

BURROWING OWL

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

FEBRUARY - MARCH 1985

CALENDAR

Welcome! Central New Mexico Audubon Society meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m., St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Copper and Jefferson, N.E. Nonmembers are welcome at all meetings, field trips, and special events.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17 - Wildlife Film
Bird of Freedom, the American Bald
Eagle by Herman Kitchens. 7:30 pm,
Popejoy Hall. Call Edie Johnson
(255-0307) for more information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21 - Regular
Meeting

Carl Gresswell will present a slide show and talk Following the Lewis and Clark Trail. See Welcome paragraph for time and place.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 - Regular Meeting

David Seymour is the new Regional Representative of Southwest Region, National Audubon Society. For the past several months, David has been living at the NAS Randall Davey Conservation Center in Santa Fe. He will present a program about the beautiful Davey Center. Don't miss this chance to meet our representative. Time and place, see Welcome paragraph.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23 - Field Trip

Come with: Steve Hoffman to his hawk lookout in the Sandias where you may see a dozen species or more cruising by - often at arm's length. Be prepared for a fairly rigorous 2-mile walk and bring warm clothing as well as sturdy hiking boots. In case of inclement weather, the trip will take place the following weekend on March 30th. Meet at 8:00 am in the parking lot of the Mountain View Hotel on Central, just west of Tramway. Call Steve at work (766-3972) for more information, or just to let him know that you're planning on coming. In the event that Steve is out of town, the trip will be led by Jim Daly (298-2748). This will be an all day trip, so bring lunch and water.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21 - Field Trip

Enjoy the first WARBLERS of spring in middle Juan Tabo Canyon with Hart Schwartz. We should see and hear five of the six regularly nesting species in the Sandias, iel, AUDUBONS, GRACES, BLACKTHROATED GRAY, VIRGINIAS, and ORANGECROWNED. During the early days following their arrival, WARBLERS usually are very active and high-spirited and thus relatively easy to find. This will be a half day trip.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, MAY 4 and 5 -
The Second Annual BIG BIRD BASH
and Outdoor Fiesta. This event,
 held in Silver City, was a smash
 success last year. Mark your
 calendars now so you won't miss
 it. Complete details in the next
 issue of the OWL.

CNMAS STARTS A PHONE TREE

Often our president gets a call
 about an urgent environmental,
 legislative, etc... issue. In
 order to keep our membership up-
 to-date, the board has instituted
 a phone tree to keep us more current
 than the OWL can do. If you would
 like to be part of this tree call
 Vic at 888-4661.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT THE RIO GRANDE NATURE CENTER

- * Programs are free and open to the
 public of all ages.
- * Please call the Nature Center,
 344-7240, to register for pro-
 grams.
- * LOCATION - 2901 Candelaria Rd.
 NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107.

SATURDAY, February 16 - "Identifi-
 cation of Birds of the Rio Grande
 Nature Center," slide show/lecture
 presentation by Mr. Dustin Hunting-
 ton. 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. in the
 Resource Room.

SUNDAY, February 24 - "First Aid
 for Wild Birds" by Mike Richard,
 veterinarian at the Manzano Animal
 Clinic. 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the
 Resource Room.

*** Each WEEKEND, a film will be
 shown to visitors in the RESOURCE
 ROOM at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and
 3:00 p.m. Please refer to the
 "ACTIVITIES" bulletin board in the
 visitor center for film titles, or
 call 344-7240.

The March programs were not avail-
 able at press time but can be
 obtained by calling the Center.

A CALL FOR CRANE COUNTERS

Every spring and fall, 1,000's of
 SANDHILL CRANES (and about 30
 WHOOPING CRANES) migrate over
 Albuquerque to the delight of bird-
 ers and non-birders alike. Sur-
 prisingly, there is a lot to learn
 about their migration through our
 area as they move between their
 wintering grounds south of us and
 their staging area in the San Luis
 Valley of southern Colorado.

Some of the questions we need an-
 swers to include: What time of day
 do most of the CRANES fly? Do
 they stop between the wintering
 grounds and Colorado? Is the
 flight route the same every day?
 Does weather affect migration?

If you would like to help answer
 some of these questions and you
 live, work, or play in the Valley
 and you are willing to keep good
 field notes, please contact me at
 345-2827. The spring migration
 should be starting around the mid-
 dle of February and I need watchers
 to help with an on going research
 project.



--Dale Stahlecker

SPRING HAWK WATCH STARTS

Steve Hoffman and Jim Daly will be
 starting the Spring Hawk Watch in
 the Sandias the end of February,
 continuing into April. Those of
 you who have followed Steve's
 articles in the OWL realize what
 a wonderful contribution these
 watches have been to the knowledge
 of New Mexico's raptor migration.
 You can contribute to this know-
 ledge by joining the counts almost
 any day during the Spring. A
 fairly strenuous hike is involved
 but the rewards of seeing many
 hawks, etc... go by so close are
 worth the effort. Call Steve at
 (766-3972 days) or Jim (298-2748
 evenings) to find out more.

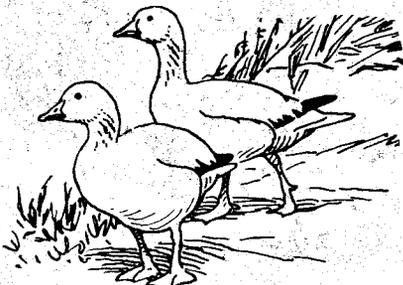
OF GEESE AND HUMMINGBIRDS

BALD EAGLE POPULATION
LOOKING UP

Because of space problems in the last issue of the OWL, your editor had to cut some of Ross Teuber's column. But the following stories are too good to keep from our readers:

Did you notice the UPI story in the paper the other morning about the little town in Austria where no usual form of control measure was effective in controlling speeders? Finally the town fathers got the idea of getting a gaggle of 7 geese and a 17-year-old girl with a cane. The girl's job was to drive the geese back and forth across the road, while some of the local residents scattered feed ahead of them. Not all drivers were pleased, but they were braking and slowing down. A gaggle of geese was accomplishing what law enforcement officers and traffic control signs could not. The plan is to get more geese and continue the project.

A follow-up note in the most recent issue of Bird Watcher's Digest points out that although North Central Plastics of Ellensdale, Minnesota, has discontinued the manufacture of red plastic "Red Snap'r" insulators for electric fences, the threat of electrocution of hummingbirds, and possibly some other birds, is not ended. Both the company and their dealers will continue to sell the red insulators until current inventories are sold out. North Central is to be lauded for their decision to discontinue manufacture of the offensive insulators; but interested birders must continue to be alert to the "Red Snap'rs" being used and use their power of persuasion to get owners to spray them black before using them.



Bald eagles are holding their own after years of decline, according to the National Wildlife Federation's annual midwinter eagle surveys. In 1984, 11,819 bald eagles were found in the 42 states participating in this year's survey, up from the 10,903 tallied in the same states in 1983. Only 9815 bald eagles were found in 48 states in 1979, the first year of the survey. The highest total, 13,825, was attained in 1982, the last year all 48 lower states participated. In New Mexico, 270 Bald Eagles were seen, 159 adults and 111 immatures and sub-adults.

HELP WANTED

Host or hostess needed for our CNMAS meetings. This is a job involving a few phone calls, checking of supplies and getting the coffee ready. Call Vic Brown (888-4661) if you can help.

SPECIAL BULLETIN

Time is running out! The deadline is near for raising the \$27,500 needed to protect and perpetually endow the CORRALES BOSQUE PRESERVE, located just north of Albuquerque. We need your help to raise the funds to meet our goal by the January deadline. Please give now, and help ensure that this area will be preserved for future generations.

The Corrales Bosque Preserve, an area of 400 acres, contains the only known example of the Middle Rio Grande broadleaf deciduous woodland. The Bosque in the northern Rio Grande Valley, and specifically in the Corrales Bosque Preserve area, is considered the only remaining intact and extensive example of this formerly widespread woodland. At one time, much of Corrales was bosque, and provided rich habitat for waterfowl,

many other birds, raccoon, kit fox, beaver, muskrat, bobcat, turtles and other interesting and colorful wildlife. Installation of drainage ditches, levees, and subsequent lowering of the water table has opened up most of the Village for agricultural and residential use, restricting the bosque to its present narrow confines along the Rio Grande.

The Corrales Bosque Preserve area represents the northern limits of the Chihuahuan desert, and supports many rare and important species of plants and animals, including the tiny Desert shrew at its northernmost occurrence. The most outstanding example in the state of Silverleaf Buffalo Berry, an attractive thicker-producing shrub, provides important foodstuff for wintering birds. Several breeding species, the State Endangered Red-headed woodpecker, Willow Flycatcher, Brown Thrasher and Yellow warbler, still breed in the Corrales Bosque Preserve, while they have rapidly disappeared elsewhere in the southwest due to habitat destruction. Other species which rarely breed anywhere else in New Mexico but do so in the Corrales area include the Wood Duck, Eastern kingbird and Gray catbird. Bald eagles winter in the Corrales Bosque, and the area may become important to the Black Hawk, a State Endangered species which nested in the area in the 1970's and is now expanding its range in New Mexico. The Corrales Bosque provides an important migratory stopover for small birds including warblers, buntings, sparrows, vireos, orioles, tanagers and flycatchers. In all, 183 bird species have been counted in the Corrales Bosque. In addition, the Tawny-bellied Cotton Rat, a state endemic, occurs only along the Rio Grande between Algodones and Isleta.

Although the Corrales Bosque is the most natural and pristine of our local river forests, it is presently accessible to unpermitted woodcutting, shooting and vehicular use. With the growth of the metropolitan area, local pressures are projected to increase.

The Nature Conservancy and the Village of Corrales will use the \$27,500 to create the Corrales Bosque Preserve Fund, an endowment to ensure protection of this important woodland. Interest from the fund will be used to post the area against unpermitted uses and provide funds for monitoring the Corrales Bosque Preserve area on a regular basis to ensure its preservation. An Agreement has been signed between the Conservancy and the Village for an initial term of ten years, and will automatically renew for five year terms.

Although the Corrales Bosque Preserve area will no longer be open to unpermitted woodcutting and other uses not consistent with natural area preservation, The Nature Conservancy will promote educational and scientific uses of the area, so that the public may continue to enjoy the area in a non-threatening way. Horseback riding, hiking and passive recreation will continue, and school groups will be encouraged to use the area as an outdoor laboratory. The Corrales Bosque Preserve Area will become increasingly safer for these activities, with hunting and vehicular use banned.

Please send your contribution - large or small immediately. Let's save our bosque.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
NM Field Office
610 Gold Ave. SW, Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM 87102



IMPORTANT! RBA USERS READ THIS!

RARE BIRD ALERT REORGANIZATION

We plan to restructure the CNMAS Rare Bird Alert (RBA) to make it work better and be of greater use. To better organize the RBA we need the following information from the users. Please answer these questions and return the form at the next regular meeting or mail it to: Ross L. Teuber, 1612 Kentucky, NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

THE NEXT RBA LIST WILL INCLUDE ONLY THOSE WHO COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM!!

1. Name _____ Address _____
Phone _____
2. My main interest in the RBA is:
() Hearing about local rare birds in time to see them myself.
() Hearing about local rare birds, but I usually don't go see them myself.
() Helping out in a CNMAS project.
3. In the past year I have attempted to find ___% of the species reported:
() 0-25% () 25-50% () 50-75% () 75-100%
4. I am willing to drive _____ miles solely to see a rare bird:
- | | probably | maybe | never |
|-------------------|----------|-------|-------|
| 0-30 miles | () | () | () |
| 30-60 miles | () | () | () |
| 60-120 miles | () | () | () |
| 120-240 miles | () | () | () |
| 240 or more miles | () | () | () |
5. I would like to have more RBA reports on exceptionally rare and interesting birds.....
- | | | |
|------------------------|--------|-------|
| Anywhere in New Mexico | ()yes | ()no |
| In adjacent states | ()yes | ()no |
| Anywhere in the U. S. | ()yes | ()no |
6. I am able to be contacted by phone and to pass the report on.....
- () almost always () usually () sometimes () occasionally
() rarely
7. Are there any times that it is best to call? _____

8. Would you be interested in and use a tape recorded rare bird alert?
() yes () no

1984 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT TOTALS

The 1984 Christmas Bird Counts get mixed reviews. On the negative side, winter weather made things difficult on both the Sandia Mountain and Bosque del Apache NWR Counts. A heavy snowstorm the day before forced the Sandia count to be postponed one day, and travel was still hindered and participation light the following day. The roads were so bad at Bosque del Apache NWR that that some areas could not be covered and access to most others were limited to morning hours when the roads were frozen. Participation was again light.

On the plus side, 33 people participated in the Albuquerque Count and the weather cooperated (and it was the last count!). The result was the highest species total (88) ever.

Thanks to all who participated - I'm sure you enjoyed it as much as I did. I'm looking forward to next year already!

- Dale Stahlecker

SPECIES	ALB.	BOSQ.	SAND.
Pied-billed Grebe	4	63	
Eared Grebe	1		
Double-crested Cormorant		1	
Olivaceous Cormorant		5	
Great Blue Heron	13	44	
Black-crowned Night Heron		3	
Tundra Swan		1	
Snow Goose		27,400	
Ross' Goose		3	
Canada Goose	40	125	
Wood Duck	1		
Green-winged Teal	11	390	
Mallard	683	7,300	
Northern Pintail	15	1,165	
Northern Shoveler		1,110	
Gadwall	22	195	
American Wigeon	45	30	
Canvasback	1	20	
Ring-necked Duck	49	25	
Bufflehead		46	
Hooded Merganser		8	
Common Merganser	2	145	
Ruddy Duck		80	

SPECIES	ALB.	BOSQ.	SAND.
Osprey			1
Northern Harrier	7	11	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	10		2
Cooper's Hawk	12	3	1
Northern Goshawk	1		1
Red-tailed Hawk	28	17	5
Rough-legged Hawk	1	1	
Ferruginous Hawk		1	
Golden Eagle	2	2	
Bald Eagle		11	
American Kestrel	22	6	3
Prairie Falcon	1		
Ring-necked Pheasant		43	
Gambel's Quail	33	165	
Virginia Rail	2		
American Coot	62	2,237	
Sandhill Crane	3	9,800	
Whooping Crane		5	
Killdeer	20	101	
Yellowlegs species		1	
Common Snipe	1		
Ring-billed Gull		1	
Rock Dove	323		94
Mourning Dove	1	22	
Greater Roadrunner	4	3	
Western Screech Owl	1		
Great Horned Owl	4	2	1
Burrowing Owl	1		
Belted Kingfisher	6		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1		
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	2	5	1
Downy Woodpecker	5		1
Hairy Woodpecker		2	
Three-toed Woodpecker		1	
Northern Flicker	115	22	43
Eastern Phoebe	1		
Say's Phoebe	1		
Horned Lark	242	68	26
Steller's Jay			9
Scrub Jay	54		50
Pinyon Jay			214
American Crow	1,330	2,056	61
Common Raven	27	2	14
Black-capped Chickadee	4		3
Mountain Chickadee	42		60
Plain Titmouse	1		32
Verdin		3	
Bushtit	68	1	58
Red-breasted Nuthatch			28
White-breasted Nuthatch	7		
Pygmy Nuthatch			1
Brown Creeper	3		

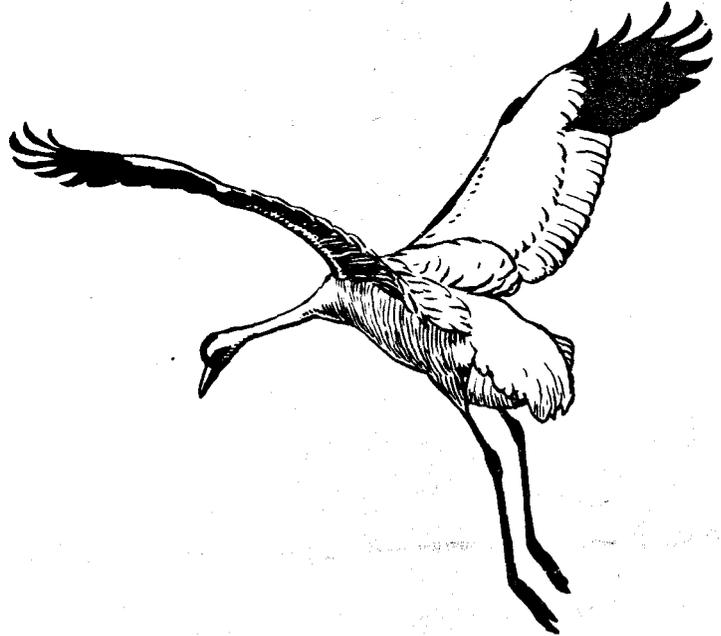
SPECIES	ALB.	BOSQ.	SAND.
Rock Wren	4		
Canyon Wren	16		1
Bewick's Wren	15	2	2
Marsh Wren		1	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	6		1
Western Bluebird	115		92
Mountain Bluebird	147	7	98
Townsend's Solitaire	38		87
Hermit Thrush	2		
American Robin	1,503	13	130
Sage Thrasher	2		
Crissal Thrasher	2	3	1
Water Pipit	1	27	
Cedar Waxwing			3
Loggerhead Shrike	2	2	
European Starling	1,255	334	157
Yellow-rumped Warbler	18		
Rufous-sided Towhee	28	9	5
Brown Towhee	41	11	28
American Tree Sparrow	1		
Sage Sparrow	9	2	
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	1	1	
Song Sparrow	114	243	3
White-crowned Sparrow	182	221	5
Dark-eyed Junco (unid)	587		
Pink-sided			30
Slate-colored	2		19
Oregon	441	183	158
Gray-headed	23	69	21
Red-winged Blackbird	331	7,860	
Yellow-headed Blackbird		81	
Brewer's Blackbird		60	
Western Meadowlark	57	177	14
Great-tailed Grackle	36	5	
Cassin's Finch	11		3
House Finch	177	50	35
Pine Siskin	1	1	3
American Goldfinch	24	28	
Evening Grosbeak	97		69
House Sparrow	287		20
<hr/>			
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	8,925	82,478	1,730
NO. OF SPECIES	88	75	47
ADDITIONAL RACES AND FORMS	2	2	3

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA BIRDING
ADVENTURE
JUNE 14-24, 1985

Want to take a nature tour at a price comparable or below similar tours? Want to see the profits go for protecting America's finest natural lands? Want a tour where the ratio of participants to leaders is never greater than 6 to 1? Want a tour where twelve participants are provided with two air-conditioned, 11-passenger vans to ride in? Want a tour where a list of species observed on all previous trips is provided before you sign up? Want a tour that will visit habitats several times to insure the best possible observations of wildlife? Want a tour that will feature some of America's outstanding natural lands? Want a tour that will show you 200 (+ or -) bird species? Then....

Join The Nature Conservancy as two of Central California's top birder/naturalists lead 12 (max.) persons on this 11 day tour. Two air-conditioned vans will take you from San Joaquin Valley, over the 9000' Southern Sierra to the Mojave Desert, and to the Central California Coast. Features visits to The Nature Conservancy's 3280 acre Creighton Ranch Preserve, 324 acre Kaweah Oaks Preserve, and 1500 acre Kern River Preserve. Other destinations are Tulare Lake Basin, Kern and Pixley National Wildlife Refuges, Sequoia National Forest, northwestern Mojave Desert, Garrizo Plain, and Morro Bay. Leaders are Rob Hansen, manager of Creighton Ranch and Kaweah Oaks Preserves, and Bob Barnes, long-time Central California birder/naturalist. Trip proceeds benefit The Nature Conservancy. June 14-24, 1985 (11 days). \$825 per person includes 10 nights lodging, tour transportation, and leadership.. air fare and meals not included. Reduced price for persons arriving up to June 17 or leaving as early as June 22. From Visalia, CA.

Write or call for detailed itinerary, detailed summary of 1983 and 1984 tours, and 1983-1984 bird, mammal, and reptile lists. TNC-Birding Adventure, Box 749, Porterville, CA 93258...(209) 992-5308.



ROSS' RAVIN'S

Hi Folks! The Christmas Bird Counts are now a thing of the past, although they have not yet been published. In fact, the issue of American Birds containing the 1983 Christmas counts has not yet been published, or at least received. Anyway, in spite of inclement weather that caused the Sandia Mountains count to be postponed for the first time since 1971; and muddy road conditions that restricted coverage on Bosque del Apache count; the counts were done. Congratulations are due, and are extended to Jim Karo, Dale Stahlecker, and all the people who participated in the Albuquerque count. For the first time ever, they compiled a list of 88 species! The next thing on the calendar is the return migration of the WHOOPING CRANCES to their summer feeding and nesting grounds. Once again I would appreciate your calling (265-8962) and reporting any WHOOPERS you see

headed northward. I will make sure your reports are relayed to the people who are concerned, and who will follow up on the reports.

The revised field check-list of the Birds of New Mexico, which I have been preparing for the New Mexico Audubon Council is now in the hands of the printers. It is so designed that it will be easy for you to determine which sightings should be reported to the Rare Bird Alert. In that connection I have volunteered to revise the calling list for the Central New Mexico Audubon Rare Bird Alert. People interested in being a part of this system should fill out the questionnaire which appears elsewhere in this issue of the Burrowing Owl, and return it to me (Ross L. Teuber, 1612 Kentucky NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110) with all pertinent comments or suggestions.

Speaking of Rare Bird Alerts --- a North American Rare Bird Alert is being established, going into effect January 25, 1985. Its purpose is to make information on sightings of the real rarities available to hard core birders, who would be willing to travel anywhere in the United States, or on the North American Continent, on short notice to see such birds. Various types of reports are available for established annual dues and fees, through an elaborate system of computers, tape recorders, and toll free telephone lines, and a broad network of reporters, vari-fiers and coordinators. For more detailed information contact me or write to Bob-O-Linc, Inc., P.O. Box 1161, Jamestown, N.C. 27282.

As for interesting bird reports during the last few months, I hardly know where to start. Out of a possible 28 or 29 WHOOPING CRANES in the Middle Rio Grande Valley, the largest number reported at Bosque del Apache at any one time was 14 or 15. On December 1, 27 of them had been accounted for between Los Lunas and Bosque del Apache. At that time there were

13 on the refuge. There have been a number of reports of TUNDRA (WHISTLING) SWANS including 4-7 at Bosque del Apache the later part of December, and singles at Isleta and at the Rio Grande Nature Center. The one at the Nature Center had no yellow spots at the base of the hill, and it was conjectured that it might be a TRUMPETER. Pictures were taken and sent to Dr. Hubbard for evaluation. As of the date of this writing, no reply had come back to Bill Stone, who sent in the photos.

When Dale Stahleker and Joanne Phillips were scouting out the area before the Albuquerque CBC, on December 27, they spotted a MANDARIN DUCK in company of several WOOD DUCKS at Indian Lakes. To the best of my knowledge there are no established wild (feral) MANDARIN DUCKS, north of Mexico, so this bird has to be an escaped bird from a private collection or zoo. Dale says Mr. Teas, the property owner, told him this bird had been around, on and off, for about a month. Since this species formerly belongs to the same genus as WOOD DUCKS, it is not surprising that the two species might be found together.

On December 16, Dustin and Sue Huntington reported observing and photographing a RED-SHOULDERED HAWK in the Corrales area. Several of us went to look for it in the next few days, but were unable to locate it. If the sighting is verified, it will be a first definite record for New Mexico. It is currently considered to be hypothetical for the state. I understand that Dr. Rod Drewien, the guardian and godfather of the Whooping Cranes, saw an OSPREY and a BURROWING OWL at Bosque del Apache CBC. Both of these sightings are quite late for Osprey in this area.

There have been several reports of BALD and GOLDEN EAGLES at Bosque del Apache since the first of Decem-



ber, a MERLIN was also reported there on that date and again of January 9. David Dale called on December 13 to say he had seen a PEREGRINE FALCON near Isleta on the 11th., PRAIRIE FALCONS at Bernardo and Bosque del Apache on the 8th., and a dozen WHITE PELICANS at La Joya on the 11th.

A pair of HOODED MERGANSERS were seen at Bosque del Apache on December 1, and singles December 11 and January 4. Paul Steel reported 2 NORTHERN GOSHAWKS, a BLACK PHOEBE, and a flock of EVENING GROSBEAKS at the Rio Grande Nature Center on December 7. He also reported a SCRUB JAY in a congested commercial area in the NE Heights on December 10. Scrub Jays are seen very infrequently in that part of the city. Ruth Luhrs call on November 27, from Sandia Knolls to report she had a DARK-EYED (SLATE-COLORED RACE) JUNCO at her feeder for three days, and EVENING GROSBEAKS coming in daily. On December 14, she had a CRISSAL THRASHER, a LADDER-BACKED WOOD-PECKER, and a flock of BUSH-TITS at her feeder. I understand that the CASSIN'S FINCHES and PINYON JAYS of the season show up on January 3. The same day Kathleen Brainard, in a different part of the Sandia Knolls, had a flock of 103 WESTERN BLUEBIRDS and over 40 CEDAR WAXWINGS.

Some of my more interesting personal sightings include 4 CATTLE EGRETS north of Bosque del Apache on December 1, late for that species. EVENING GROSBEAKS were easily found at the Nature Center the last week of November and first three weeks of December. On December 6th, there was a DOWNY WOODPECKER and a BEWICK'S WREN at the Center and on December 7th, a DARK-EYED (SLATE-COLORED RACE) JUNCO. Two of these birds were seen at Sandia Park on January 18th. A male HOODED MERGANSER, three PYRRHUXIA and a single SWAMP SPARROW were seen at Bosque del Apache on January 4. On January 5, Paul Steel, Clara

and I saw a PRAIRIE FALCON in the Estancia Valley. The same date we saw only one adult BALD EAGLE there, but we also saw one adult and five immature GOLDEN EAGLES, many RED-TAILED HAWKS, several FERRUGINOUS HAWKS, a ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK, and several AMERICAN KESTRELS. Along the same route there were numerous WESTERN and MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRDS, TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRES, COMMON RAVENS and AMERICAN CROWS, HORNED LARKS, WESTERN MEADOWLARKS, and several NORTHERN FLICKERS and GREATER ROADRUNNERS plus a couple BROWN TOWHEES. Finally there were flocks of WESTERN BLUEBIRDS and CEDAR WAXWINGS in the Cedar Crest area on January 18.

Some of you may remember when I had a pair of HOUSE FINCHES at my feeder with distinctive white wing bars. That was five years ago, and at that time I requested others who observed similar birds to let me know. One or two reports of partial albinos came in, but none matched the ones here. They did not return the next winter, nor have they been seen again until this year. I believe it was a year and a half later Rio Grande Bird Research, Inc. did net one such bird in the course of their banding operations. This winter the "WHITE-WINGED" HOUSE FINCHES are back. At least 2 males and two females, with extensive white patches on their wings, one female with additional white spots in the tail have been showing up at the feeder several times a day. There is also one, presumably a female that looks as if someone had spilled a bottle of Clorox bleach on it. Once again I would appreciate hearing from any of you who have observed similar individuals.

I still haven't run out of bird talk, but I suspect the editor may be running out of space. Remember your calls are always welcome (265-8962), please keep them coming. So long, and good birding.

--Ross L. Teuber



**APPLICATION FOR JOINT MEMBERSHIP
IN THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
AND THE
CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY**

Joint membership offers you full membership in both the National Audubon Society and the Central New Mexico Audubon chapter at the **same** rate as membership in the national organization only.

With one annual dues payment, you may enjoy the privileges of membership in, and the satisfaction of supporting, the local and national organizations. You will then receive bimonthly issues of the *Burrowing Owl* and the bimonthly *Audubon*, the most beautiful nature magazine in the world. A portion of your dues payment will be allocated to the Central New Mexico Audubon Society.

_____ Individual	\$30.00/Year
_____ Family	\$38.00/Year
_____ Senior Citizen	\$21.00/Year
_____ Sr. Cit., Family	\$23.00/Year
_____ Full Time Student	\$18.00/Year

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