



The Roadrunner

Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

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The e-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.



El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Website!

Updated information about upcoming field trips, calendar of upcoming events, and recent bird sightings.

www.trans-pecos-audubon.com



General Meetings Centennial Museum at UTEP 500 W. University Ave

October 15, 2018 7:00pm
Dr. Victoria Milne

Zoo Raptor Rehabilitation Update



Dr. Victoria Milne, senior veterinarian at the El Paso Zoo, will present an update on the Zoo Raptor Rehabilitation Program. The Zoo has been the primary location in the El Paso region for injured and orphaned raptor care since 2015. The Zoo treats 150-200 raptors per year, with injuries ranging from fractured bones to electrocutions, and illnesses including West Nile Virus and lead poisoning.

November 19, 2018 7:00pm
Dr. Philip Lavretsky
Waterfowl Research

Dr Philip Lavretsky is an assistant professor at the University of Texas at El Paso. Dr. Lavretsky will draw from his extensive molecular research with various waterfowl species in presenting our November program.

December 10, 2018 7:00pm
Holiday Gathering & Photo Sharing

The December public meeting of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society will take place on December 10th at the Centennial Museum on the UTEP campus. We will begin the meeting at 7pm.

Sharing the Year with Your Photos

We are continuing the ever popular photo sharing event at our December meeting. After a year's worth of bird watching and travel, we invite you to share some of your favorite images with the group. Here are the guidelines.



Subjects: birds; other animals; landscape; plants; humorous

Number of images: up to 15 per person

Format: all images must be in digital format.

Send photos by e-mail to Scott Cutler at: scottmcutler@sbcglobal.net

He will assemble the images into a PowerPoint presentation

If you cannot e-mail the images, contact Scott at 915-494-2193 to see about making other arrangements

Deadline: images should be delivered to Scott Cutler by **November 30th, 2018**

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Officers

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

Committees

Conservation: Kevin Floyd, 613-6354
Education: Kathleen Whelen, 820-1895
Field Trips: Mark Perkins 637-3521
Hospitality: Janet Perkins, 637-5269
Membership: Elizabeth Chase, 539-1191
Newsletter Editor: Kathleen Whelen, 820-1895
Programs: Susie Schneider, 542-3041
Publications: Jane Fowler, 598-2448
Publicity: Janet Perkins, 637- 5269
Sanctuary: John Sproul, 545-5157
Website: Janet Perkins, 637-5269
Facebook: Kevin Floyd, 613-6354

The Audubon Foundation of Texas



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

Hueco Tanks

State Park and Historic Site 24th Interpretive Fair



The 24th annual interpretive fair at Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site will be held on Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 8 am to 9 pm and Sunday October 21, 2018 from 8 am to 6 pm. This event is family oriented and focuses on the use of outreach and education to inspire the preservation of the Site's natural and cultural resources. Map to Hueco Tanks:

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/hueco-tanks/map>



Sponsored by Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, co-hosted by the Texas Wildlife Association Foundation. Donations to Hueco Tanks' Lone Star Legacy Fund are welcome



Conservation Organizations

Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition
www.chihuahuandesert.org

Second Chance Wildlife Rescue
www.secondchancewildliferescue.org
Josie Karam (915) 920-7867

El Paso Zoo 521-1850
www.elpasozoo.org

Stick House Sanctuary
<https://www.facebook.com/epwildliferescue>
(915) 219-2365

Keystone Heritage Park 581-7920
www.keystoneheritagepark.com

Asombro Institute
(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

In September, the Feather Lake basin got a couple of modest shots of storm runoff, each enough to flood maybe half the basin. Each time, the water lasted only about 4 days. Unfortunately, both of these brief periods with water present coincided with weekends when scouts from Boy Scout Troop 4, under the leadership of Eagle Scout candidate Patrick McGrail, were scheduled to remove accumulated trash from within the basin. During the second weekend (Sep 22-23), the scouts worked both days removing a lot of trash from areas that were dry and accessible. But the central part of the basin, site of the most extensive trash accumulations, was flooded and inaccessible.

Our next workday at Feather Lake will be **Sat., October 6**, starting at **8 a.m.** Provided we have a dry basin, Troop 4 will return to do battle with the trash in the central area. Come on down and help them out! Feather Lake is located at 9500 North Loop at Bordeaux in El Paso, 0.3 miles west of Americas Ave.

Audubon at

Rio Bosque
Wetlands Park



Visit Rio Bosque
Wetlands Park
Saturday, Nov 10
from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

for the **Big Bosque Bird Bash!**

The Friends of the Rio Bosque are sponsoring this special community event to showcase Rio Bosque at a time when cooler temperatures, widespread water, arriving migratory birds and the first signs of fall color make it a great place for a walk in the park. Tours, exhibits, talks, kids' activities and, we hope, lots of water will highlight the day.

Visit www.riobosque.org for more on this event and for up-to-date information on the park's birds and water conditions. Also on the calendar at Rio Bosque in October and November:

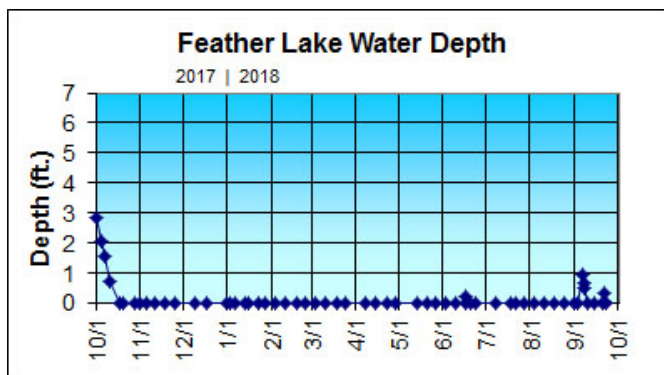
4 p.m., Sun., Oct 21 (Birding tour)

8 a.m., Sat., Oct 27 (Introductory tour)

9 a.m., Sun., Nov 18 (Introductory tour)

3 p.m., Sun., Nov 24 (Birding tour)

The meeting place for these tours 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.



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



Field Trips

Hueco Tanks Bird Walks Oct 20, 21 & Nov 17, 2018

Kevin Floyd and Vikki Milne will lead bird walks at Hueco Tanks on Oct 20th and 21st and Nov 17th. All walks start at 8:00am.

Since these are run by Hueco Tanks, please call (915) 849-6684 and make reservations. These are required. The October events are part of the annual interpretive fair at Hueco Tanks.

Celebration of Our Mountains

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

Visit the Celebration of our Mountains website for opportunities to get outdoors and enjoy the natural beauty of our unique location on the planet.

You will find dozens of programs from our region's State and National Parks. Check the website for any changes to any of the events as well as for new events.

The programs, events and field trips are constantly expanding.

Feather Lake Special Report

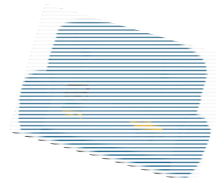
October 6 was the third and final session of the project Boy Scouts from Troop 4 carried out to remove trash from the Feather Lake basin.

During the first two work sessions, the central part of the basin – where most of the trash accumulates – was flooded and inaccessible; the scouts worked on removing older trash from the dry areas.



On October 6th, the whole basin was dry and accessible. The scouts did an excellent job removing all of the trash washed in with the most recent storms in September.

They also removed all 5 of the sofas that had washed in last year.



Birding Trip - South Texas

We are happy to announce this trip to one of the birding meccas in the US. The dates are **November 2-6, 2018** (these dates do not include travel days). We will offer 5 days of birding to as many of the best spots in the area as we can get to. Come for all or any of the excursions. The fall migration is wonderful and some of the birds that can be seen are: Plain Chachalaca, Least Grebe, Anhinga, Little Blue Heron, Tricolored Heron, White Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, Hook-billed Kite, Green Jay, all three kingfishers, White-tailed Kite, Crested Caracara, Aplomado Falcon, American Oystercatcher, Dunlin, terns, gulls and skimmers, Common Pauraque, Great Kiskadee, Tropical Kingbird, "Mangrove" Yellow Warbler and many more.

Some of the areas we might visit are Bentsen State Park, Anzalduas Park, Old Hidalgo Pumphouse, Quinta Mazatlán, Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, Valley Nature Center, Frontera Audubon Society, Estero Llano Grande State Park, Harlingen Thicket, Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, Resaca de la Palma State Park, South Padre Island, Brownsville Landfill, and Sabal Palm Audubon Center.

Participants will be responsible for their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations. Harlingen will be the headquarters for the trip. If you want to go on the trip, let us know by August 15, 2018 by emailing jntperk@elp.rr.com or calling Mark Perkins at 915-637-3521. Detailed itineraries will be provided at a later date to those interested.

Costa Rica Birding Tour

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon is planning a Costa Rica Tour for March 2019. The places we will be going offer some great bird watching. The estimated price will be \$1,817.51 with the field trip guide paying his own way. The optional boat trip offered on Saturday, Mar. 17, will be an additional \$30.00. The trip cost quoted is for land-based tour. Roundtrip airfare to San Jose, Costa Rica, is the responsibility of each participant.

Some of the possible birds to be added to your life list include the following; Spotted Wood-Quail, Costa Rican Pygmy-Owl, Resplendent Quetzal, Collared Trogon, Buffy Tuftedcheek, Ruddy Treerunner, Ochraceous Pewee, Barred Becard, Zeledonia, Golden-browed Chlorophonia, Volcano Junco, Talamanca Hummingbird, Green Violetear, Gray-tailed Mountain-gem, Volcano Hummingbird, Scintillant Hummingbird, Fiery-throated Hummingbird, Violet Sabrewing, Flame-colored and Slaty flowerpiercer, Lattice-tailed Trogon, Yellow-eared Toucanet, Streak-crowned Antvireo, Tawny-faced Gnatwren, White-throated Shrike-Tanager, Ashy-throated Bush-Tanager, Tawny-crested Tanager, Emerald, and Blue-and-gold tanagers, Keel-billed Toucan, Great Green Macaw, White-winged Becard, Sunbittern, Acadian Flycatcher, and Wood Thrush. Rarities seen here on occasion include Rufous-fronted Wood-Quail, Red-fronted Parrotlet, Rufous-vented Ground-Cuckoo, Black-crowned Antpitta, Gray-headed Piprites, and Sharpbill.

Additionally, \$200 of each person's trip price will be donated to the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society to help us fund important local bird conservation activities. Please contact Scott for details regarding the itinerary and schedule. There are only 10 spaces. We need to get a sense of who would be interested in going on this trip. If you have any questions, please give Scott Cutler a call at 915-494-2193.

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 97194
Washington, DC 20090-7194**

Local Chapter Code C1ZW100Z

Dates to Remember Call Mark Perkins for details 637-3521

October

Sat 6: **Dell City**
Sat 6: **Feather Lake Workday**
Mon 8: **Board Meeting**
Mon 15: **General Meeting**
20 & 21: **Hueco Tanks**
21 & 27: **Rio Bosque**

November

2-6: **South Texas**
Sat 10: **Big Bosque Bird Bash**
Mon 12: **Board Meeting**
Sat 17: **Hueco Tanks**
18 & 24: **Rio Bosque**
Mon 19: **General Meeting**

December

Mon 3: **Board Meeting**
Mon 10: **General Meeting &
Photo Sharing**



www.trans-pecos-audubon.com

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: _____
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