

BURROWING OWL



CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

April-May, 1977

CALENDAR FOR APRIL AND MAY

- Sunday Tingley Beach for ducks and early migrants and a walk or bicycle ride along
April 3 the new bikeway beside the Rio Grande. Leader: Mary Alice Root. Meet at the south end of Tingley Beach at 7:00 a.m. Bring your bike. We should be through by 10 a.m.
- Saturday Hondo Canyon (Canyon Estates). Leader: Dot DeLollis. Meet at Western Skies
April 9 parking lot, 7:30 a.m. A close-in hike to an interesting area. We should be back before noon.
- Sunday Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge. Leader: Dr. Walton Hawk. Meet at the old
April 10 round-house on U.S. 85 on the west side of Las Vegas. Mainly a driving trip with visits to lakes and ponds in and around Las Vegas to see waterfowl and shore birds and some hawks. We will bird till noon, have a picnic lunch and bird home via Lamy, Galisteo and Moriarty. An all-day trip; bring lunch and snacks, as well as water or other drinks. Call Mary Alice Root (Home, 266-0561; office, 277-3411) for time.
- Thursday BOARD MEETING at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Maurice Mackey, 510 Niagara NE.
April 14 Maurice says his home is well hidden in the valley and impossible to find without specific directions. Phone him at 344-1331 for details.
- Saturday Capulin Springs. Leader: None needed - several "old stand-bys" will be there.
April 16 Meet at Western Skies parking lot at 6:30 a.m. The object of this trip is to observe birds coming to Capulin Springs for water. In order to do this, we must be there early and quietly await the arrivals. After about an hour of observing we will hike through the general area and be through by 11:00 or so.
- Monday AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM at Popejoy Hall at 7:30 p.m. Kent Durden will present
April 18 his film "DEATH VALLEY - LAND OF CONTRAST". There is a surprising variety of plant and animal life in that harsh environment, including more than 40 species of birds and animals.
- Thursday REGULAR MEETING of the CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY at the First Unitarian
April 21 Church, Carlisle and Comanche NE, at 7:30 p.m. Jim Karo, past president of CNMAS, will talk about wildlife photography, photographic equipment and show some of his own slides. Jim is a professional photographer for Sandia Laboratories and enjoys photographing birds as a hobby.
- Fri.-Sat. Roswell, for Lesser Prairie Chicken courting dance. John Schwartz and Terry
Apr. 22-23 Riley of the BLM will escort us to the booming (gobbling) grounds about 40 miles east of Roswell in the early morning hour of both Saturday and Sunday (go to one or both). We will rendezvous at Denny's in downtown Roswell at 4:30 a.m. each morning. Hardy souls will also check out Bitter Lakes on Saturday morning after returning from the gobbling grounds. For further information, call Mary Alice Root. (Home, 266-0561; office, 277-3411)
- Saturday Poorwill trip to Manzano, N.M. (60 miles). Leader -- VOLUNTEER NEEDED. Call
evening Mary Alice Root (phone number above). We will meet at Oak Flats picnic grounds
April 30 on South 14 for a picnic supper at 5:30-6:00. (We'll have a fire and charcoal for cooking) Bring your own food and drink. At dusk we'll drive into the Manzano Mountains to spot poorwills on the road. We'll drive to New Campground, reached via Manzano, N.M. and return to Albuquerque the same evening. We should be home by 10 p.m. Some stalwarts may want to camp at New Campground and visit Manzano Lake Sunday morning before returning to Albuquerque.
- ALSO Roswell Spring Bird Count. Check with Mary Lou and Harold W. Hallett of
April 30 Roswell. (Address, P.O. Box 396; phone number unknown.)
- Saturday Meeting of the New Mexico Audubon Council in Silver City. CNMAS will have two
May 7 delegates attending. However, the meeting is open and other members are urged to attend. A special birding trip will be arranged for those attending the meeting. Call Martin Ruoss (294-6870) for details about the Silver City meeting. Some information is contained further in the newsletter.

Saturday Silver City Spring Bird Count. An exciting day (Saturday) with experienced
 May 7 birders of Silver City. Red-faced Warblers, Bridled Titmice, Summer Tanagers,
 Week-end Acorn Woodpeckers -- lots more! Meet at Western New Mexico U. Biology Building
 at 7:30 P.M. to get assignment. Sunday we'll bird and return to Albuquerque
 on our own.

A N D F U R T H E R

Saturday Owl walk in Cienega Canyon. Hopefully, we'll see and hear Flammulated Owls.
 May 7 Leader: Bob Jost. Call for reservations and instructions (Phone 262-0869).
 Only a few people can go at a time because absolute silence is necessary.
 We will walk into the canyon before dusk and sit very quietly. At about dusk the owl
should come answer Bob's calls. Bring flashlights for walking out.

Sunday Owl walk in Cienega Canyon for a few more people, with Granger Wood as leader.
 May 8 His phone is 243-3189. Call him for reservations and instructions.

Thursday BOARD MEETING at 7:30 p.m. Meeting place to be announced.
 May 12

Saturday Sevilleta Wildlife Refuge near Belen. Leader: Mary Lou Arthur. Meet at the
 May 14 Physics/Astronomy lot at Lomas and Yale NE at 7:30 a.m. This is a new wildlife
 refuge and we'll check it out. We should be back by noon, but bring lunch
 if you're the hungry type.

Sunday DOUBLHEADER
 May 15 Bird song trip combined with Espanola Spring Bird Count. Jim Travis, the
 bird-song expert, will take us on a daybreak walk to learn to identify birds
 by their songs. Meet at Big Rock Shopping Center in Espanola at 5:30 a.m.
 We will return in time to join the Sangre de Cristo people for the Spring
 Bird Count.

A N D

The Espanola Bird Count will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the same meeting place, sponsored by the Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society.

An evening barbecue will be held at the home of a member after the day of birding. Phone CNMAS member Barbara Hussey, at 268-6547, if you would like to participate or want more information.

Thursday ANNUAL MEETING of the CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY to be held at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, corner of Jefferson and Copper NE. Please use the Copper St. entrance to the building.
 May 19

There will be a potluck dinner, beginning at 6:15 p.m. Bring a generous amount of your favorite recipe to share and tableware for your own use. Beverages will be provided. If you cannot come to dinner, join us for the meeting about 7:45 p.m. There will be election of officers for the next club year and nominations will be accepted from the floor. At this moment, the program has not been determined, but information will be available prior to the meeting.

Saturday Sandia Crest Loop (to Summit House and back, total 3 miles). Leader Paul
 May 21 Hlava. Meet at Western Skies at 7:30 a.m. We should see swifts, Clark's
 Nutcrackers and some early wildflowers on this popular hike. We may check
 Capulin Springs, too. Bring lunch -- we may dawdle.

Long week- Guadalupe Canyon. Leader: Jim Karo. Meet at Physics/Astronomy Building at
 end 8:00 Saturday morning. Repeat of last year's popular trip. Call Jim for
 May 28-30 details of you haven't been on this great trip before. His phone number is
 294 2777.

Saturday Rancho de Las Golondrinas, La Cienega, N.M. Meet in the parking lot of Camp
 June 4 Town, in the 5200 block of North San Mateo, at 5:30 a.m. We will leave there
 promptly at 6:00. Leaders: Dan and Marian Washburn. There will be early
 birding, then we will enjoy a tour of the Rancho. It is necessary that we have at least
 15 people on this trip, so reservations will be needed. Call before Thursday evening the
 2nd (Phone 266-3078) and if we do not obtain the 15 people, the destination will be changed,
 because we must cancel the tour. This will not be the full-scale production that is put
 on during the fiestas, but will have a tour guide -- and maybe the place to ourselves.
 Bring lunch; there are picnic spots.



SHADOWS OF COMING EVENTS

Saturday Water Canyon in the Magdalenas for the Red-faced Warbler and Bridled Titmouse,
June 11 as well as the Acorn Woodpecker.

See next OWL for details. Leader needed.

Saturday Swain's Sueno. Another popular trip to the Swains' Jemez home. Marge Swain is
June 18 an excellent birder and knows where all her "goodies" hang out.

Meet at intersection of NM 4 and NM 126 (road to Fenton Lake) at about 9:00 a.m.
or call Mary Alice Root or the Washburns for details. (Phone numbers given in previous
items.) More information in next issue.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

On February 12th Mary Lou Arthur coordinated a field trip by bus to Bosque del
Apache. 38 people participated and saw about 38 species of birds, including the Whooping
Crane, Bald and Golden Eagle and Prairie Falcon, as well as numerous deer. Refuge per-
sonnel were most helpful and assigned a guide who was able to take the group to areas
normally closed to the public. People appreciated the convenience of birding by bus and
recommended that a similar trip be scheduled next winter.

The snowshoe field trip scheduled for February 26 was cancelled because of
poor snow conditions.

On March 13th Granger Ward led about a dozen birders on a morning bird walk near
San Gabriel Park. 28 species of birds were seen, including the Black Phoebe, Tree Spar-
row and a Merganser. Birding in that location later in the day would have been less
productive but more exciting; Riot police were called that afternoon to clear the park
of about 1,000 young people. (See what CNMAS can start if they want to! Ed.)

NEW MEXICO AUDUBON COUNCIL

The formalization of the New Mexico Audubon Council will occur on Saturday,
May 7th, at Silver City. At this time officers will be elected and activities approved.
Martin Ruoss will preside. The NMAC has been in the talking stage for more than a year.
Persuasive efforts of CNMAS president Craig Andrews, with the help of regional Audubon
personnel, brought the issue into focus at two meetings in Socorro, one in December and
another in February. The purposes as finally decided are to facilitate the sharing and
dissemination of information between the four current local New Mexico Audubon chapters,
to engage in other educational, scientific and literary pursuits, and to be a non-profit
organization. Each chapter will send two delegates to the May 7th meeting, but any
Audubon chapter member is invited to attend. Suggestions from any and all members about
the Council are in order now. NMAC will meet about twice a year and receive financial
support from each chapter according to its membership. The meetings will rotate among the
chapters.

There are great hopes for this NMAC both as to its activities and to encourage
the formation of additional Audubon chapters in New Mexico.

DEAD AND INJURED BIRDS

Two of our members have been issued collector's permits by the U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service so that they may legally collect and transport dead wild birds. Miles
Camery, law enforcement officer with the USF&WS, pointed out at the October meeting that
it is against federal laws to have in possession a wild bird, dead or alive, or any part
of such bird (even feathers) except for House Sparrows, Starlings, Rock Dove (Pigeon) or
game birds during hunting season. If you find a dead bird (other than an exempted spe-
cies) and the body is in good condition so that it might be suitable for use as a labora-
tory specimen, phone Mary Alice Root at 277-3411 (work) or 256-7359 (home).

Ross Teuber also was issued a permit but currently is recuperating at home
after open-heart surgery. By summertime he should be birding again and be ready to par-
ticipate in this project.

If a dead or injured eagle or other raptor is found, the Law Enforcement Office
of the USF&WS should be notified at once at 766-2091 so that they may investigate the
matter and also try to save an injured bird. If an injured songbird is found at any time
or an injured raptor is found when the USF&WS office is closed, the following people are
licensed to care for injured birds and may be contacted.

- Janet Blackshear, 12128 Genoa NE (294-3669) - migratory birds and eagles
- Evelyn Candelaria, 469 Sunset Road SW (842-8615) - migratory birds and eagles
- Myrtle Hilty, Sandia Park (281-3974) - migratory birds
- Dr. Joachim Hermann, 8900 Delamar NE (294-3355) - migratory birds and eagles
- Peter Pache, 715 Alvarado SE (262-0035) - raptors
- Mrs. Kenneth Subben, 6621 Arno NE (344-8404) - migratory birds and eagles

WRITIN' TIME AGAIN

Several bills of importance to us are presently before Congress. Your letters to our government representatives indicating your support are greatly needed on these issues.

1. Water Projects Moratorium. President Carter placed a moratorium on 30 of our country's most wasteful and environmentally damaging water projects until they can be reviewed. The Senate has tacked an amendment to the Public Works Jobs bill (S. 427) which would prohibit the President from halting these projects. Hearings are being held around the country and in Congress for the next few weeks. Please write to the President indicating your support for him for stopping these boondoggles, including the Central Arizona Project and the Garrison Diversion Project. Send copies of your letter to our Senators and Representatives. (Addresses below)

2. Alaska National Interest Lands. A bill (H.R. 39; S.B. 500) is before Congress which would provide permanent protection for 114 million acres of our country's last frontier by creating or enlarging 22 National Parks and Wildlife Refuges in Alaska. Write to your Senators and Representatives indicating your support and asking them to co-sponsor the appropriate bill. (Addresses below.)

3. Non-game legislation. Senator Gary Hart (Colorado) is sponsoring a bill which would provide matching federal funds to the states for research, protection and habitat management for non-game wildlife and he needs co-sponsors. Write our senators and let them know you support this bill and urge them to co-sponsor it. (Addresses below)

4. -- And Close at Home. In a matter of close-home concern, the Bureau of Land Management has announced plans to modify short spans (60-200 yards) of fences on 82,732 acres of national resource land in Southeastern New Mexico to benefit a dwindling antelope population. The present net-wire fence does not allow free movement of the antelope which require large territories (antelope do not jump fences). Short spans of the existing fences would be replaced with a barbed-wire fence 42 inches high with a smooth bottom wire 10-16 inches above the ground, which allow the antelope to crawl under the fences. Write Mr. Smoky O'Connors, District Manager, BLM, Roswell, New Mexico 87503.

Addresses: The President of the United States, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20002; The Hon. Pete Domenici and The Hon. Harrison Schmitt, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; The Hon. Manuel Lujan, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20505.

DESERT ECOLOGY

The Audubon Institute of Desert Ecology will be held near Tucson from May 5th to 9th. Tuition is \$150, which covers room and board as well as five days of study in the field of the various features of desert ecology under the tutelage of university faculty members. Craig and Alice Andrews attended last year's session and later presented a program with slides at our July meeting. Phone Dave Lange (266-4420) for further details or register before April 22nd by sending a \$25 deposit to the Institute at 3851 West Redwing, Tucson, Arizona 85704.

OFFICERS OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY

"When man continues to destroy nature, he saws off the very branch on which he sits, since the rational protection of nature is at the same time the protection of mankind."

-- Extinct & Vanishing Animals