

BURROWING OWL



CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOL. V, No. 3

June-July 1975

CALENDAR FOR JUNE AND JULY

- THURSDAY BOARD MEETING at 504 Princeton SE, Apt. 3, home of President Dan Wash-
June 12 burn. Members of the Society are always welcome at Board meetings.
- SATURDAY Field trip to Sandia Crest. Meet at the Post Office on the west side of
June 14 Winrock Center at 6:45 a.m. to arrange car pools. Although we have had
field trips to many areas in the Sandias, we have not scheduled any to
the Crest, except as part of our annual Christmas Count. In spite of recent shows
(May 30th!) conditions should be warmer and more pleasant in June, but do bring a
light jacket and sturdy shoes or boots. Black-headed Grosbeak, Western Tanager,
Violet-green Swallow, White-throated Swift and many other species are breeding now
in the mountains.
- THURSDAY Regular meeting of the CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m. in
June 19 the UNM Physics and Astronomy Building, Lomas and Yale NE. Warren Arm-
strong will discuss the use of pesticides in the control of insects.
Contrary to what we might think of professional exterminators, Mr. Armstrong does
not favor use of the more hazardous pesticides. He will bring along a collection of
obnoxious little creatures, safely potted in plastic, for our inspection.
- THURSDAY Meeting of the BOARD at 7:30 p.m. Place will be announced.
July 10
- SATURDAY Field trip in search of Mountain Plover. Meet in the parking lot of now-
July 12 defunct Gulf Mart, 5000 San Mateo NE, at 6:30 a.m. We have been assured
by one of our most knowledgeable members that Mountain Plover breed on
the mesa land off NM-22, east of I-25 and across from the Santo Domingo turnoff. A
new area for birding and a new bird for many of us if we find it.
- THURSDAY Regular meeting of the CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m. in
July 17 the UNM Physics and Astronomy Building, Lomas and Yale NE. Jacque Hohl-
felder, immediate past president of the Society, will report on the 68th
National Audubon Convention, held in New Orleans in April. Jacque attended as our
delegate. In addition to reporting on some of the business sessions, Jacque will
show slides of an Audubon trip to a plantation and of a boat ride on the Mississippi.
- SATURDAY Looking ahead to August, the ever-popular field trip to Capulin Springs
August 16 on the east side of the Sandias will be scheduled for this date. Cal-
liope Hummingbirds have been seen here in the past and there should be
other fall migrants, as well as nondescript immatures to challenge birding skills.

HIKING/BACKPACKING/CAMPING SHOW

On Sunday, June 15, the Sierra Club will present displays and demonstra-
tions of equipment and techniques of hiking, backpacking and camping. Sporting-
goods stores will have displays and there will be much to see and watch. Nothing
will be for sale, just for looking at, and there is no admission fee. It will be
held on the south campus practice field just south of the Athletic Department Build-
ing, which is beyond the football field on University. Hours are from 10 to 4.

Anyone interested in joining the Sierra Club in demonstrating techniques
or equipment will be welcome. Call Carolyn Sale, 296-4886 for more information.

MAY FIELD TRIPS

Ten adults and three children enjoyed a fine morning of birding on May
10 on a field trip led by Jim Karo. Most of the activity was around a pond in the
village of Manzano, where songbirds were resting in their migration northward. The
birders also visited Red Canyon in Manzano Mountains State Park. 50 to 60 species
were counted by most participants that day.

On May 24 Owen Van Buskirk led a field trip to Isleta Marsh. This
popular spot brought out a group of fifteen adults and two children. As always, the
area was very productive. A Mallard on a nest and a Red-headed Woodpecker drew the
most attention.

ANNUAL MEETING MAY 15

About sixty adults and children attended the annual meeting on May 15 at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church. Many, many thanks are due to the committee on arrangements for the dinner -- Celia Mizel, Helen Riddell and Dot DeLollis -- plus faithful husbands and a son who were drafted for duty, and to Dave Lange, who came an hour early to lend a hand. The Nominating Committee slate of candidates was unanimously elected for the 1975-76 club year:

President, Dan Washburn
Vice President, Craig Andrews
Recording Secretary, Helen Riddell
Corresponding Secretary, Robert Jost
Treasurer, Phyllis Scott

Dr. John Hubbard talked about areas around the state where rare birds may be found during the migratory seasons. He showed slides of birds and of various "oases" around the state -- near Capulin in the northeast, near Eunice in the southeast, San Simon Cienega in the southwest, and others. These are favorite areas for many birds but rarities occur when high night clouds suddenly block the view of the stars. The migrating birds, which have been navigating by the stars, are forced to "fall out" of their migration pattern and seek cover and water.

Our thanks to Dr. Hubbard for an extremely informative and interesting talk and more knowledge about birding potentials in our great state.

THE HATHAWAY CONFIRMATION

Sadly we must report that as we go to press the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, just before closing for the Memorial Day recess, confirmed Stanley K. Hathaway as Secretary of the Interior. A floor vote is expected in early June, and opponents of the confirmation will mount a floor fight. National Audubon -- aided by a number of letters and wires from our members -- affirmed its opposition to confirmation.

NEW LIMITS FOR ORV'S

A federal judge has ruled that the Bureau of Land Management violated both the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and a 1972 Presidential Executive Order when it opened its 450 million acres of Federal land to unrestricted use by environmentally disruptive off-road vehicles last year. As a result of the suit brought by the National Wildlife Federation, BLM has been required to draw up new regulations limiting ORV use to specific areas and trails.

SHORT ISSUE

In keeping with the "lazy days of summer" (??!) this is purposely a slim edition of the Owl. This year the administrative change-over is closer to the editor than ever before, and being "secretary to the president" leaves not much impetus for composition.

So until August, when once more the Burrowing Owl comes winging your way, have a happy summer -- drive carefully if you vacation by car -- come to the meetings as often as you can -- and *Adios hasta la proxima vez*.

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY
Post Office Box 30002
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

FIRST CLASS MAIL