking.com/trailguide.html>



Come get to know YOUR Wildlife Refuge at our monthly open house events!

Saturday, March 15th:

From 9am-12pm you will have the opportunity to learn about the Acequia Culture that exists in our community!

For more information contact Refuge Manager at 248-6667 or Jennifer_OwenWhite@fws.gov

Check us out on Facebook and at:

http://www.fws.gov/refuge/valle_de_oro/

Located at:
Valle de Oro NWR
7851 2nd Street SW
Albuquerque, NM
(About 3 miles south of Rio Bravo Blvd)





Soaring the South Valley: with Birds and Planes

May 10, 2014 from 8 a.m.—12 p.m.
At Durand Open Space
4750 Isleta Blvd. SW
(2 miles south of Rio Bravo Blvd.)

Durand Open Space was once home to Westernair Inc., an airplane maintenance business once owned by the Durand family. Small planes flew in for anything from engine repairs to paint jobs to reupholstery work. Today, the property commemorates more natural airborne creatures, birds.

This year, Bernalillo County Open Space is working with a number of partners to organize a fun-filled family event celebrating both birds and planes at Durand Open Space. There will be a number of exciting things happening both on the ground and in the air include the following:

Birds

- Guided bird walks, bird banding, and live bird of prey
- Birding 101 tips and tricks, featuring the *SV Bird Guide*
- Birds of a Feather, and other Kids Activities

Planes

- Real and model planes for display
- Glider plane demonstrations
- History of planes at Durand

This event is organized in partnership with the New Mexico Ornithological Society and Central New Mexico Audubon Society.



For more information, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace, 505-314-0398

Birding Research And Nature Tours



CNMAS & HAI

Costa Rica Fundraising Tour

Overview

Dates: March 22nd to April 3rd, 2015

Duration: 13 Days, 12 Nights

Starting Location: San Jose, Costa Rica

Ending Location: San Jose, Costa Rica

Maximum Participation: 14 participants (+ 3 guides & 1 driver)

Minimum Participation: 6 participants

This tour is designed to encompass the great diversity of birds and habitats that Costa Rica has to offer. We will visit Caribbean lowland forest, Caribbean subtropical forest, Pacific temperate (cloud) forest, wetland systems and Costa Rica's central valley. In addition to some of the best birding in the world we will have the opportunity to experience incredible volcanoes & waterfalls, stunning scenery, delicious local food, canopy walks, boat tours and a breathtaking diversity of plants and animals.

Basic Itinerary

Day 1 (March 22nd)

Arrival at San Jose International Airport. Transfer to Hotel Bougainvillea. Night at Hotel Bougainvillea.

Day 2 (March 23rd)

Morning birding at the hotel gardens. Then drive to Selva Verde Lodge with many birding stops along the way. Night at Selva Verde Lodge.

Day 3 (March 24th)

Morning birding at La Selva Biological Station followed by afternoon birding at Selva Verde Lodge. Night at Selva Verde Lodge.

Day 4 (March 25th)

Early breakfast followed by all day birding at La Paz Waterfall Gardens and surrounding area. Night at Selva Verde Lodge.

Day 5 (March 26th)

Morning birding at Selva Verde Lodge before transferring to Cano Negro. Birding along the way. Night at Natural Lodge Cano Negro.

Day 6 (March 27th)

All day birding at Cano Negro including morning wetland boat tour. Night at Natural Lodge Cano Negro.

RIO GRANDE BOSQUE

EDUCATIONAL FORUMS

You are invited to attend a series of panel discussions about the past, present and future of the Rio Grande, the Bosque, and Rio Grande Valley State Park!

The purpose of these sessions is to provide a public venue for a dialogue among local and regional specialists about the Rio Grande and the Bosque, and Rio Grande Valley State Park.

WHERE: NM Museum of Natural History and Science, Dynatheater
1801 Mountain Road, Albuquerque, NM 87104

WHEN: Educational Forums: First Tuesday of the Month
(March 4th, April 1st, May 6th, June 3rd) 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Walk and Talks: April 5th, May 10th and June 7th.
10:00 am to noon. Locations to be determined.

COST: Free

FORMAT: First hour: Panel presentations and panel discussion
Second hour: Q+A, meet and greet



MARCH 4TH FORUM #1 HISTORY, EVOLUTION, AND CULTURE OF THE BOSQUE

Moderator: Dan Shaw, Bosque Ecological Monitoring Program and Bosque School

Invited Panelists: Paul Tashjian, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Enrique Lamadrid, University of New Mexico
Yasmeen Najmi, Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

MAY 6TH FORUM #3 RESTORATION, RECREATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Moderator: Ross Coleman, Hydra Aquatic, Inc.

Invited Panelists: Barbara Baca, City of Albuquerque, Parks and Recreation
Steve Harris, Rio Grande Restoration
Michael Jensen, Amigos Bravos

APRIL 1ST FORUM #2 SCIENCE, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Moderator: Bruce Thomson, University of New Mexico

Invited Panelists: Dave Gutzler, University of New Mexico
Jesse Roache, Sandia National Laboratories
Kim Eichhorst, Bosque Ecological Monitoring Program and the University of New Mexico
Maceo Martinet, New Mexico Water Dialogue and US Fish and Wildlife Service

JUNE 3RD FORUM #4 THE FUTURE OF RIO GRANDE VALLEY STATE PARK

Moderator: Steve Glass, Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District

Invited Panelists: Dave Simon, Jewish Community Center and Former Director of NM State Parks
Scott Verhines, New Mexico State Engineer
Richard Barish, Sierra Club
Mathew Schmader, City of Albuquerque, Open Space

Collectively organized by representatives from the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, City of Albuquerque, Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, Bosque Ecological Monitoring Program and the University of New Mexico.



Central New Mexico Audubon Society

Birding Academy

Birding 101: Back to the Basics

March 20 - Cole Wolf

Where to Go – New Mexico’s Top 25 Birding Hotspots

A major part of birding is being in the right place at the right time. New Mexico straddles east/west and north/south divides that give the state an exceptionally diverse range of habitats for birders to explore; from high mountain peaks to hot deserts and open plains. Cole Wolf will review the best sites for birds across the state, including when to visit and some of the expected species at each location. Along the way he'll describe how our bird community changes over the year, and helpful tips on picking the "perfect" date and location for your next birding trip.

Cole has been the CNMAS recording secretary and field trip coordinator for the past six years. He plans on graduating from the University of New Mexico this spring with majors in biology and statistics, and hopes to attend graduate school after that.



Rio Grande Nature Center State Park

April 17 - Birding by Ear – How to Learn the Nuances of Bird Songs and Calls

Panel - Christopher Rustay, Jason Kitting, Cole Wolf and Raymond VanBuskirk

Have you been on a birding trip and heard someone call out the name of a bird without even seeing it - and wondered how they did it? What is the difference between a bird's song and its call? What about 'regional dialects'? Even a basic understanding of vocalizations can expand your knowledge and awareness of the bird life in your area. This will be your opportunity to learn tips and their individualized learning styles from four of CNMAS's best birding-by-ear experts. The panel will be moderated by Lee Hopwood who will keep things moving and focused on helping you.

Each Birding Academy class is \$6 per person, or join as a new Audubon member and attend for free! These events will be held in the Community Room at the **Adelante Development Center, 3900 Osuna Road NE.**

The meeting room is accessed right off of their paved and well-lit parking lot along Osuna. Come early for refreshments at 7:00 p.m., announcements and program at 7:15 p.m.

Visit our website or email birdinginfo@gmail.com for more details.

cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org

