



BURROWING OWL

(4)

~~_____~~
Raining
Aug - Sept
'88

88-89

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY

JUNE - JULY 1988

WELCOME!

The Central New Mexico Audubon Society meets on the third Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m., St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 211 Jefferson NE (corner of Copper and Jefferson, NE). Nonmembers are welcome at all meetings, fieldtrips, and special events.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

BY DR. CELESTYN BROZEK



THE EVOLUTION OF COOPERATION IN BIRDS

—Thursday, June 16th

Dr. J. David Ligon, Professor of Biology at UNM and well-known ornithologist, has been studying for many years cooperative behavior of birds in North and South America and Africa. His research includes the Pinon Jay, Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (Venezuela) and the Green Woodhoopoes (Africa), just to mention a few. He will present fascinating facts about bird cooperation, illustrated by his numerous slides from different continents. This program will be one of our most interesting programs. Be there!

UNM BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT MUSEUM



located on the west side of Yale. Parking, which shouldn't be too bad in summer, is available on the south side of Central near Burger King, or in the metered parking by the Fine Arts Museum.

MATING BEHAVIOR IN RED JUNGLE FOWL

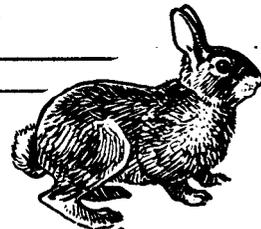
—Thursday, July 21st

Dr. Marlene Zuk, postdoctoral student at Dr. J. David Ligon's laboratory at UNM, will present her project on mating behavior in Red Jungle Fowl. She has been studying captive flocks of several hundred birds. Her findings included exciting data about male traits that are attractive to the female. To find out what these traits are, plan to attend this meeting. This lecture will be illustrated with excellent slides.

AUDUBON TELEVISION SPECIALS

The PBS summer season of Audubon specials starts on Sunday, June 26th, at 8:00 pm and will run weekly every Sunday until August 14th. Four of the eight shows have never been seen on PBS. Mark your calendar!

June 26th - GRIZZLY AND MAN: UNEASY



FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

BIRD CENSUS OF THE MAGDALENA MOUNTAINS

—Saturday, June 4th

Jim Black does a bird census in the Magdalena Mountains west of Socorro on a regular basis. To join him in this important activity, meet at Water Canyon picnic ground at 8:00 a.m. Bring lunch and water and clothing appropriate for our New Mexico mountains. For more information, call Jim after May 27th, at 884-6787 (work) or 255-9925 (home).

RANDALL DAVEY AUDUBON CENTER

—Saturday, July 16th

Meet at the Randall Davey Audubon Center, located on the east end of Canyon Road in Santa Fe, at 10:30 a.m. Bring your binoculars, lunch, and raingear. Staffers at the Davey Center will lead our tour of the house and grounds. If you haven't visited the Davey Center, this trip is a perfect opportunity! For more information, call Betty Balduc at 883-1428.

UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS



PETROGLYPH PARK

Potluck meeting, June 22nd, 6:00 p.m. Meet at Indian Petroglyph State Park at the picnic tables to the west where Unser breeches the escarpment. Bring a dish for six, and relax with the Friends of the Albuquerque Petroglyphs (FOTAP).

Escarpment tour, June 25th, 10:00 a.m. Meet same place as the potluck above.

FOTAP says if you haven't written

MEETING ON THE OUTDOORS

—June 25th - 26th

See the enclosed flyer for details.

RIO CHAMA BIRDING ADVENTURES

—July 16th - 17th or

—July 30th - 31st

Note the date changes from June to July for these trips which were reported in the last newsletter. Due to the low snowpack, the Army Corp of Engineers will have recreational releases of water in July rather than June.

Sponsored by the Randall Davey Audubon Center, the trip cost of \$135.00 covers all river equipment, shuttles, meals and guide service. An experienced birder will accompany each group. No prior boating experience is necessary. For registration information, contact the Davey Center at 983-4609.



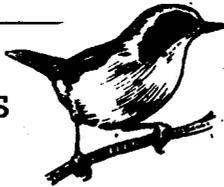
BEGINNING BIRDWATCHING

—Saturday, July 9th and/or

—Saturday, August 13th

What kind of birds inhabit the chamisa? Which woodpeckers are thumping at your trees? What birds are the first to

SANDIA MOUNTAIN DISCOVERY DAYS
—July 30th - 31st



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



ADD TO THE ENJOYMENT OF EVENING MEETINGS

Hospitality Chairperson, Jean Davis, is now compiling a list of persons interested in bringing "goodies" and assisting with table set-up at our evening meetings. If you could help in this much-appreciated-by-all effort, please call Jean at 821-6815 or Donna Broudy at 242-7108.

ENTHUSIASTIC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you have 2-3 hours (or more) of free time per week, the Western Foundation for Raptor Conservation could use the following assistance:

- 1) Maintain an updated mailing list of WFRS's current and prospective members. Access to an IBM-compatible computer is necessary.
- 2) Send out thank you notes to WFRS contributors in a timely manner.
- 3) Pick up and distribute (to the Heights) incoming mail at least twice weekly at WFRS's downtown post office box.
- 4) Respond to inquiries by sending out WFRS information packets.
- 5) Package and mail WFRS's "Adopt-a-hawk" materials.
- 6) Assist with preparation of "mass mailings" to prospective WFRS contributors.
- 7) Assist with writing and editing WFRS's semi-annual newsletter.
- 8) Assist in scheduling talks to groups about WFRS's work.
- 9) Write and distribute WFRS press releases.
- 10) Show the WFRS video take to friends, relatives, and interested groups.
- 11) Exhibit WFRS materials in a booth at fairs, shopping malls, flea markets,

Join in these two days of fun activities all over the Sandia Mountains. There will be displays, demonstrations, and appearances by Smoky the Bear at the Sandia Peak Ski Area's Day Lodge from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm both days. Bring a picnic to enjoy, or buy food at the ski area. There is no admission charge. A complete schedule of activities will be available at the ski area on both days, or call 243-3696 in Albuquerque, or 1 (800) 284-2282 from any other location in or outside New Mexico.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY'S NINTH ANNUAL SOUTHWEST REGIONAL CONFERENCE
—AUGUST 5th - 7th

The leaders and staff of the National Audubon Society and its Southwest Regional Office cordially invite you to attend the Ninth Annual Southwest Regional Conference in Santa Fe, at St. John's College.

Think about wildlife and habitat; talk about your favorite issues; learn about nationwide efforts to save wetlands, forests, critical migratory pathways, endangered species; help develop national and regional strategies to improve habitat for wildlife and for people. Enjoy morning birdwalks and distant fieldtrips in some of the most strikingly beautiful scenic areas of the southwest—in the cool mountains of New Mexico! Meet Audubon's President, Peter Berle; National Board Members from this and other regions; chapter leaders from across the region; Audubon staff

CONSERVATION NOTES BY LEW HELM



NEW HOPE FOR WILDLANDS

A bill introduced in Congress by Rep. Morris Udall would create the American Heritage Trust. On the Senate side, Sen. John Caffee has introduced a similar bill. The numbers are HR 4127 and S 2199. In effect, the trust would take the place of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Historic Preservation Fund. The new trust would be a self-sustaining, dedicated fund for acquisition and development of parks, refuges, historic sites, wild rivers, and trails. Up to one billion dollars would be provided each year. Hopefully, the legislation would set the stage for release of funds which the present administration has held captive in recent years. You can help by asking our Senators and Representatives to support or co-sponsor the bills. If the bills are passed, the outlook for acquisition of the Gray Ranch in southwest New Mexico for inclusion in the National Wildlife Refuge System would be greatly enhanced.

ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Protection of this most important refuge is still up in the air. Most of us will never see this great area on the north slope of Alaska. But then again, most of us want to be assured that the priceless habitat for a host of wildlife species will be protected from short-sighted developers. The present arena for debate is in the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. It is our understanding that Rep. Walter Jones, Committee Chairman, is pushing

of the refuge. A letter or telephone call thanking him for his stand would be in order.

NATIONAL MONUMENT STATUS FOR THE PETROGLYPHS?

By the time you read this article, the wheels in Congress will be turning to consider approval of establishing a National Monument along the escarpment on the West Mesa. Not only would a Monument boost the area's economy, but it would assure protection of the unique array of petroglyphs, wildlife habitat, and open space. Letters, cards, and calls to our congressional delegation would certainly help in this important endeavor!



FEEDING HUMMINGBIRDS

Hummingbirds are back! Many people attract hummers with syrup feeders (1 part sugar dissolved in 4 parts boiling water). Do not use honey as it tends to clog up hummers' beaks. Biologists also advise against the use of red food color in feeding solutions. Seems what is bad for humans is probably bad for our feathered friends as well. Hummers can be lured by the red parts on most feeders, or simply put a few pieces of red tape or ribbon on the feeder until they have located it. Then, these smart midgets will have your feeder on their maps!

Better yet, plant some flowers hummers recognize flowers as a source of nectar. Those in the red/pink/orange family of tubular shape and usually lacking a strong scent are particularly attractive to these feathered jewels. Select your plantings to provide a maximum amount of nectar over a maximum time. Many native

ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

CHRISTINE DIGREGORIO RECIPIENT OF WASHBURN AWARD

Christine DiGregorio, member of the New Mexico Game Commission since 1982 and Chairperson of the **Share with Wildlife** Committee, was presented with the Washburn Award by Marian Washburn. This award was established in 1976 to honor Dan and Marian Washburn for their service to CNMAS. To be eligible for the award, the recipient must be a "federal, state, or local government employee who has been actively involved in both conservation and wildlife preservation."

Christine, the first woman selected to receive this award, has demonstrated by her voting record that she has always maintained an interest in and concern for all wildlife in New Mexico. Her leadership as Chairperson of the **Share with Wildlife** Committee has helped educate other commissioners to the value of all wildlife, not just game animals. She is a staunch supporter of the endangered species program and has stood her ground when other commissioners voted for their special interests. She is respected for defending the conservation community in an arena that rarely gives conservation a voice.

DINNER AND PROGRAM ENJOYED BY ALL

The tables were beautifully decorated with a mix of flowers from our Greeters Chairperson, Ethyl Ringer's, garden. Admirers collected the flowers after the meeting and took them home to enjoy. As usual, the main course dishes were delicious--the maker of the rice casserole has been requested to share

OFFICERS ELECTED

All current officers, chairpersons, and directors were reelected for the upcoming year, with the exception of the Treasurer, the Field Trip Chairperson, and the New Mexico Audubon Council Representative.

Put 'Em Back!

What to do when your child adopts a baby bird

! by Gail Lawrence from *The Beginning Naturalist*
and again in the 1980 May/June issue of *Bird Watcher's Digest*. !

Every spring the "baby bird crisis" occurs. By May many birds have hatched their first broods and are feeding them as the nestlings grow their feathers and learn to fly. Baby birds have a way of tumbling out of their nests, and children have a way of finding them and bringing them home. What should a family do if faced with this "crisis"?

First, take the bird back to the exact spot where it was found. Look carefully for a nearby nest. If it is accessible, put the bird gently back into the nest. Contrary to popular belief, the mother bird will not reject a baby that has been handled by human beings. If you find the nest and return the baby, you have done the best you can do.

As a next-best measure, tie a small box onto a branch of a tree or shrub near where the bird was found, and put the baby bird in the box. Off the ground, the bird will be out of the reach of neighborhood cats and dogs.

The third best thing you can do is simply to leave the bird in the exact spot where it was found. Parent birds are accustomed to having their young out of the nest, and they will feed them

on the ground. Of course, the baby bird is more vulnerable on the ground than it

than under human care. If the baby is found near a house it is better to keep dogs and cats indoors than to bring the bird in to protect it.

The adoption of a baby bird will probably result in failure. It might even cause a death that would not have occurred had you left the baby bird where it was. The ethical impulse that motivates your actions might be the best kind, but you should know that even experienced veterinarians have a low success rate in caring for wild animals.

Perhaps the most important thing a child or adult can learn from an encounter with a baby bird is the difference between wild animals and domestic pets. Whereas puppies and kittens warm to human attention and become a part of the family, a wild bird never will. Attempting to make a pet out of a wild animal is a serious disservice to that animal--so serious, in fact, that there are laws against it. Life in the wild does not consist of friendly humans, readily available meals, and a protected environment. Wild animals must remain wild to survive.



AUDUBON ADVENTURES

Audubon Adventures is the youth education program of the National Audubon Society (NAS) for elementary school students in grades 4 and 5. Each issue of the newspaper emphasizes a special theme and students in an enrolled class receive a membership card, decal, and the newspaper. The teacher receives the companion Leader's Guide and each class is presented a certificate for the classroom. This program is entering its fifth year with some exciting themes: The World of Goldenrod, Falling Fast in Fall, Zoos Urban/Suburban Wildlife, Snakes, and Butterflies and Moths.

NAS' cost to produce and distribute the Audubon Adventures is about \$100.00 per class per year. Most of the cost is borne by NAS, but local subscription of \$25.00 per class is required. This year CNMAS will be sponsoring 12 classrooms. You can help increase the number of classrooms by sponsoring a class in the school of your choice with a \$25.00 tax-deductible donation. By doing so, you will be helping environmental education grow in a successfully proven way!

To sponsor one or more classes, complete the registration form below, make your check payable to CNMAS, and mail both to: Education Chairperson, Marge Carrick, 808 Dakota, SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108

I WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR _____ AUDUBON
ADVENTURES CLASS(ES) WITH A \$25.00
DONATION FOR EACH CLASS. ENCLOSED IS MY
CHECK TO CNMAS FOR \$ _____ (THANKS!)

NAME _____

RESULTS OF THE 1988 SOUTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO SPRING MIGRATION COUNT AND "BIG BIRD BASH"

Count compiler Ralph Fisher notes that this year was the 20th anniversary of this spring count and the 5th of the "Big Bird Bash!" A total of 147 species and 3 additional races were recorded. No new species were found this year, so the grand total for the count remains at 256. The new highs were: double-crested cormorants, mallards, common mergansers, turkey vultures, zone-tailed hawks, turkeys, black-chinned hummingbirds, and warbling vireos. The additional races were the Mexican ducks, Oregon juncos, and black-backed lesser goldfinches.

Some of Ralph's comments on the count follow:

- The totals for the violet-green (3817) and rough-winged (2237) swallows are no doubt very conservative since the entire Gila Valley from the Lower Box up to, and well past, Turkey Creek, was alive with them. They were also very numerous out of the valley. Waves of violet-greens had been going through the area every few days for 4 or 5 weeks.
- Warblers were low in numbers. Many are obviously late. I usually have yellowthroats singing at Mangas Springs about April 15th, but this year they did not arrive until the day before the count.
- Some of the black hawks counted were considered to be duplicates and the total was reduced from 14 to 10. Three of these were in their first year sub-adult plumage.
- The total zone-tailed hawks were also cut from 10 to 5 as probable duplications by adjoining routes, as was the Swainson's hawk from 2 to 1.

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**TROPICAL FORESTS**

"Keep Tropical Forests Alive" is a 10-page color brochure published by the World Resources Institute. It provides information on the importance of tropical forest eco-systems and ways we can all work together to protect them. For a single free copy, write: World Resources Institute, 1735 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

SHARE WITH WILDLIFE

This free newsletter, which is published semi-annually by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, is available by completing and mailing the form below. Contributions to the Share With Wildlife Program may also be mailed with the form. All contributors will receive the newsletter and other correspondence and will help keep New Mexico diverse and wild.

PLEASE SEND ME THE FREE SHARE WITH WILDLIFE NEWSLETTER.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

I WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO THE **SHARE WITH WILDLIFE PROGRAM**. INCLUDED IS MY CHECK (OR MONEY ORDER) FOR \$ _____.

**SEND TO: SHARE WITH WILDLIFE
N.M. DEPARTMENT OF GAME & FISH
STATE CAPITOL
SANTA FE, NM 87503**

CNMAS DIRECTORY**PRESIDENT**

Donna & David Broudy, 510 Laguna Blvd., SW, 87104; 242-7108

VICE PRESIDENT & PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Celestyn Brozek, 1426 Adams, NE, 87110; 266-9225

RECORDING SECRETARY

Jean Dilley, 13 Mill Road NW, 87120; 897-0854

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Betty Balduc, 7010 Phoenix, NE, Apt. 112; 87110; 883-1428

TREASURER

Joanne Phillips, 11033 US Hwy 85, NW, 87114; 898-2568/8531

DIRECTORS

David Carrick, 808 Dakota, SE, 87108; 266-0191

Neil Dilley, 13 Mill Road, NW, 87120; 897-0854

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

Claudia Gayheart, 215 Girard SE, 87106; 256-0116 or 277-3411 (UNM Biology Dept)

CONSERVATION CHAIRPERSON

Lew Helm, 8213 Cherry Hills, NE, 87111; 821-8586

EDUCATION CHAIRPERSON

Marge Carrick, 808 Dakota, SE, 87108; 266-0191

FIELD TRIP CHAIRPERSON

Evelyn Price (Acting), 201 Wyoming, SE, #28, 87123; 266-4028

RESEARCH CHAIRPERSON & FIELD SIGHTINGS COMPILER

Bruce Halstead, 1825 Zena Loma Cy., NE, 87112; 299-9397

FIELD SIGHTINGS/RARE BIRD ALERT

Ross Teuber, 1612 Kentucky, NE, 87110; 265-8962

Mary Lou Arthur, 728 Monroe, NE, 87110; 256-7359

HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON

Jean Davis, 6421 Colleen, NE, 87109; 821-6815

GREETERS CHAIRPERSON

Ethyl Ringer, 5320 Marble Ave., NE, 87110; 266-6038

LIBRARIAN

Carol Davis, 2828 Don Pancho, NW, 87104; 243-4877

NEW MEXICO AUDUBON COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Evelyn & George Price, 201 Wyoming, SE, #28, 87123; 266-4028

EDITOR, BURROWING OWL

Sarah Sharpton, 6332 Buenos Aires, NW, 87120; 897-2883

CIRCULATION, BURROWING OWL

Elizabeth Broemel, 3032 San Joaquin, SE, 87106; 256-9481

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Membership Application

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter, Central New Mexico Audubon Society. Please send Audubon magazine, Burrowing Owl newsletter, and my membership card to the address below.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

Gift Membership

Please enter a one-year gift membership in the National Audubon Society and send a gift announcement card.

To:

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

From:

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

Gift Card to read " from _____ "

(Use extra sheet for additional gifts)

Membership category preferred:

- Introductory Membership (first year only)/\$20
- Individual/\$30 Sr. Citizen-Individual/\$21
- Family/\$38 Sr. Citizen-Family/\$23
- Student/\$18
- My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.
- Bill me, please.

7XCH8

Local Chapter
Central New Mexico Audubon Society
Q51

7XCH8

Please make checks payable to National Audubon Society, but send your check with the application form to:

Central New Mexico Audubon Society
Claudia Gayheart, Membership Chair
215 Girard, SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106

Send renewals directly to National Audubon Society. All dues and contributions are tax deductible. Send all changes in name, address, or telephone number to Claudia Gayheart.

Who to contact:

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Honorable Pete V. Domenici
Honorable Jeff Bingaman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Manuel Lujan, Jr.
Honorable Joe Skeen
Honorable Bill Richardson
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
500 Gold Ave., SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Mr. Michael Spear, Regional Director
Mr. James Johnson, Endangered Species Chief
Mr. James Lewis, Whooping Crane Coordinator

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
Villagra Building
Santa Fe, NM 97503
Mr. Harold Olson, Director
Mr. Wain Evans, Asst. Director
Mr. John Hubbard, Endangered Species

State Game Commission
Mr. Gerald Maestas, Chairman
Unit 1, Box 15
La Puebla Road
Española, NM 87532
Dr. Thomas Arvas, Member
9204 Menaul, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112

Randall Davey Audubon Center
Mr. David Henderson
P.O. Box 9314
Santa Fe, NM 87504
983-4609