

The Roadrunner



Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society General Meetings

**Saturday, February 18, 2012,
Awards Dinner and Program.**

6:00 p.m. at Jaxon's Restaurant on Airway.

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Jim Tolbert will receive the Conservation Award and Mark Perkins will receive the Meritorious Service Award. Dinner is \$20 per person, which includes tax and tip. The entrée choices are:

1. BBQ Platter (ribs, beef and chicken sampler)
2. Chicken Breast Magoffin
3. Vegetarian Fajitas

The chicken and BBQ platter dinners include a salad, baked potato, garlic toast, coffee, tea or soft drink. The vegetarian fajitas dinner includes rice, beans, coffee, tea or soft drink. Alcoholic beverages and desserts are available for an additional charge. The awards presentation and program will immediately follow dinner.

Advance reservations are required. Contact Janet Perkins at 637-5269 or jntperk@elp.rr.com for reservations. Advance payment is preferred and appreciated. Checks made payable to El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society may be mailed to Janet Perkins at 813 Montclair Dr., El Paso, TX 79932 (be sure to include your entrée choice).

THE ELECTRONIC ROADRUNNER

THE ROADRUNNER is now also available electronically as a PDF file. If you would like to receive our newsletter in this way via e-mail, just send a note to John Sproul at jsproul@utep.edu.

Guest Speaker: Peter Goodman
Peru is Beautiful.



In April 2008, Peter Goodman flew to Peru, bought a used four-wheel-drive vehicle, and wandered around Peru for more than six months. That journey generated the eclectic mix of images Peter will share in this presentation: Landscapes, images from the daily life of Peruvians in a variety of urban and rural settings, humorous images, birds and animals, and ancient cultural sites.

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The Audubon Foundation of Texas represents Texas Audubon chapters in the Earth Share of Texas payroll-deduction plan for charitable giving.

Earth Share OF TEXAS

Membership: Roxanne Schroeder, 533-0061
Programs: vacant
Conservation: Luis Sanchez, 422-5530
Field Trips: Mark Perkins 637-3521
Hospitality: Janet Perkins, 581-2849

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Officers

President: Eddie Chew, 587- 9589
Vice President: Scott Cutler, 581-6071
Secretary: Jane Fowler, 598-2448
Treasurer: Lucretia Chew, 587-9589

Committees

Publicity: Janet Perkins, 581-2849
Education: Kathleen Whelen, 751-2408
Publications: Jane Fowler, 598-2448
Ways & Means: vacant
Sanctuary: John Sproul, 545-5157

**Monday, March 19, 2012
Memorial Park Garden Center
3105 Grant Street, 7:00 p.m.**



The March program speaker has yet to be secured but you can be sure that an educational and informative presentation will make you glad you marked

your calendar to attend. Watch your email and check the website for updated information regarding the General Meeting and a possible change of location.

Many of our readers opt to receive THE ROADRUNNER electronically as a PDF file. By going paperless in this way, you can help us reduce costs associated with printing and mailing our newsletter. If you would like to discontinue receiving the print version of THE ROADRUNNER and only receive it via e-mail, just send a note to John Sproul at jsproul@utep.edu.

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society
<http://www.trans-pecos-audubon.org>

Conservation Organizations

Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue
www.whc.net/cdwr

El Paso Zoo 521-1850
www.elpasozoo.org

Keystone Heritage Park 581-7920
www.keystoneheritagepark.org

Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park
(575) 524-3334 www.asombro.org

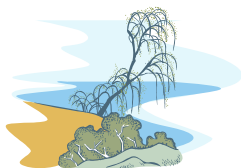
Friends of Rio Bosque 747-8663
www.riobosque.org

Southwest Environmental Center
(575) 522-5552
www.wildmesquite.org

Franklin Mt. Wilderness Coalition
www.franklinmountains.org/

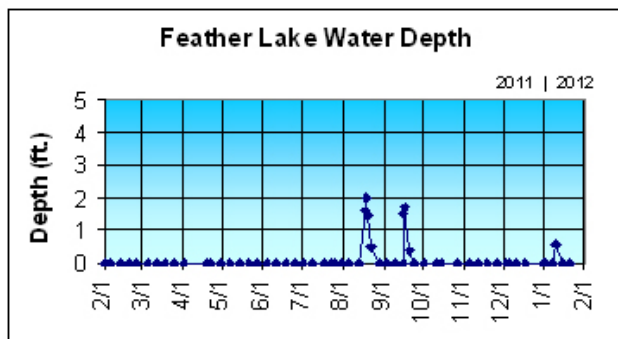
AT FEATHER LAKE

A familiar refrain: Feather Lake is still dry, still closed to public use. The lake has now been completely dry for 11 of the past 15 months and mostly dry the other 4 months. In both December and January, storms put water in the basin briefly, but it was soon gone.



Lack of water and lack of public visitation doesn't mean there is no work to be done. Our next workday at Feather Lake is **Sat., April 7** starting at **2 p.m.** Join us to help

with sanctuary maintenance. Feather Lake is located at 9500 North Loop at Bordeaux in El Paso, 0.3 miles west of Americas Ave.



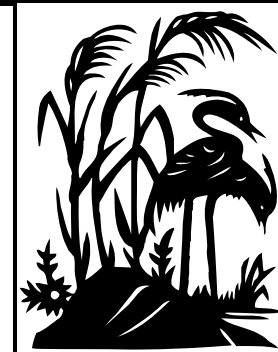
BatsLIVE!



Overview: BatsLIVE! is an integrated distance-learning program that will use technological media to reach children and their educators in classroom settings, professional land managers, and interested general public. The project will develop a website:

<http://batslive.pwnet.org>

Audubon at RIO BOSQUE WETLANDS PARK



Water deliveries to Rio Bosque ended January 29. A Western Screech-Owl is again roosting in a Wood Duck nest box at the park. For up-to-date information on water conditions and birds being seen, check the park's website, www.riobosque.org. Upcoming free walking tours:

8 a.m. Sun., February 5 (Bird tour)

3 p.m. Sat., February 11 (Introductory tour)

3 p.m. Sat., March 3 (Bird tour)

4 p.m. Sun., March 11 (Introductory tour)

The meeting place is a bridge crossing the Riverside Canal. To get there from I-10, take Americas Ave. (Loop 375) to Pan American Drive, turn left onto Pan American and travel 1.5 miles. Information: 747-8663.

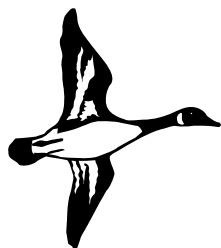


Field Trips

Sunday, February 12, 2012. Field trip to Mesilla Valley Bosque and Leasburg Dam State Parks.

Meet at the Shell Gas Station and Dairy Queen at I10 and Transmountain Rd. at 7:30 a.m. We'll carpool from there.

Bring snacks, drinks and lunch. We should see wintering passerines and waterfowl. There is a nominal fee of \$5.00 per car that is good for both parks.



Nonmembers and beginners always welcome.
Contact Mark Perkins at 915-637-3521 or mperkins4@elp.rr.com.

The Texas State Parks & Wildlife Department

has announced that the Texas State Parks are facing a \$4.6 million gap in the 2012 park system operating budget.



The gap is due to budget cuts, record heat and drought, devastating wildfires, and a resulting decline in visitation and revenues.

Visitor fees pay for about half of the park system operating costs. If you wish, contributions may be made online at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/help/parks or when you renew your motor vehicle registration. Have you purchased your annual parks pass?

Saturday, March 10, 2012 Guadalupe Mountains National Park, McKittrick Canyon and Frijole Ranch.

More than 300 bird species are known to frequent the Guadalupe Mountains. Birds that can be seen this time of year are Golden Eagle, Pygmy Nuthatch, Montezuma Quail, Mountain Chickadee, Western Bluebird and others.

We'll hike up McKittrick Canyon (easy to moderate hike), birding along the way. Then we'll head to Frijole Ranch for lunch and possible water birds.

Meet at 7:00 a.m. in front of Evergreen Cemetery, 12400 E. Montana, ¼ mile east of Loop 375. We will carpool for the 85-mile trip. Bring lunch, water, binoculars and hiking shoes. There is a nominal fee to get into the Park. If you have a National Parks Pass, please bring it.

Nonmembers and beginners are always welcome. Contact Mark Perkins at 637-3521 or mperkins4@elp.rr.com.



Please visit and bookmark www.elpasonaturally.blogspot.com.
Elpasonaturally© is leading the way for sustainable living in the El Paso Southwest.

The Audubon website!

Updated information about upcoming field trips, a calendar of upcoming events, recent bird sightings.
El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon <http://www.trans-pecos-audubon.org>

**The 2012 Franklin Mountains Poppies Fest
Castner Range
Saturday, March 31
El Paso Museum of Archaeology
4301 Transmountain Road.**

Join us for a full program of nature talks, wildlife displays, educational exhibits, demonstrations, music and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to come out and enjoy the beauty of the mountains and the poppies during this **free** educational family fun event.



Want to see Prairie Chickens?

We are working on a trip to Roswell in April. We're just waiting for the BLM to approve it and give us a date. As soon as we have that information, we'll firm up the trip.



What: 2012 Franklin Mountains Poppies Fest on Castner Range
When: Saturday March 31, 2012
Time: 10am – 4pm
Where: El Paso Museum of Archaeology (4301 Transmountain Road)

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or volunteering for this event please contact Naima Montacer (email: njmontacer@gmail.com cell: (806) 683-2242).

Castner Range is a former artillery range known for its cultural, geologic and unique biological features. If the rain and weather cooperate, it is most known for its beautiful and vast display of Mexican Poppies in

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**Celebrate Urban Birds,
the 20th year of International Migratory Bird Day at the
Grand Opening of the Northwest Family Literacy Center on
Friday, May 4, 2012 from 1:00-4:00 at the
Jenna Welch and Laura Bush Community Library
at El Paso Community College.**

With the financial assistance of The Cornell Lab of Ornithology Celebrate Urban Birds Mini-Grant, the library is extending an invitation to urban birds to visit the Children's Reading Garden by providing native plants, hummingbird and seed stations and fresh water features.

Try your hand at citizen science, view bird species visiting the garden and record data to be submitted to Cornell, discover benefits of native, bird-friendly landscaping and plant identification, and how to create artistic water features out of recyclable and low cost materials. Explore new ways to integrate the arts, gardening and conservation. Refreshments will be provided.

If you would like to lend your expertise to help make this event a success, please email whelenk@aol.com.

El Paso/Trans-Pecos
Audubon Society
P.O. Box 972441
El Paso, Texas 79997

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**National Audubon Society
Chapter Membership Application.**

Yes, I'd like to join. Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Chapter.

Send AUDUBON magazine and my membership card to address below.

Check for \$20.00 enclosed payable to National Audubon Society

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____

**National Audubon Society
Chapter Membership Data Center
PO Box 422250
Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250**

Local Chapter Code C1ZW100Z

Dates to Remember Call Mark Perkins for details 637-3521

February

5 & 11: **Rio Bosque**
Sun. 12: **Mesilla Valley
Bosque & Leasburg SP**
Mon 13: **Board Meeting**
Sat 18: **Awards Dinner**

March

3 & 11: **Rio Bosque**
Sat. 10: **Guadalupe NP &
McKittrick Canyon**
Mon 12: **Board Meeting**
Mon 19: **General Meeting**
Sat 31: **Poppies Fest**

April

Sat 7: **Feather Lake**
Mon 9: **Board Meeting**
Mon 16: **General Meeting**
May
Fri. 4: **Celebrate Urban Birds**
Open House EPCC NW Library
5 & 6: **Birdathon**

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Local **Chapter Only Membership** Your \$15.00 will help support chapter activities & you'll receive

The Roadrunner delivered to your mailbox.

Make checks payable to the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail to: EPTP Audubon P.O. Box 972441 El Paso, Texas 79997

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