

BURROWING OWL

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY
OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 1996
VOLUME 25 - No. 6

Welcome! The Central New Mexico Audubon Society invites you to join us. All meetings and field trips are free and open to the public.

IN MEMORIAM

We dedicate this issue of the Burrowing Owl to the living spirit and continuing inspiration of two great conservationists.

Roger Tory Peterson forever changed birding with the publication of his first Field Guide to the Birds in 1934. He was self-taught, did his own painting, writing, and editing. By sharing his passion for birds in so unique and original a way, Roger Tory Peterson opened our minds to the infinite beauty of nature in general, and birds in particular. But for him, not only would many of us have missed the experience of being in the Audubon Society, but we would have missed the experience of being in the natural world -- a world enlightened for us by Mr. Peterson's amazingly perceptive eyes and ears. He will ever be with us with every flash of feather and note of birdsong.

Mollie Beattie was the first woman ever to lead the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. During her unfortunately short time as director, Mollie fought for the Endangered Species Act, for protection of the National Wildlife Refuge System, for the introduction of wolves into Yellowstone National Park, and for many other issues important to the Fish & Wildlife Service, to us as citizens, and to the wildlife resources under our common stewardship. We are very fortunate to have had her contribution for even a short while.

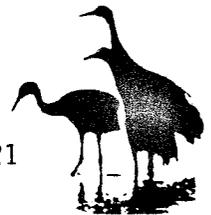
PROGRAMS

Monday, October 14 -
Joint Audubon/HawkWatch Meeting

We are proud to present Dr. Bob Parmenter, Executive Director, Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) site at Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge. The LTER Program conducts research at 18 sites on long-term ecological phenomena in the United States. At the Sevilleta site, the research topics include landscape/organism population dynamics; watershed ecology; climate change; biospheric/atmospheric interactions; paleobotany/archaeology; microbial role in gas flux; landscape heterogeneity; and spatial/temporal variability. Dr. Parmenter will share with us what all this means, and why it is important.

7:00 p.m. - Refreshments
7:30 p.m. - Program
First Unitarian Church
Carlisle and Comanche

Thursday, November 21
Cranes of the World



Bob Kegel -- avid photographer, member of Audubon, Friends of the Bosque, Defenders of Wildlife, Antipoachers Group, International Crane Foundation, Whooping Crane Foundation, and the Nature Center -- will discuss each of the 15 species of cranes that exist in the world today. He'll have slides of all 15 species and will talk about their habitat, their migration, their habits, with emphasis on the two North American species -- the Sandhill Crane and the Whooping Crane. What a great follow-up to the Festival of the Cranes!

7:30 p.m. - Program
Light Refreshments Provided
St. Timothy's Lutheran Church
Northwest corner of Copper and Jefferson

THE BURROWING OWL
AUDUBON TRIPS

Everyone is welcome on field trips:
Audubon members and nonmembers, novice
and experienced birders.

TRIPS FOR OCTOBER

Sat.-Sun., Oct. 5-6: Silver City. This is the peak of fall migration for warblers and sparrows. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the south end of Mangas Springs at McMillan Rd. Mangas Springs is about 18 miles north of Silver City on Highway 180. Call Charlotte (345-1271) or Sei (266-2480) for info on transportation and accommodations.

Sat., Oct. 26: Bosque del Apache. The birding is always great here. Meet at 7:30 at the Physics Parking Lot at Lomas and Yale. Bring your lunch.

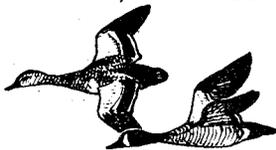
TRIPS FOR NOVEMBER

Sat., Nov. 9: Breakfast and Rosy Finches. Sei is still looking for the Rosy Finches at the Crest. Come along and see if he finds them this year! Meet at 7:30 at the IHOP in Four Hills Shopping Center for breakfast, or at 8:30 if you want to sleep in. Dress warmly.

Nov. 14-17: Don't forget to go to the **Festival of the Cranes!**

TRIPS FOR DECEMBER

Sat., Dec. 7: Bosque del Apache. This is always a rewarding birding trip. Meet at 7:30 at the Physics Parking Lot at Lomas and Yale. Bring your lunch and dress warmly. Supper at the Owl Bar afterwards. If the weather is bad, we'll reschedule for next Saturday, Dec. 14. Call Sei (266-2480) or Charlotte (345-1271) if not sure about the weather.



The Burrowing Owl Newsletter is published six times a year by Central New Mexico Audubon Society, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87190-0002. Subscription is free to National Audubon Society members, \$12 to nonmembers.

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1996
DIA DEL RIO
October 19, 1996
Kit Carson Park

From the headwaters of the Rio Grande in Colorado to its 1,875-mile journey end at the Gulf of Mexico, hundreds of citizens on both sides of the US/Mexico border will set aside Saturday, October 19, 1996, for one unified purpose: to celebrate the historical richness and diversity of the Rio Grande and its tributaries and to voice a call to action to preserve it for future generations. The 2nd Annual Dia del Rio is the opportunity to give back to the River while having fun, learning and enjoying being with our neighbors.

Kit Carson Park will be the focus of activities in Albuquerque with booths, bosque replanting, music and more.

- 9:00 - 10:30 Bosque Cleanup
- 10:00 - 4:00 Educational Booths
- 10:30 - 12:30 Bosque Replanting of trees, grass, flowers
- 1:30 - Tour the City Constructed Wetlands

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

"Thank you for giving us a subscription to Audubon Adventures. The children read and discussed each issue, as well as completed the activities.

"The really exciting aspect is the 'non-school' response of many of the children. They have become more aware of their fragile environment and how they can help protect it. Thanks again for thinking of us!

"Sincerely,
Cheryl Inskeep
Lew Wallace Community Magnet School"

And a giant "thank you" to all of you who sponsored an Audubon Adventures class this upcoming year. Whether it was for a child or grandchild's class, a special teacher, or support for the general program, your contributions have helped to take the Audubon message into our classrooms. NAS made some changes in the program this year; teachers should receive all the materials in the fall. This should make planning more flexible, and the program even better for the students.



1996 Festival of the Cranes

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge
Socorro, New Mexico
November 14, 15, 16, and 17

Keynote Speakers

• Bill Clark • Kent Clegg • Phil Norton

Sponsors: • Bosque del Apache National
Wildlife Refuge
• City of Socorro
• Socorro County Chamber of
Commerce



◆ NEW MEXICO ◆

AMERICA'S LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

Find out more about the 1996 Festival of the Cranes.
Phone the Socorro County Chamber of Commerce,
(505) 835-0424, to receive your catalog of events
and preregistration forms.

October 19-20: Join the New Mexico
Volunteers for the Outdoors and Friends
of Bosque del Apache at the Refuge,
where they'll be working on trails and
decks in preparation for the Festival of
the Cranes. This is a wonderful event
to join in on. If you can help, please
call Tony Mattson at (505) 271-0213
for further information.

Join the **Audubon platform volunteers**
on Saturday and Sunday, **November 16
and 17**, at the Festival to help greet
visitors, identify birds, and enhance
your Festival of the Cranes experience!
Call Jeff Myers at 242-9677 to be
added to the volunteer roster.

NEAR AND FAR

Cranes & Crows is offering a series of
birding classes in October and November,
taught by Celestyn N. Brozek. For infor-
mation, call Lori or Joel at 243-0800.

Celebrate migration the Texas way -- by
attending the Rio Grande Valley Birding
Festival November 7-10. Activities
include field trips to Santa Ana and
Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife
Refuges, speakers and workshops.
Contact the Harlingen Chamber of
Commerce, 800-531-7346.

CHAPTER CHATTER

Have you looked recently at our
CNMAS Directory? Well, look
again, and you will see our new
phone number! Thanks to the good
folks at HawkWatch International,
phone calls to "Audubon Society -
Central New Mexico Chapter"
(CNMAS) will now be answered at
the HawkWatch office and referred
to any one of our helpful and
knowledgeable phone volunteers --
Christy, Donna, Jean, or Julie.
Many thanks to them and to the
HawkWatch personnel.

While you're checking out the
Directory, how about envisioning
your name there? These officers
are needed: Birdathon
Coordinator; Programs Co-Chair;
Conservation Chair; Volunteer
Coordinator. Avoid the rush --
call now!

Your membership and participation
in CNMAS help to fulfill our
Chapter Statement: "To
appreciate and conserve birds,
other wildlife and their habitats
through action and education."

Migrating? Send us your new
address! The Burrowing Owl
cannot be forwarded.



National Audubon Society



Wild Wings:

HEADING SOUTH!

A Live, Transatlantic Natural History Adventure!

- Travel with your students to the northern hemisphere's most spectacular bird migration sites!
- Participate in an extraordinary natural history phenomenon!
- Motivate your students with live, interactive experiences charged with excitement and real-time learning — in an "international classroom"!

This fall, you and your students can witness some of the most magnificent bird migrations on the planet — live! On **November 20-22**, the National Audubon Society and PBS are teaming up to present three Electronic Field Trips for students and educators featuring a veritable "Super Bowl of Birds."

You'll travel to the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico to see the arrival of tens of thousands of greater sandhill cranes and snow geese. And you'll visit the Welney Wildfowl Reserve in Great Britain for the simultaneous appearance of thousands of Bewick's and whooper swans.

Organized around three daily themes — "Birds and Migration," "Wetlands" and "Global Climate Change" — the field trips will be hosted by David Heil of *Newton's Apple*. Students will be guided by world-famous science educators and experts as they study the birds' international journeys, behavior, ecology and much more.

It all culminates in a live prime-time television special that chronicles the two dramatic bird migrations, produced by Audubon Productions and the BBC, and airing on PBS on Sunday, November 24.



for the
November 20-22
Live Event!

THE WILD WINGS: HEADING SOUTH PACKAGE INCLUDES . . .

- **Three 45-minute live Electronic Field Trips** to two of the most dramatic bird habitats in the world.
- **A comprehensive curriculum guide** with lesson plans to help integrate the live televised event into the classroom.
- **A colorful poster** showing migration routes and a **map** of National Wildlife Refuges.
- **A teacher training video** with background on the upcoming event and how to integrate **WILD WINGS** into the curriculum.
- **Access to the PBS/Audubon/BBC site on the World Wide Web**, full of curriculum-based supplementary reference material, still photographs and primary source materials.
- **Access to experts** at the two locations, who will answer your questions online — and live on the air!

To enroll

or for more information

call toll-free

1-800-278-4176

Package Cost

only \$99.95 per school

discount pricing available for groups of 10 or more districts

Please call for information



WILD WINGS: HEADING SOUTH

What is it???

It's an International Showcase of Nature! See cranes and snow geese at our own Bosque del Apache, plus the simultaneous appearance of Bewick's and Whooper Swans at the Welney Wildfowl and Wetlands Center from the fens area of eastern England.

It's Exciting! Not only will this presentation be a broadcasting pinnacle of interactive nature filming between continents, but it will include our very own refuge, the Bosque del Apache, as a premier world birding spot!

It's Educational! The entire curriculum features three electronic field trips for students and educators. Schools do not need to be online to enroll. But if you are online, your students will be able to interact with other online schools and ask questions, live, of the experts. Here in New Mexico, that will include Phil Norton and others at Bosque del Apache NWR. In England, the expert naturalists will include Simon King, Sir David Attenborough, George Archibald, and David Heil, from Welney Wildfowl and Wetlands Center in England.

Online or not, the Enrollment includes three live electronic field trips, a comprehensive curriculum guide, a migration poster and map of National Wildlife Refuges, a teacher training video, access to the PBS/Audubon/BBC site on the World Wide Web for supplementary curriculum-based reference material, photographs, and source materials.

It's Multifaceted! A collaborative effort between Audubon, PBS, and BBC, work has been in progress on this program for over a year.

It's Accessible! You don't need to miss out on the experience just because you're not a student, a teacher, or online. There will be a special broadcast on **Sunday, November 24** -- one week after our annual Festival of the Cranes -- on PBS. **BE SURE** to check local listings for a very special Wild Wings experience on PBS on Sunday, November 24.

(The Editor wishes to thank Martha Hatch, Editor of Friends of Bosque del Apache newsletter, for permission to extract from her article.)



MIRAGE GALLERY & SCULPTURE PARK
3301 Menaul Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87107
505 - 883 - 7368

July 25, 1996

Central New Mexico Audubon Society

Dear Friends

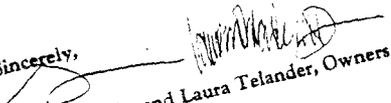
We are pleased to let you know that we have finally wrapped up all of the loose ends from our June "For The Birds" show. It is with great pleasure that we are able to send you the enclosed check for \$859.00. This represents 10% of the total sales derived from our show. Being a first year show, we were quite pleased with the results.

We estimate that over five hundred people saw the show during its twenty four day run. We sold eighteen pieces of artwork from eleven different artists, and received many positive comments from those who saw the show. At present, we are planning to make this an annual event and we will be sure to inform you of more details about next year's show as it develops.

We would like to express our sincerest thanks to all of you at the Audubon Society who helped make this show a success. Please feel free to call me with any comments or suggestions you may have regarding this year's show or possible future shows. All input is appreciated. We have attached a list of the local artists who participated in the show. We feel that they all did an outstanding job and we greatly appreciated their participation and enthusiasm.

Thanks again for everything and please keep us posted of your upcoming activities and events. It has been a pleasure working with you and supporting your organization.

Sincerely,


Greg E. Reiche and Laura Telander, Owners



Central New Mexico Audubon Society
POST OFFICE BOX 30002 - ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87190

October 1, 1996

Greg E. Reiche
Laura Telander
Mirage Gallery & Sculpture Park
3301 Menaul Boulevard, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107

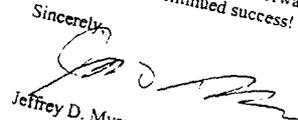
Dear Mr. Reiche and Ms. Telander:

We acknowledge receipt of your check for \$859.00 with the greatest appreciation and pleasure. This figure represents nearly ten percent of our annual operating budget. This sizeable donation means that we can focus more of our attention on protecting birds, other wildlife, and their habitats, rather than running bake sales.

From our perspective, the show was absolutely fantastic! Several of us attended the opening day, and we were all impressed with the quality of the work, as well as the quantity of material you had compiled which related to birds and other wildlife.

Please give our best regards to the participating artists. We look forward to visiting your gallery and working with you in the future. Best wishes for continued success!

Sincerely,


Jeffrey D. Myers, President

TRIP REPORT

By Charlotte Green

July 28. Belen. We were looking for Mississippi Kites on this trip and were rewarded in a field south of Belen. We also stopped at Isleta Marsh, where we saw Teal, Common Yellowthroat, Ibis, and Herons. West of Los Lunas we found Curve-billed and Bendire's Thrashers.

August 11. Jemez Falls. Thirty-two species were spotted on this trip, including Black Swifts in the parking lot of Jemez Falls. Others seen were Bluebirds, Solitaires, Goldfinches, and Tanagers.

August 17. Bitter Lake Count. Ten people from Albuquerque showed up to help with the shorebird count. This is the best place in the state to see shorebirds. Although we don't have the final counts, the Albuquerque group found hundreds of Western and Least Sandpipers, Avocets and Stilts, three species of Terns, and a Semi-palmated Plover.

(Editor's Note: By chance, I saw those final results before Charlotte and the Albuquerque group did. Here's something else she hasn't seen yet, from Sonia Najera, Refuge Biologist, Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge:)

"Dear Audubon members: Thank you very much for helping out on the 6th Annual Fall Shorebird Survey. These counts were first coordinated by Point Reyes Bird Observatory to gather information on the habitat needs and concentration areas of shorebirds in this region. In light of this, these counts have brought attention to shorebirds and their

habitat in Southeastern New Mexico.

"Please find enclosed the results of Saturday's count . . . This year's counts, in both spring and fall, have been the greatest to date.

"The staff at Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge could not conduct these surveys annually without the assistance of volunteers such as yourself. We thank you for your help and we hope that you will join us again for next year's Shorebird Counts and other surveys."

Now, back to you, Charlotte:

September 14. Percha Dam/ Caballo Lake. Seventeen of us got up early for this long day trip. Although it rained off and on (we only got soaked once), there was lots of dry time to see 52 species. We saw a Yellow-billed Cuckoo and lots of warblers (Lucy's, Black-throated Gray, Yellow, Wilson's), with great long, clear looks at Townsend's Warblers. There were lots of beautiful Snowy Egrets catching fish below Percha Dam. We were also able to distinguish the differences between a Spotted Sandpiper and a Solitary Sandpiper through the scope, and saw a pair of Inca Doves.

BIRDS ARE ON THE MOVE!



Come see them at the Oscuro High Desert Hostel- a 240 acre ranch in a sublime desert setting. 15 miles south of Carrizozo, NM.
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Think Of Your Backyard As A Stage

(Nature provides the characters.)

The popular Chickadee is the "clown" of the backyard feeder.



Attracting nature to your backyard is fun and rewarding for the whole family. Let the Certified Birdfeeding Specialists at Wild Birds Unlimited® help you attract one of nature's greatest and most colorful casts of characters - wild birds.

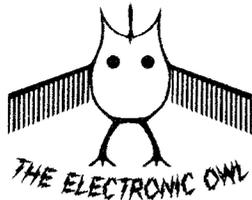
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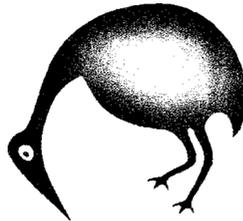


The delightful Phil Norton, manager of the Bosque del Apache Wildlife Refuge, was the featured speaker at the CNMAS 25th Anniversary Program in September. While we were saddened by his slides and tales of the recent fire damage to the Bosque, we were delighted to know that the Cranes will be back again, and the refuge will be hosting its yearly *Festival of the Cranes*. Be ready to bird the Bosque. Check out

<http://www.baraboo.com/bus/icf/whowhat.htm>

to learn all about Cranes and the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Just a few of the items you'll find there:

Cranes have been around for 34 to 50 million years, and can be found on five continents. Seven of the fifteen species of cranes are endangered and the other species are candidates, making cranes one of the most threatened families of birds in the world. According to the ICF, there are over half a million Sandhill Cranes in North America, and fewer than 310 Whooping Cranes. Sandhill Cranes are the oldest known species of bird still alive. Fossil evidence places Sandhills in North America six million years ago. In North America, coots and rails are the Crane's closest relatives.



Prepare for your visits to the Bosque del Apache this fall by visiting the ICF Web site. Learn about the individual and social behavior, vocalizations, flight, migration, nesting and reproduction, feeding, and population dynamics of those incredible Cranes.

Problems with Birding the InterNet or the World Wide Web? Call Christy at 281-7776 or email to christy@rt66.com

CLICK!

For anyone who has access to the Worldwide Web, there is a New Mexico bill finder available online. The address is:

http://www.nm.org/legislature/bill_finder.html



AWARENESS = ACTION

To get an idea of the scale of exploitation of amphibians and reptiles in New Mexico, consider the following items discovered in a 1995 study:

- * In Silver City, collectors are shipping between 200 and 300 live lizards and snakes each month to pet stores in New York.
- * Two to three boxes of live reptiles are shipped each week from Grant County Airport to pet store suppliers in Nevada and Colorado.
- * One midmorning in Deming, collectors had collected over 100 lizards for resale.

Please support the New Mexico Audubon Council in its campaign to enact legislation in 1997 to control -- not eliminate -- the commercial exploitation of native New Mexico reptiles and amphibians. Your calls and letters do make a difference.

Governor Gary Johnson
Capitol Building, 4th Floor
Santa Fe, NM 87503
(505) 827-3000
email: gov@gov.state.nm.us

Your State Senator or Representative
State Capitol Building
Santa Fe, NM 87503
(505) 986-4300

ATTENTION BIRDERS
HAVE YOU SEEN A COLOR-TAGGED
PLEGADIS CHIHI (WHITE-FACED IBIS)?

A substantial number of juvenile and adult White-faced Ibis have been color-tagged in the northwest Great Basin as part of a long-term breeding ecology study. Ten color combinations have been used, depending on year and colony location. Combinations are listed below. In addition, each tag has a unique 3-number code, read from the bottom up. Red may appear dull or orange due to fading.

NEED TO KNOW:

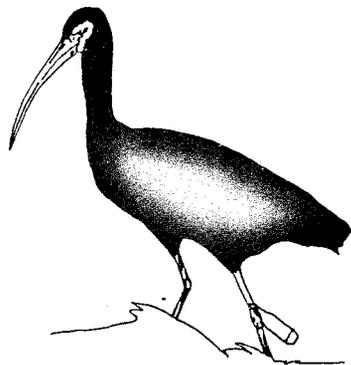
- 1) Date and location of sighting
- 2) Color combination
- 3) Number on tag (if possible)

COLOR COMBINATIONS:

<u>1995 Season</u>	<u>1996 Season</u>
Red-Yellow	Yellow-Yellow
Red-White	Yellow-White
Red-Grey	Yellow-Blue
Red-Black	Yellow-Orange
Red-Red	Yellow-Red

If you sight any color-tagged Ibis, please contact:

Eric P. Kelchlin
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge
Fallon, NV 89406-1236
(702) 423-5128



The above tag reads as:
YELLOW-WHITE # 267




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505-243-0800

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CNMA Phone Number: 255-7622

CNMA Home Page: <http://www.rt66.com/peacnyer/cnmas.htm>

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email: senator_domenici@domenici.senate.gov

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Washington, DC 20515

National Audubon Society

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Activist Hotline
(800) 659-2622

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Randall Davey Audubon Center
PO Box 9314
Santa Fe, NM 87504
(505) 983-4609

US Fish and Wildlife Service
500 Gold Avenue, SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Regional Director-(505) 766-2321
Refuges and Wildlife-(505) 766-2036
Habitat Conservation-(505) 766-2914

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
Villagra Building
P.O. Box 25112
Santa Fe, NM 87503-0001
(505) 841-8881
Sandia Ranger District
US Forest Service
Floyd A. Thompson III, District Ranger
11776 Highway 337
Tijeras, NM 87059
(505) 281-3304

The Burrowing Owl is printed on recycled paper.

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.

Central New Mexico Audubon Society
Post Office Box 30002
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87190-0002



National Audubon Society

Chapter Membership Application

Yes, I'd like to join.

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send AUDUBON magazine and my membership card to the address below.

My check for \$20 is enclosed

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please make all checks payable to the national Audubon Society



Send this application and your check to:

National Audubon Society

CNMAS Chapter

P.O. Box 30002 • Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002

LOCAL CHAPTER _____

Central New Mexico Audubon Society

Local Chapter Code — Q51

7XCH8

Use the above form for new subscriptions only. Contact Membership Chairperson for changes of address or corrections in your Burrowing Owl label. Nonmembers can receive the Burrowing Owl by sending your name and address with \$12 to CNMAS, c/o Beth Hurst, 804 Guadalupe Circle, N.W., 87114-1710.

THURSDAY MORNING BIRDING GROUP --
For information on Thursday morning outings to nearby areas, call Julie Goodding at 255-9366.

WILDLIFE RESCUE

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

RARE BIRD ALERT

To learn about sightings all over the state or to report a rare sighting, the number in Los Alamos is 662-2101.

BAT IN TROUBLE?

Call Talking Talons before you intervene.

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