



BURROWING OWL

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY

APRIL - MAY 1989

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

ICE AGE RELICS: MOUNTAIN ISLANDS IN DESERT SEAS

—Thursday, April 20th

The vast deserts and grasslands of western North America are peppered with small "arks" of cool, wet-adapted plants and animals that survive on isolated mountain peaks. Dr. David Hafner will describe how this isolation came about and will focus on one such animal, the pika. This small relative of rabbits is the subject of Dr. Hafner's current research, which attempts to reconstruct the history of the Southwest during the last 20,000 years.

Dr. Hafner is Chairman and Curator in the Science Department of the New Mexico Museum of Natural History in Albuquerque. He earned his PhD studying Southwestern mammals at UNM and currently conducts genetic and biogeographic research on mammals ranging from Alaska to Panama.

FIELD SIGHTINGS

256-7359

Mary Lou Arthur



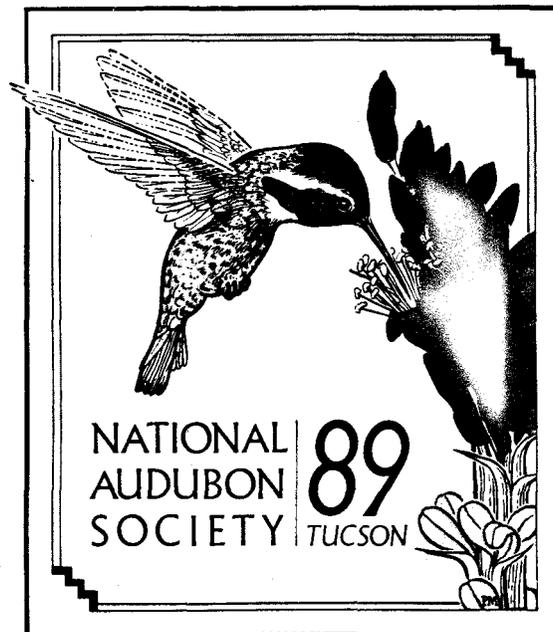
ANNUAL MEETING

—Thursday, May 18th

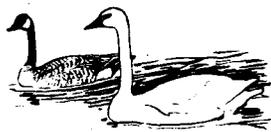


Come join CNMAS for our annual meeting, election of officers, and presentation of the Washburn Award. We will convene at 6:00 p.m. for a pot luck dinner. Please bring a generous dish plus table service. The meeting and program will begin at 7:00 p.m.

To top his two-year term as program chairperson, Celestyn Brozek will show his own slides taken during travels in Western Europe, Northern Africa, and across the United States. Nature photography is Celestyn's life-long hobby. Pictures of landscapes, monuments, plants and animals will fill this program. Join us and enjoy!



FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE BY LAURA JENKINS



SANDIA RAPTOR COUNT —Saturday, April 8th

The Western Foundation for Raptor Research conducts a yearly spring migration count in the Sandia Mountains. Close-up sightings of hawks owls, and golden eagles riding thermals over the mountains on their flights to breeding grounds is the reward for an easy to moderate mountain hike of 1 1/2 miles, beginning at Three Gun Springs trailhead in Tijeras Canyon. Hiking shoes with good tread (no rock climbing required) and warm clothing for the mountain top will be necessary. Bring water for the entire day, lunch, and any other provisions desired for a day in the wilderness. Don't forget binoculars and guide(s)! Meet at Baskins-Robins in Four Hills Shopping Center, Central and Tramway, at 7:00 a.m.. We will carpool to the trailhead. Call Laura Jenkins, 293-7527, for more information.

SEVILLITO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE —Saturday, May ?

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service will open the Sevillito National Wildlife Refuge, now an important ecological research project, for a conducted tour especially for our chapter on a Saturday in May. (We will be given a definite date about April 10th).

This 228,0000 acre refuge, 60 miles downriver from Albuquerque, is not open to the public. Refuge management can accommodate only a limited number of visitors. If you wish to go, please contact Laura Jenkins, 293-7527, after April 10th.

BIRDING IN THE GILA —Memorial Day Weekend, May 27-29th

This trip is the big one! A long weekend in the Gila National Forest around Reserve, New Mexico, which is reached by taking Highway 60 west from Socorro to Datil, then Highway 12 to Reserve. Plan on a 3½ to 4 hour drive over good level roads. You may arrive or leave at any time during the weekend.

Trip headquarters will be in Reserve, where you may stay in an excellent motel (\$34.95/double, 2 queen-size beds) or camp anywhere in the surrounding Gila National Forest. Facilities are available only at Snow Lake Campground off Highway 78, east of Mogollon over a mountain road. There is a restaurant in Reserve also.

Please call Field Trip Chairperson, Laura Jenkins, at 293-7527 if you plan to go. Reservations should be made early.

Supplies should be brought from home as shopping is limited in Reserve. Bring a flashlight, compass, and first aid kit if you have them.

While some of the best birders from the Albuquerque and Silver City chapters will be attending, hikers and wilderness lovers who are beginning birders should also enjoy the trip.

There is no fee for participating. Each person will be responsible for their own expenses. See you in Reserve!

CNMAS FIELD TRIP TO BERNARDO AND CASA COLORADA

By Bill Willard



Despite a forecast for foul weather, three car loads of CNMAS birders headed south from Albuquerque on February 4th to the Bernardo and Casa Colorada wildlife areas. What they found was great (fowl) weather and ample birds!

Leader, Bruce Halstead, had hoped to spot a swan which usually shows up at Bernardo, but goose hunters in the area apparently had scared it away. There were, however, many other species to be found. Among the more interesting sightings were: golden eagle, ferruginous hawk, prairie falcon, ladderbacked woodpecker, marsh wren, Baird's sandpiper (probably, per Bruce), water pipit, Cinnamon teal, common merganser, belted kingfisher, and one whooper (amongst many sandhill cranes). Over 30 species were logged for the day.

NOTE: The author of this report, Bill Willard, reports that he hopes to see Kirtland's warblers on a trip scheduled for May 16th - 21st. Let's hope Bill gives us a report on that trip!

FIELDTRIPS FURTHER A-FIELD**TOHONO CHUL PARK, TUCSON, ARIZONA**

For those of you who enjoyed our March program, "Cacti of New Mexico," a visit to Tohono Chul Park will be a real treat, according to CNMAS member, Georgianna Costley.

Tohono Chul (Pagago for "desert corner") is a privately owned, non-profit park, established to promote the conservation of arid regions, to provide the public with an opportunity to learn about and experience the desert, and to encourage the use of arid adapted plants for landscaping and minimal water requirements.

Along the inner trail system, many species of cacti, succulents, and other arid climate plants have been planted among the existing native Sonoran Desert vegetation. Plants are labeled as to common, scientific and family names. The park grounds are open from 7:00 a.m. to sunset daily. Guided tours may be arranged by contacting the Park office: Tohono Chul Park, Inc., 7366 North Paseo del Norte, Tucson, AZ 85704, (602)742-6455.

UPCOMING EVENTS**BIG BIRD BASH**

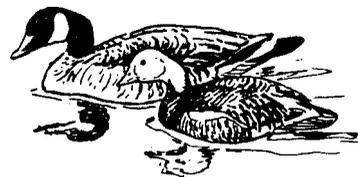
—Saturday, May 6th



Plan now to join the 6th annual "Big Bird Bash" in southwestern New Mexico. Meet at Western New Mexico University, Harlan Hall, Silver City, on Friday, 7:30 p.m. to pick up route assignments. The areas to be birded include the Gila River Valley from the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument to Red Rock. After birding all day Saturday, participants will meet for dinner at the Red Barn Steak House at approximately 7:00 p.m. The cost of \$8.00 includes tax and gratuity. Choice of food includes steak or chicken and soup and salad bar. If you prefer soup and salad bar are available for \$4.75. Accommodations in and near Silver City include several motels: The Drifter (538-2916), Copper Manor (538-5392), Super 8 Motel (1-800-843-1991 or 388-1983); campgrounds: KOA on HWY 180 East, and Forest Service (Cherry Creek and

McMillian) north of Silver City at approximately 7,000 feet; also, Bear Mountain Guest Ranch (538-2538) and Bear Creek Motel and Cabins (388-4501) in Pinos Altos, also north of Silver City.

Please contact Ralph Fisher (535-2320) or May O'Byrne (538-9672) for more information. The Silver City chapter would like to know by the last week in April if you plan to attend. You may also write May O'Byrne at 3305 Tom Lyons Dr., Silver City, NM 88061. The "Bash" is a great opportunity to see a scenic part of New Mexico and to meet other enthusiastic birders.

**BIRDING ADVENTURES ON NEW MEXICO'S RIVERS**

The Randall Davey Audubon Center, National Audubon's education center and state office in Santa Fe, is offering you a unique birding opportunity in northern New Mexico. Join the education staff on a float trip down the serene and beautiful Rio Chama or in the deep canyons of the Rio Grande.

Why combine a river trip and birding? Not only are the rivers important corridors for migrating birds, but they provide the ideal habitat for a great diversity of species. Take yourself away from the hustle and bustle of roadside birding, to the heart of the action. Choose from a two or three day birding adventure on the Rio Chama or a more adventurous two-day trip on the northern Rio Grande. All trips will be guided by professional boaters and will include a birding expert.

RIO CHAMA BIRDING— Three days— May 12-14, 1989, \$200.00

RIO CHAMA BIRDING— Two days— May 20-21, 1989, \$150.00

RIO GRANDE BIRDING— Two days— June 3-4, 1989, \$185.00

For further information and reservations, call or write: Randall Davey Audubon Center, P.O. 9314, Santa Fe, NM 87504, (505) 983-4609. Space is limited, so reserve early!

CONSERVATION NOTES
BY LEW HELM



SHARE WITH WILDLIFE

This worthwhile program may be in trouble. Share with Wildlife received only \$75,000 last year. If it received less than \$50,000 this year, it will be taken off the income tax form. If you still have to complete your state income tax return and you are getting a tax refund, you can contribute as much of the refund as you wish to Share with Wildlife. Also, direct contributions can be made to: Share with Wildlife, NM Department of Game and Fish, State Capitol, Santa Fe, NM 87503.

Cacomistle (Ring-tailed Cat) & Deer Mouse



GRAY RANCH - YEAR OF DECISION?

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has the opportunity to buy the Gray Ranch in Hidalgo County, in southwestern New Mexico. But, first, Congress must appropriate the money. Audubon has been active for several years in urging acquisition of the invaluable ecological area. The FWS would establish the ranch as the Animas National Wildlife Refuge. Now is the time to let our senators and representatives know we support acquisition of the ranch by the Federal government. If funds are not provided this year, there is a danger that the ranch will be subdivided, opened for mining, and/or leased for heavy, destructive cattle grazing. Please contact our congressional delegation, especially Senator Jeff Bingaman.

ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

There is no good news to report on Audubon's (and others) efforts to protect the refuge from oil development. The new administration is allowing opening of the refuge and congress has supported this stand. It had been hoped that the new administration (including Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan) would swing away from the developer's pressure, but that has not happened. Developing reserves in the refuge will only provide short-term relief to a nation increasingly dependent on foreign oil. (The reservoir will contain only a 1,000 day domestic supply at our current rate of consumption). We should encourage President Bush and our congressional delegation to push for development of a comprehensive energy policy for the United States. Even though oil companies will be required to use the best commercially available technology and a 450 million reclamation fund will be established for the plain and other north Slope lands, including the Prudhoe Bay fields, the damage to these areas can never be eradicated



SCIENCE QUIZ! (FOR FUN!)

1. What star looks brightest to an astronaut? _____
2. What weighs many tons but falls without making a sound? _____
3. What is a caterpillar after it is three days old? _____
4. Why doesn't the biggest animal in the world have the biggest feet? _____
5. Look all around. It's everywhere, but you can't see it. What is it? _____
6. What can a carrot lift all by itself? _____
7. What does a monkey always carry on its shoulders? _____
8. What can a monkey hold in its left hand that it cannot hold in its right hand? _____
9. What has no eye nor ear, but know when you are near? _____
10. What birds have wings but never fly? _____

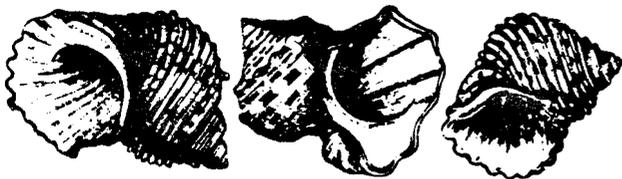
Answers are on page six. Give yourself 10 points for each correct answer. How did you do?

PUBLICATIONS OF INTERESTTHE PINON REVIEW

The premier issue of The Pinon Review, a natural and cultural history magazine has been published (Winter 1989). This edition features articles entitled: "Winter Finches of the Sandias," by CNMAS member, Hart Schwarz, "Guide to the South Crest Trail," "Kings of the Estancia Valley," plus non-fiction, fiction, art, book reviews, humor, and poetry. Some excellent pen and ink drawings of birds by Dale Zimmerman, Silver city, are also included.

According to Editor and Publisher, Wade Douglas, "In upcoming editions you will learn about the natural history of the mountain chickadee, the North American bobcat, and the golden eagle. You'll discover the ancient civilizations of the Salinas National Monument and the Tijeras pueblo. You'll find out how the Sandia and Manzano mountains were built and how to enjoy the fossil record left behind by the seas that once covered New Mexico. You'll read about mountain weather and ancient astronomers, early settlers, and modern bean farmers."

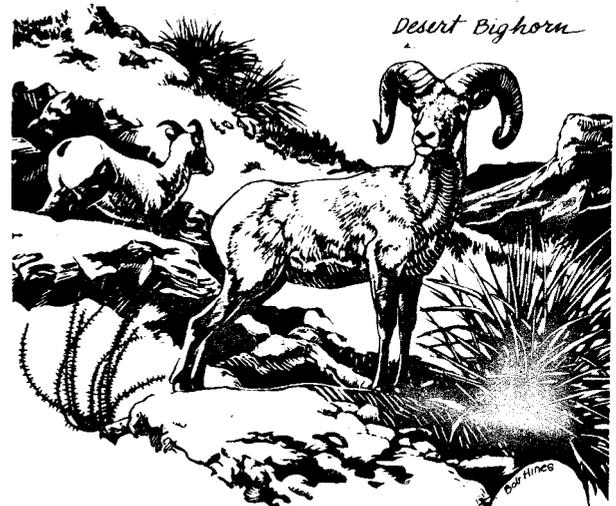
To give yourself or a friend The Pinon Review, write: The Pinon Review, Subscriptions, P.O. Box 1450, Tijeras, NM 87059. The annual subscription rate is \$10.00.

**Nature Catalog**

Richardson Bay Audubon Center has just published its 1989 mail-order catalog of field and site guides for birding, video and audio cassettes of birds, and environmental education books. The catalog is free. If you would like one please send a 25¢ stamp to: The Book Nest, RBAC, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, Calif. 94920.

NEW MEXICO AUDUBON COUNCIL MEETING

The New Mexico Audubon Council will meet on April 8, 1989, at 12:30 p.m. in Grant Hall, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, New Mexico. All Audubon members are invited to attend. The meeting coincides with the State Science Fair which is being held in the gymnasium at Tech. The Council will give six awards in natural history, the environment, or ecological categories.

**Coming Soon: National Audubon's Biennial Convention**

"OUR SOUTHWEST—CHALLENGED BY GROWTH" is the theme of the upcoming Biennial Convention of the National Audubon Society, to be held September 12 to 16 at the Doubletree Hotel in Tucson, Arizona. The convention program will highlight the unique characteristics of the natural world in the Southwest. There's a full menu planned for participants, with pre- and post-convention tours and diverse field trips to areas such as Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge, Madera Canyon, and Patagonia Sanctuary, as well as to mission churches and the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. In addition to the fun and entertainment, there will also be sessions discussing Audubon's high-priority issues: the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Clean Air Act, Platte River, wetlands, and ancient forests. And if that isn't enough, a variety of workshops will feature education, fundraising, citizen involvement, energy conservation, sanctuary and nature center outreach, and many more topics.

Registration for field trips and tours is limited, so be sure to sign up in advance. For complete information on Audubon's Biennial Convention, including registration and hotel reservation information, write to: Audubon Convention Office, 4150 Darley Ave., #5, Boulder, Colo. 80303; (303) 499-3622.

NAS Television***TV Special Looks at Perishing Platte***

Every year, in March, half a million sandhill cranes—80 percent of the world's entire sandhill population—stop over in the Platte River in Nebraska on their way from their wintering grounds in the south to their nesting grounds in northern Canada. Nowhere else is there such a gathering. Dean of birders Roger Tory Peterson has called it "one of the wonders of the world."

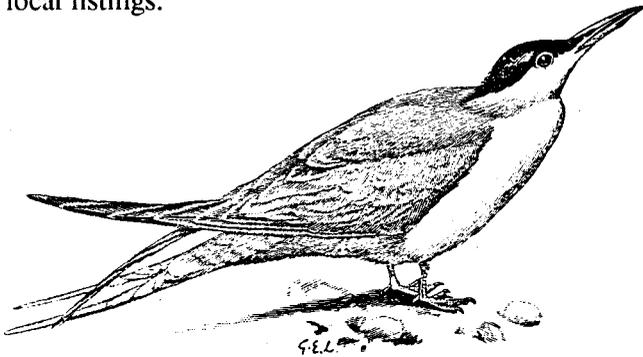
"Crane River," the newest Audubon Television Special, takes viewers to this rare and awesome happening. It also takes a hard look at the problems that threaten to make the crane spectacle a thing of the past.

The historic Platte River was described by early explorers as "a mile wide and a foot deep." It was a lifeline for settlers and wildlife alike. But today the river's flow has been reduced by nearly 70 percent. Cranes and other waterfowl are crowded into increasingly tight stretches of river. If some of the dozens of proposed water projects in the river basin are built, the once-great prairie river will virtually dry up.

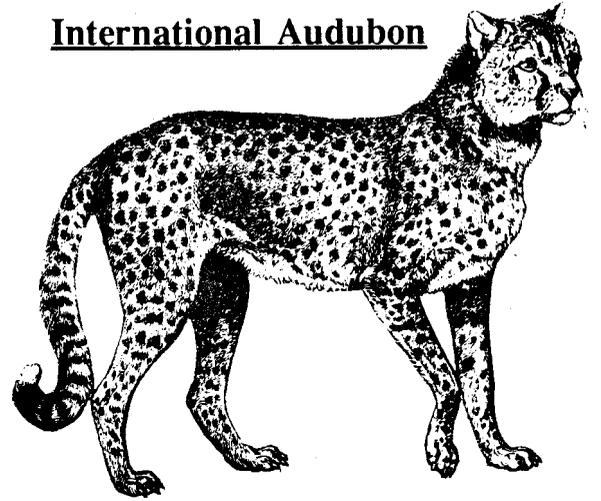
Saving the Platte River is one of National Audubon's high-priority campaigns. Don't miss Audubon Television's program on this vital issue. "Crane River" can be seen on SuperStation TBS on the following dates:

- Sunday, May 28 at 10:00 p.m. (Eastern)
- Saturday, June 3 at 10:05 a.m. (Eastern)
- Sunday, June 11 at 8:00 p.m. (Pacific)
- Saturday, June 17 at 8:05 a.m. (Eastern).

The special will air again in August on PBS stations. All dates and times are subject to change, so check your local listings.

**ANSWERS TO SCIENCE QUIZ ON PAGE 4**

1. The sun
2. Snow
3. Four days old
4. Because the biggest animal is a whale
5. Air
6. Water
7. Its head
8. Its right elbow
9. An earthworm
10. Penguin, etc.

International Audubon***From Your Town to Your World***

Does the destruction of tropical forests disturb you? Do you wonder how increasing numbers of people will be able to feed themselves? The Foreign Assistance Action Project is a chance to come to grips with global issues and to participate in the foreign policy process. Information on population, environment, and agriculture and booklets on how you can make a difference working with local media raising community awareness, holding town meetings, mounting a letter-writing campaign, and visiting with decision makers are available from National Audubon Society, FAA Project, 801 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Suite 301, Washington, D.C. 20003.

Audubon TV Specials in Home Video

In April, three outstanding Audubon Television Specials will be released as home videos: "Wood Stork: Barometer of the Everglades," narrated by Richard Crenna; "Ducks Under Siege," narrated by John Heard, and "Galapagos: My Fragile World," narrated by Cliff Robertson. The videos are marketed by Vestron Video and retail for \$29.98.

"Wood Stork" and "Ducks Under Siege" touch on the issue of wetlands conservation, which is a National Audubon Society high-priority campaign. Both programs were nominated for the prestigious "ACE" awards, cable television's "Emmys."

"Galapagos: My Fragile World" is a breathtaking odyssey through the homeland of renowned wildlife photographer and writer Tui De Roy.

Also available on home video are the Audubon Specials "California Condor," "The Mysterious Black-footed Ferret," and "On the Edge of Extinction: Panthers and Cheetahs." All six Audubon videos are available in video stores nationwide or can be ordered through Audubon Television, 801 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Suite 301, Washington, D.C. 20003.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES**BE AN AUDUBON ADVENTURES SPONSOR!**

Audubon Adventures is the youth education program of the National Audubon Society for elementary school students in grades 4 and 5. Each issue of the newspaper emphasizes a special theme. Students in an enrolled class receive a membership card, a decal, and the newspaper six times a year. The teacher receives the companion leader's guide and each class is presented with a certificate. Enrolled schools in Albuquerque this year are: Valle Vista, R.F. Chavez, Dolores Gonzales, Eugene Field, Hawthorne, Emerson, Whittier, Mark Twain, Jefferson, Apache, Roosevelt-Montoya, Inez, Bel-Aire, Comanche, Arroyo Del Oso, M.L. King, Sierra Vista and Marie Hughes.

NAS' cost to produce and distribute the Audubon Adventures newspaper is about \$100.00 per year per class. Most of the cost is borne by NAS, but a local subscription of \$30.00 per class is required. CNMAS is inviting members to make a contribution of \$5.00 or more to our Audubon Adventures Fund for the next school year. The local chapter has in its budget \$300.00 designated for subscriptions. With individual funding plus chapter funding, we can serve many more classrooms in the 1989-90 school year.

To make a contribution to the Audubon Adventures fund, complete the form below. Make your check payable to CNMAS and mail to Marge Carrick, 808 Dakota, SE, Albuquerque, 87108. Or, bring your contribution to a general meeting on the third Thursday of the month.

I would like to contribute to the Audubon Adventures Fund. Enclosed is my check payable to the Central New Mexico Audubon Society for \$ _____. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

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

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

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

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Claudia Crawford, 433 Maple NE, 87106; 242-7081 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

Laura Jenkins, 12505 Manitoba NE, Apt. D, 87111; 293-7527

RESEARCH CHAIRPERSON & FIELD SIGHTINGS COMPILER

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

FIELD SIGHTINGS/RARE BIRD ALERT

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

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

CIRCULATION, BURROWING OWL

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

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Murray Honeycutt, 2901 Dakota NE, 87110; 881-0452

**New Mexico Audubon Council Directory****President**

Lew Helm, 8213 Cherry Hills, Ne, Albuquerque, 87111; 821-8586

Vice President

Steve West, P.O. Box 2489, Carlsbad, 88220, 885-1153

Treasurer

Jim Karo, 1621 Cedar Ridge Dr., NE, Albuquerque, 87112; 294-2777

Secretary

Pat Snider, 90 Royal Crest, Los Alamos, 87544, 662-4336

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
- Family/\$38
- Sr. Citizen-Individual/\$21
- Sr. Citizen-Family/\$23
- Student/\$18

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Bill me, please.

7XCH

Local Chapter
Central New Mexico Audubon Society
Q51

7XCH

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
433 Maple NE,
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 Steve Schiff
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. Waln 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
(505)983-4609

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