

Central New Mexico Audubon Society

Burrowing Owl

September, October, November 2006 Issue

Volume 35 No. 4

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

CNMAS Education – Opportunities Abound

Yes, it's true, as you read this you'll realize that CNMAS has more education opportunities available than ever before. There are many circumstances that have led to the new or expanded programs and funds, and hidden behind them lie the hard work and love of many dedicated people, eager to further the education of New Mexico students and teachers. While there have been many individuals involved in the development of the opportunities listed below, I would particularly like to thank Lynn Schuler and Bill Talbot for jumping on CNMAS board's Education and Scholarships Committee and really giving it a huge boost. Their ideas, concerns, experience and hard work have gone a long way to getting us where we are today.

Helen Haskell, August 2006

Teacher Professional Development Opportunity

The Central New Mexico Audubon Society has an exciting opportunity to offer a teacher from New Mexico. Would you like to attend the Institute of Desert Ecology held in Tucson? Would you like to spend four days outdoors learning about the Sonoran Desert, immersing yourself and exploring all its exciting components? Prepare to be fascinated with how the saguaro cactus plays a key role for many species in the desert and look forward to meeting many other interesting people from around the United States, including other teachers.

When and Where: April 19-22, 2007, Catalina

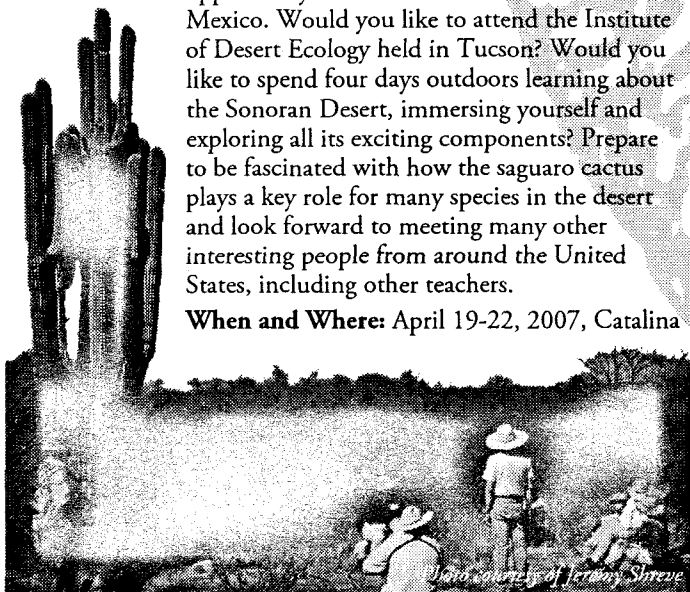


Photo courtesy of Terri May Shreve

CNMAS Fall Programs Premier "Profiles In Nature" Thursday, September 21

Come early for refreshments and socializing! Free and open to everyone. Program starts at 7:15, doors open at 6:45.

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 211 Jefferson Street NE
1 block north of Central, 4-5 blocks west of San Mateo

Pat O'Brien will present an evening of beautiful images and good-natured storytelling in a program he calls *Profiles In Nature*, sharing Nature's palette through his own renowned photography. Pat is a wildlife biologist who (thankfully) came to Albuquerque after his 33 years with Arizona Game & Fish Department, with time in between spent at Ducks Unlimited and Texas Parks & Wildlife. Do join us for this evening with Pat, well-known to us as dedicated volunteer and ambassador of goodwill at Rio Grande Nature Center.

Hold these dates for more Fall Programs:

October 19 • November 9

Call Beth at 505-898-8514 for more info.

State Park, Tucson, AZ.

All participants are encouraged to arrive on Wednesday, April 18 between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. The Institute begins on Thursday April 19th at 6:30 a.m. (Arizona time!). The Santa Catalina Mountains are the backdrop for the state park where the Institute is held. The park has a large variety of desert wildlife, including over 150 species of birds. Days should be hot and sunny, and evenings chillier.

Desert Ecology... continued on page 5

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**BIRDATHON! 2006:****The People, the Birds, the Memories**

A few people gave a lot, and then they gave some more! Below are folks whose names we know, and we thank them publicly and profusely: Jeff Myers, Karen and Gary Boettcher, Marjorie Williams, Cheri Orwig, Bonnie Long, Sonia Santa Anna, Sei Tokuda, Patricia Folsom, Mary Lou Arthur, Virginia Taylor, Ron Waitz, Lannois Neely, Sally Burke, Lannois Neely, Brave_E, Sylvia Fee, Rebecca Gracey, Madelon and Vic Brown, Les Hawkins, Melissa Howard, Robert Munro and Bruce Munro, Lou Prime, Bev Silfer, Jerry Pilny, Peter Kendrashov, Yousif Artia, Dave Watson, Mary Pat Day, Lannan Foundation.

Now, the birds:

Saturday-Sunday, April 22-23: Bitter Lake NWR and Rattlesnake Springs.

Leader: Sei Tokuda. There were 15 people in the group. There was a downpour of rain between Roswell and Artesia; and that evening there was a thunder and lightning show and a pretty heavy rain that had the street running with water. Beautiful in sight, sound and feeling good that it was RAINING! And, the fresh smell after the rain.... Oh, yes, the birding was pretty good too. We totaled 100 species and the best sights at Bitter Lake were the Black-necked Stilts, Avocets, a Prairie Falcon, the Semipalmated and Snowy Plovers in the same spotting scope field. The best sightings in the Carlsbad/Rattlesnake Springs areas were the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, the red birds (N. Cardinal, Summer Tanager and the ubiquitous Vermilion Flycatcher), Wild Turkeys, Bell's Vireo, Brown Thrasher and Hooded Oriole.

Thursday-Friday, May 11-12: Manzanita Mountains, Bosque del Apache, Macey Center.

Leader: Karen Boettcher. Beautiful weather, excellent birders, perfect migration timing, and a tried-and-true itinerary all helped to make this year's Thursday Birders Birdathon a rousing success! The group started at 9:30 a.m. with a Scott's Oriole in the Manzanita Mountains, enjoyed stops at Manzano Pond (Indigo Bunting, Northern Waterthrush, Evening Grosbeak) and Quarai (cooperative Rock Wren and Great Horned Owl), then proceeded on to Bosque del Apache via Farm-To-Market Road and Jerry Oldenettel's place, where a roosting Barn Owl provided one of the day's highlights. A flooded field along the Bosque seasonal road provided birds galore (Common Moorhens, Franklin's Gulls) and as darkness fell, the group had already surpassed the previous record of 130 species set in 2005.

Macey Center was a profitable dawn stop Friday morning (Lazuli Bunting, American Redstart), followed by the usual species at The Box. The day ended along the road into Water Canyon, ending at 9:30 a.m. with a grand total of 155 species for the 24 hours.

Cheri Orwig and Karen Boettcher are working on compiling records for past Birdathons, and the data collected so far reveals that this year's event provided 9 species not gotten on previous Birdathons, with a grand total of 203 species for the nine years for which there are records.

Monday, April 24: Team Yellow Warblers.

Mary Lou Arthur, Sally Burke (in absentia), Melissa Howard, and Lannois Neely birded Highway 3/Villanueva State Park for fun and for CNMAS, tallying 42 species and a check for CNMAS. (*They didn't report whether they got the Yellow Warbler. Actually, we can spot four of them from here -- definitely sunny and anthropomorphically smiling!*)

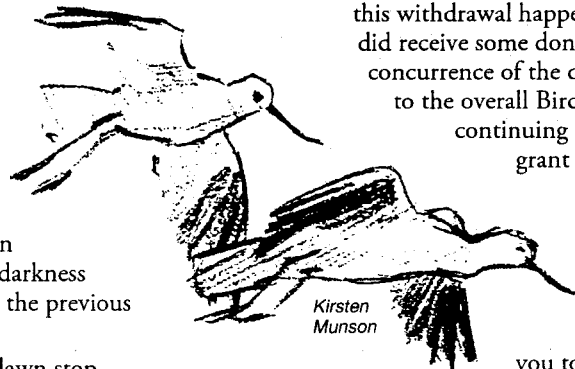
Monday, May 8: Celestyn's Solo Flight.

My Birdathon count of 102 species only was far from a 24-hour birding. In fact, I had all the species within 7 hours! On May 8th, I left work early and I arrived at Turtle Bay at NM Tech campus in Socorro at 1:15 PM. The place was full of birds including Green Heron, Willow Flycatcher, Phainopepla, Gray Catbird, Northern Waterthrush, several other warblers and Lazuli Bunting. From there, I drove through the fields of Luis Lopez and San Antonio to Bosque del Apache spotting, among others, an Olive-sided Flycatcher. Bosque del Apache has been drained fast but there were still few mud flats hosting a willet, stilts, avocets, dowitchers, and phalaropes. All four species of grebes were at the refuge, as well as two gulls: Ring-billed and Franklin's. Swarms of Lesser Nighthawks emerged at the evening, Wild Turkeys climbed a tree, and I found a Peregrine Falcon and Vermilion Flycatcher to top the count. The final two species of the day were Black-crowned Night-herons and a Great Horned Owl. I greatly appreciate all your pledges and contributions to Central NM Audubon Society! —*Celestyn*

The Memories:

We must make special mention of the Young Birders Team and those who supported specifically them. In a touching show of support for each other, the young folks withdrew from the field when one of their members expressed a reluctance to participate this year, but a commitment to doing so next year. It was all for one and one for all, and we admire their true "team" spirit. Since this withdrawal happened after their team was announced, we did receive some donations specifically for them. With the concurrence of the donors, those funds have been contributed to the overall Birdathon fund. We want to acknowledge the continuing support of The Lannan Foundation and its grant of \$200, recommended to the Foundation Board of Directors by Marian P. Day as part of Lannan's Matching Grant Program.

Again, thank you. What we just said about the Young Birders is heartfelt for you too: Your team spirit makes our spirits soar.





September - October - November 2006

TRIP LEADERS: *Chris, Bob, and Sei: THANK YOU!*

CNMAS Field Trip Schedule

<http://www.newmexicoaudubon.org/cnmas/trips.html>

Although it rarely happens, trips can be changed or cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. Always check with the leader before the trip.

Saturday, September 30: Clayton area

Meet at Clayton Lake State Park at 7:30 AM at the Visitor Center. (It is about a 14 mile drive northwest of Clayton). At the park we will walk the Nature Trail looking for migrants. (this is an easy walk of no more than 1 mile). We will also scope the lake for late terns, gulls and waterfowl. Grassland birding at the nearby Kiowa grasslands is an option for later in the day. Kiowa grasslands are nearby but would likely involve walking more than a mile though the walking should be fairly easy. We may see some of the more unusual migrant vireos, warblers, longspurs and possibly Sprague's Pipits. Scoters or Horned Grebes are possible on the lake as well as a large assortment of waterfowl. Sandhill Cranes may be migrating overhead. There are several hotel/motels in Clayton. I prefer the Holiday Motel (not Holiday Inn or Express) on the northwest side of town. Depending on the wind direction, be prepared for the smell of feedlots in the area. For questions call Christopher Rustay at 505-255-7786 or e-mail chrustay@aol.com

Saturday, October 28: Bosque del Apache NWR & Socorro area

Meet at 8:45 AM at Socorro McDonald's. For those who want to car pool from Albuquerque, meet at 7:00 AM at the UNM Physics Department parking lot on the NE corner of Yale and Lomas Blvd. In the morning, we will check out Turtle Bay and other pond at NM Tech campus, then drive to Bosque del Apache via NM 1 and Farm to Market road. Lunch will be at the refuge and we will tour the wetland areas concluding the trip around 4:00 PM. Fall migration will be in full swing and early winter resident arrivals may already be filling the refuge. We will monitor also reports of any unusual sightings. Surprises are always possible and especially at this time of year. For question call Bob Merkel at 505-838-2296 or e-mail bobmerkel@zianet.com

Sunday, November 12: Las Vegas NWR

Meet at 8:30 AM behind the Village Inn in the Far North Shopping Center (NE corner of San Mateo and Academy Blvd.). This will be an all day trip. The closed parts of the refuge will be open to the public on Sundays during the month of November. We will take advantage of the opportunity to visit the Crane Lake area. Dress warmly and bring snacks, lunch, etc. For questions call Sei Tokuda at 505-266-2480 for details.

Tuesday-Sunday, November 14-19: Festival of the Cranes

Call 505-835-2077, or visit

<http://www.friendsofthebosque.org/crane/>

Plan for **Christmas Bird Counts** in December. To check the schedule of the counts in New Mexico visit <http://nmosbirds.org/> in November and later for the updates.

Central New Mexico Audubon Society assumes no responsibility for injuries, personal or otherwise, incurred while attending society-sponsored activities and will not be held liable for such accidents. You attend at your own risk.

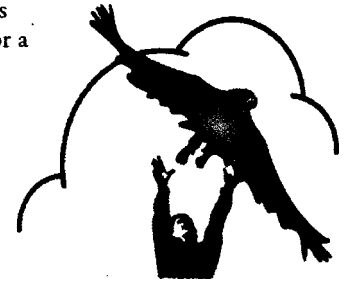
Manzano Mountains - HawkWatch Observations

<http://www.hawkwatch.org/>

Observers at the hawkwatch in the Manzano Mountains will begin their count on August 25, and the banding set-up will begin August 26. Plan to check out the new campgrounds at Capilla Peak when you visit the hawkwatch. The count will continue daily through November 5. The peak of the season is mid-September through the first week in October. Hawk Talks dealing with raptor identification will be given at six Albuquerque libraries during the fall. Call 255-7622 for a schedule of Hawk Identification Talks or directions to the site or find them on the website at www.hawkwatch.org

HawkWatch International's mission:

To monitor and protect hawks, eagles, other birds of prey and their environment through research, education and conservation.



HawkWATCH

Tuesday Bird Walks

Sandia Ranger District and skilled Volunteer Birders from Central New Mexico Audubon Society meet at the Sandia Ranger Station in Tijeras, NM, at 8:30 a.m. every Tuesday through October 10th, for Bird Walks lasting 1.5 to 2 hours, as we discover residents of high elevation spruce-fir, mid-mountain meadows, mixed conifer and riparian woodlands that range in elevation from 7000-10,678 feet. Call 281-3304 for more information.

CNMAS Field Trip Reports

Saturday, May 20: Stanley New Mexico

Leader: Rebecca Gracey. There were five people on this trip to the plains north of Stanley, NM, in search of Long-billed Curlews. Our first sighting was a curlew mobbing a flock of Chihuahuan Ravens in flight. Four more curlews and three Burrowing Owls were seen in the pastures. Several Swainson's Hawks were seen. We did not go to the White Lakes playas where Mountain Plovers were seen in past years because they were not seen on two recent scouting trips. The last stop was at a private residence surrounded by elm trees on Highway 41. The owners gave us permission to enter the property and we were rewarded with the sight of two Barn Owls high in the trees.

Thursday Morning Birding Group

Weekly birding outings every Thursday. Meeting time and location, as well as duration, vary. Call Margaret Wallen at 505-341-0928 for details of outings.

All Central New Mexico Audubon Society meetings and field trips are open to the public.



CNMAS Educator Resource Grant Application

Educator Name _____

School/Work _____

Grade and subject taught _____

Address: _____

Phone # day: _____ evening _____

Email _____

Fax# _____

Principal* (unless home schooled, etc.) _____

* If no principal, please provide name and contact information of one reference.

List below or attach a list of what you need and the cost of the supplies (budget)

Describe why you need these materials, how you will use them and how they will benefit your students

Eligibility & requirements

This grant is open to all educators of students age 18 and under. Funding can be used for supplies for a project/lesson/unit about natural history/sciences, such as bug boxes, books, lab supplies. At the end of the school year, the grantee must supply CNMAS with a short report on how the money was used and an itemized budget with receipts. A short article will be placed in the Burrowing Owl Newsletter for our members written by the teacher/students involved.

Deadlines

For application: NOVEMBER 1st 2006
 Money awarded by JANUARY, 2007

Mail the application to: CNMAS, c/o Helen Haskell, PO Box 36741, Albuquerque, NM 87176.

Questions? Email Helen Haskell at helenm@yahoo.com, and title the email 'CNMAS Educator Resource Grant'.

Education

CNMAS Educator Resource Grant

The brand new Educator Resource Grant is available to all educators in New Mexico. The grant is available for purchase of resources to the classroom/lessons that school or personal budgets do not cover. The supplies must be used for a natural history/science lesson, project or experience.

This grant is open to all educators of students age 18 and under. At the end of the school year, grantees must supply CNMAS with a short report on how the money was used and an itemized budget with receipts. A short article written by the educator and students involved will be published in the Burrowing Owl Newsletter for our members.

Amount available: up to \$250

Application deadline: *November 1st 2006* (for money awarded by January 2007).

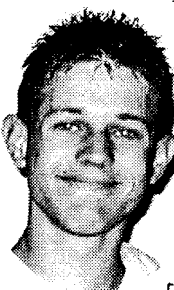
Application process: complete the application form in this newsletter, or download the application from the website:
<http://www.peacocklaw.com/nmac/cnmas/>

Mail the application to: CNMAS, c/o Helen Haskell, PO Box 36741, Albuquerque, NM 87176.

Questions? Email Helen Haskell at helenm@yahoo.com - title the email 'CNMAS Educator Resource Grant'.



The Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Education Fund



Due to the dedication, hard work, and generous contributions from many individuals and organizations, the Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Education Fund has been established and will be accepting applications from the New Mexico community starting March 2007, for use in summer 2008. The fund provides scholarships for youth between the ages of 13 and 20, or educators of youth, to attend a specific program, camp or course pertaining to the candidate's interest in the natural sciences.

More information, including the application form, will be available in future newsletters and on the CNMAS web site by March 2007. CNMAS wishes to thank the *Lannan Foundation* for its generous support of the fund, as well as the family and friends of Ryan.

Ryan Beaulieu was a young ornithologist, environmentalist and conservationist who filled his life with the joy of exploration and discovery of nature. This scholarship fund was established to give testimony to the living legacy of what Ryan gave to all of us as family, friends and community.

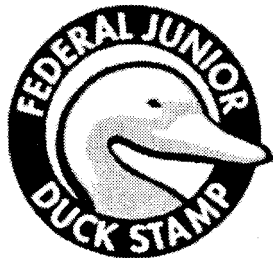
Audubon: Conservation



Audubon: Research



Audubon: Education



AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY

Bird Conservation Alliance



Randall Davey
Audubon Center

Friends of the
Rio Grande
Nature Center

Audubon: Outreach



Audubon: Advocacy



Audubon: Birds!



Central New Mexico
Audubon Society
Supporting New Mexico
and our environment



Rio Grande
Bird Research, Inc.



Audubon: Partnerships

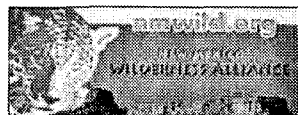


Audubon: Young Naturalists



Sevilleta LTER
Long Term Ecological Research

Environmental Education Association of New Mexico



Audubon: People!



Audubon: Inspiration



Audubon: Networking



Opportunities!

Desert Ecology... continued from page 1

Description: The program focuses on the Sonoran Desert ecosystem, looking at the interactions between plants, animals and the physical environment. The Institute faculty members are experienced teachers, working as consultants or professors at the various universities of Arizona. The days start early and optional activities such as 'owling' and star talks extend into the evening.

Accommodation: You must bring your own tent or camper. There are no electrical hookups, and no generators allowed. Solar showers and portable restrooms are provided. The food is fantastic, and accommodates vegetarians. Camping is shaded by mesquite trees.

Cost: Central New Mexico Audubon Society will pay for the tuition. You must provide your own transportation to the site (car, air) and dinner on the Wednesday evening.

Application: ** Due November 1st 2006 **

Please send a one-page short essay and cover letter detailing:

- How you would benefit from this opportunity
- How you would use the experience in your everyday teaching
- Details on where you teach and what grade you teach
- Name of principal (if applicable)
- Two references

Please send the application by November 1st 2006 to:

Central New Mexico Audubon Society
 c/o Helen Haskell
 PO Box 36741
 Albuquerque, NM 87176

We realize that this workshop is partly during school time. Please check with your principal before applying to ensure that you can attend the Institute and be out of school on these dates (18-22 April including travel time). Your school will be responsible for providing funding to cover substitute costs.

For more information on program content, visit:

<http://www.tucsonaudubon.org>

Questions? Email Helen Haskell at helenm@yahoo.com - title the email 'Institute of Desert Ecology'.

Maine Camp

"Thank you, CNMAS, for the scholarship to the Audubon Camp in Maine this summer. It was cool and fun and great and one of the best experiences of my already long (though chronologically) short life. For a journal of my day-to-day experiences, go to the rosy finch website (rosyfinch.org) or CNMAS website where my Maine Audubon camp diary will be posted soon. You folks all mean as much to me as the birds." - *Raymond Van Buskirk*

Audubon Adventures

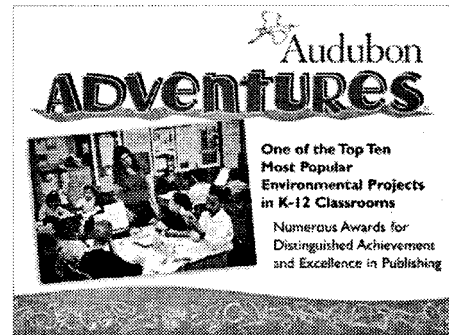
If you are a teacher...

Audubon Adventures kits are still available for the 2006-07 school year. If you are a classroom teacher and would like to receive this kit (for free), please contact Helen Haskell at helenm@yahoo.com and title the email 'Audubon Adventures'. The kit is best suited for grades 3-6. For more information on the 2006-07 kit, visit <http://www.audubon.org/educate/aa>



How about being a sponsor?...

Do you know of a classroom that could benefit from an Audubon Adventures Kit? If so, become a classroom sponsor. Fill in the form below and send it to CNMAS along with a check for \$45.65 (\$38.50 + \$7.15 shipping and handling costs) and we'll get a kit to the teacher of your choice! It's a great way to help out with education in New Mexico.



Connect a child to nature with
Audubon Adventures
 2006-2007

Enclosed please find my check for \$ _____
 (Each \$45.65 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 _____

Send your check payable to CNMAS with this form to:
 Audubon Adventures, c/o CNMAS,
 PO BOX 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002



Learning Look-Alikes: Three Soaring Hawks

by Art Arenholz, drawings by Andrew Rominger

Today, we study three soaring hawks (or Buteos), which look alike. We examine the Red-tailed Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk and Rough-legged Hawk.

First, let's recall the features common to all soaring hawks. Buteos are large daytime raptors, larger than all their predatory cousins except the Osprey and Eagle. They have long, broad wings and broad tails. The body appears heavy, but they easily soar in lazy circles. When they perch, they don't hide; they choose a conspicuous pole, tree or dead snag. When flying, most Buteos are dark above and light below. Many have a few all-dark relatives (called "dark morphs"), which are much less common than the typical, light-morph, bird. We will study the dark-morph Buteos in a future article.

RED-TAILED HAWK (19 to 25 in. long)

The "Red-tail" is the best-known and most common soaring hawk in our area. But please note: only the adult has a red tail. A juvenile (first-year bird) has a light brown tail with several dark brown bands across it.

The second-best identification mark for Red-tails can be seen only on a flying bird. Both adults and juveniles have a distinct, narrow, dark bar on the front part of the under-wing. This thin dark bar extends from the body out to about halfway to the end of the wing. (*Take a look at Andrew's drawing on the next page*).

A good mark for a juvenile Red-tail is the two-toned upper-wing pattern. The outer half (or so) of a juvenile wing is noticeably lighter in color than the inner half. Professional observers at hawk-watch sites use this clue to I.D. juvenile Red-tails.

On any perched Red-tail, there are two good clues: one for a bird facing you and one for a bird facing away. If your bird is facing you, look, from top to bottom, for a dark, light, dark, light pattern. That is, look for a dark head, light chest, dark belly-band and light abdomen. If your bird is facing away, look for a light V on the back. This V looks a lot like two "pack straps".

The common or light morph Red-tails are in our area all year. The dark morphs, which we will study in another issue, are here only in winter.

Learn the Red-tail well. It is the "gold-standard" which, when mastered, will help you to identify the other Buteos.

FERRUGINOUS HAWK (23 to 25 in. long)

Our second soaring hawk is different from the Red-tail in plumage, although it is similar in size and shape. The main impression given by a Ferruginous Hawk is that of a ghostly white bird. This is true both for the front of a perched bird and for the under-parts of a distant flying bird.

Another important plumage clue can be seen only on a flying bird. The upper-parts of a flying bird are mostly dark, but there are three "points of white" that appear as the bird banks to turn (e.g., during a soar). The three white areas are the outer part of each upper wing and the upper base of the tail. These white areas can be seen at a great distance and confirm that the bird is a Ferruginous Hawk. Look at Andrew's drawings for clarification.

Remember that the head of almost every common Red-tail is

dark, (a beautiful chestnut color). But the head of the typical Ferruginous Hawk is pale gray, with a dark eye-line.

The tail of this hawk varies from all white or light gray to a pale pink. It is quite different from the brick-red color of a Red-tail.

An adult Ferruginous Hawk has reddish leg feathers, reddish shoulders and sometimes reddish barring on the wings. But this hawk does not have a distinct dark bar like the one on the front under-wing of the Red-tail.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK (19 to 24 in. long)

Our third and final soaring hawk is in our area only during winter, because it nests in the Arctic. It differs enough in plumage from the other two hawks to make it fairly easy to identify.

While the Ferruginous Hawk appears ghostly white, this third hawk is definitely a high contrast bird. It is very strongly marked in both dark and light. (Look again at Andrew's drawings.) During flight, the under-side of a Rough-leg has four points of dark: a large dark patch at the wrist of each wing, a prominent dark tail band and, on most birds, a wide dark belly-band. (On some male birds, the belly-band is indistinct, but the dark wing and tail marks remain easy to see).

The head color of this hawk is usually like that of a Ferruginous Hawk: pale gray. So if you see a perched Buteo with a gray head, it could be a Rough-leg in winter, or a Ferruginous in any season, but it is almost surely not a Red-tail.

To summarize, the most important identification clues for these three hawks are:

Red-tailed:

- 1 The red tail of an adult.
- 2 The narrow dark bar on the front of the under-wing.
- 3 Pattern of dark, light, dark, light on front of perched bird.
- 4 Two toned wing of the juvenile.
- 5 Light V on the back of a perched bird.
- 6 Dark head (chestnut color) on a perched bird.

Ferruginous:

- 1 Overall ghostly white appearance.
- 2 Three points of white on upper-parts of flying bird.
- 3 Light gray head on perched bird.
- 4 Dark eye-line.
- 5 Red legs and red shoulders of adult.
- 6 White tail.

Rough-legged:

- 1 Four points of dark on under-parts of flying bird: Dark wrist patches, dark tail band, dark belly of most birds.
- 2 Light gray head on a perched bird.
- 3 Here only in winter.

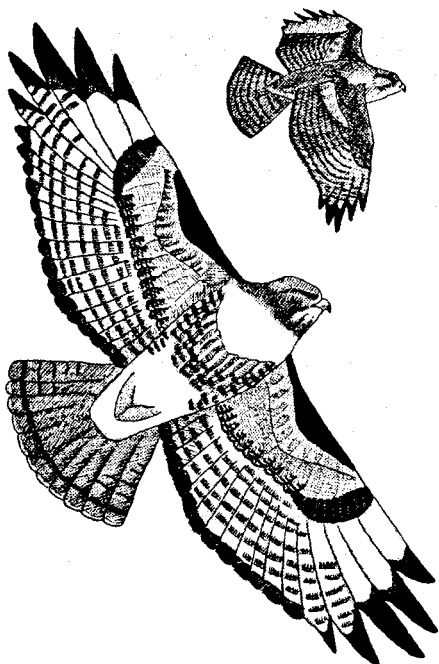


Truly it may be said that the outside of a mountain is good for the inside of a man.

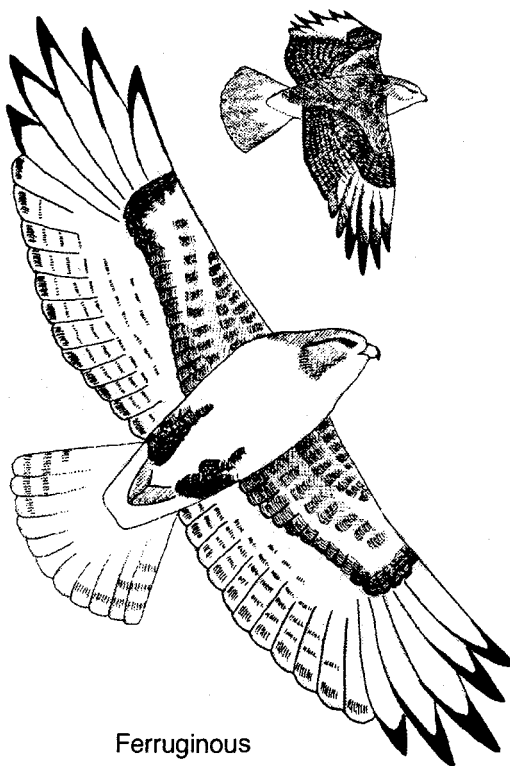
- George Wherry



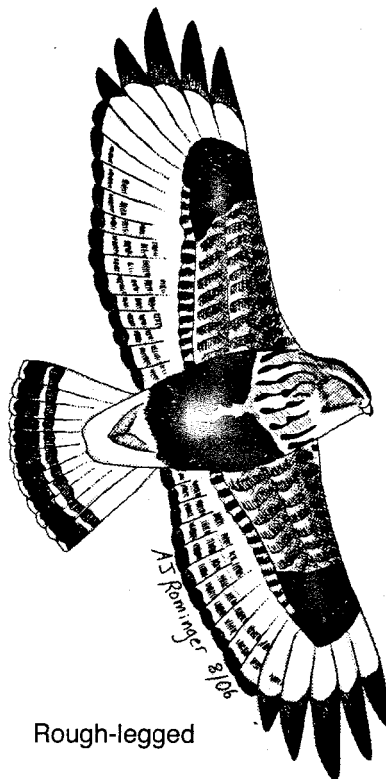
September - October - November 2006



Red-tailed



Ferruginous



Rough-legged



Rio Grande Bird Research, Inc.
 Rio Grande Nature Center
 2006 Fall Banding Schedule

The fall bird banding season at Rio Grande Nature Center is once again in full feather, full flight, full fledge as Steve and Nancy Cox, through Rio Grande Bird Research, and their faithful volunteers gather early Saturday and Sunday mornings through November 5 to band and release migrants of the Rio Grande Flyway as birds respond to the great pulse of Nature to repeat their epic and mysterious journeys south. Come join the people as a volunteer (or the birds if you want to migrate). Bring a burrito or a cookie to share, learn a lot, and help in this long-running scientific project to collect valuable data. It's fun!

	Gate opens/closes (a.m.)	Open Nets (a.m.)	Sunrise (a.m.)
August			
5	8:00	5:58	6:18
6	5:30/5:45	5:58	6:18
12	5:45/6:00	6:03	6:23
13	5:45/6:00	6:03	6:24
19	5:45/6:00	6:08	6:28
20	5:45/6:00	6:09	6:29
26	5:45/6:00	6:14	6:34
27	5:45/6:00	6:14	6:34
September			
2	6:00/6:15	6:19	6:39
3	6:00/6:15	6:20	6:40
9	6:00/6:15	6:24	6:44
10	6:00/6:15	6:25	6:45
14	WBBA 6:00/6:15	6:28	6:47
15	WBBA 6:00/6:15	6:28	6:47
16	6:00/6:15	6:29	6:49
17	6:00/6:15	6:30	6:50
23	6:00/6:15	6:34	6:54
24	6:15/6:30	6:35	6:55
30	6:15/6:30	6:39	6:59
October			
2	6:15/6:30	6:40	7:00
7	6:15/6:30	6:45	7:05
8	6:15/6:30	6:46	7:06
14	6:15/6:30	6:41	7:11
15	6:15/6:30	6:41	7:11
21	6:30/6:45	6:57	7:17
22	6:30/6:45	6:57	7:17
28	6:30/6:45	7:03	7:23
29 DST	5:45/5:45	6:04	6:24
November			
4	5:45/6:00	6:09	6:29
5	5:45/6:00	6:10	6:30

DST = Daylight Savings Time

*Nature will bear the closest inspection.
 She invites us to lay our eye level with her
 smallest leaf,
 and take an insect view of its plain.
 - Henry David Thoreau*



Wildlife Refuge Bulletin Board

Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge Fall Events

Jan Arrott, President of Friends of Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge (LVNWR), has bragging rights about LVNWR being featured in the February 2006 issue of Birder's World magazine. See the article at <http://www.birdersworld.com/brd/default.aspx?id=123&c=i> or e-mail Jan at janarrott@hotmail.com

Now they're expecting their number of 20,000 visitors annually to be even greater! Come be among those visitors this fall, not just on Sei's CNMAS field trip, but for these events, too: *(All are free)*

Sunday, September 10; 2:00 PM:

"Concert For the Birds - Ritual and Traditional Folk Music of Northern New Mexico," featuring Cipriano Vigil. Bring your hat, lawn chair, water - and binoculars, too!

Sunday, October 8, 2:00 PM:

Richard Bodner portraying artist/photographer Ansel Adams, "Artist in Harmony with the Land"

Seating is limited to 40. To reserve a seat, call Lori Casados at the refuge, 505-425-3581x203, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM. Reservations will be taken until the Friday before the event. All unreserved seats will be available on a first come first serve basis.

Sundays in November:

"November Sundays Wildlife Drive," 9 AM to 4 PM, with education programs at noon and again at 1:30 PM:

November 5: Art Arenholz on Raptors

November 12: Paul Tebbell on Sandhill Cranes

November 19: Lawry Sager on More Prairie Wildlife

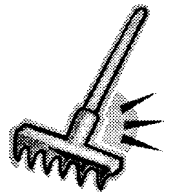
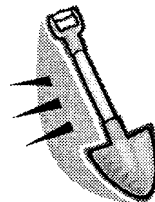
November 26: Laura Swartz with Live Raptor Presentation



New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors at Bosque del Apache NWR

Saturday, October 28 -

Sunday, October 29



What better way to end the season than with work at this nationally renowned wildlife refuge? A nice variety of tasks in most enjoyable surroundings await us in this area south of Socorro. Contact Leonard Padilla, leonardpadilla@hotmail.com, 505-690-6428

2006 Festival of the Cranes

The 19th Annual Festival of the Cranes runs from **November 14 to 19**, at the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge.

Over 100 events include great birding opportunities; workshops on photography, drawing, paper cutting and cacti; tours covering geology on Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge and historic sites on the Camino Real; plus the Arts and Crafts Tents and wolf and raptor displays.

A special event teaches photography from a model airplane.

Evening features include a dinner theater, the Friends Banquet, and as keynote speakers: renowned author, artist and lecturer Julie Zickefoose on My Hummingbird Summer; and Joan

Garland of the International Crane Foundation in Wisconsin on establishing a Whooping Crane Migration to Florida.

For more information check www.friendsofthebosque.org/crane, or call 505-835-2077 after September 1.

The Bosque del Apache NWR is south of Socorro. Take I-25 to exit 139, go east 1/2 mile to NM Hwy #1, then south 8 miles.

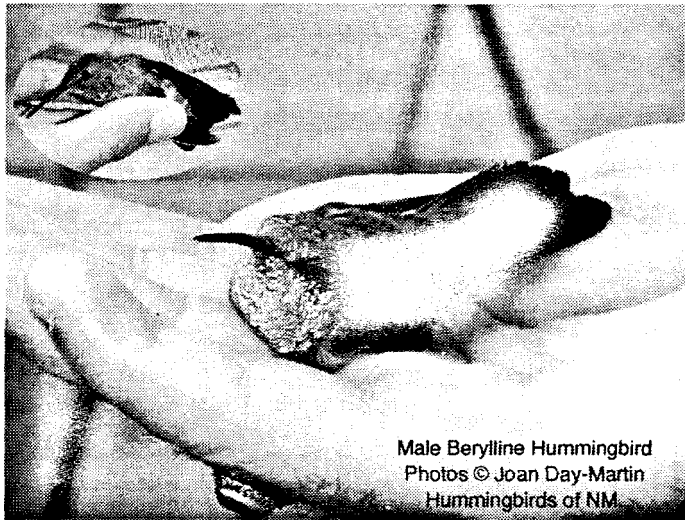


"When There Were Three" - cover art by Adabel Allen

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge & La Joya Community Open House
Saturday, October 14, 2006

Field Trips 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
 Exhibits 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 Speakers 10:00 AM
 Art Contest Awards 1:30 PM
 505/864-4021
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/newmex/sevilleta/>
 Register Now!

Photo: R. Brown



Male Berylline Hummingbird
Photos © Joan Day-Martin
Hummingbirds of NM

You Can Help New Mexico's Wildlife

You can help endangered species research and recovery, raptor migration counts, wildlife rehabilitation, and other wildlife projects.

Your donation goes directly to wildlife projects across New Mexico. No contributions are used for administrative costs.

Please complete this form below and mail to:

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Santa Fe, NM 87504

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http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/conservation/share_with_wildlife/

Electronic Burrowing Owl

Just a short reminder that people who wish to receive the *Burrowing Owl* electronically should contact our Membership Chairman, Ed Dover, and let him know. Email him at whitecliffs@msn.com



NOTICE: The next issue of the *Burrowing Owl* will be incorporated into the statewide Audubon-New Mexico Newsletter. The next regular issue of the *Burrowing Owl* will be published in March 2007.

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Use this form for New Membership Subscriptions only

Burrowing Owl Subscription Tidbits

- For changes of address or correction to your Burrowing Owl subscription, contact the Membership Chairperson (see Directory on the back page of this newsletter).
- If you are in the CNMAS Chapter area, you can receive the Burrowing Owl by sending your name and address with \$12 to CNMAS, PO BOX 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002 - this does NOT include National Audubon membership or Audubon Magazine!
- You can also subscribe to our newsletter without being a member of our Chapter. If you live outside the CNMAS region, send \$15 to the above address.
- If you wish to receive notice of our downloadable PDF newsletter (instead of a hard copy) give us your email address in addition to your name and address.
- Members can call (800) 274-4201 to sign up for National Audubon's Paper-Free Renewal Program. Those who sign up will have their membership automatically renewed each year and will receive only one bill approximately 2 months in advance of your membership expiration date.

Burrowing Owl Deadline

Information and articles to be included in Winter 2006 issue of the State Audubon Newsletter, *Burrowing Owl* section, must be received by Nov. 5th. Contact Turtle-Bear at 505-265-6094 or turtlebear@jensenbear.com. We are not accepting commercial advertising at this time.

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Membership Hotline
(800)274-4201, chadd@audubon.org
Activist Hotline
(800)659-2622
Audubon Take Action
www.audubonaction.org/audubon/

New Mexico Office
David Henderson
Randall Davey Audubon Center
P.O. Box 9314 Santa Fe, NM 87504
(505)983-4609, dhenderson@audubon.org

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president@whitehouse.gov

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tom.udall@mail.house.gov

Hon. Heather Wilson
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
(202)225-6316 (505)346-6781
ask.heather@mail.house.gov

Governor Bill Richardson
State Capitol, Room 400
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 476-2200

Bosque del Apache NWR
(505)838-2120
Friends of the Bosque del Apache
(505)835-1828
www.friendsofthebosque.org

US Fish and Wildlife Service
500 Gold Avenue, SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
External Affairs Office (505)248-6911

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

New Mexico Department
of Game and Fish
P.O. Box 25112
Santa Fe, NM 87504
(505)476-8000
www.wildlife.state.nm.us

Bat in Trouble? (Talking Talons)
Call before you intervene: 281-1133 or 281-1515

Rare Bird Alert
Albuquerque: 884-3269, Pinyonjay@aol.com
<http://www.nmosbirds.org/hotline.html>

Rosy Finch Project
Fran Lusso & Dave Weaver, flusso@wfubmc.edu

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

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