Central New Mexico Audubon Society

Bull COVATION OCTOBER 1998 Issue

Central New Mexico Audubon Society

October/November 1998 Issue

Volume 27 No. 6

Welcome to Central New Mexico Audubon Society! Come join us. All our meetings and field trips are free and open to the public

11th Annual Festival of the Cranes November 19-22

The Festival of the Cranes, New Mexico's premier birding event of the year, is just over a month away. Each year for eleven years, the Bosque del Apache NWR, the City of Socorro, the New Mexico Game and Fish Department and the Socorro County Chamber of Commerce have successfully collaborated in their sponsorship of this exciting event. Over 95 workshops, tours, exhibits and demonstrations are planned for folks attending the festival. Many events are free and the price for most ticketed programs is under \$5 if you plan ahead. After November 7 the fee for ticketed events goes up several dollars. The Nature Photography Workshop is a more expensive event at \$38, but a portion of the fee goes to NM Game and Fish education program, Project WILD.

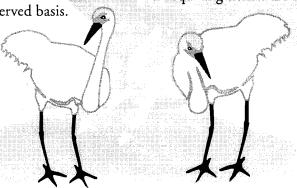
The fabulous spectacle of thousands of sandhill cranes and snow geese at the Bosque is a hard act to follow, but keynote speakers will certainly liven up your evenings. Three keynote speeches are scheduled beginning with Jim Winder on Thursday, November 19. Jim is a fourth-generation New Mexico cattle rancher, economist and environmental advocate. He is an inspirational speaker for cooperation and partnership between commercial enterprises and

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environmental protectionism and the founder of the Quivera Coalition, uniting ranchers and environmentalists who seek to restore and preserve the land. The following evening, Friday, November 20, Bill and Elsa Thompson, creators and publishers of *Bird Watcher's Digest*, will musically entertain you with how they met, became bird watchers and later developed their magazine. On Saturday, November 21, Don and Lillian Stokes will give you a glimpse into the fascinating behavior of North American birds in their slide presentation "The Fabulous World of Birds." Most birders are acquainted with the many books the Stokes have authored including *Stokes Field Guide to Birds* as well as the 13-part PBS TV series *Birdwatch with Don and Lilian Stokes*.

All keynote presentations will be at Socorro's Macey Center Auditorium beginning at 8 pm. The price of admission for each keynote presentation, is \$4.00 but after November 7 is \$6.00.

Plan ahead for the festival, space is limited and reservation requests are filled in the order received. Even free events requiring tickets are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.



To receive a booklet with all the scheduled events, maps, accommodations and registration information, send your request to: Festival of the Cranes, P.O. Box 743-C, Socorro, NM 87801 or call the Socorro County Chamber of Commerce at (505) 835-0424. Two festival web sites with additional information are: Festival of the Cranes at www.nmt.edu/mainpage/festival and Bosque del Apache NWR at www.sturgeon.irm1.r2.fws.go/u2/refuges/newmex/bosque.html. Send email to chamber@socorro-nm.com. See page 5 for more information on birding and photography events.



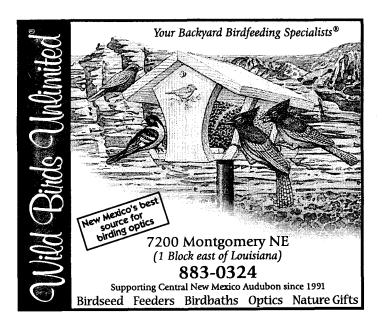
New Mexico Auduboners Honored

In July at its biennial convention in Estes Park, Colorado, The National Audubon Society honored three New Mexicans with presentation of the Charles Callison Award, one of National Audubon's highest awards for conservation.

David Henderson, Executive Director of Randall Davey Audubon Center (our state office), was recognized for "creatively establishing the Randall Davey Audubon Center in Santa Fe as an educational center and advocacy-based state office. His vision, advocacy, ability to work with people with boundless enthusiasm and commitment to wildlife habitat have established the New Mexico State Office at the Randall Davey Center as a facility for others to emulate."

Tom and Eleanor Wootten, of the Mesilla Valley Audubon Society in Las Cruces, were recognized for "working tirelessly as volunteers toward the achievement of outstanding environmental advocacy efforts throughout New Mexico, based on sound scientific principles, while always exemplifying creativity, perseverance, patience, and generosity."

The Charles Callison Award is bestowed upon one professional and one volunteer within the National Audubon organization each year, and this year New Mexico activists took home all the honors. Thanks from all of us to each of you— to Dave, and to Tom and Eleanor— for your gift to us helping to assure that New Mexico's spectacular wildlife heritage will be here to enjoy for generations.



Feathers from the President

State Fair wasn't enough to do it— Fall had to come crashing in on me this morning with the conjunction of the metallic whirr of the hummingbird overlain by the screech of a flicker as it rediscovered our backyard. Moments later, I couldn't decide whether to watch the kestrel on the pole as it devoured its prey, or the lesser goldfinch on the sunflower stalk as it devoured its seeds.

"Interactive" – that's what impressed me about those quick observations and how they'd come into my awareness. Feeling pressed to meet deadlines, I felt I couldn't take time for either the sound or sight of the birds – but there they were! And we interacted. And guess what? It was fun!

I invite you to come "interact" with us. Check out our work weekend with New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors in October, or enhance your Festival of the Cranes weekend by joining us. Guess what? It's fun!

-Beth Hurst-Waitz

National 2	Audubon Society
Chapter M	ember Application
local chapter. to the address	ne as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my Please send AUDUBON magazine and my membership card
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ADDRESS_	
CITY	STATEZIP
Please	make all checks payable to the National Audubon Society.
Local Chapter	Send this application and your check to: National Audubon Society Chapter Membership Data Center P.O. Box 30002 • Albuquerque, NM 87114-1710 LOCAL CHAPTER Central New Mexico Audubon Society Code— Q51 7XCH8

Use the above form for new subscriptions only. Contact Membership Chairperson for changes of address or correction in your Burrowing Owl label. Nonmembers can receive the Burrowing Owl by sending your name and address with \$12 to CNMAS, c/o Beth Hurst-Waitz, 804 Guadalupe Circle, N.W., 87114-1710

Burrowing Owl Subscription

The Burrowing Owl Newsletter is published six times a year, February, April, June, August, October and December. Subscription is free to Central New Mexico Audubon Society members, \$12 to nonmembers.

Central New Mexico Audubon Society P.O. Box 30002 Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87190-0002





Aldo Leopold "Live"

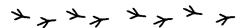
If you are a history buff, lover of wildlife or just enjoy theater, the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities has a performance you will love. The NMEH is sponsoring a Chautauqua performance on Aldo Leopold. Chautauqua solo performances were originated around the turn of the century in Chautauqua Lake, New York where performers impersonated notable and popular contemporary and historical persons. Chautauqua trained performers bring to life the people they portray and help the audience hear and see a real person. New Mexico Road Scholar Richard Bodner will "be" Aldo Leopold. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Aldo Leopold you might want to check out the September issue of Smithsonian which has a lovely feature article on Aldo Leopold. Aldo died fifty years ago but made very important contributions during his lifetime. He became a famous forest ranger, conservationist, down-to-earth philosopher, advocate for better land management and a great writer. Long before "green" was popular, Aldo Leopold's book, "A Sand County Almanac" eloquently made a case for our need to better manage our land and wildlife. The Albuquerque Pilot Project presents Richard Bodner's performance "Valuing the Wild, Conservation, Connections & Community" on Sunday, November 8, 2-4 pm at the Christ United Methodist Church, 6200 Gibson Blvd. SE. There will be music and food before and after the presentation and discussion with "Aldo." Admission is free. More information is available from Audubon member Marjorie Williams at 262-1646.

Council Corner

Your New Mexico Audubon Chapters now belong to a different region! Our state is now affiliated with the Rocky Mountain Region, comprised of Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana— and New Mexico! New Mexico and Montana have the two state offices in the region— ours, of course, being Randall

Council Corner cont'd

Davey Audubon Center in Santa Fe. Thanks to National Audubon Society for approving our request for this transfer. With many issues and concerns shared by New Mexico and Arizona, and a history of cooperative work in many areas, we look forward to new opportunities to work on topics of mutual interest and concern. Plans are already under way for a NM-AZ joint conference in 1999. Watch for future announcements here.



Audubon Adventures A Big Thank You to Our Contributors!

As Cindy Clark takes on the Audubon Adventures chair for the new year, let's thank our contributors whose donations are sponsoring this school year's program:

Lillian Tenopyr
Aija Thacher
Jean E. Dilley
Thursday Birders
Beth Hurst-Waitz
and the contributions of our local chapter

Our students and teachers thank you all! Cindy is enthusiastically recruiting teachers who are excited about sharing Audubon Adventures.

She's already got 16 classrooms

Donations you make now will go toward the school year 1999-2000, so plan ahead—it's for the future!

signed up for this school year!

ENTUR
Enclosed please find my check for \$
I choose to designate Elementary/Middle School for my sponsorship (designation is optional)
Name
Address
City, State, Zip

Help support this educational outreach program! Send your check payable to CNMAS with this form to Ron Waitz, 804 Guadalupe Circle, N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87114.



Audubon Programs

Programs begin at 7:30 p.m. Light refreshments are served from 7:15. Come to St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, northwest corner of Copper and Jefferson.

Thursday, October 15 Phil Norton, manager of Bosque del Apache NWR, will be here again shortly before the Festival of the Cranes to provide us with a sneak preview. Also we'll hear first hand about activities of the past year and plans for the future. This is a great chance to learn more about controversial management plans that are designed to accommodate all of the bird species which, at one time or another, inhabit the "Bosque."

Thursday, November 19 Ray Powell, our State Land Commissioner, returns to update us on the status of our New Mexico public lands. He'll specifically discuss the Asset Inventory Program, but bring your questions about pertinent issues of the day, such as the environmental rancher movement, or any other subject that you'd like to hear Commissioner Powell address in person.

We Need Your Help at Festival of the Cranes

Increase your enjoyment of this year's Festival of the Cranes by joining Auduboners from all over the state at our Audubon Council tent. Help us greet visitors and identify birds. You do not need to be an expert, just share your extra field guide or binoculars with visitors. Promote Audubon and "our" magnificent Bosque del Apache. Immerse yourself for a day (or an hour or two) in the magic of migration. Call Jeff Myers, 988-1502, or Beth Hurst-Waitz, 898-8514, to sign up to help at the tent.

The natural alternative

Backyard birding is an increasingly popular entertainment option.

Share it with you friends and family, and enjoy 15% off any bird feeder with this ad.





Wild Bird Center

The Promenade Shopping Center 5200 Eubank NE (Eubank at Spain NE) (Just East of Marie Callender's) 332-4737

Audubon Field Trips

October Trips

Saturday, October 10 Grasslands and Bernardo. Meet at 8:00 am at the Physics parking lot at Lomas and Yale. Bring your lunch.

Saturday and Sunday, October 24 and 25 You're invited, with Audubon, to join New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors at Bosque del Apache. Last year, we even got a private tour on Saturday before dinner. Think of it as a party and rehearsal dinner to spruce up for Festival of the Cranes. Meet at 8:00 am at the Refuge Visitor Center. Wear comfortable clothes and bring gloves, hats, water, lunch, sun and bug screen. Saturday dinner is provided at the Refuge. You can plan to camp Saturday at the Refuge or stay in Socorro. Call Dave Fletcher (293-9525) to RSVP, and tell him you're from Audubon!

Sunday, October 25 Bosque del Apache. The birding is always great here. Meet at 7:30 am at the Physics parking lot at Lomas and Yale. Bring your lunch.



November Trips

Saturday, November 14 Mystery Trip. Don't know where yet, but we'll go see some birds. Join us and take a chance! Meet at 8:00 am at the Physics parking lot at Lomas and Yale. Bring your lunch. Dress warmly. Call Sei (266-2480) or Charlotte (345-1271) for more info.

Thursday Morning Birding Group

For information on weekly birding outings (every Thursday), call Julie Goodding at 255-9366. Meeting time and location, as well as duration, vary.

Other Field Trips

October

Monday, October 5 Rio Grande Nature Center full moon walk. Staff and volunteers will lead a one mile walk through the Rio Grande bosque, listening for owls, coyotes and other nocturnal creatures. No flashlights or talking. Meet at the RGNC at 7:00 pm. Call 344-7240 for info.

Saturday, October 17 East mountain birdwalk. Hart Schwarz will lead this morning to early afternnoon walk (return approx. 1pm) over 3 miles of varying terrain. Limited to 15 people. Meet at Hollywood Video store Four Hills shopping center, at 8:30 am. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes, appropriate clothes and bring water and lunch. Call Wild Bird Center at 332-4737 to reserve space.



Festival of the Cranes Activities of Note

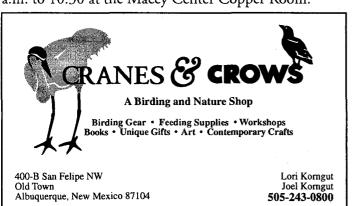
We have highlighted for you programs and tours on birding and nature photography during the Festival. Most of the programs will be held at the Macey Center on the campus of New Mexico Tech in Socorro. Except as indicated otherwise, the cost for these events is \$4.00 (\$6.00 after November 7). Please consult the Festival's program booklet for more details as well as for information on many other programs, demonstrations, events and exhibits of interest.

Birding Programs

- Christopher Rustay will present a slide show on Birding in New Mexico, Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 at the Macey Center Galena Room.
- HawkWatch International will present Raptor Identification, Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 at the Macey Center Galena Room.
- Paul Tebbel and Daniel Perry will present Cranes-From A to Z (described as an "entertaining and wildly exciting show"), Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 at the Macey Center Copper Room.
- Hawks Aloft will present Birding by Ear, Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 at the Macey Center Galena Room.
- Kent Clegg, the ultralight aircraft pilot who escorted the whooping cranes to the Refuge last year, will present It's a Bird and a Plane, Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 at the Macey Center Galena Room.
- Wild Birds Unlimited will present Backyard Bird Feeding, Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to noon in the Macey Center Copper Room.
- Steve Cox will present Birds of the Bosque del Apache NWR, Saturday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 at the Macey Center Galena Room.

Nature Photography Programs

- Joe Roybal will present Wildlife Photos-The Right Way, Thursday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 at the Macey Center Galena Room.
- Jim Clark and Karen Hollingsworth will conduct an all-day Nature Photography Workshop, Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 at the Refuge Visitor Center Auditorium. Price \$38/\$40.
- Jim Clark will also explain his nature photo techniques in A Natural Celebration, Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 at the Macey Center Copper Room.



Refuge Birding Tours

In addition to the programs, many tours of interest are scheduled. Those that we list below originate from the Refuge parking lot, and are also priced at \$4/\$6, unless indicated otherwise.



- Breakfast with the Birds, a 2 van tour of areas normally closed to the public, is scheduled for both Thursday and Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 10:30. An "elegant picnic breakfast and souvenirs" are included. Limited to 14 people each day. Price is \$85.
- Walk-out to Fly-out, a bus and walking tour, also begins at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday and Friday but ends at 8:30 a.m.. Limited bus capacity.
- Walk-in to Fly-in, a similar bus and walking tour, is scheduled for Thursday and Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00. Limited bus capacity.
- Early Bird Tours, a bus tour which includes areas normally closed to the public, are designed for "avid birders" and are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a. m. Limited bus capacity.
- Daily 2 Hour Bus Tours led by Refuge personnel to areas normally closed to the public are scheduled for Thursday and Friday at 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday at 9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Price is \$3/\$5.

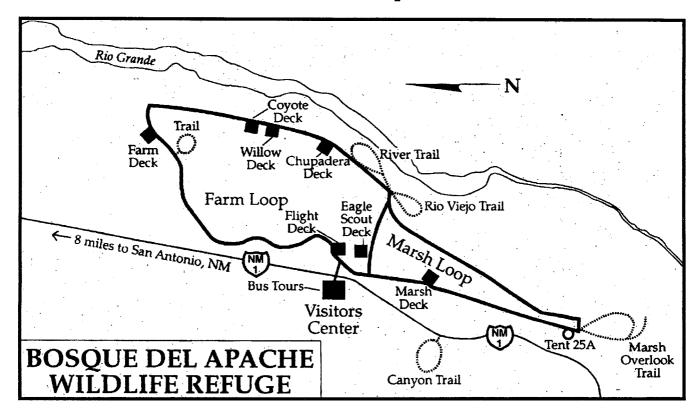
Other Birding Tours

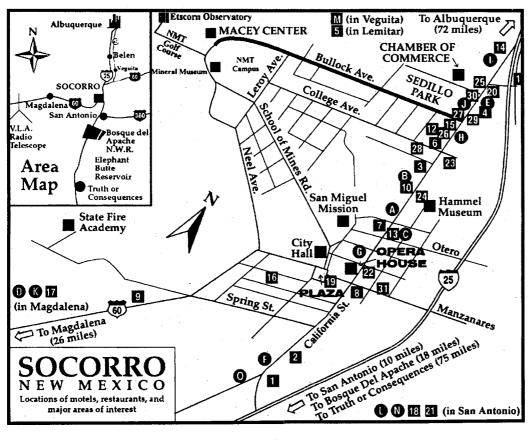
The Festival is also providing some interesting birding tours outside of the Refuge.

- Sevilleta NWR (first time open to touring) on Thursday from 11:00 a.m.to 3:00 p.m. The Sevilleta tour is free, but is limited to 25 people who must provide four-wheel drive vehicles (consider car-pooling), a bag lunch and drinks. Meet at the Sevilleta headquarters, just off Interstate 25.
- Two Water Canyon tours; one on Saturday and the second on Sunday, both from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.. The Water Canyon birding trips meet at the plaza in Socorro to car pool for a 1 to 2 mile hike at a 7,000 foot altitude. Limited to 60 people made up of three groups of 20 each. Price for the Water Canyon tours is \$3/\$5.



Festival Maps





Numbers refer to restaurants and letters refer to lodging. For a full list of these restaurants and accommodations, please refer to the official Festival of the Cranes booklet. To receive a booklet with all the scheduled events, maps, accommodations and registration information, send your request to: Festival of the Cranes, P.O. Box 743-C, Socorro, NM 87801 or call the Socorro County Chamber of Commerce at (505) 835-0424



Junior Duck Stamp Exhibit

Winning entries of New Mexico's Federal Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest will be displayed at Socorro's Macey Center during the Festival of the Cranes in November. The exhibit will be open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.. Jared Lee, New Mexico's Best of Show, received honorable mention among the thousands of entries submitted from around the United States. The program was developed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and supported by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to encourage young people to appreciate our waterfowl and understand the need to protect wetlands habitat.



Two immature hummers hearing about migration for the first time.

Email Addresses

If you are interested in receiving news about birding issues and trips that don't make it into the newsletters, please send your email address to bcokenm@aol.com. Also don't forget to check our CNMAS web site:

www.rt66.com/peacmyer/cnmas.htm

Important Information

Wildlife Rescue

If you find a sick or injured bird, call 344-2500.

Rare Bird Alert

To learn about sightings all over the state or to report a rare sighting, the number in Albuquerque is 323-9323. e-mail: Pinyonjay@aol.com

Bat in Trouble?

Call Talking Talons before you intervene. 281-1133 or 281-1515

Just A Few Web Sites

National Audubon Society/Partners in Flight WatchList (for updated information on birds at risk before they require federal listing): http://www.audubon.org/bird/watch/

Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology BirdSource

(a "weather map" of bird distributions, population, and migratory movements): http://birdsource.cornell.edu

New Mexico Ornithological Society:

http://biology.unm.edu/~nmos

The Peregrine Falcon Fund

(for continuing information on the Arizona Condor population): http://www.peregrinefund.org.

Share with Wildlife nongame protection program of New Mexico Department of Game and Fish:

http://gmfsh.state.nm.us (Click on "Nongame")

Hawks Aloft

http://www.rt66.com/~hawkssnm

HawkWatch International

http://www.info-xpress.com/hawkwatch

The Hummer/Bird Study Group, Inc.

http://home.judson.edu/hbsg

Hummingbirds interesting site http://www.derived.com/hummers/

Bosque del Apache NWR

http://www.sturgeon.irm1.r2.fws.go/u2/refuges/newmex/bosque.html

Rio Grande Nature Center

http://www.unm.edu/~natrcent

GrassRoots Environmental Effectiveness Network

http://www.defenders.org/grnhome.html

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Bosque del Apache NWR (505) 835-1828

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Sandia Ranger District US Forest Service Clifford Dils, Acting District Ranger 11776 Highway 337 Tijeras, NM 87059 (505) 281-3304

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Villagra Building P.O. Box 25112 Santa Fe, NM 87503-0001 (505) 841-8881 http://gmfsh.state.nm.us (click on "Nongame")

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