



# Burrowing Owl

September–October–November 2010

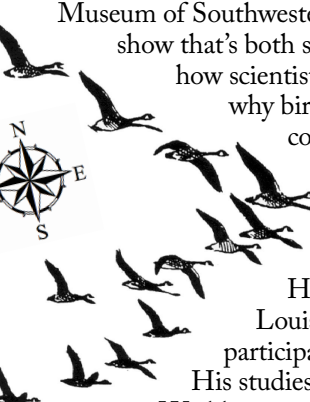
Vol. 39 No. 4

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

## CNMAAS Fall Programs

### Thursday, September 16

#### Bird Migration: The Marvel and The Mystery

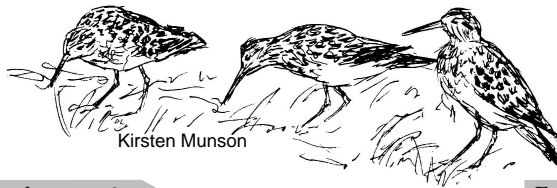


Each year billions of birds undertake demanding migratory journeys between their breeding and wintering grounds. The mystery and marvel of these migrations intrigues scientists and laypeople alike. **Phred Benham**, a graduate student at UNM's Museum of Southwestern Biology, will present a talk/slide show that's both scientific and personal, as he explains how scientists unravel the mysteries of how and why birds wing their way not just across the continent, but across the globe. You will enjoy Phred's thoroughly engaging presentation, as his own love for the birds he studies is ebullient. Originally from New Hampshire, Phred has studied at Louisiana State University and participated in fieldwork in South America. His studies include work on the Canada Warbler, a species that illustrates some of the fascinating phenomena involved in migration and conservation issues facing migratory birds. Currently he is working on his master's thesis studying the evolution and biogeography of Metaltail hummingbirds in the Andes.

### Thursday, October 21

#### The Gulf Oil Spill: A personal perspective

**Dennis Prichard** is the Deputy Refuge Manager at Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge. He recently volunteered to go to the Gulf Coast to help with the BP Oil Spill clean-up effort. His month-long detail will be described with photos and personal anecdotes of the effects of the spill as well as the fauna of the Alabama/Florida coastal area. Though he didn't work directly with Audubon personnel, he has lots to report about working closely with Share The Beach, a group dedicated to turtle preservation. And yes, there are ways



*Fall Programs... continued on page 2*

## Focus on Education:

### Hog Island Rebounds, Cassidy Ruge Scores!

Friends of Hog Island, Maine, have rescued this famed and beloved Audubon island refuge from closure, with great results this year. Three programs on the island this summer were operated under Project Puffin ([www.projectpuffin.org](http://www.projectpuffin.org)), which is part of National Audubon Society's Science Division. Steve Kress, Project Puffin Director, reported that the three summer programs—all focusing on birds—hosted 165 participants, with a 92% occupancy. Cassidy Ruge, our CNMAS winner of the **2010 Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Scholarship**, attended the Field Ornithology and Coastal Maine Birding for Teens program in June. He was one of 15 avid teens who attended the session and was in the company of 44 adults (the largest group in Hog Island history), which featured Kenn and Kim Kaufman, Scott Wiedensaul, Sara Morris, and other top ornithologists. Below is Cassidy's report. We also invite you to check out his blog ([birdnutsblog.blogspot.com](http://birdnutsblog.blogspot.com)), where you can get to know Cassidy and experience the enthusiasm, appreciation, and intelligence that this gifted young naturalist exudes.



#### Report From Cassidy Ruge

The **Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens** was by far the most rewarding camp I have ever gone to. I have gone to several other nature camps but nothing like this.

The location of the camp was amazing; in eastern Maine, on a beautiful island-how could you do better?! I love Maine and especially am fond for the coasts. The humidity takes some getting used to but it in the end it was totally worth a couple sweaty shirts. I know Raymond, Michael and Ryan have come to this camp and I am pretty sure they had just as an amazing experience as I had. Besides birding, I love appreciating our feathered friends in a way most people usually don't. Just watching a bird to learn

*Education... continued on page 8*

### In this Issue

Fall Programs	1,2	Rio Grande Research Bird Banding	6
Focus on Education: Ryan Beaulieu Scholarship Winner	1, 8	Federal Duck Stamps	6
Cole Wolf is Published	2	Education Opportunities Abound	7
Celestyn's Birdathon Report	2	National Audubon's New President	9
Rosy-Finch Banding 2010-2011	2	CNMAAS on Facebook	9
Recycling Binoculars	2	Whom To Contact	9
CNMAAS Field Trip Schedule	3	Subscription Info	9
		CNMAAS Directory	(back page)
		Thursday Birders Schedule	3,4
		Sevilleta Open House	4
		Festival of the Cranes	4
		Audubon Round Up	5
		Gila River Festival	5
		RGNC Education Building Construction	5
		RGNC Bird Walks	5



Fall Programs... continued from page 1

you can help. Go to [www.audubonaction.org/howtohelp](http://www.audubonaction.org/howtohelp) to get involved and stay involved, buy a Duck Stamp (see separate article)—and come hear Dennis in person!

## Thursday, November 11

A panel of speakers will present

**“The World of Cyber Birding:**

**Using Devices That Make Us Better Birders”**

(This program is the second Thursday, not the third.)

Bring your laptops, bring your iPhones, iPads, birding apps. Bring your questions, bring your Thayer's or your AviSys or your Stokes or any other favorite birding software program. Bring your anecdotes of experience, good and bad, with those programs. Are you willing to stand up and share? Let Laurel Ladwig know, [pbgrebe@gmail.com](mailto:pbgrebe@gmail.com). She will facilitate this program of part presentation, part demonstration, part table-top show-and-tell explanation about what's new and neat and nifty in birding software—but we need YOU, the users, to pipe up, chip in, and teach us YOUR tricks and treats. Of course, you'll hear about eBird, a part of the Avian Knowledge Network, a powerful database with millions of records used by scientists to monitor bird populations. And guess where that kind of valuable information comes from? Birders like you! Don't be shy—come to share, participate, and learn!

These three free programs will be held at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, NW corner of Copper and Jefferson NE, 7:15 PM (7:00 for refreshments).

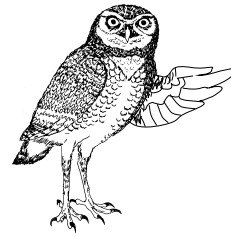
## A little bragging: CNMAS Board Member, Cole Wolf, is published!

*Raptors of New Mexico* by Jean-Luc Cartron is unique and beautiful. As Amazon.com tells us, no book ever before specifically focused on the birds of prey of New Mexico. Both Florence Bailey (1928) and J. Stokley Ligon (1961) published volumes on the birds of New Mexico, but their coverage of raptors was somewhat limited. In this tome Jean-Luc Cartron, who is a research assistant professor at the University of New Mexico and director of the Drylands Institute New Mexico office, assembles the writings of 37 contributing authors who relate their observations on these regal species. And in the chapter on Prairie Falcons, you will find Cole Wolf's scholarly, intelligent, and commendable contribution—Cole Wolf, CNMAS secretary, field trip chair, conservation committee member. Folks, if you don't buy your own copy of this beautifully illustrated book with more than 600 photographs and nearly 50 species distribution maps, at least check it out when you're at BookWorks or the UNM Bookstore, or borrow your friend's copy and revel in its beauty and be amazed at its scientific comprehensiveness. We live in a state of not just magnificent numbers and species of birds, but wow, what a Who's Who of bird-ologists! And to think that so many of them are fledglings, still with years ahead of them! Congratulations again, Cole, and thanks for all you do for CNMAS.

## Celestyn's Birdathon May 2010 Report

by Nancy Hetrick

The CNMAS birdathon team led by Celestyn Brozek headed out on May 29 to cover Belen Marsh, Turtle Bay, Water Canyon, the road up to Langmuir Observatory, the Box Canyon west of Socorro, and Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge. Because of overriding personal commitments and illness, the trip took place in late May this year and, at the last minute, only two team members were able to participate, Celestyn and Nancy Hetrick. Despite the tail-end of migration, the heat, and missing some expected species, we still capped out at 120 species. Highlights included a peregrine falcon in pursuit of nighthawks at the Bosque del Apache, American white pelicans soaring high overhead at the refuge at sunset, and great views of the previously reported white-tailed kite. Thank you to these folks who



pledged and supported not just our team, but this important cause: Ron Waitz, BRAVE E, Inc., John Esterl, John Ford, Ellen Howard, Amy Jacobs, Lilia Martinez, Sue Cossins, Nancy Hetrick, Celestyn M. Brozek, Karen DeMello. (For the complete list of birds e-mail [cbrozek@unm.edu](mailto:cbrozek@unm.edu))

## Rosy-Finch Banding 2010–2011

We can never be sure when Rosy-finch banding will start, but we CAN be sure the news will be posted so hot that it will make the snow melt! Visit [www.rosyfinch.com](http://www.rosyfinch.com) often and regularly (thank you, Ken Schneider)! Last year's first banding day for the Rosy-finch team was Sunday, November 8—with as many as 30 birds in a flock being reported by then. We do know that banding will be on Sundays throughout the winter months, commencing at 9:30 a.m. at the Crest House. To get yourself revitalized for the project, go back to your May-June 2010 issue of *Audubon*, the magazine, and reread “Band of Brothers,” the feature article about the Rosy-finch project and those devoted to it. See you at Sandia Crest when the Rosy-finch flag is waving!



## Recycling Binoculars

On behalf of the Education Committee, we have another option to sending off your used binoculars to ABA, and this one won't involve shipping costs: Bring them with you to the next CNMAS meeting or field trip and give them to us! We regularly receive requests for “loaner” binoculars from Scout troop leaders and others. Similar to ABA's binocular exchange, we will collect donated binoculars and give them to groups or individuals whose requests meet criteria, as developed by CNMAS for our Educator Resource Grant. People wishing to contribute may also send in a check earmarked for “Educator Resource Grant.” It could be an eye-opening experience for a child in more ways than one!





## Field Trip Schedule

### CNMAS trips prepared by Cole Wolf

Check <http://cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org/> for more field trips and updates. ALWAYS check with the leader before the trip.

#### Saturday, September 18: Shorebird Migration in Belen

Leaders: Linda Heinze and Judy Liddell, [jliddell@msn.com](mailto:jliddell@msn.com)  
Visit Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area, Belen's newest birding hotspot, and Belen Marsh during shorebird migration. Meet behind the Hawthorne Suites on Gibson and University in Albuquerque at 8:00 AM or at Whitfield at 8:30 AM. We will spend a couple of hours exploring the different habitats at Whitfield and then drive over to the Belen Marsh to check out the shorebird activity there. We should be done by noon. Please contact the leader if you plan on attending.

#### Saturday, September 25: Ute Creek Ranch

Leader: Christopher Rustay, 505-255-7786  
We will meet at the Logan Allsup's on at 7:00 AM for a one-hour drive to Bueyeros. There we will look at the grasslands and riparian areas along Ute Creek on the Ute Creek Ranch. This area has extensive grasslands, a restored riparian area, and abuts some of the Canadian Escarpment. This diversity of habitats can make for some very interesting birding and we will be well positioned to see not only grasslands and shrub birds but also a variety of migrants, such as Clay-colored Sparrow. This ranch is private property and this opportunity is not something that can be done on your own. There will be some long walking on mostly flat terrain. Some climbing up rocks may be done but folks may easily opt out. A stop at Ute Lake State Park may be possible after the field trip. Folks may overnight either in Tucumcari (with more rooms) or Logan (with fewer rooms) or camp at Ute Lake State Park. Contact the leader for further information.



#### Sunday, November 14: Las Vegas NWR

Leader: Sei Tokuda, 505-266-2480, [stokuda@juno.com](mailto:stokuda@juno.com)  
Meet at 8:00 AM at the Far North Shopping Center (NE corner of San Mateo and Academy Blvd). The back road to Crane Lake will be open and there will lectures at the visitor center. The target birds will include wintering raptors (Bald Eagle, Ferruginous and Rough-legged Hawks), mergansers, Common Goldeneye, and possibly Tree Sparrow. Dress warmly; bring water, food and snacks. The trip should end by 3:00 PM. Contact the leader for further information.

*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.*



## Thursday Birders Field Trip Schedule

Check <http://cnmas.newmexicoaudubon.org/> for more field trips and updates. ALWAYS check with the leader before the trip.

#### September 2: Belen Marsh and Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area in Belen

With Linda Heinze: 565-1441, [manzanogal@gmail.com](mailto:manzanogal@gmail.com)  
Meet at 7:30 a.m. behind the Hawthorne Suites on Gibson and University or 8:00 a.m. at the marsh which is one mile east from Exit 195 off I-25. Park at the Taco Bell. Lunch at Harla May's Fat Boy Grill on Becker Avenue near Main Street in Belen.

#### September 9: Rocky Point Trail in the Sandia Mountains

With Melissa Howard: 286-9365, [nmflicker@swcp.com](mailto:nmflicker@swcp.com)  
Meet at 8:00 a.m. near the Carl's Jr. in the shopping center on the south side of Central Ave. between Tramway and Juan Tabo or 8:45 a.m. at the Ellis Trail parking lot in the mountains. The trail is easy to moderate. The hike will be over by noon. (Parking fee of \$3 or pass required in the Sandias.)

#### September 16: Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

With Sei Tokuda: 266-2480, [stokuda@juno.com](mailto:stokuda@juno.com)  
Meet at 8:00 a.m. behind the Hawthorne Suites on University and Gibson. It will be an all-day trip. Bring lunch. (Entrance fee or pass required per car.)

#### September 23: Corrales bosque

With Judy Liddell: 271-0912, [jliddell5@earthlink.net](mailto:jliddell5@earthlink.net)  
Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the shopping area on the east side of Coors/Corrales Road and north of Alameda/NM 528 near Little Anita's. We will go to a location on the far north end of Corrales. Lunch at Village Pizza in Corrales.

#### September 30: Dixon Apple Farm and Cochiti Lake

With Donna Royer: 869-6882, [dlroyer@earthlink.net](mailto:dlroyer@earthlink.net)  
Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the middle of the shopping center parking lot located east of San Mateo and north of Academy Blvd. Bring lunch. The trip should end by mid afternoon.

#### October 7: Hike Ellis Trail in the Sandia Mountains

With Lannois Neely: 890-7881, [lfneely@aol.com](mailto:lfneely@aol.com)  
Meet at 8:30 a.m. near the Carl's Jr. in the shopping center parking lot on the south side of Central, between Juan Tabo and Tramway or 9:15 a.m. at the Ellis Trail parking lot. It is a level trail. The walk will be over before noon. (Parking fee of \$3 or pass required in the Sandias.)

#### October 14: Manzano Mountain trip

With Bonnie Long: 379-1985, [cantrade\\_1@yahoo.com](mailto:cantrade_1@yahoo.com)  
Meet at 9:00 a.m. by the Carl's Jr. on the south side of Central Avenue between Juan Tabo and Tramway or meet Bonnie at the intersection of NM 337 and NM 55 at 9:50 a.m. If the dead trees along the road to the Hawk Watch site have been removed by then and the road is open to the public, the group will go there. If not,



*Thursday Birders... continued on page 4*

the group will go to Fourth of July Campground and Quarai National Monument. Bring lunch. Be prepared for either trip. The trail to the hawk watch site is rocky and the viewing area can be cold and windy. High clearance vehicles are necessary for the road into the site. For Fourth of July and Quarai, there should be less wind and the walking paths are fairly flat. A parking fee of \$8 per vehicle is required at the campground, \$4 with a Golden Age Pass.

#### **October 21: Randall Davey Audubon Center in Santa Fe**

With Lefty Arnold: 514-9398, hoosierjohnarnold@yahoo.com  
Meet at 8:27 a.m. in the middle of the shopping center parking lot located east of San Mateo and north of Academy Blvd. To reach the Audubon center, take the Old Pecos Trail exit from I-25, turn east on Alameda just after passing the state capitol and then left onto Upper Canyon Road. At the fork in the road, keep right for 0.6 miles on a dirt road to reach the center. Bring lunch.

#### **October 28: Cedro Campground and Sabino Canyon County Open Space south of Tijeras, NM**

With Karen and Gary Boettcher: 281-6726, nmkestrel@yahoo.com

Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Sandia Ranger Station in Tijeras, NM, on Highway 337. The trip will be over before noon.

#### **November 4: Ponderosa, NM, and Paliza Campground near Jemez pueblo**

With Rebecca Gracey: 242-3821, maryrebeccagracey@gmail.com  
Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the middle of the shopping center parking lot located east of San Mateo and north of Academy Blvd. or at the Giant gas station on NM 550 just before turning north onto NM 4 at 9:15 a.m.. (Let Rebecca know if you plan to meet at the second location in case the trip is canceled due to bad weather.) Bring lunch. We will return in the early afternoon. There is a parking fee at the campground of \$8 per vehicle or \$4 with a Golden Age Pass.

#### **November 11: Walk in the foothills open space at the east end of Copper**

With Mary Lou Arthur: 299-2565, marylarthur@yahoo.com  
Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the trail head. It is a fairly easy 1.5 mile walk. Copper is north of Central Avenue.

#### **November 18: Los Poblanos Open Space**

With Rebecca Gracey: 242-3821, maryrebeccagracey@gmail.com  
Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the open space parking lot. From east or west bound Montaña turn north on Tierra Viva just east of the Rio Grande River. Turn at the sign for Rio Grande Community Farm. It will be an easy one mile walk. Lunch afterwards at Hannah and Nate's in the Montaña shopping center on Coors Blvd.

#### **November 25: THANKSGIVING - no trip planned**

*Judy Liddell has a blog where she reports on the Thursday Birder trips she attends. You may read about them at [www.wingandsong.wordpress.com](http://www.wingandsong.wordpress.com)*

**Remember to record your sightings at**  
<http://www.ebird.org/>

## Refuge Bulletin Board *and*

Brochures and schedules aren't printed or up on their Web site as the *Burrowing Owl* goes to press, so we urge all of you to put the date, October 16, on your calendar and to go to the website of the Amigos de la Sevilleta to watch for info about this year's Open House. And while you're there, click on the Membership link—Sevilleta, like all of our National Wildlife Refuges, could use a little “friendly” help! [www.amigosdelasevilleta.com](http://www.amigosdelasevilleta.com)



### **23rd Annual Festival of the Cranes**

Online registration is encouraged and opens on September 1 at <http://www.friendsofthebosque.org/crane>, where you can click on the “Festival” tab to learn about all the events you want to register for. CNMAS will again have a volunteer cadre at the festival. Although our “post” hasn't been confirmed yet, we'll go where they most need help—maybe at the Eagle Scout Deck, Chupadera Deck, Phil Norton Blind—wherever the birds are! As in past years, we are requesting volunteers for Saturday, November 20, and Sunday, November 21. Two-hour shifts are staggered between our two locations, one being even hours (8-10, 10-noon, noon-2, 2-4) and the other being odd hours (9-11, 11-1, 1-3). If you love seeing the birds from your own perch, meeting and greeting Festival-goers and local friends alike, and can donate two hours to CNMAS, PLEASE e-mail Jeff Myers, our Festival Volunteer coordinator, at [jmyers@peacocklaw.com](mailto:jmyers@peacocklaw.com). When we find out our assigned locations, we'll send back a schedule to all of you. Thanks for your commitment to helping our Chapter and the Friends of Bosque del Apache by participating in one of the top birding events in the nation at the Crown Jewel of New Mexico's Important Bird Areas!





# Networking News

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

**“Audubon Round Up”**

**Audubon Chapters’ Learning Conference**

**November 11-14, 2010**

**Consider yourself invited!**

**Join other Auduboners!** Experience the Sonoran Desert along the beautiful Salt River at Saguaro Lake Ranch (30 miles from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport) [www.saguarolakeranch.com](http://www.saguarolakeranch.com)

**Featuring:** Learning opportunities to benefit your chapter’s projects and your chapter’s sustainability, networking, “down time” for fun and relaxed friend-making and excellent Sonoran Desert birding.

**Participants:** Audubon Chapter Members in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada and Colorado

**Costs:** from \$115 PP per day to \$140 PP per day (includes all meals) plus event registration fee of \$65.00 PP. Camping available nearby.

**For Online Registration and information on accommodations,** go to [www.sonoranaudubon.org](http://www.sonoranaudubon.org) and click on “Audubon Round Up Registration”.

**CONTACT:** Karen LaFrance, Sonoran Audubon Society, Glendale, AZ, Together Green Fellow and Event Coordinator; [klaf@cox.net](mailto:klaf@cox.net) or 602-809-0947 (cell and voice).

## 6th Annual Gila River Festival to Celebrate the Gila’s Web of Life

**Southwest’s Premier Nature Festival Scheduled for September 16 - 19**

Planned in and around Silver City, the Festival will celebrate the role of the Gila River in supporting southwest New Mexico’s rich biological diversity. Enjoy a variety of expert-guided field trips in the Gila National Forest and along the Gila River, lectures with leading scientists on the Gila’s biodiversity, films, family activities, workshops and downtown art walk.

The Gila is New Mexico’s last free-flowing river, with headwaters in the Gila Wilderness Area, winding through water-carved canyons and valleys before flowing out of the Lower Box into Arizona. The area has many plant and animal species that are found nowhere else.

With the United Nations declaration of 2010 as the “International Year of Biodiversity”, this year’s Festival celebrates the Gila River as the lifeblood of our biologically diverse landscape.

Registration is required for most festival events. [www.gilaconservation.org](http://www.gilaconservation.org), 575-538-8078, [info@gilaconservation.org](mailto:info@gilaconservation.org)



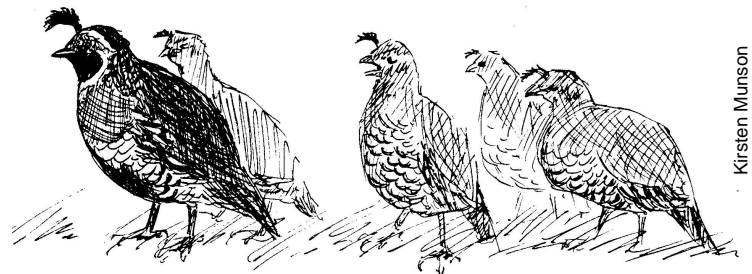
## Construction of Education Building to Begin

The Rio Grande Nature Center State Park, located at 2901 Candelaria Road NW, is owned by the City of Albuquerque, but managed by New Mexico State Parks as a city-state collaboration. The park is one of the most significant environmental education sites in the state, and that education outreach will be greatly enhanced by its new \$1 million education building.

With construction beginning in mid-August and completion estimated to be in spring 2011, the primary purpose of the new 5,550 square foot building is to provide school children and other groups with a location for pre- and post-outdoor education activities, along with science labs and multi-use space.

The current visitor center was built 28 years ago and will indeed become more focused as “visitor center” once the new education center becomes active.

The new building will incorporate numerous “green” components including: passive solar design; photovoltaic panels to generate all of the building’s required electricity; water conservation and harvesting; and native plant landscaping. The building site is on state-owned property that was previously disturbed. It is currently a vacant dirt lot just inside the park entrance and will not require any new parking. New Mexico State Parks: *Short Trips, Long Memories: Your Best Recreation Value Close to Home.*



Kirsten Munson

## Weekend Bird Walks at the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park

Join Saturday and Sunday morning bird walks at the RGNC located at the far west end of Candelaria Road in Albuquerque’s North Valley. The walk starts at 8:00 a.m. May through August. There is a \$3 parking fee if you do not have a state parks pass or a Friends of the Rio Grande Nature Center parking pass. Call 344-7240 or visit [www.rgnc.org](http://www.rgnc.org)

**We do not inherit the earth  
from our ancestors, we  
borrow it from our children.**

**~ Native American Proverb**



## Rio Grande Bird Research Fall Banding

Nancy Cox writes, “It is that time of year again to think about fall migration. Steve has come up with our banding schedule for the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park. I hope many of you will be able to join us this season. It will be a great time to catch up with each other.” Friends, we announce this so that if you are an avid birder who is interested in increasing your skills and in getting up close and personal, who wants to learn more and also help in a worthwhile research program (that’s been going on for some 30+ years), then you are invited to come to Rio Grande Nature Center on Saturday–Sunday mornings during the fall (see accompanying schedule). You can assess the experience, and be aware that you will be the subject of assessment yourself! Because banding birds requires capturing the birds and handling them before the banding takes place, the banding of birds in the United States is controlled under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and requires a federal banding permit.

Banders are a select group. There are currently only 2000 Master banding permits—Steve Cox holds one of them!—and 3000 sub-permits—Nancy Cox holds one of these!—in the United States. If you’re interested in this level of involvement, Google “USGS bird banding lab,” then come join the team at Rio Grande Bird Research. And if you want a more casual level of bird encounter, join a guided bird walk at the RGNC on Saturday and Sunday mornings, starting at 8:30 in September. The walk is guided by an interpretive naturalist and features a “show and tell” session by one of the bird banders, with bird-in-hand-about-to-take-wing!

## Rio Grande Bird Research, Inc. Rio Grande Nature Center 2010 FALL BANDING SCHEDULE

September	Gate opens/closes (a.m.)	Open Nets (a.m.)	Sunrise (a.m.)
4	6:00/6:15	6:21	6:41
5	6:00/6:15	6:22	6:42
11	6:15/6:30	6:26	6:46
12	6:15/6:30	6:27	6:47
18	6:15/6:30	6:31	6:51
19	6:15/6:30	6:32	6:52
25	6:15/6:30	6:37	6:57
26	6:15/6:30	6:37	6:57
<b>October</b>			
2	6:30/6:45	6:42	7:02
3	6:30/6:45	6:43	7:03
9	6:30/6:45	6:48	7:08
10	6:30/6:45	6:48	7:08
16	6:30/6:45	6:53	7:13
17	6:30/6:45	6:54	7:14
23	6:45/7:00	7:00	7:20
24	6:45/7:00	7:00	7:20
30	6:45/7:00	7:06	7:26
31	6:45/7:00	7:07	7:27
<b>November</b>			
6	6:45/7:00	7:13	7:33
7 DST off	5:45/6:00	6:14	6:34

DST = Daylight Savings Time

## Federal Duck Stamp—Not Just For Hunters!

Did you know that a Federal Duck Stamp gains you free admission to every National Wildlife Refuge in the country? Did you know that 98 cents from every dollar from the sales of Duck Stamps goes to the purchase of wetlands? Did you know that one-third of America’s threatened species make their home in wetlands? What a deal for \$15.00! And this year Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar has unveiled a special edition Federal Duck Stamp silk cachet to help conservation efforts in the Gulf of Mexico. The funds will be used to acquire wetlands for inclusion in national wildlife refuges along the Gulf Coast. Eight of those refuges have been badly affected by the Gulf Oil spill: Breton, Delta, Big Branch NWRs (La.); Bon Secour NWR (Ala.); Grand Bay NWR (Miss.); St. Vincent NWR (Fla.); and McFaddin NWR (Texas). The refuges affected include about 460,000 square miles of ocean and 750 miles of shoreline. 36 more NWRs are threatened.

The funds from the special edition cachet, which costs \$25 and features a silk rendering of an award-winning photograph of St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge on the Gulf Coast of Florida by David Moynahan AND the 2010–2011 Federal Duck Stamp, can be ordered at [www.duckstamp.com](http://www.duckstamp.com).

Federal Duck Stamps have been a conservation tradition since 1934, when Congress created the Duck Stamp for wetland acquisition and conservation in the aftermath of the Dust Bowl of the 1930s. Today we can continue that conservation ethic and spend a small amount to make a big difference in reclaiming, restoring, and renewing our Gulf Coast NWRs.

## Learning Look-Alikes Order Form

Contacts: Laurel Ladwig at 505-362-6871, [pbgrebe@gmail.com](mailto:pbgrebe@gmail.com)  
Beth Hurst-Waitz at 505-508-4942

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Inscription \_\_\_\_\_

	Quantity
Learning Look-Alikes with 18 installments of the Learning Look-Alikes	\$25.00 _____

Shipping and handling \$7.00 per notebook

**Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping charge only for shipment of the original notebook. The series is complete and the remaining installments will be mailed to all who have previously ordered.

The sale of this collectible edition is a fund-raiser for CNMAS, and part of the proceeds will go to the Ryan Fund.



# CNMAS Education Opportunities Abound

## 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)

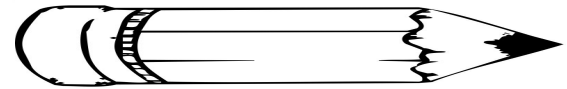
Describe why you need these materials, how you will use them and how they will benefit your students

### 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 membership, written by the teacher/students involved.

### Deadlines

For application: DECEMBER 1st 2010  
 Money awarded by JANUARY, 2011  
 Mail the application to: CNMAS, c/o Helen Haskell, PO Box 36741, Albuquerque, NM 87176.  
 Questions? Email Education Committee Co-Chairs, Helen Haskell at helenm@yahoo.com and Lynn Schuler at onthepulse@msn.com, and title the email 'CNMAS Educator Resource Grant'.



## CNMAS Educator Resource Grant

The 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(s), 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 will be placed in the *Burrowing Owl* newsletter for our membership, written by the educator and students involved.

**Amount available:** up to \$250

**Application deadline:** December 1st 2010 (for money awarded by January 2011).

**Application process:** complete the application form in this newsletter, or download the application from the web site: <http://newmexicoaudubon.org/cnmas/>

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

Questions? Email Education Committee Co-Chairs, Helen Haskell at helenm@yahoo.com and Lynn Schuler at onthepulse@msn.com

Title the email 'CNMAS Educator Resource Grant'.

## The Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Education Fund

This is the third year CNMAS is able to accept applications for the Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Education Fund. 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.

For more information about applications, please contact Helen Haskell at helenm@yahoo.com and visit <http://newmexicoaudubon.org/cnmas/> where you can follow links to the application form and instructions. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. The grant will be awarded by May 31, 2011.



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. CNMAS wishes to thank the Lannan Foundation for its generous support of the fund, as well as the family and friends of Ryan.



Education... continued from page 1

about it or see it as it is, is actually something I think not a lot of people stop to do. Most people don't stop to really admire birds, they just see one, check it off and keep trucking. But I

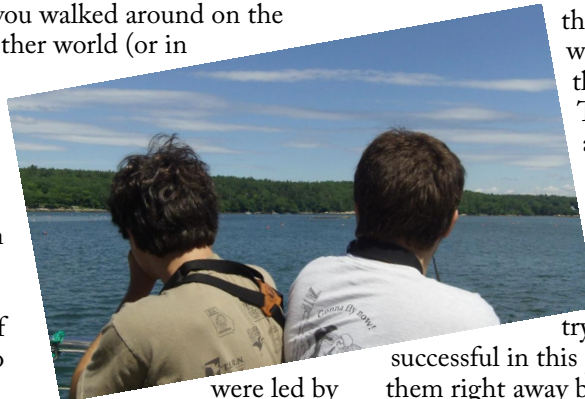


I think it is very important to, even if you're a lister, to stop a while and enjoy the bird you are looking at. At this camp I had many close

encounters with birds and I learned how to stop and simply take pleasure in observing that tenth Winter Wren that I had heard (there were a lot of Winter Wrens on the island).

If folks don't know where this camp was, it was near Medomak, Maine on Hog Island, which is protected by Audubon. The habitat on the island consists mostly of Eastern Hemlock, Red and White Spruce, Balsam Fir, and a variety of ferns I couldn't identify. When you walked around on the island it felt like you were in another world (or in the Cascades)! There was Old Man's Beard hanging from every evergreen and the air was so damp it felt almost alive.

Every morning there was a bird walk at 5:45 AM. I went on it every day but a couple of my fellow campmates decided to be really lazy and sleep in to 6:45 (if you call that sleeping in) to go to breakfast at 7:00. The bird walks



were led by people like Kenn Kaufman, Scott Weidensaul, and Greg Budney (the last of which is the curator of the Macaulay Library of Natural Sounds at Cornell). I learned a lot from all of the leaders and am glad I woke up at 5:45 every day! In addition to a bird walk, Sara Morris and Scott led a banding session Wednesday and Thursday in the same time frame as the bird walk. That was the only banding we got to do, although we did have a 3 hour session with Anthony Hill, (a bander from Hadley, MA) and Ken Keffer (who works at the Black Swamp Bird Observatory in Ohio). Unfortunately, it was raining during that period and we had to stay inside because it is unsafe for the birds to be banded in bad weather conditions. We still learned a lot about banding though. Anthony and Ken shared about their banding experiences and we (the campers) talked about ours.

Both the adult group and teen group went on a some sort of field trip every day. For one of the days, we had a tour of the bay surrounding Hog Island and Steve Kress explained the natural and social history of the area. The adults and teens went to a lot of the same places but usually went separately. We went on several "hikes" around the area (I put hikes in parentheses because they were all pretty short in time and distance). We went to a blueberry barren where we saw Vesper Sparrows and a rare Upland Sandpiper! We also went on a hike near Medomak, ME (the town closest to Hog Island).

Without a doubt the best part of the camp was when the teens and teen instructors landed on Eastern Egg Rock and we got to see the nesting colony of Roseate, Common and Arctic Terns, Laughing Gulls, Black Guillemots and Atlantic Puffins. Being in a seabird colony is like nothing you've ever experienced and you feel like you are actually a part of it. And of course there is nothing as special as being a foot away from a baby tern or seeing a volunteer hold up a guillemot chick! We even had a volunteer show us a Leach's Storm-Petrel, a bird that is nocturnal and that you rarely see during the day (for obvious reasons). I am still pondering whether or not to put it on my life list because it was removed (gently) from its nice cozy burrow, (it certainly blinked a lot when it came out!). As a side note, this was the first time any group of campers were permitted to land on the island so it was very special for all of us.

Every night there was a presentation by an instructor or special guest on a subject pertaining to birds. One night there was a talk on migration by Scott Weidensaul (one of my favorite instructors). Besides from blowing me away with some of the things he said, he amazed me with his presenting skills. He's fantastic! He can write great, talk great, and he's a naturalist

who knows his stuff (to put it bluntly)! One of the only downsides of this camp was that we went to bed at 11:00 PM every night because the the nightly presentations ended so late. They were all great though. Besides Scott's amazing talk, Sara Morris (a bander who bands on Appledore Island) led an interactive "quiz" on female warblers. She would project a slide of some hard-to-identify female warbler and then the audience would look through their bird books and try to ID it. I think the teens were the most successful in this particular quiz! I certainly could ID all of them right away but by flipping through the *Parulidae* section very thoroughly I was able to find the correct one.

I am very much aware that none of this would have been possible if not for the help of a lot of people. If I had not gotten the scholarship I would not have been able to afford going to the 1,000 dollar camp. So I want to thank everyone who helped me through the application process (Beth Hurst-Waitz and Helen Haskell among others) and of course my mom and dad. I'll pause to tell you that I am not trying to replicate a Acknowledgments section in a novel, I just want to be thankful for the work people have done to assist me. As I've already said, I feel very honored to receive the scholarship in Ryan's name and I enjoyed the camp for him.

If you have any questions or comments you can email me at [casseagle@gmail.com](mailto:casseagle@gmail.com) or post on my blog - [birdnutsblog.blogspot.com](http://birdnutsblog.blogspot.com). I made a recent post on my experiences at camp so you might get a more in-depth description there.



Photos courtesy of Cassidy Ruge





**WHOM TO CONTACT**

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Activist Hotline  
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Audubon Take Action  
www.audubonaction.org/audubon/

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

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Washington, DC 20500  
(202) 456-1111  
president@whitehouse.gov

Secretary Ken Salazar  
Department of the Interior  
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Washington, DC 20240  
(202) 208-3100  
www.doi.gov

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Washington, DC 20510  
(800) 443-8658  
bingaman.senate.gov

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Washington, DC 20510

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Washington, DC 20515  
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Governor Bill Richardson  
State Capitol, Room 400  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
(505) 476-2200

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

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

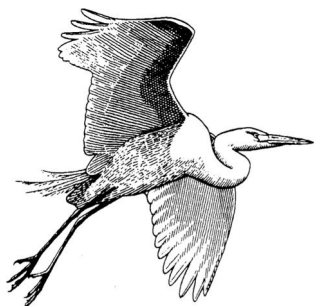
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Friends of the Bosque del Apache  
(575) 835-1828  
www.friendsofthebosque.org

Rio Grande Nature Center State Park  
(505) 344-7240  
Friends of RGNC  
friends@rgnc.org, www.rgnc.org

**Meet National Audubon's  
New President and CEO**

Welcome and congratulations to David Yarnold, selected by National Audubon Board as “the right person to build Audubon’s legacy of conservation results well into the future and to educate and empower the next generation of conservationists.” His experience is impressive as the Executive Director of the Environmental Defense Fund and President of its Environmental Defense Action Fund. Prior to that, he was a Pulitzer Prize-winning editor at the *San Jose Mercury News*, and here’s a message in his own words that highlights the gift for communication skills that would earn a Pulitzer prize and make an effective Audubon President/CEO: “I know that...Audubon’s staff and its volunteers are there to help the planet thrive. I’ve learned a couple of things in the process of becoming your new president and CEO. First, I’ve come to understand that Audubon doesn’t belong to the New York home office. And while the state offices do tremendous work, they represent something larger. The chapters and their volunteer leaders do Audubon’s grassroots work. But the fact is—and I will keep this thought at the center of my work as your new president—we are all Audubon.”



understand that Audubon doesn’t belong to the New York home office. And while the state offices do tremendous work, they represent something larger. The chapters and their volunteer leaders do Audubon’s grassroots work. But the fact is—and I will keep this thought at the center of my work as your new president—we are all Audubon.”

**Central New Mexico Audubon Society Application  
Form *For New National Members Only***



Make checks payable to the **National Audubon Society, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002**. FOR NEW NATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS ONLY. Your National Audubon membership RENEWAL cannot be processed by the Chapter; it must be sent directly to National Audubon.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (with Area Code) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The following rates include the *National Audubon Magazine* and the CNMAS Newsletter the *Burrowing Owl*. Please check your preference.

- \$20 New Member, special introductory rate for one year.
- \$30 New Member, special introductory rate for two years.

As part of our commitment to protecting our natural environment we are encouraging members to opt to receiving their copies of the *Burrowing Owl* online, where they can read it on their computers or print it out at home. This will significantly reduce the amount of paper generated by mailing hard copies. We will, of course, honor those requests from members who wish to continue receiving the hard copies through the mail. Please indicate your preference below.

- I would like to receive the *Burrowing Owl* online. Be sure to enter your e-mail address on the address section above.
- I would prefer to receive the *Burrowing Owl* via printed copy by regular mail.

**For the *Burrowing Owl* Only**

For annual subscription to the *Burrowing Owl* within our Chapter area or outside of it:

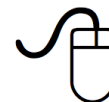
- \$15.00 (Check delivery choice above.)

For this subscription make checks payable to **CNMAS, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002**.

**Central New Mexico Audubon Is On Facebook!**

Become a Fan and get Facebook updates: go to the following link: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/> and type “Central New Mexico Audubon Society” in the search box. Then click on the link “Central New Mexico Audubon Society” and it will take you to our page. There will be a button that you can click on that says, “Become a Fan.”

If you would like to receive an e-mail reminder about meetings rather than joining Facebook, e-mail Judy Liddell, Publicity Chair, at [jliddell5@earthlink.net](mailto:jliddell5@earthlink.net).



**Burrowing Owl Deadline**

Information and articles to be included in **Winter 2010** issue of the *Burrowing Owl*, must be received by **Nov. 5, 2010**. Contact Turtle-Bear at 505-265-6094 or [turtlebear@jensenbear.com](mailto:turtlebear@jensenbear.com). We are not accepting commercial advertising at this time.

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Post Office Box 30002  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87190-0002  
NAS Chapter C0ZQ510Z

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Central New Mexico Audubon is a  
Chapter of the National Audubon Society, Inc.

*Our missions: "To appreciate, experience, and conserve birds, other wildlife and their habitats; and to encourage and support environmental education in New Mexico."*

### CNMAS DIRECTORY

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



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