



BURROWING OWL

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY

JUNE - JULY 1994

UPCOMING CHAPTER ACTIVITIES -- MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

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



VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE
Primary Elections
Tuesday, June 7, 1994

Exercise your right to be involved

PROGRAMS

June 16 - PAST AND PRESENT: Environmental historian, Dan Scurlock, will show slides and talk about animals that once lived in New Mexico. Come look at our interesting past and learn some of the whys and therefores. He will emphasize species currently being considered for reintroduction.

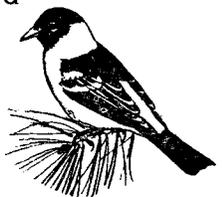
Dan teaches classes on ecology and historical change, as well as conducts field trips for the UNM Community College and the Rio Grande Nature Center.

July - There is no meeting in July. Enjoy your summer vacation and come join us for a new season of programs starting in August!



FIELD TRIPS

Sat., June 25 - Saturday Night Moonlight Walk, Tres Pistoles Canyon. It's two days past the full moon, poor-wills are calling, coyotes are howling, toads serenading, eagle soaring, bats fluttering -- come take it all in at Louise Waldron's pond. She will again hostess the annual potluck, so bring a dish to share, your own table service, and folding chair(s). Come about 6:00 p.m., walk up the canyon before or after dinner, then relax by Waldron Pond. To get to 15 El Arco, N.E., take I-40 east, exit at Carnuel exit, then continue east on US-66 app. 1.8 miles. Turn left at "Monticello" subdivision large white sign. Go uphill on paved road to last house at end of Monticello -- you're there! Call Ann (266-8510) or Louise (292-8272) to confirm, or Louise if you're lost! And be sure to read the President's Column for some good news on the ongoing campaign to save Three Gun Springs.



Sat., July 30 -- Sei Tokuda will take us to **Capulin Springs**, among other stops in the **Sandia Mountains**, in search of the **Calliope Hummingbird**, our smallest North American bird, as well as other local residents. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Four Hills Shopping Center (Central & Tramway), east of Baskin-Robbins. Picnic lunch optional.

THURSDAY MORNING BIRDING GROUP -- For information on Thursday morning outings to nearby areas, call Tamie Bulow at 298-9116. For a sneak preview of planned trips, read on:

June 2 - Corrales Bosque		8:30 a.m., NE corner Coors/ Alameda
June 9 - Water Canyon		8:00 a.m., Plaza Inn (old Howard Johnson's, I-25 & Lomas)
June 16 - Bandelier		7:30 a.m., Holiday Inn Pyramid
June 23 - Sulphur Canyon/ Doc Long		8:30 a.m., Four Hills Shopping Center
June 30 - Tunnel Springs		8:30 a.m., Holiday Inn Pyramid

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM AFIELD

Rio Grande Nature Center --extends their evening hours on Fridays until 8:00 p.m., continuing through Friday, October 1.

Hawks Aloft - holds its general meetings at the Unitarian Church on the southwest corner of Carlisle and Comanche. At 7:00 p.m. on **Monday, June 6**, Jim Black, recently returned from raptor surveys in Mexico, shares birding highlights from his many trips to Costa Rica. You can call their office at 343-0111.

HawkWatch International - maintains its New Mexico office under its new State Director, Kelli Livermore, at 1420 Carlisle, NE. Bobbie Posey is office manager. They can be reached at 255-7622.

"There is a bird in the poplars --
It is the sun!
The leaves are little yellow fish
Swimming the river..."

--William Carlos Williams



THE COUNCIL CORNER



The New Mexico Audubon Council will hold its next meeting on Saturday, July 9 from 9 a.m. till 4 p.m. at the Bosque del Apache NWR. Everyone is welcome. Come bird the Bosque and meet Audubon leaders from around the state. We will be discussing state priorities for the coming year as well as current issues.

Make plans now to attend the Fall Conference, which will be held September 9 to 11 at Tres Rios Conference Center on the Black River near Carlsbad. The workshop will focus on gas and oil issues in southeastern New Mexico and will include an evening presentation on Lechuguilla Cave (tentative). This is the beginning of fall migration, and a trip to nearby Rattlesnake Springs could be quite productive. Look for more information in August-September Burrowing Owl.

HUMMINGBIRDS!

For those who love hummingbirds, we publish a 4-issue Hummingbird Newsletter for \$10 a year. We also offer handpainted replicas of life-sized birds, which you can use for display, tree ornaments, or as decoys to attract real hummers! Hummingbird videos and limited-edition prints. Great gifts for sensitive people who love beauty and nature. For our catalog, call 302-455-0505 or write: *Hummers, Inc., Dept. PF, Box 394, Newark, DE 19715.*

A LETTER FROM SANDIA RANGER DISTRICT, DISTRICT RANGER FLOYD A. THOMPSON, III:

"I would like to thank you for the assistance of the Central New Mexico Audubon Society in the completion of the three riparian breeding bird surveys conducted on the Sandia Ranger District. Your work allowed us to gather important data for those riparian habitats which can be used to guide management in the future. Especially important are the interpretive values of the data. We appreciate your assistance in developing recommendations for an interpretive display. We hope to have the display placed after picnic ground restoration work is completed at either Doc Long or Cienega Picnic Ground.

"We value our partnership. We think that projects like the Sandia Breeding Bird surveys foster improved communication between our agency and our shareholders, while allowing us to complete work that would otherwise be too costly. We are looking forward to continued input and assistance from the Central New Mexico Audubon Society on all Sandia Ranger District activities. Again, thanks for a job well done."

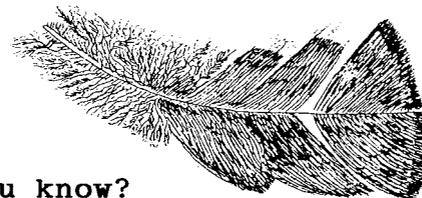
"Nature will bear the closest inspection. She invites us to lay our eye level with her smallest leaf and take an insect's view of its plain."

--Henry David Thoreau

EARTH IN THE BALANCE - ECOLOGY AND THE HUMAN SPIRIT
Vice President Al Gore

"No goal is more crucial to healing the global environment than stabilizing human population. The rapid explosion in the number of people since the beginning of the scientific revolution -- and especially during the latter half of this century -- is the clearest single example of the dramatic change in the overall relationship between the human species and the earth's ecological system. Moreover, the speed with which this change has occurred has itself been a major cause of ecological disruption, as societies that learned over the course of hundreds of generations to eke out a living within fragile ecosystems are suddenly confronted -- in a single generation -- with the necessity of feeding, clothing, and sheltering two or three times as many individuals within those same ecosystems . . . Every one of the fourteen countries that depend on the Nile River is experiencing a population explosion, yet the Nile has no more water flowing between its banks today than it did in biblical times."

--Excerpts, Pgs. 307, 309



Did you know?

The Randall Davey Audubon Center comprises 133 acres and is surrounded by the Santa Fe National Forest and the Sangre de Cristo Water Company. You can walk a trail on it.



BATS IN YOUR BELFRY (OR AT LEAST IN YOUR BACKYARD)

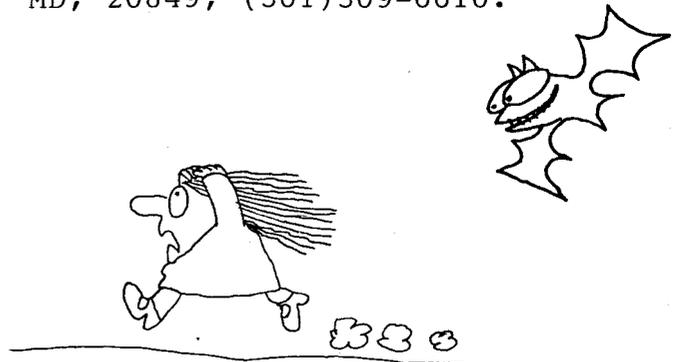
Our fellow New Mexico Audubon chapter, Southeastern New Mexico Audubon Society in Roswell, is promoting a program to encourage an increase in bat populations. Bats are important indicators of a healthy environment and consume great numbers of mosquitoes. In many areas of the Southwest where no purple martins are found, smaller bats are the primary natural control of mosquitoes. Bats also prey on such agricultural pests as corn borers, grain and cutworm moths, potato beetles and grasshoppers.

To encourage their nesting, you can buy a bat box from Tom and Betty Pearson for \$15. Their phone number in Roswell is 625-1051, and they will donate all profits to the Roswell Audubon chapter.

Bat houses should be put up at least 10 to 15 feet off the ground, facing east or southeast to catch the early morning sun. Since the bat box is open at the bottom, there should be no limbs or power lines or other obstructions near the bottom to interfere with the flight of the bats. They may not nest in a box right away, and you may have to move the box in a year or two if it's not occupied. Careful placement and construction is important: The interior must be made of rough or scored lumber to provide a good surface for clinging, the box must be located where it will stay warm, and no wood preservatives or toxic sealers can be used. Larger species of bats like roost temperatures in the 80 to 90 degree range, while small species prefer 90 to 110 degrees.

An article in The Sandhill Crane, Roswell's newsletter, also recommends a book, America's Neighborhood Bats, by Merlin D. Tuttle as a good source book for information on bats and how to plan a bat house that will attract them; it provides two different bat box plans.

Once you've got them in your yard, W. Atlee Burpee & Company will help you plan a garden to enhance prime bat-watching hours by offering plants with pale colors or evening fragrance. The collection includes a selection of nine different seeds: Nicotiana "Peacepipe," moonflower vine, Salvia "Lady in Red," four-o'clock, cornflower "Blueboy," spearmint, Phlox "Dwarf Beauty," stock, and campion (catchfly). Though none of these plants is bat-pollinated, it's interesting to know that in the tropics, many night-blooming plants depend on bats for pollination. The Burpee Bat Garden Seed Collection is \$15 plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling and can be ordered from the American Bat Conservation Society, P.O. Box 1393, Rockville, MD, 20849, (301)309-6610.



BAT

By Ogden Nash

Myself, I rather like the bat,
It's not a mouse, it's not a rat.
It has no feathers, yet has wings,
It's quite inaudible when it sings.
It zigzags through the evening air
And never lands on ladies' hair,
A fact of which men spend their
lives
Attempting to convince their wives.



WHERE TO WATCH THE DEER AND THE ANTELOPE PLAY

The new New Mexico Wildlife Viewing Guide, by Jane S. MacCarter, has been published after about three years in the making. It is available in soft cover from New Mexico Magazine, 495 Old Santa Fe Trail, SF, NM, 87503. Or call 1-800-334-8152. OR contact New Mexico Dept. of Game and Fish, Attention: Watchable Wildlife, 141 E. DeVargas St., SF, NM, 87503, 827-7911. For mail orders, the cost is \$8.95 plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling. For a sneak preview, borrow a copy from our Chapter's library at our next general meeting.

A portion of all proceeds goes to the national Watchable Wildlife program to preserve and protect viewing sites. All proceeds from sales by the Department of Game and Fish go to the Share with Wildlife program.

LA JARA CREEK RANCH

A RETREAT FOR WOMEN

La Jara Creek Ranch Retreat is home to dozens of humming birds, a variety of woodpeckers and many other feathered friends. We have forests, meadows, streams, and pond adjacent to a national forest. We don't plan your day but furnish modern conveniences and healthy meals for individuals and groups. Men may be included in groups of 12 to 14 (our capacity).

For our brochure and reasonable rates write to:

La Jara Creek Ranch Retreat
P.O. Box 3
La Jara, NM 87027 or call:
(505) 289-3300

FROM THE PRESIDENT Jeffrey D. Myers

Just when you expect another faceless form letter response, you get something quite a bit better. CNMAS recently sent a letter to our Congressional delegation requesting an appropriation of Land & Water Conservation Funds to acquire Tres Pistoles Canyon (Louise Waldron's baby).

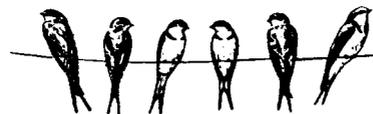
While lobbying as a member of National Audubon's "Lobby Bootcamp," I learned at Rep. Bill Richardson's office (D - Santa Fe) that he had submitted a \$3 million appropriation request in testimony to the relevant committee. When I went in to set up an appointment with his aide, I was greeted by, "Hmm -- Jeff Myers. The Jeff Myers of the Audubon Society?" Not a faceless response. (By the way, Rep. Schiff (R - Alb) has submitted a letter of support to the committee.)

The bootcamp was a wonderful experience. I learned that National has an experienced and capable Washington staff. I learned that letters written are read and grass roots letters are very important to the representatives and their aides. I learned that only Carolina Chickadees (not Black Capped) live in Arlington, Virginia. I got to meet Sandra Skrei of the regional office in Austin (she was my lobbying partner.)

The point of all this is to write your Congress-critters early and often on environmental issues of concern to you. They are read by real people who, while they may not have time to respond with more than a blurb, do consider your opinions more or less carefully.

P.S. Thanks to Dave Henderson for recommending me as a boot camper. He is highly regarded by all the National staffers I met who know him.

that the 1994 Washburn Award was presented to Beverly deGruyter, Cibola Forest biologist and Zone Biologist for Sandia and Mountain-air Ranger Districts. A litany of Beverly's interests, accomplishments, and contributions still doesn't do her justice: She developed the New Mexico Forestry Camp to educate young people, 12 to 19 years of age, on New Mexico's forests. Education is a primary interest of Beverly's; she trains teachers to use Project Wild and Project Learning Tree. She handles the Challenge Cost Share Projects, and in that role devises partnerships between groups (such as ours) and the Forest Service to not only gather and compile databases, but to apply that data to biological assessment and evaluation. It was Beverly who coordinated last year's Sandia Breeding Bird Surveys in which our Chapter participated. She fostered the Habitat Stamp Program and the educational outreach for the Program, which has been adopted for statewide use. Beverly, your ideas and ideals deserve recognition. We value you and the outstanding role you have played in working together toward our common goals.



SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

This is an issue full of winners, and here is a list of some more -- young people who were recipients of money and recognition for their entries in this year's Regional Science Fair.

Senior Division:

1st Place - Cecilia G. Diniz, Sandia High School. "Is Ground Water Contaminating Tijeras Arroyo?"

2nd Place - Lana D. Melendres, Valley High School. "Carbon Filtration for Removal of Chlorine and Chlorine By-Products."

2nd Place - Amarryn M. Henning, Del Norte High School. "How Safe Are Effects of 'Environmentally Safe' Cleaning Products on Brine Shrimp?"

3rd Place - Roberto G. Lopez, St. Pius X High School. "Organic Pest Controls: Which Are Most Effective Against Insects and Least Destructive to Plants."

Junior Division:

1st Place - Jonathon E. Sawyer, Jefferson Middle School. "Producing Artificial Topsoil for New Mexico's Mesas."

2nd Place - Katherine T. Royer, Annunciation Middle School. "Do You Know What's in Your Drinking Water?"

3rd Place - Alexa K. Martin, Jefferson Middle School. "How Temperature Affects the Amount of Food Consumed by Birds."

Each of the winners received a check from CNMAS, as well as a year's subscription to Burrowing Owl. Their teachers receive a year's subscription to Audubon Magazine. Congratulations to these imaginative and industrious young science enthusiasts!



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CAMP OF THE WEST WINNER

From a field of a dozen applicants, the CNMAS Board awarded this year's Audubon Camp in the West Scholarship to Kristin L. Gunckel, a teacher for the Natural Resources and Wildlife Education Center in Cedar Crest. Formerly the Albuquerque Public Schools' Environmental Education Center, the Center is now operated by the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. Kristin teaches ecology and geology to over 3,000 students each year and will have a lot more to share with them when she returns from her one-week field ecology session in Wyoming's Wind River Mountains. Congratulations, Kristin!

Carolyn Minette is the Alternate Winner. She teaches earth, life and physical science at Wilson Middle School.

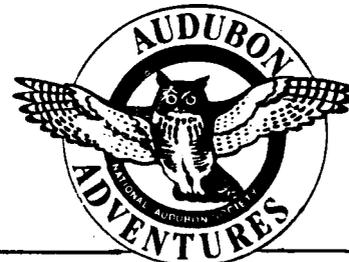
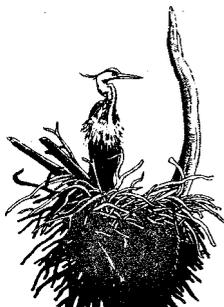
We had a wonderful response this year from teachers, many of whom have applied before. We encourage all of you to keep trying. We only have one scholarship to offer each year, but each of you has a wonderful and unique opportunity to influence our young people year-round. Thanks for your interest!

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

Contributions to this worthy program have fallen off a bit for school year 1994-95, but don't worry -- you have one last chance to sponsor Audubon Adventures in a classroom for that school year. Writing that check now and sending it in is a great way to start the summer vacation!

Please make your check payable to CNMAS and send it with form to:

Ron Waitz
804 Guadalupe Cir., NW
Alb., NM 87114
Thanks!



Enclosed please find my check for \$ _____
(Each \$35 will sponsor one classroom in the Audubon Adventures Program. Any amount you contribute will benefit our educational activities.)

I choose to designate _____
Elementary/Middle School for my sponsorship
(designation is optional).

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

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(505) 766-3481

Hon. Jeff Bingaman
(202) 224-5521
(505) 766-3636

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Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Steve Schiff — (505) 766-2538

Hon. Joe Skeen

Hon. Bill Richardson — (505) 766-3481

House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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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 87504
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Sandia Ranger District
US Forest Service
Floyd A. Thompson III, District Ranger
11776 Highway 337
Tijeras, NM 87059
(505) 281-3304

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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

Chapter Membership Data Center

P.O. Box 51001 • Boulder, Colorado 80322-1001

LOCAL CHAPTER _____

Central New Mexico Audubon Society

Local Chapter Code — Q51

7XCH8

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Bear Mountain Guest Ranch

6250' Elevation

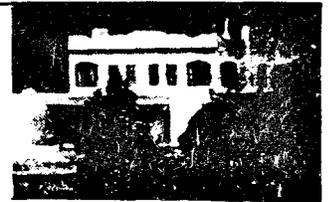


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