



Burrowing Owl

December 2010, January–February 2011

Vol. 40 No. 1

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

CNMAS January Program

“The Newest Technologies in the Study of Bird Migration”

Thursday, January 20, 2011

Celestyn Brozek, Associate Professor of Chemistry at University of New Mexico Valencia Campus and lifelong bird enthusiast, will discuss satellite tracking, miniature radios, data loggers, and isotope levels which help to unravel the mysteries of bird migration. The most amazing discoveries include a bird flying nonstop for over a week and another covering the distance from earth to moon over six times during a lifetime. Numerous photographs will complement the presentation.

This FREE event will be held at St. Timothy’s Lutheran Church, NW corner of Copper and Jefferson NE, 7:15 PM (7:00 for refreshments).

13th Annual Audubon Birding Academy “Birding New Mexico With New Mexico Birders”

Coming Soon! Here is a little taste of what we will have in store for you!

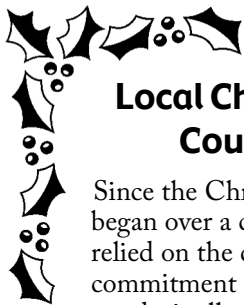
February 17, 2011 – Black-throated Gray Warbler

Ashli Gorbet will share information on the ecology of the Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*) and will discuss her current research in the Manzanita Mountains of New Mexico on the breeding biology of this species. Breakthroughs documented during the first season of the three year project will be shared, including behavior, vocalizations, and other surprises. We will follow one pair through the entire breeding season and discuss their trials, tribulations and ultimate successes. Those in attendance will be treated to photos, video and audio recordings which will enhance their appreciation of this common but little known passerine.

Ashli grew up in the forests of northern Ohio and received her B.S. in Wildlife Management from The Ohio State University. After working on a breeding study of Northern Cardinals and Acadian Flycatchers in central Ohio, she made the switch from mammalogy to ornithology. In 2006, Ashli relocated to New Mexico to explore the birds and mountains of the Land of Enchantment. She currently works as a wildlife biologist at Sandia National Laboratories and spends her free time banding birds with Rio Grande Bird Research, Inc. She also serves as Secretary of the New Mexico Ornithological Society and is active with the



Ashli & Black-throated Gray Warbler



Local Christmas Bird Counts 2010

Since the Christmas Bird Count began over a century ago, it has relied on the dedication and commitment of volunteer citizen scientists. In other words, it all starts with you!



Five Points – Tuesday Dec. 14

Steve Cox, 505-345-2385, swcox@spinn.net
Meet at the Sevilleta NWR headquarters at 6:00 AM.

Sevilleta NWR – Friday Dec. 17

Steve Cox, 505-345-2385, swcox@spinn.net
Meet at the Sevilleta NWR headquarters at 6:00 AM.

CBC 2010... continued on page 2

Birding Academy... continued on page 2

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Bosque del Apache NWR – Saturday, Dec. 18

Dave Hawksworth, davehawk1@msn.com, 505-575-5343
Meet at the refuge HQ at 6:30 AM. There will be a post-count get-together at 5:30 PM a location TBD. To help in coordinating with the refuge, please contact me ahead of time to let me know you will be participating.

Albuquerque – Sunday, Dec. 19

Hart R. Schwarz, compiler 505-266-1810, hschwarz@fs.fed.us
Meet Hart at Corrales Shopping Center, NW corner of Coors and Alameda, between 7:00 & 7:15 AM. Participation fee remains at \$5.00. Bring cash (preferred) or make out your check to Hart Schwarz. The compilation party will be hosted by Hal & Amy Wagon at their home near Juan Tabo and Montgomery (298-7350) at 6:00 P.M. They will provide lemonade, coffee and posole. Bring your bird list, a dish to share (optional) and your own beverage if you wish. Maps to their home will be handed out on the morning of the Count.

Sandia Mountains – Sunday, Dec. 26

Rebecca Gracey, 505-242-3821, maryrebeccagracey@gmail.com
(count organizer) and Nick Pederson, 505-417-8665,
npederson4088@hotmail.com (data compiler)

Meet north of Albertson's in the Four Hills shopping center on Central, west of Tramway, at 7:30 AM. There is a \$5.00 participation fee to cover Audubon's expenses for managing the collected data. The compilation party will be at 5:00 PM at O'Niell's Irish Pub at 3301 Juan Tabo NE, north of Candelaria on the west side of the street, to eat and go over the results of the count. Contact Rebecca if you wish to participate.

111th Christmas Bird Count Season, 2010

Go online to www.nmbirds.org or to nm.audubon.org/CBC/cbc_schedule.htm to view these and other New Mexico Christmas Bird Count dates.

Also visit birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count to find out more about this citizen science effort.

Birding Academy... continued from page 1

New Mexico Burrowing Owl Working Group.

Save these other dates: **March 17** and **April 14** (Second Thursday). The next issue of the *Burrowing Owl* will have more information about these two classes. You can preregister or pay at the door, see the registration form on this page. As a special deal, NEW members (not renewals) pay \$20 for NEW MEMBERSHIP and don't have to pay for classes.

The *Burrowing Owl* newsletter is published quarterly in March, June, September, December, by Central New Mexico Audubon Society, PO Box 30002, Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002. Subscription is free to National Audubon Society members, \$15 to nonmembers.



Thank You and Good-Bye From the Editor

I am writing this as I begin to lay out the latest *Burrowing Owl*. As I gather all the articles, reports and calendar items in one place, I see the names of all the people who have contributed greatly to this membership newsletter. The names are too numerous, but I must mention Beth Hurst-Waitz, President of CNMAS, who welcomed me in 2000 as the CNMAS Newsletter Editor. Thank you!

I thank everyone for your gracious compliments and your patience when I didn't get it quite right. I thank you for your contributions of words and art. I thank you for an interesting 10 years.



So, now I have to get to the point. This coming issue will be my last as Newsletter Editor. There is a lot of talent out there. **Please step forward NOW and volunteer so that there is no gap!** I will be available to help during the transition and for layout purposes if needed for the Spring issue of the *Burrowing Owl*.

— Pauline Turtle-Bear Guillermo



The 13th Annual Audubon Birding Academy Registration Form

- Feb. 17 - Black-throated Gray Warbler - - - - - \$6
- Mar. 17 - To Be Announced - - - - - \$6
- Apr. 14 - To Be Announced - - - - - \$6
- Register for ALL 3 Birding Academy classes - - - - - \$15
- Become a **NEW** Audubon member and get the 3 Birding Academy classes for FREE - - - - - \$20

NAS chapter code Q51 • Source code 79M7

Total Enclosed: _____

Name/s: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

- I want to get the *Burrowing Owl* via the web - Email: _____

Send your check, payable to CNMAS to:
CNMAS Birding Academy
P.O. Box 30002
Albuquerque, NM 87190-0002



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.

Our Thursday Birders and Weekend Field Trips are really the centerpiece of our chapter's mission: "To appreciate and experience birds..." Everything we do – our youth scholarships and adult education programs, our conservation work and issues advocacy – centers on what's out there to be enjoyed and, if need be, protected. Please consider joining us on any or all of these trips into Nature.

Saturday, December 11: Bosque del Apache & Longspur Tank

Leader: Cole Wolf, colejwolf@gmail.com, 505-553-4831

Meet at the refuge headquarters at 9:00 AM. We'll spend the morning birding the refuge for raptors, waterfowl, and desert residents, and after that we'll go to the grasslands east of San Antonio in hopes of up-close looks at longspurs and other sparrows. Finally, the group may choose to take a break for dinner in Socorro and come back to Bosque for the fly in at dusk.

Sunday, January 31: Sandia Mountains

Leader: Raymond VanBuskirk, trogon282000@yahoo.com, 505-217-8514

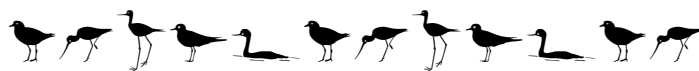
Meet in front of Starbucks in the Four Hills parking lot (south of Central and west of Tramway) at 7:30 AM. We'll start at the morning at Doc Long Picnic Area, and from there we'll work our way up the mountain looking for winter finches and other forest birds. At the crest we'll search for Three-toed Woodpeckers and finish the trip in the Crest House where we'll watch the Rosy-Finch banders while we sip hot chocolate.

Saturday, February 19: Sevilleta NWR

Leader: Cole Wolf, colejwolf@gmail.com, 505-553-4831

The Sevilleta is one of the largest refuges outside of Alaska, but access is very restricted. This trip is a great opportunity to see some areas that are not normally open to the public. We will meet at the Sevilleta Visitor Center at 9:00 AM. The visitor center is located just west of I-25 Exit #169, about an hour south of Albuquerque. This will be a two-part trip. The first part will be a drive near the Rio Grande through parts of the La Joya wildlife area (on the west side of river) and to the banks of the Rio Salado. There is a particular spot we can walk to (~1/2 mile) with backwater ponds that should be productive for waterbirds and early signs of spring. After that we will visit San Lorenzo Canyon at the south boundary of the refuge. San Lorenzo Arroyo and Canyoncito de las Cabras may be productive for land birds, but those places are spectacularly beautiful regardless. High-clearance vehicles are much preferred for both areas. Bring lunch and water.

To left: San Lorenzo Canyon - photo courtesy Cole Wolf



Thursday Birders Field Trip Schedule

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

December 9: Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

With Sei Tokuda: 266-2480, stokuda@juno.com

Meet at 8:00 a.m. behind the Hawthorne Suites on Gibson and University. Bring lunch. This is an all day trip. (Admission fee or pass required per vehicle.)

December 16: Foothills hike, Holiday Potluck and Toys for Tots gifts

With Rebecca Gracey: 242-3821, maryrebeccagracey@gmail.com

Hike the north side of Embudo Canyon by meeting at the east end of Menaul. Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the parking lot. (Don't go to the parking lot on Indian School.)

Afterwards attend a potluck lunch at the home of Cindy and Joe Harris. Soup, coffee and tea will be provided. Everyone else should bring other dishes to share with the group. Unwrapped gifts for the Toys for Tots program will be collected from those wishing to contribute. Directions to the location will be handed out earlier at the hike.

December 23: Corrales bosque

With Lannois Neely: 890-7881, lfneely@aol.com

Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the shopping center parking lot north of Alameda Road/NM 528 and east of Coors/Corrales Road near Little Anita's restaurant. Lunch afterwards at Village Pizza in Corrales.

December 30: Bernardo Wildlife Management Area

With Rebecca Gracey: 242-3821, maryrebeccagracey@gmail.com

Meet at 9:00 a.m. behind the Hawthorn Suites located on

Thursday Birders... continued on page 4

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... continued on page 4

Gibson and University. The refuge is located 50 miles south off I-25. Lunch afterwards at Harla May's Fat Boy Grill in Belen. The trip will end around 2:30 p.m.

January 6: Raptors on the eastern plains of Torrance County

With Bonnie Long: 379-1985, cantrade_1@yahoo.com

Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the library in Tijeras, NM, on Route 66 (north side of the highway). The group will drive south of Moriarty past Estancia to look for hawks and Golden Eagles. Lunch at the Old Mill in Estancia. The group should be back in Albuquerque by 5:00 p.m.

January 13: Sandia Crest to look for the Rosy Finches

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

Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Sandia Ranger Station in Tijeras, NM, on Highway 337 to arrange car pooling. We can buy snacks or lunch at the crest restaurant as we wait inside for the Rosy-Finches to arrive at the feeders. (Parking fee or pass required.) The trip will end in the early afternoon.

January 20 : AFTERNOON TRIP - View the Sandhill Crane fly-in at the Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area (WWCA) near Belen, NM

With Linda Heinze: 565-1441, manzanogal@gmail.com

Meet at 3:00 p.m. behind the Hawthorne Suites on Gibson and University or 3:45 at the center. WWCA is located on Highway 47 on the east side of the Rio Grande River. Take exit I-25 in Los Lunas, then Main/Highway 6 east over the river, turn south on NM 47 and drive south 10 miles. WWCA is on the west side of the highway.

The group should be back in Albuquerque around 7:00 p.m.

January 27: Shining River Bosque Open Space

With Gale Owings: 255-8333

Meet at the trailhead in the open space parking lot at 8:30 a.m. for a walk in the bosque. It is located south of Paseo del Norte and north of El Pueblo Road on Rio Grande Boulevard. (There is no exit from Paseo del Norte to Rio Grande Boulevard. Take the 2nd Street exit and take El Pueblo west to Rio Grande.) The walk will end before noon.

February 3: Longspur quest from Estancia to Willard and towards Encino, NM

With Rebecca Gracey: 242-3821, maryrebeccagracey@gmail.com

Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot near Carl's Jr. on the south side of Central Avenue between Juan Tabo and Tramway. Bring lunch. The trip should end around 4:00 p.m.

February 10: Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

With Sei Tokuda: 266-2480, stokuda@juno.com

Meet at 8:00 a.m. behind the Hawthorne Suites on Gibson and University. Bring lunch. This is an all day trip. (Admission fee or pass required per vehicle.)

February 17: Alameda Open Space

With Judy Liddell: 271-0912, jliddell5@earthlink.net

Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the open space parking lot on the south

side of Alameda Boulevard. It is directly east of the Rio Grande River and west of the traffic light on Alameda and Rio Grande Boulevard. Lunch at Village Pizza in Corrales.

February 24: Los Poblanos Open Space

With Mary Lou Arthur: 299-2565, marylarthur@yahoo.com

Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the open space parking lot. From east or west bound Montañito turn north on Tierra Viva just east of the river. There will be a sign for Rio Grande Community Farm. It will be an easy one mile walk ending before noon.

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

Remember to record your sightings at

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



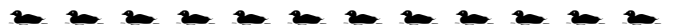
Winter Bird and Bat Festival

Saturday, January 15, 2011

This will be an all-day event with great talks on various birds of winter, as well as live birds, bird walks, and activities for kids! Rio Grande Nature Center State Park, 2901 Candelaria NW, 344-7240, www.rgnc.org

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 9:00 a.m. December through February. 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



Great Backyard Bird Count 2011

February 18 - 21

What is the GBBC?

A citizen science opportunity!

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual four-day event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the continent. Anyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you can count for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy—and it helps the birds.

www.birdcount.org



Art Arenholz, “Learning Look-Alikes,” and Honoring Beyond Memories

by Beth Hurst-Waitz

Did you look for a new installment of “Learning Look-Alikes” in this issue? Nope, it’s not there. Good news (the series is completed); bad news (the series is completed). Toward end of the year we will be mailing out the remaining installments collectively to those who have already ordered the book. And of course, we continue to take new orders. What a great holiday gift!

Appreciating the series turned the memory pages to reflecting on the many other kindnesses and contributions by Art Arenholz to CNMAS. Turtle-Bear chronicled no less than 18 Field Trips led by Art during his service as Field Trip Co-Chair between 2001 and 2005. You, our audience, loved coming to hear his presentations. Always a graceful guide and persuasive presenter, his Birding Academy presentations illuminated “Shorebirds” in February 2002, took us soaring with “Hawks, Falcons and Eagles” in March 2004, got our feet muddy with “Wetlands: Waders and Wings” in April 2005, and wooed our sense of wonder with “Mysteries of Bird Migration” in September 2002. He participated in and contributed to our Birdathons, donated to our fund-raising raffle, wrote the book review of “Cranes: The Noblest Flyers in Natural History and Cultural Lore,” helped out as a Science Fair judge. Warmheartedly, he’s been a donor to the Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Youth Scholarship Endowment Fund – generously and directly by check, and indirectly through his authorship of “Learning Look-Alikes” (remember, some proceeds from the book’s sale go to the Ryan Fund).

Well, the tribute is turning more into a list than a story, which I wanted to avoid. The other thing to shun is dwelling on memories instead of on the person. So with that in mind, Art and I had set up a date to meet at his home. Ever the optimum of organization, he had a list of what he’s enjoying currently – volunteering for the Forest Service Visitor Center at Sandia Crest from May to late October, hiking and birding with Catherine and visiting family. He showed me the geology books by which he takes book-guided geology tours around the state, and he shared the DVD courses that he absorbs on astronomy, geology, history, music. He smiled and he talked, and I was again reminded that his voice, to me, is as soothing and warm as fleece slippers. Storyteller and teacher, he recounted pointing out to the neighbor boy-child the Merlin on the telephone pole. “You mean Merlin like the magician?” Another set of eyes and young mind opened because of Art.

Arriving at Art’s house, I was distracted from going to his door by a flock of two to three hundred crows weaving themselves in sinuous tendrils, swirling and curling in the bluest New Mexico sky. Unexpectedly from behind me came Art’s soothing voice, “That’s a lot of crows, isn’t it?” Then as we closed the gap between us to stand side by side in admiration, we spied a young Red-tailed Hawk on the edge of the flock. We stood there together for several minutes, looking up and enjoying. Birding moments have always been magical with, and because of, Art.



Art with Peregrine Falcon (hatch year female), September 1998

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!



Learning Look-Alikes Order Form

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

Name _____
 Street _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Inscription _____

		Quantity
Learning Look-Alikes	\$25.00	_____
with 18 installments of the Learning Look-Alikes		
Shipping and handling	\$7.00 per notebook	
Total \$		_____

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



Rosy-Finch Sighting November 6 – The Flag Is Flying!

As we assemble our articles for this issue of the Burrowing Owl, the skies are blue, the red and yellow leaves are still clinging to the trees, we've just had our first hard frost, and there is no snow on the Sandias. But there are Rosy-finches!

On November 6, Bob Lewis of Sleepy Hollow, NY, posted on the AZ/NM RBA that on that Saturday he drove up to Sandia Crest to look for Rosy-finches. Bob said, "The weather was beautiful - 50 degrees, bright sun, virtually no wind. Too nice, according to the fellow who seems to manage the visitors center and knows a lot about the finches. He said that none have been coming to the feeder." Bob went on to report that although there were no birds at the deck and very few birds at all, "I almost certainly encountered Rosy Finches... Several times walking on the rim trails not far from the visitors center, I observed loose flocks of around thirty – forty birds, obviously finches of some species. A lot of 'rosy' coloration was evident... Many individuals flashed white in the upper wing surface, possibly in the primary coverts or greater coverts..."

Ken Schneider, the guru of www.rosyfinch.com, picked up Bob's report and immediately posted it on the Sandia Crest Birding Forum, with Ken's own very helpful observations and clarification: "Bob very clearly describes the appearance and habits of one or more flocks of rosy-finches. Since there is no snow cover, the birds find ample food and may forage widely, ignoring the feeders. When available, rosy-finches often eat insects, especially flies that are swept up from the valley by the air currents, are immobilized by the cold, and collect near the rims of the mountain. I have been surprised to sometimes find dozens of flies in 'suspended animation' on top of the snow. Say's Phoebes also avail themselves of this food source, especially along the ski runs. Thanks for your observation, Bob – the flags will start flying!!!"

Then we got a report from Debbie Tyber in Breckenridge, Colorado, on November 11: "My Rosy Finches arrived at my feeders in Breckenridge a few days ago and today I had hundreds of them, mostly brown and about 25% gray." Ken Schneider immediately contacted her and put her into the loop about the Sandia studies. She responded: "Thanks for including me in this email as I would love to share my observations. Not sure about what I'm observing, but they definitely have some interesting behavior."

You don't have to come from New York or go to Colorado to see Rosy-finches! Drive up to the Crest and enjoy the attraction that thrills so many local and out-of-state birders. Check the Rosy-finch or CNMAS website to see the banding schedule as soon as it's posted.



**Gray-crowned Rosy-finch, Hepburn's form, Dec. 11, 2005 –
Photo by Stephen Fettig**

The Log at Capulin Spring

Melissa Howard passes along this good news: Cid Morgan at Sandia Ranger District advises that the Forest Service silviculturist has picked out a log for the water trough. The contractor, who has just started work on the picnic area, will move the log close to the water source and leave it there for the winter. The renovation involves pouring concrete, which can't happen until spring, but as soon as that part of the project is done Cid wants Audubon to be very involved (or maybe do all the work) on the log.



Capulin Spring Log photo by Ken Schneider



In Memoriam: Gary Parker

Many of us met Gary Parker on birding trails in New Mexico. Celestyn notified us at CNMAS that he passed away on November 6 at the age of 73 and wrote this mini biography: He was an avid birder and always interested in sharing information about rare and not so rare birds. We didn't see him for several months - he was in hospital. Gary received a Ph.D. in linguistics from Cornell University where he was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow. After teaching in a college in Canada, he settled in New Mexico 32 years ago. Here he was a co-owner of a coin store and a leading authority on ancient coins. He was also deeply interested in the history of the Middle East in ancient times. We will miss him and remember him in all those places where "we ran into Gary."

Just before going to press, we at CNMAS received a call from Gary's sister, Loretta. She and her husband are in town to close out Gary's affairs, and through their generosity (and Gary's), CNMAS is the recipient of four bags of Gary's birding books, field notes, and numerous pairs of binoculars. What a touching memorial and what a beautiful way to share Gary's passion and to keep it alive in the field, where many other people, though perhaps unknowingly, will now "run into Gary."



Cats Outdoors: The Challenge

Text courtesy of American Bird Conservancy

Policy adopted and endorsed by Central New Mexico Audubon Society Board of Directors, Officers, and Committee Chairs and Members

There is no question that birds are better off when cats stay indoors. Exact numbers are unknown, but scientists estimate that every year in the United States alone, cats kill hundreds of millions of birds and more than a billion small mammals, including rabbits, squirrels, and chipmunks. Feline predators include both domestic cats that spend time outdoors and stray cats that live in the wild, sometimes as part of a colony.

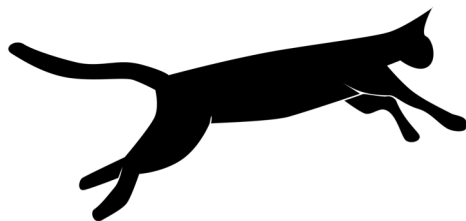
Outdoor cats themselves are also at increased risk. They can get hit by cars; attacked by dogs, other cats, or wildlife; contract fatal diseases, such as rabies, feline distemper, or feline immunodeficiency virus; get lost, stolen, or poisoned; or suffer during severe weather conditions. Outdoor cats lead considerably shorter lives on average than cats kept exclusively indoors.

Free-roaming and feral cats also pose a health hazard to humans from the spread of diseases such as rabies, toxoplasmosis, and cat scratch fever. In April 2010, the Volusia County Health Department in Florida issued a rabies alert for 60 days following two unprovoked attacks on humans by feral cats within a month. Two cats had tested positive for rabies in the area. The CDC states that “Unvaccinated dogs, cats, and ferrets exposed to a rabid animal should be euthanized immediately.” Even in ‘managed’ colonies all cats cannot always be vaccinated, and infected animals may be even harder to catch in a timely manner before they infect other animals or humans.

Solutions

Cats are not a part of the “natural” outdoors. Cats are non-native midsize predators that are an introduced species. Of course, it’s also true that cats are affectionate and beloved pets. We challenge cat owners, because you love your cats, to keep them indoors. Many veterinarians and animal welfare organizations say that’s the best thing to do for the sake of the cats themselves. It keeps them safe and it keeps them healthy and it gives them a longer, less stressful life. It’s a happy side effect that it also prevents them from killing wildlife.

There are a number of ways that people can help their cats adjust to an indoor lifestyle, and Central New Mexico Audubon Society recommends visiting the American Bird Conservancy Web site, www.abcbirds.org, to explore their wealth of resources to help and to educate cat owners. Outdoor cat colonies, sustained through the practice of Trap Neuter Release, are bad for birds, do not help reduce the overpopulation of feral cats, and are often bad for the cats themselves, which lead short, harsh lives. Instead of Trap-Neuter-Release, Central New Mexico Audubon Society supports Trap-Neuter-Remove – remove and relocate by adoption to loving homes, remove and relocate to cat sanctuary enclosures.



Share A Field Guide: An Inter-American Book Connection

After you return from a birding trip to Mexico, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador, or other location in Latin American or the Caribbean, consider recycling your field guide that you may not use again to someone in that country who will use it. One way to do this is to contribute that country’s bird field guide to Birders’ Exchange, a project of the American Birding Association. Birders’ Exchange will then pass it along to a student, researcher, or teacher from that country or location, or at least to someone who can make good use of the guide. When you are ready to share a book, pack it up and send it to:

Birders’ Exchange
c/o ABA
4945 N 30th St, Suite 200
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

In the same spirit, a number of groups, including the Black Swamp Bird Observatory, the Sonoran Joint Venture, and Environment for the Americas have been cooperating to help put Kenn Kaufman’s Spanish-language version of his North America field guide – *Guia de campo a las aves de Norteamerica* – into the hands of Spanish-speakers on both sides of the U.S./Mexican border.

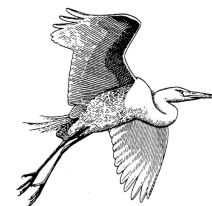
Here’s how you can help: Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO) has arranged to purchase the book at the deep discounted price of \$12.00. You can donate the cost of a book (or books) and have a name plate inside the front cover placed there recognizing you as the donor. BSBO will then ship the books to the partner organization for their outreach programs. You can get more details about how to participate here: www.bsbo.org/kenn_kaufman.htm

— From *The Birding Community E-Bulletin*, October 2010

Be An Audubon Activist

Here’s a post-election fact from the Wilderness Society that might have escaped you: 80% of the state ballot measures for land conservation passed, including in Maine, Oregon, Rhode Island and Iowa. That should come as no surprise, since conservation is a value highly cherished in this country.

That conservation value extends to support for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, an essential tool to save public lands by investing royalties from offshore oil leasing in conservation. Getting this measure passed by a bipartisan vote is of the highest priority to National Audubon and has been one of the highest activism campaigns by your Audubon New Mexico State Office and CNMAS chapter, as well. We’ll be asking your help soon to help pass full funding for LWCF and an assortment of wilderness bills in the last days of this Congress and urge you to sign on to www.audubonaction.org/audubon so that you’ll be poised to join with grassroots conservationists across the country when this campaign becomes nationally active. Protecting landscapes isn’t Republican or Democratic: It’s American.





WHOM TO CONTACT

National Audubon Society
Membership Hotline
(800) 274-4201, chadd@audubon.org
Activist Hotline
(800) 659-2622
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

The President
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(202) 456-1111
president@whitehouse.gov

Secretary Ken Salazar
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3100
www.doi.gov

Senator Jeff Bingaman
703 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(800) 443-8658
bingaman.senate.gov

Senator Tom Udall
B40D Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Congressman Steve Pearce
www.house.gov
(202) 224-3121

Congressman Ben R. Lujan
502 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-6190

Congressman Martin T. Heinrich
1505 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-6316

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

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

Bosque del Apache NWR
(575) 838-2120
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

The Ryan Beaulieu Memorial Education Fund

This is the fourth 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 e-mail **both** members of our Education Committee, Helen Haskell at helennm@yahoo.com and Lynn Lorrain Schuler at onthepulse@msn.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.



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:

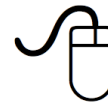
- \$15.00 (Check delivery choice above.)

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



Burrowing Owl Deadline

Information and articles to be included in **Spring 2011** issue of the *Burrowing Owl*, must be received by **Feb. 5, 2011**. Contact Turtle-Bear at 505-265-6094 or turtlebear@jensenbear.com. We are not accepting commercial advertising at this time.

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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."

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

New Mexico Rare Bird Alert
Compiler: Matt J. Baumann
505-264-1052, mb687@yahoo.com
<http://www.birder.com/birding/alert/index.html>
<http://www.nmbirds.org/>

Rosy Finch Project
Fran Lusso & Dave Weaver, flusso@wfubmc.edu
<http://www.rosyfinch.com/>

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



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