

# BURROWING OWL

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY

JUNE - JULY 1995

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.

## PROGRAMS

June 15: Special time: 6:30! Cookies and punch! It's Kids' Night Out!! Bring yourself and your children to join in the fun of ravens, owls, hawks, mysterious stones and more. It'll be a "hands-on" educational and entertaining evening. Our guests will be Gail Garber and friends from the Alliance of Wildlife Education (Hawks Aloft and Wildlife Rescue) and Christin Gunkel from the Natural Resources and Wildlife Education Center. This program is specially designed for children of all ages.

JULY: No meeting in July. Enjoy your summer break, and see you in August!

## TRIPS FOR JUNE

Fri.-Sun., June 2-4: Annual Water Canyon Bird Count. Join us for the day or camp out. Meet at 7 pm Friday night at the campground in Water Canyon west of Socorro to search for Owls, and/or meet at 6:30 am Saturday at the campground for the Saturday bird count. Novices are welcome and will be matched with experienced birders. For more information about the count, call Jim Black at 255-9925. For more information about car pooling and accommodations, call Charlotte at 345-1271.

Sat., June 10: Randall Davey Audubon Center, Santa Fe. Meet 8 am at the Physics Bldg. Parking lot, Yale and Lomas. Bring your lunch.



Sat.-Sun., June 17-18: Clayton. Join us to explore the grasslands of Northeastern New Mexico. Meet at 8 am at the Physics Bldg. parking lot, Yale and Lomas. Call Charlotte (345-1271) for info on car pooling and accommodations in Clayton.

## TRIPS FOR JULY

Sat.-Wed., July 1-5: Cave Creek, Arizona. This beautiful canyon in the Chiricahua Mountains is the northernmost range of South American birds and the southernmost range of North American birds. We'll be hunting Trogons and hummingbirds. Call Charlotte (345-1271) for details on car pooling and accommodations.

Sat., July 15: We'll go to the Sandias to look for hummingbirds. We should see Broadtails, Rufous, Black-chinned and, hopefully, Calliope. Bring your lunch. Meet at 8:30 am at Four Hills Shopping Center, Central and Tramway, at Hollywood Videos.

Sat., July 22: Barn Owls in Estancia. We'll be going to the Holden Ranch, where Barn Owls nest every year (see Sharyl Holden's article in the Oct/Nov 1994 issue of the Burrowing Owl). They should be about ready to fledge. Meet at 8 am at the Physics Bldg. parking lot, Yale and Lomas. Bring your lunch.



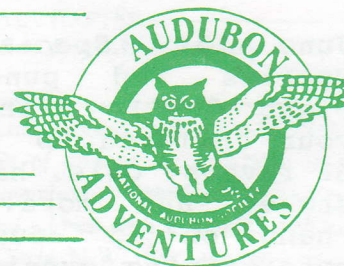
THERE IS STILL TIME!

Award a worthy student, teacher, or school with the gift of nature. We are still accepting donations to Audubon Adventures for the next school year, 1995-96. Future topics include spiders, endangered species, and bird migration.

You can sponsor a special class, and they will receive 6 issues (32 copies) of the National Audubon newspaper, a Leader's Guide, membership cards, and a classroom certificate. The one-year subscription fee is only \$35.00 per classroom.

Complete the following form with whatever information you have. If your student has not been assigned a teacher yet, we can add that information later.

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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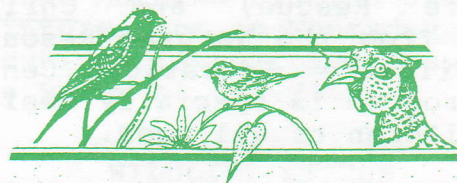


Please make your check payable to CNMAS and send to Ron Waitz, 804 Guadalupe Circle, NW, 87114-1710.

MARCH/APRIL TRIP REPORT

Five of us braved the winds in Tucumcari March 4 to see 42 species of birds, plus pronghorn. We spent the weekend poking around the lakes, ponds and farmlands, where we saw lots of blackbirds, Yellow-shafted Flickers, Rough-legged Hawks, and a Great Horned Owl.

On March 25 & 26, six of us visited Percha Dam, Caballo Lake, Elephant Butte and, to round out the weekend, Bosque del Apache. Even though it was windy on Saturday and part of Sunday, we still got to see 67 species, including Phainopepla, Lucy's Warbler, Spotted Sandpiper, Audubon's Warbler, Pyrrhuloxia, and lots of ducks. At the campground at Caballo Lake we watched Double-crested Cormorants in breeding plumage (with black and white crest feathers) catching fish. One caught a fish so big it could hardly get it down its throat! Over the two-day period we must have seen at least 500 Cormorants. On Elephant Butte Lake near the dam we watched a large flock of Western Grebes, and further north there was a large flock of White Pelicans.



Prairie Chickens were doing their dance at 5 am outside of Roswell on April 15. There were seven of us on this trip, where we snagged 50 species. At Bitter Lakes we watched shore birds, Avocets, Black-necked Stilts, Yellow-legs, Phalaropes, Sandpipers, Eared Grebes in beautiful breeding plumage, and a Marbled Godwit. We also saw a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.

Remember the day we had a snowstorm? That was the day we were scheduled to go to the HawkWatch site, April 22. Poor Sei waited, but no one showed up.

Otero Canyon on April 29 was a beautiful day, but we didn't see too many species - 32, plus squirrels and chipmunks. The best views were of Ash-throated Flycatchers, Solitary Vireos, Rufous-crowned Sparrow. There were large flocks of American Goldfinches and Evening Grosbeak at the ranger station.



**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
**By Jeffrey D. Myers**

Thanks to your help, the results of the last legislative session were reasonably good, albeit with certain "might-have-beens" that now are exactly that. A summary of the results follows:

1 - Conservation Services Division. The Game and Fish Department and the State Game Commission have consolidated many important functions into the new Conservation and Services Division. These include protection of endangered species, evaluation and protection of habitat, Watchable Wildlife, Share with Wildlife, and education activities such as New Mexico Wildlife magazine. Unfortunately, only \$350,000 was appropriated for the Division, plus an additional \$100,000 for endangered species programs. However, this is better than the \$0 initially proposed by Governor Gary Johnson.

2 - Protect NM Amphibians and Reptiles. The "herp" bill passed unanimously in the House, but was stalled in the Senate. Look for one next year.

3 - Bottle Bill. No progress was made again this year, other than passage through one legislative committee.

4 - Noxious Weed Act. Fortunately, this issue did not arise in the legislative session.

5 - Takings. No takings legislation made any headway in the legislature. We need to keep up the pressure on this issue, particularly at the federal level (Rep. Schiff has been good on this issue so far), where several takings bills are in play. Please feel free to call me to discuss these.

6 - Endangered Species Protection. A strengthened Endangered Species Act (State Wildlife Act) was passed for the state. Improvements include a peer-reviewed listing process based on biology, public hearings concerning biological information, required recovery plans (voluntary), and appealable decisions.

To quote Dave Henderson (Randall Davey Audubon Center Director), "All in all, it was a good session, with many successes to be proud of. Fortunately, wildlife protection is still generally appreciated by most of our state legislators, but not by all. During this session, Senator Tim Jennings stood out from the crowd in opposing strongly and loudly just about every piece of wildlife legislation introduced. We will have to watch him closely in the years to come." Thanks to Dave, and to all readers of this column, for their contributions to the successes.

### NEOTROPICAL MIGRANTS IN TROUBLE?

New Mexico Audubon Council Annual Conference

8-10 September, 1995

Albuquerque, NM

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## POTPOURRI

Volunteers, Please!! A bat research project will be conducted by Alice Chung-MacCoubrey, who works for the Forest Service and UNM. Period: late May to late August. Activities: netting and banding bats for radio tracking; ID of species and gathering statistics; habitat and environment identification; vegetation and food sources, etc. Be a night prowler! Call Alice at 766-1396(W) or 255-6568(H).

**Injured Hummingbird?** If you've just seen it fly into a glass window, pick it up immediately, gently place it in your palm, and hold it so that it can drink sugar solution from your feeder. It may be suffering a mild shock. If so, it needs to eat and rest until it can fly away. If it doesn't fly within a few minutes, confine it in a small box, feed it every 15 minutes, and call Wildlife Rescue. Do not keep an injured hummingbird in an air-conditioned room or near pets or small children.

Did you know there's an organization that is to Butterflies what Audubon is to Birds? The **North American Butterly Association** lists, ID's, and photographs of butterflies. There are even special close-focusing binos and a Butterly Count (4th of July)! To join, send \$25 for regular membership to North American Butterly Assn., 909 Birch St., Baraboo, WI, 53913.

**Attwater's Prairie Chickens**, still severely in decline, did receive a boost on March 14, when Mobile Oil transferred title to 1500+ acres near Texas City, containing a flock of about 25 of the endangered birds, to the Texas Nature Conservancy. Mobile also donated \$5,000 to the Houston Audubon Society for the Attwater's Prairie Chicken Festival, which was held at Eagle Lake on March 24-26. Houston AS leveraged the Mobile money with Texas Parks & Wildlife for \$2500 in matching grant monies, which went toward funding the festival.

Just turning off the faucet each time you brush your teeth can save gallons of water per day. If every New Mexican brushed with less water, we'd save millions of gallons every day! Be water wise now for our water future.



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Fax: 281-7778 E-mail: christy@rt66.com Compuserve: 72446,1565

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## ON YOUR DOORSTEP

By Christy Brothers, Conservation Chair

This year, Congress seems amazingly intent upon crafting anti-environmental legislation and destroying 25 years of progress in cleaning up our country. Certainly we need to balance our environmental well-being with economic well-being and technological advancement. But Congress is benefiting the few to the deficit of us all.

It makes little sense to use the least expensive manner of waste disposal if it pollutes water and air, destroys wildlife, raises prices because of shortages and inedible food products, and incurs horrendous clean-up costs. Where is the wisdom in saving money by releasing toxic elements into the air, so that everyone can pay more medical bills to treat their reactions to pollutants they cannot avoid? The future ramifications of habitat destruction occurring daily across the country are frightening. Yet much of Congress seems oblivious to the importance of these issues.

Most inane of all, Congress, in its "Takings" legislation, is considering requiring the federal government (read YOU, the taxpayer) to pay polluters not to pollute.

Economics and environmental issues can be worked out at the same time, at the same table. Unfortunately, in Washington, short-term economic goals of a relative few are running rampant over long-term environmental and health issues of all that is living.

While these issues may seem a long way from your personal doorstep, don't count on their effects not reaching you. The pollution or destruction of habitat for any living creature ultimately affects us all.

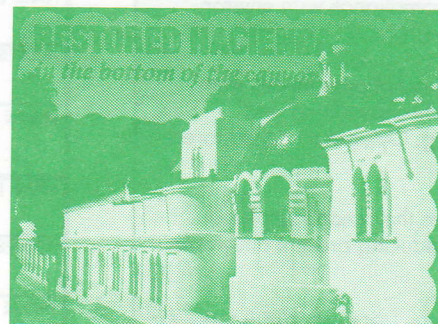
Environmentalists are not necessarily crazy activists trying to halt technological progress. They drive cars, use computers, go to movies, and use the telephone. They work as mechanics, secretaries and medical experts, tile layers and bank tellers. Every one of them benefits from modern technologies in his personal and business life. You've probably seen several environmentalists

today. The fact that you're reading the Burrowing Owl says that you, too, are an environmentalist. You care.

If you've had hours of pleasure watching birds and other wildlife, enjoying spring and summer wildflowers, or catching a Sandia sunset, you know that nature is a precious jewel in life. You know what we are risking by inaction. We are Nature. Nature is Us. Inextricably and joyfully linked.

Our Congressmen, whom we pay to represent us, need to know what we think, what we want from them, how we see the issues. If you want to know the current issues, are willing to make a few phone calls, write a few letters or faxes, or send some e-mail to our senators, representatives, and newspapers, call me. I'll tell you what's happening and give you any names and addresses you need.

Remember, it IS your doorstep. The Rio Grande, the Sandias, the Bosque del Apache, New Mexico's air and water and wildlife are affected by legislation in Washington, and YOU can do something about it. Learn about the issues. Respond. Before it is too late. If you leave a legacy to your children, it should be, above all, that you cared enough to listen, to learn, to think, and to act. We need YOU.



Hidden in the misty reaches of the Sierra Madres, a little known, only partially explored canyon, deeper and 5 times larger than our Grand Canyon. Called Copper Canyon, inhabited by secretive Tarahumaras, solitary cowboys, and lean prospectors who plunk down solid silver to buy goods, and leave at first light with heavily laden mules. Hidden on the tropical bottom, below the rapids that cascade over huge boulders in the forgotten village of BATOPILAS, is the fabulously restored Hacienda, the dream of American businessman Skip McWilliams. Maintained for a few select guests, who appreciate authenticity, privacy and isolation. At the end of an 8 hour rugged cliff-hanging dirt road, the Hacienda's shady courtyard fountains invite relaxation in another era. The life of the village goes on at its own pace, just outside the massive adobe walls.

YOU are invited. Call Judy at our U.S. Office.

1-800-776-3942





Our mailing list circulation is 1600+. 1600 x 4 = 6400. Get three other people who care and sign the petition. Send it to National by July 1. Remember, "Grassroots can grow through concrete."

**AUDUBON ACTION AGENDA 1995**

- ★ Protect America's migratory birds. Support funding for research and habitat acquisition.
- ★ Protect wild regions like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the Great Northern Forests of the Northeast.
- ★ Restore America's greatest wetland ecosystem, the Everglades, and its wildlife.
- ★ Reauthorize and strengthen the Endangered Species Act.
- ★ Strengthen the Clean Water Act to speed reductions in water pollution and increase wetlands protection.
- ★ Oppose "takings" legislation which requires taxpayers to pay for polluters' compliance with environmental laws.
- ★ Protect the national forests from irresponsible clearcutting and overlogging. Oppose so-called forest health bills.
- ★ Conserve the ocean's depleted fisheries, reducing present allowable catches.
- ★ Protect our national wildlife refuges and parks from inappropriate human uses and over-development.
- ★ Protect America's soil and farmland wetlands. Reform the Farm Bill to benefit wildlife.
- ★ Reform grazing and mining practices on our public lands.
- ★ Promote stabilization of population growth in the U.S. and globally.
- ★ Support the "Green Scissors" budget cuts for environmentally harmful subsidies in farming practices, water projects and energy projects.

★★ ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS ★★

**EVERY AMERICAN HAS THE RIGHT TO A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT.** We urge all elected officials — local, state and federal — to protect that right. We oppose any measures that would roll back the environmental progress of the last 25 years. We commit ourselves to supporting the following simple principles, and will hold public officials who represent us accountable for their stewardship of the planet.

- I. PREVENT POLLUTION.** Every American is entitled to air, water, food and communities free from toxic chemicals. Government policies and regulatory standards must prevent pollution before it happens, expand citizens' right to know about toxics, and guarantee protection for citizens, particularly for the most vulnerable among us — infants, children, pregnant women and the elderly.
- II. PRESERVE AMERICA'S NATIONAL HERITAGE,** wild and beautiful, for our children and future generations. Wildlife, forests, mountains, prairies, wetlands, rivers, lakes, coastlines, urban parks and open space are all part of our national heritage.
- III. END THE GIVE-AWAYS OF PUBLIC ASSETS,** such as mineral, timber and grazing resources. End the subsidies for oil and energy companies. Polluters should pay to clean up the mess they create. No one has the right to use property in a way that destroys or degrades the surrounding community. We reject the idea that good neighbors must pay bad ones not to pollute.
- IV. CONSERVE AMERICA'S NATURAL RESOURCES** by controlling waste, increasing energy efficiency, and protecting against overuse and abuse. Encourage sustainable technologies that meet human needs without destroying the environment.
- V. GET THE BIG MONEY OUT OF POLITICS.** No more government for sale. Let's take our government back from the big campaign contributors and exploiters who control it today.

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ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
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ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE (DAY, W/AREA CODE)	PHONE (EVENING, W/AREA CODE) <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE SEND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
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To obtain additional copies of the Environmental Bill of Rights pledge sheet, call (800) 542-2748. Please return signed petitions BEFORE JULY 1 to: Environmental Bill of Rights, National Audubon Society, 666 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, #200, Washington, DC 20003-4319 TEL: (202) 547-9009 • FAX: (202) 547-9022





BIRD AMERICA!  
 BIRD AMERICA! BIRD AMERICA!  
 BIRD AMERICA! BIRD AMERICA! BIRD AMERICA!



And the winner is . . . All of us in CNMAS! Thanks to our intrepid teams and our generous supporters, the First Annual **Bird America** was a rousing success! The pledges are still being tallied, but at this point we know you donated over \$800, half of which will go to the cause of education in New Mexico, both through our **Audubon Adventures** outreach program and through the programs and personnel at **Randall Davey Audubon Center**. (The other half goes to National Audubon Society to support their programs.) Read on to find out how much fun we had doing it -- and thanks again!

**TEAM #1: Hart Schwarz, leader  
 Jonalyn Yancey, Patrice Johnson,  
 Missy Jackson**

Bird America 1995 arrived, literally, on the high winds of April that made hearing birds almost impossible. Nonetheless, Team 1 had a great day birding.

We saw a total of 95 species. We started the day driving to an Albuquerque neighborhood in the NE Heights where **White-winged Doves** have been sighted. We were immediately rewarded when one flew into the tree in front of our car. We did not want to miss the **Bank Swallows** at Calabacillas Arroyo, so we went there next. Due to habitat loss, it doesn't seem possible they could survive there much longer. We then logged several species at the Rio Grande clear ditch and proceeded to Petroglyph National Monument.

At this stop we had **Black-throated Sparrows**, **Rufous-crowned Sparrows**, **Loggerhead Shrike**, and a large diamondback. Hart showed great athletic ability by doing a standing broad jump without hesitation at this point!

The Oxbow and Rio Grande Nature Center were our next two stops. We then headed for the hills. We saw a beautiful **Scott's Oriole** at a feeder in Three Gun Canyon. An early **Hermit Thrush** in Barro Canyon seemed a sure sign of spring. We made our last stop at Capulin Springs just before sunset and were rewarded by 5 to 6 **Cassin's Sparrows** in the tree-tops, singing their hearts out. Great end to a great day!! Thank you for all your support with our first **Bird America!**

**TEAM # 2: Steve and Nancy Cox, leaders**

We left Albuquerque around 1:30 a.m. in order to get into Water Canyon for a few hours of owling. This early morning was very windy. The wind was a major factor in our birding for the whole count.

We birded Water Canyon and made our way into Socorro after a couple of stops for a few more **sparrows** and a couple of **wrens**. We didn't spend much time in Socorro, but long enough for two more species of **doves** and a **Burrowing Owl**.

We drove on down to Bosque del Apache NWR and did well with the **shorebirds**. Next was a stop at North Monticello Point, Elephant Butte Lake, on to Caballo dam, Percha dam, and our final daylight stop at Animas Creek. We ended our birding at approximately 10:00 p.m. with another stop at Bosque del Apache NWR for one more **owl** species.

Driving back to Albuquerque, we realized that with just a little bit better luck we could have added 20 or more species -- **Great Blue Heron** and **Belted Kingfisher** as conspicuous examples. Something to try for next year!



"I belonged to the Audubon Society"



**TEAM #4: Larry Gorbet, leader  
Jim Place**

Jim Place and I managed a total of 114 species (only 1 identified by only one of us), despite no owling and all-day car troubles that cost us at least an hour or two of time, plus energy and attention. We began at Sandia Crest (very windy - hard to hear singing birds), then down to Capulin Spring and Sandia Park. Our next stop was Three Gun Spring, which was good to us.

We then zoomed through Grasslands in Los Lunas and on to Belen for Willie Chavez Park (the reliable Lewis' Woodpecker) and Madrone Ponds (too early for Catbirds or Willow Flycatchers, but we got our first "bonus bird," a male Greater Scaup, plus two female Ring-necked Ducks). In Socorro, we stopped at John Shipman's house for Inca and White-winged Doves, then on to Water Canyon. Car troubles limited our range and cost us time, but we got most of the hoped-for warblers and vireos.

As usual, we counted on Bosque del Apache to bail us out. We did fairly well there, but missed shorebirds and passerines due to the winds. We did get a major consolation prize - a very cooperative Le Conte's Sparrow on the seasonal road. It flushed from the roadside grass, flew a short distance into the thankfully short grass again, and stayed put while we stopped and walked to where we saw it land. We were treated to about half a dozen separate looks, all with the sun behind us, most at 15 or 20 feet, as the little sparrow flew back and forth along the roadside, always choosing grass or low in small bushes for a destination.

**AUDUBON CAMP IN THE WEST  
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER**

Congratulations to Carolyn Minette from Wilson Middle School, this year's winner of the Camp of the West scholarship. She was chosen from a field of seven enthusiastic and deserving candidates. Susan Rae Ostlie from McKinley Middle School is runner-up. Thanks to all the dedicated and hard-working teachers who make a difference -- those who applied and those who didn't!

**TEAM #5: Charlotte Green, Sei Tokuda -  
leaders**

Eight people composed the Weekend Birders team. We pretty much covered Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties, starting from Otero Canyon to Sulphur Canyon on the east side of the Sandias, over to Placitas, Corrales Bosque, Shady Lakes, the Nature Center, various locations in Albuquerque, and La Cueva Picnic area. In all we counted 97 species of birds. We all gathered at Sei and May's house afterward for a cookout that May spent all day preparing for us -- our appreciation to her, and to you who supported us!

**TEAM #6: Thursday Birders  
Tamie Bulow, leader**

We spent a super day at Bosque del Apache for our Birdathon. We had eight participants, who all got glorious looks at the Vermilion Flycatcher and Green Heron. Wilson's Phalaropes and Eared Grebes (love that red eye!) in breeding plumage were also a thrill. Huge numbers of White-faced Ibis flew overhead while we studied the shorebirds. It was great seeing the Wild Turkeys and that lone Forster's Tern. We ended up with 80 species that day, and we enjoyed every one of them!

**COMPOSTING IN THE 21st CENTURY**

How about a "recipe" for breaking down TNT that includes buffalo manure and waste from a vegetable-processing plant? That's just one of the solutions Woods End Research Laboratory in Mt. Vernon, Maine, has provided in its business of "formulating compost mixes tailored to the hazardous waste that needs to be broken down." Clients include Prince Charles, Walt Disney World, and the Pentagon. Their waste products include animal carcasses, diseased crops, fishing industry scraps, paper industry sludges, and textile fibers, not to mention food scraps and yard debris. They're working on "anything from plastic explosives to diesel fuels and pesticides."



(Every team was a member of "The Team," and we're all the winners, but Team #3, led by Bill Howe, had the highest number of species. Following, then, is his report:)

**TEAM #3: Bill Howe, leader  
Dave Mehlman, Chris Rustay**

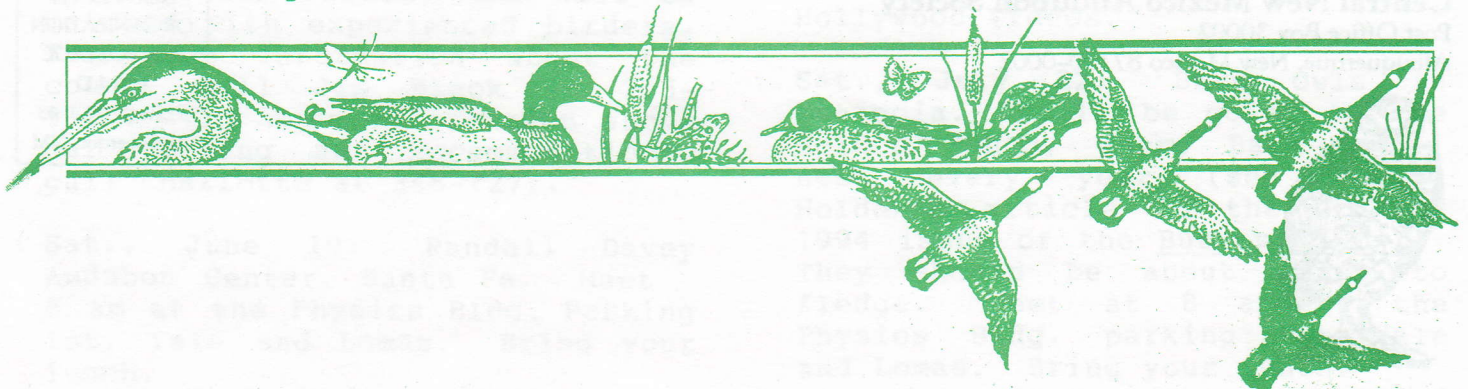
Our team visited southeastern New Mexico with high hopes of seeing mass quantities of birds. The plan was to start at Rattlesnake Springs and gradually work our way up the Pecos River Valley to finish the day at Bitter Lake NWR and Roswell. The day began at 4:00 a.m. at Slaughter Canyon for **Poorwills** and **Lesser Nighthawks**. Dawn at Rattlesnake Springs treated us to loud commotions and displays by **Wild Turkeys** and a chorus of the many resident birds of the area, including **Vermilion Flycatcher**, **Brown Thrasher**, **Bell's Vireo**, **Summer Tanager**, **Northern Cardinal**, and **Orchard Oriole**. High winds began early that day, which greatly stifled bird activity and our ability to detect them. But we were still treated to surprises such as **Band-tailed Pigeon**, **White-winged Dove**, **Olive-sided Flycatcher**, and **Scrub** and **Steller's Jays**. Warblers and most other migrants, unfortunately, were few and far between. We then returned to Slaughter Canyon, adding canyon birds including a late **Black-chinned Sparrow**. Gray Vireos were not to be had, despite rumors they had arrived. By the time we left Slaughter Canyon we had detected 86 species for the day.

We then migrated over to the Pecos River near Loving to view **Night Herons**, a **Harris' Hawk** on the nest, and the only **Blue Grosbeak** of the day, but Scissor-tailed Flycatchers eluded us. Brantley Lake, north of Carlsbad, produced interesting birds including a **Common Loon**, **Franklin's Gulls**, and an immature **Bonaparte's Gull**. The trip between there and Roswell was relatively unproductive save for some **Long-billed Curlews** (always a pleasure) near Dexter. **Burrowing Owls** west of the Roswell Cemetery indicated the colony there is still somewhat active. We spent little time there, however, so we could maximize our time at Bitter Lake NWR.

Bitter Lake NWR was, of course, a high point of the day. We quickly added 13 species of **waterfowl** and 17 species of **shorebirds**, plus other birds including a late **Downy Woodpecker** at headquarters. One of the most enjoyable birds of the day was one that struggled to land in high winds in a cottonwood we were under, proving upon landing to be a male **Rose-breasted Grosbeak!** We enjoyed its company for several minutes as it foraged to within 15 feet.

The final hour of daylight was spent in the residential areas of Roswell, where we found **Curve-billed Thrashers**, **Blue Jays**, and **Dusky** and **Olive-sided Flycatchers**. No luck, however, with locating **Mississippi Kites** or **Inca Doves**.

All in all, it was a productive and very enjoyable day. The final species total, 143, led us to speculate wildly on what else we could have seen had the weather cooperated and had there been some active migration that day. With this first attempt, we can think of many refinements to boost the species total for NEXT YEAR -- something we will all look forward to!





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