

The Roadrunner

Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

General Meetings

7:00pm at UTEP Centennial Museum Sun Bowl & University

Inside the Roadrunner

Chapter Info	2
Sanctuary News	3
Conservation	4
Chapter Activities	5
Trans-Pecos Area	6
Observations	7
On the Trail	8
On the Trail	9
Calendar	10

Monday, October 20th
Guadalupe Mts. National Park
Frosty Bennett

Come to this meeting with expectations of beautiful mountain scenery. Frosty Bennett will present a slide program titled, "An Oasis in the Desert." This presentation gives an overview of Guadalupe Mountains National Park. We hope you will join us as we take a virtual tour and see some favorite park places. Refreshments and door prizes always add to the fun.

Thank you,
 Jerry Garnarcz,
 for presenting at the
 September Audubon meeting.

Monday, November 15th
Rio Bosque Wetland
John Sproul, C.E.R.M.

Rio Bosque Wetlands Park is unlike any other City of El Paso park. At 372 acres, it is El Paso's largest city park. It is actively managed as a natural area, with a goal of recreating, over time, the mosaic of habitats characteristic of the Rio Grande and its floodplain in pre-settlement days. A diverse group of partners, including Audubon, is working towards this goal under the direction of the University of Texas at El Paso.

At this meeting, John Sproul from UTEP's Center for Environmental Resource Management will bring us up to date on recent changes in the park landscape, on new facilities at the site, and on some of the many challenges facing the Rio Bosque project, now and in the years ahead.

President's News

Cooler weather brings with it, "cool" birds!

Now that we can look forward to the more pleasant weather of late summer and early fall, we can also expect to see the bounty of birds that will be temporary guests of the El Paso region, as they make their way to winter homes. Warblers, tanagers, flycatchers, buntings and grosbeaks have already been migrating through in good numbers. Waterfowl, sparrows, shorebirds & raptors seem to have only recently begun to move through or arrive for the winter.

So far during this migration period, some of my personal birding highlights have been comprised of the following.....

- an "early in the season" male rufous hummingbird arrival at the feeders at my home
- early prairie falcon and golden eagle sightings at the Wyler Tramway hawkwatch
- a juniper titmouse at a neighbor's house & one known visit to our hummer feeders
- red-faced and chestnut-sided warbler sightings at the Wyler Tramway hawkwatch
- recent red-breasted nuthatch arrivals

Hopefully, you've been able to see some great birds yourself, either at your home or "in the field". At least one other sighting of great interest to a number of people, was that of a roseate spoonbill in the lower valley area. Hummingbird numbers and diversity at local feeders appears to have diminished earlier than is typical for us here in El Paso, in response possibly, to the good amount of recent local rainfall that may have produced more abundant flowers and nectar for our southbound migrant friends.

Continued on page 2

We have once again installed "No Hunting" signs at the Fred Herve water treatment plant (for those of you who aren't aware of it, these ponds are still a great place to find all types of wildlife and provides some critical resources for both resident and migrant wildlife), prior to the first weekend of hunting season.

If you haven't looked at the chapter's website recently, please do so. George Barnett, our "webmaster" extraordinaire, has recently updated it, and it's a great place to find information on chapter activities, great places to bird and how to find them, bird checklists of various local sites, and links to other good websites.

Please consider buying some books at the Westside Barnes & Noble during our designated fundraising period, because we hope to promote child literacy (with a "natural world" aspect to it, of course) and some other projects with any funds raised, over and above our promotional expenses. Review the following article for more details on this.

We have a great Fall planned for our chapter's members and guests, so please participate in our field trips, our monthly general meetings and we hope, in the business of keeping our chapter actively engaged in trying to do good works for wildlife and wild places. You WILL have a great time, I assure you.

Thanks for being an important part of our chapter,

John Kiseda, President EPTP Audubon

Celebration of the Mountains

www.celebrationoffourmountains.org



Get Batty with the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park October 29, 2004 7:00pm

As the sun goes down and the desert ground starts to come awake with critters, the sky also comes alive with life. What is it? A bird, a plane, Superman? No, it is a *Myotis lucifugus* (commonly called the Little Brown Bat). Bats have had a bad name because most of us know little about them. They are seen as pests & disease carriers, but in reality they are some of our best neighbors, eating their weight in mosquitoes & other insects every night.

Just in time for Halloween, this nighttime program will explore the world of the bat. How do they see in the dark? What do they eat? Do they really get tangled in long hair? Just as the program is ending, the full moon will be rising over the Organ Mountains to bathe the Jornada Basin in moonlight. Bring flashlights. Free www.cdn.org

Chapter Web Site

<http://www.gbarnett.com/eptpas/eptpashome.html>

El Paso Audubon Online supplements the Roadrunner and includes information about upcoming field trips, a calendar of upcoming events, recent bird sightings and an updated list of birding links to the Internet.

Make bird sighting reports at
ElPasoBirdAlert@gbarnett.com

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Officers

President: John Kiseda, 533-4615
Vice President: open
Secretary: Nancy Wilson, 747-8614
Treasurer: Carol Nelson, 544-2521



Directors

Feather Lake: John Sproul, 545-5147
Education: Beth & Bob Garcia, 755-9119
Membership: Jane Fowler, 598-2448
Ways & Means: Flora Pittard, 852-2353
Conservation: open
Field Trips: Bob Johnson, 757-1876
Programs: Lois Balin, 774-9603 and
Virginia Galarza, 727-6399
Publicity: Kathy Kiseda, 533-4615
Special Events: Roxanne Schroeder, 533-0061
Hospitality: Scott Cutler, 581-6071
Projects: Ursula Sherrill, 526-7725 and
Carol Maxwell-Moreno, 593-0967
Publications: Kathleen Whelen, 751-2408

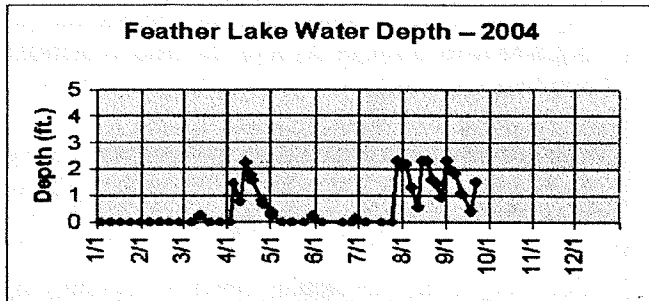
The Roadrunner is published six times a year.

Contributions are welcome.

Please email to whelenk@aol.com

AT FEATHER LAKE

From late July to mid-September, 4 storms put water in Feather Lake, a great boon for the vegetation along the shore. The water level peaked at 2.3 feet after each of the first 3 storms and 1.6 feet after the 4th. After each peak, the water level dropped about 1 inch per day until the next storm raised the level back up. At this writing, the water level is 1.5 feet, which means we should have water in early October.



And that means Feather Lake will open to the public on schedule this year! Opening Day is **Sat., October 2**. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays and 2 p.m. to dusk on Sundays. As always, we rely on volunteers to staff our sanctuary during visitor hours. Can you help on one or more days in the months ahead? If yes, please contact John Sproul (747-8663, jsproul@utep.edu).

Our Sanctuary Fund received a significant boost recently thanks to a donation in memory of Jeannette Cole from the Cole family. We greatly appreciate the Coles honoring and remembering Jeannette in this way; she was one of our most dedicated Feather Lake volunteers.

Don't forget our annual potluck picnic at Feather Lake. It takes place **Sat., October 9**, starting at **4:30 p.m.** Come on down, take a walk around the lake, then enjoy good food and conversation. We'll start serving at **5:30 p.m.**

Also don't forget this year's final Feather Lake workday on **Sat., November 20**. We'll start at **2 p.m.**, work a few hours, then see what birds arrive at the end of the day (if we still have water). Feather Lake is located at 9500 North Loop at Bordeaux, 0.3 miles west of Americas Ave. Admission is free.

RIO BOSQUE WETLANDS PARK

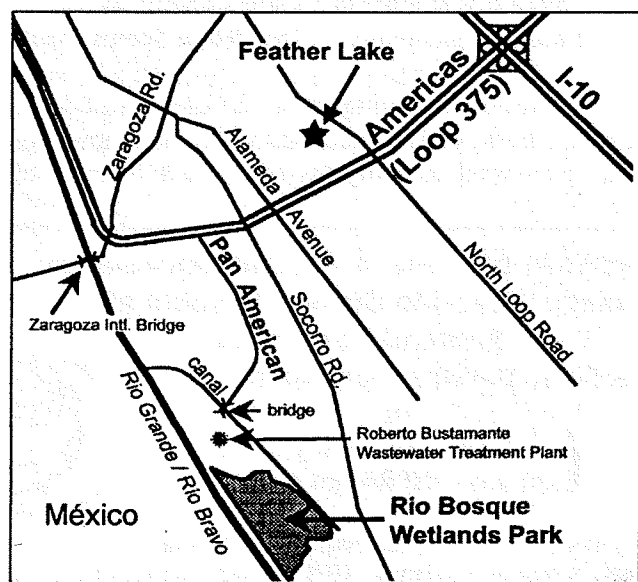


UTEP offers free walking tours twice each month and also holds monthly community workdays at Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, 4 miles from Feather Lake.

Coming up:

- 9 a.m. Sat., Oct. 9 (Introductory)
- 9 a.m. Sat., Oct. 16 (Workday)
- 9 a.m. Sun., Oct. 24 (Birds)
- 3 p.m. Sun., Nov. 7 (Birds)
- 9 a.m. Sat., Nov. 20 (Workday)
- 3 p.m. Sun., Nov. 21 (Introductory)

For all of these activities, the meeting place is a bridge crossing Riverside Canal. To get there from I-10, take Americas Ave. (Loop 375) to Pan American Dr., turn left onto Pan American and travel 1.5 miles to the bridge. Please be prompt. Information: 747-8663.



Keystone Heritage Park

If you have any interest in learning about (and handling, if desired) the reptiles and invertebrates of the site, come on out & volunteer to participate in this live trapping & release project. People are still needed for "trap checks" on Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays (trap "checks" can be done at any time during daylight hours), & training is available. Contact Charles Mayer @ 833-4140, or John K. for more information

The site's bird checklist has crept-up to 184 species over the Summer, with fairly recent sightings of dickcissel and olive-sided flycatcher.

It would be great if some of you could bird the site during the next few months, to try to observe some species not already on the list; it's a fun place during migration, really! Please contact me if you observe any unusual birds, or a species that isn't on the current list. I'm still hoping that if I get some more good help from people such as yourself throughout this year, we can soon bring the bird list up to the 200 species mark.

Please call if you see any of the birds listed below..... ("theoretically possible" species to be sighted in the next few months):

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Willow Flycatcher | Harris's Hawk |
| Any vireo | Cordilleran Flycatcher |
| Rock Wren | Lucy's Warbler |
| Painted Bunting | Common Poorwill |
| Indigo Bunting | Summer Tanager |
| Common Nighthawk | Barn Owl |
| Northern Waterthrush | Cassin's Sparrow |
| Eastern Meadowlark | Hooded or Scott's Oriole |

If you're interested in coming out to the site when I do my weekly site check, you're more than welcome to join me. Just call during the week to verify my schedule & when to meet.

Nyer Tramway Hawkwatch



John Kiseda has resumed his hawkwatch/bird migration observations at the Ranger Peak tramway platform (with the help of stalwart counters Charles & Marion Mayer, Barry Zimmer and Bob Johnson). Raptor movement at the site has just begun to pick-up ever so slightly it appears that "weather" in the SW has just "broken" and birds are beginning to move southward through NM and will begin to filter through down to El Paso in increasing numbers.

Sharpshins and kestrels just began to move through the site during the 2nd week of Sept. Last Fall, well over 700 birds of prey were sighted.

Come enjoy the spectacular views & hopefully sight more than a few interesting birds (a few of the early in the season observation days had impressive movements of smaller species. Willing and competent observers are still needed to expand the observation efforts, so if interested, please contact John at the zoo, at 521-1850 during the day, or at night at 533-4615.

Crossroads Ponds

A bird checklist was developed earlier in the year for the site by John Kiseda (~110 documented species seen); a number of rare, unusual species have been noted at the site, but many "common" birds, have not been noted. Please give me your sightings, if you visit this little gem of a birding spot. A site guide & bird checklist can be found on our Audubon website.

Westside Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Location: Westside Barnes & Noble at Sunland Park Drive

Date/Time: Sunday, October 24 to Saturday, October 30
8:00 am - 10:00 pm daily



Take this voucher to cash register with your Barnes & Noble purchase. 15% of net sale will be donated to El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society and Children's Literacy.

BOOKFAIR VOUCHER Benefiting El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society and Children's Literacy

For office use only: Register # _____
Transaction # _____
Amount of sale before tax, less purchase of gift cards, membership cards, and cafe consumables: \$ _____

**Ft. Bliss Ponds
Fred Hervey Water
Treatment Plant**
by, John K.



Bird migration has been going well at the ponds, with numerous birds being sighted. The water utility has once again aided the water dependant migrant birds by moving water through the various water cells near the treatment plant to provide more temporary habitat for them; this continues to be critically important, particularly for shorebirds & waterfowl.



The chapter once again installed "No Hunting" signs at the site, prior to the first weekend of hunting season. Due to the generosity of donors Patricia Palafox and Bob Johnson, and the hard work of installers Bob Johnson and Richard Hermosilla, it's hoped that these signs will help to remind hunters of their ethical and legal responsibilities as true sportsmen, as to where and what to hunt/not hunt. We also would like to thank Deborah Valerio and Alan Russell of FAST-SIGNS at 1201 Airway, for doing a great job producing the signs AND at a great price! Thanks to all that helped make this happen!

We can already state that a few less rounds of buckshot were available for hunting wildlife at the site, due to our signs being "available" for target practice.



What: The El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society Bookfair.
When: Sunday, October 24 through Saturday, October 30.
Store hours: 8:00 am to 10:00 pm daily

Where: Barnes & Noble Bookstore, Westside only, Sunland Park Dr.
No other bookstore is eligible to participate in this bookfair.

How to participate: Cut out a donation voucher from the October-November Audubon Roadrunner newsletter, the October El Paso Scenes, or El Paso Times newspaper. Take it in to the Sunland Park Drive Westside Barnes & Noble bookstore. At the cashier check out, present the voucher along with your items to buy. To donate a percentage of your purchase, you must bring a voucher with you to the store. Barnes & Noble will not have vouchers to give customers.

Total purchases of \$2000 or less = 15% of each purchase goes to EP/T-P Audubon.
Total purchases between \$2000 and \$10,000 = 20% of each purchase is donated.
Total purchases above \$10,000 = 25% of each purchase is donated.

The Purpose: A percentage of each sale will help support Audubon's numerous conservation projects such as wildlife habitat enhancement at Feather Lake, promoting children's literacy through donating wildlife conservation books to schools, and providing outdoor education about the Chihuahuan Desert ecosystem.

Thanks to our members for generously supporting the chapter's mission. We could not accomplish our shared goals without your dedication! Many thanks to Barnes & Noble Westside for making possible this fund-raising effort! For information, please call Ursula Sherrill at 526-7725, or 833-7339, and John Kiseda at 533-4615.

**Help Advocate for the
Preservation of the Valle Vidal, N.M.**

Located in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of NM [above Taos], the Valle Vidal portion of the Carson National Forest is being considered for the widespread development of methane gas production.

This development, if allowed to occur, could ruin tens of thousands of acres of precious watershed, recreational activity areas and homes for a multitude of wildlife (including Rio Grande cut-throat trout, elk and mountain lion).

If you want to try to preserve this amazing slice of nature, contact the Coalition for the Valle Vidal at 505-776-3276 or [www. ValleVidal.org](http://www.ValleVidal.org).

**3rd Annual Audubon Texas
Forum & Assembly**

Audubon Texas is hosting its 3rd Annual Forum and Assembly entitled "Bird Conservation Across The Lone Star State" on October 15 & 16, 2004.

This year the event will be held at the University of Dallas in Irving, Texas and include topics such as Black-capped Vireo Recovery Project at Cedar Ridge Preserve, the Rio Grande Joint Venture, Urban Habitat Enhancement, Coastal IBAs and Model Projects, the Texas Quail and Grassland Birds Initiative, and much more!

We invite you to join us for this interesting and interactive event! For more information, please visit www.tx.audubon.org or call Lk Loflin at 512-306-0225.

Frontera Land Alliance

The next meeting of the Frontera Land Alliance is Thursday, October 21, at 6:30 at Chamizal National Memorial. Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

It is official! "The Frontera Land Alliance" is the name of the newly formed land trust for the Chihuahuan Desert Region. At the September 16th meeting at Chamizal National Memorial, steering committee chair Maria Trunk reported that the articles of incorporation have been filed with the State of Texas. After incorporation, the next step is to apply to the IRS for non-profit status. The group's logo is being developed by a National Park Service artist, and a brochure is almost ready for publication. A computer e-group network will facilitate communication among members between meetings. The statement of the Land Alliance's mission and plan follow.

Mission

To preserve significant lands that maintain and enhance the natural environment and cultural heritage of the Northern Chihuahuan Desert Region.

Implementation

- ◆ **Planning:** Directed research to identify regional conservation resources and needs.
- ◆ **Participation:** Education and outreach to all community members to make open space conservation a primary consideration in regional land-use decision-making.
- ◆ **Protection:** Application of the full spectrum of conservation tools available to foster responsible stewardship of protected lands.

Now officially registered with the Texas Land Trust Council, the Frontera Land Alliance is hoping to interest public citizens and local and regional leaders in the effort to preserve important lands for the enjoyment and benefit of current and future generations. The organization hopes to build relationships with interested local and regional business leaders, land owners, farmers, and community officials. If you would like more information about the Frontera Land Alliance, please call Ursula at 833-7339, or 526-7725.

The 6th Symposium on the Natural Resources of the Chihuahuan Desert
October 15-16, 2004 at
Sul Ross State University in Alpine, TX

Every five years, the CDRI hosts a symposium on the natural resources of the Chihuahuan Desert. The goal of the symposium is to bring together researchers, students, land managers, educators, and the general public to exchange ideas, provide updates on current research, and share future research and management needs.

For more information and registration, see:
http://www.cdri.org/6thSymposium/6th_symposium_2004.htm



Observations

KINGLET TO PIPET

Ruby-crowned Kinglet	9/6	DA	Sun
Sage Thrasher	9/15	BZ	Mck
Brown Thrasher	8/24	BZ	FBP
American Pipet	9/15	BZ	FBP

WARBLERS

Virginia's Warbler	8/15	JS	FLk
Lucy's Warbler	8/23	DA	Sun
Yellow Warbler	7/30	JP	FBP
	1st July record		
Black-throat Gray Warbler	8/17	DA	Sun
Townsend's Warbler	7/30	JP	FBP
	1st July record		
	8/23	DA	Sun
Hermit Warbler	7/30	JP	FBP
	1st July record		
American Redstart	9/11	JP	FBP
Worm-eating Warbler	9/10	PR-yd	STA
Northern Waterthrush	8/23	BZ	FBP
MacGillivray's Warbler	8/22	JK-yd	KnJ
Painted Redstart	9/3	BZ	FBP
Red-faced Warbler	8/15	JK	Trm
Yellow-breasted Chat	7/22	JS	Rbq

TANAGER THRU GROSBEEK

Western Tanager	7/25	DA	LaU
	7/30	JK-yd	KnJ
Green-tailed Towhee	9/7	BZ	FBP
Vesper Sparrow	9/11	JP	FBP
Lincoln's Sparrow	9/11	JP	FBP
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	8/2	JK-yd	KnJ
Black-headed Grosbk	7/25	DA	LaU
	9/8	FP	Hor

BUNTINGS TO CROSSBILLS

Lazuli Bunting	9/15	BZ	FBP
Painted Bunting	7/16	JS	RBq
Dickcissel	8/7	JK	Key
Yellow-headed Blackbd	8/27	BJ	Chp
Orchard Oriole	8/24	BZ	FBP
	8/31	PR-yd	STA
Red Crossbill	9/12	JP-yd	Bsc

2d September record

OBSERVATIONS

July 16, 2004 to September 15, 2004

Listing of birds is determined using the checklist "Birds of El Paso County, Texas and Adjacent Areas" 8th Edition May 2003. Leave sightings at Bob "Wildbirder" Johnson, E-mail bobwildbirderj@cs.com, phone (915) 757-1876. Some entries included because of the time of year or location puts them into a category.

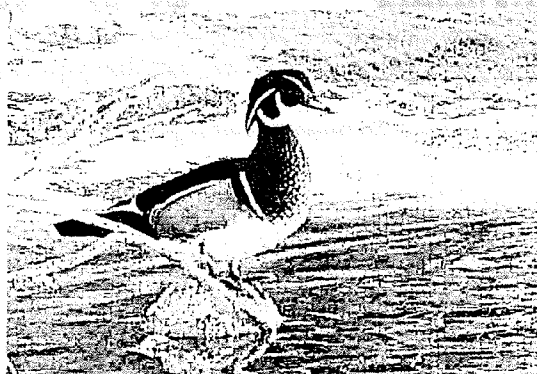
Uncommon - no highlights; **Rare - bold highlights**; **Casual - bold and shaded**

Observers: Dan Allen; John Colquitt; Ann Eaton; Tom Gill; Bob Johnson; John Kiseda; Kathy Kiseda; Jim Paton; Patricia Russell; John Sproul; Barry Zimmer. All-seen throughout the period; mob-many observers; -y seen in or from their yard; -f the field trip leader.

Locations: BgB-Big Bend; BSc-Boy Scout; BWT-Bust-Amonte Treatment Plant; Chp-Chaparral; CCA-Country Club area; Fbn-Fabens; FBP-Fort Bliss Ponds; Flk-Feather Lake; FtH-Fort Hancock Resv.; Key-Keystone Park; KnJ-Kenyon Joyce; LaU-La Union; Mck Mckelligon Canyon; McN-McNary Resv.; Mem-Memorial Park; Rbq-Rio Bosque Park; STA-Santa Teresa Area; Sun-end of Sunset at ditch; Ton-Tonto; Tor-Tornillo Resv.; Trm-Tramway; UTE-Univ. Tx El paso; WCS-West Cottonwood Springs.

PELICANS THRU DUCKS

American White Pelican	8/13	BZ	Tor
	2d August record		
Tricolored Heron	9/13	BZ	Asc
Green Heron	8/24	BZ	FBP
Yellow-crown Night Heron	7/23	BZ	McN
	8/26	BZ	Tor
White-faced Ibis	8/7	JS	FLk
Roseate Spoonbill	8/20	BZ	Tor
	8/23	JC	Chp
Wood Duck	9/14	BZ	Flk



Wood Duck

GULL THRU NIGHTHAWK

Laughing Gull	7/23	BZ	McN
Common Tern	9/14	BZ	Tor
Black Tern	7/27	JP	Tor
Eurasian Collard-Dove	7/16	JS	BWT
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	7/27	BZ	CCA
Barn Owl	8/30	DA	LaU
Great Horned Owl	8/2	AE-yd	BgB
Burrowing Owl	All	mob	RBq
Common Nighthawk	8/30	DA	LaU

HUMMERS THRU VIREOS

Lucifer Hummer	8/10	KK-yd	KnJ
Calliope Hummer	8/24	BZ	WCS
Broad-tailed Hummer	9/8	TG	UTE
Belted Kingfisher	8/22	JK	Key
Red-naped Sapsucker	9/15	BZ	Mem
Olive-sided Flycatcher	8/16	DA	CCA
Willow Flycatcher	8/7	JP	FBP
Hammond's Flycatcher	9/13	DA	Sun
Gray Flycatcher	8/19	BZ	Mem
Cassin's Vireo	8/21	DA	Sun
Warbling Vireo	7/25	BZ-yd	Ton

SWALLOWS TO WREN

Tree Swallow	7/31	JK	Key
Violet-green Swallow	8/16	DA	CCA
Cave Swallow	9/15	BZ	FBP
Juniper Titmouse	7/26	KK-yd	KnJ
Red-breasted Nuthatch	8/30	JK-yd	KnJ
	9/13	DA	Sun
Carolina Wren	7/30	JP	FBP

HAWK'S THRU SNIPE

Harris' Hawk	All	mob	FLk
Prairie Falcon	8/19	JK	Trm
Black-bellied Plover	7/27	JP	FtH
	1st July record		
Snowy Plover	8/16	DA	CCA
Semipalmated Plover	9/11	JP	FBP
Spotted Sandpiper	7/31	JK	Key
Upland Sandpiper	8/25	BZ	Fbn
Semipalmated Sandpiper	7/23	BZ	McN
Pectoral Sandpiper	9/9	BZ	FBP
Stilt Sandpiper	7/23	BZ	McN
	9/6	DA	Key
Wilson's Snipe	9/11	JP	FBP

ON THE TRAIL

BIRDS and PEOPLE

SATURDAY OCTOBER 9; 4:30 until ????

What's going to happen?

13th Annual Pot Luck Picnic.

Where?

At our **FEATHER LAKE** sanctuary.

The chapter will provide the burgers, dogs and rolls, also the condiments to top them off. This is a family affair, the kids will enjoy it as the birds will be performing. The grill will be hot about 5:30. But come at **4:30 PM** so you can build up your appetite as you walk around looking at the birds. By early Oct. some ducks are starting to arrive and we will have some of regular night roosters (not chickens) flying in.

We ask you to bring a dish (Salad, Pasta, Dessert, or something else) to share with a few others, Also your own utensils and what ever beverages you like. If you would like something other than burgers or dogs feel free to cook on the grill, and you are not required to share your filet mignon. Our coffee pot with hot water and instant mix will be ready.

Seen at the Lake since 15 Sep: Cinnamon Teal, Sora, Black-necked Stilt, Lesser Yellowlegs, Eurasian Collared Dove, Belted Kingfisher Townsend's Warbler, and Western Tanager.

If you think you might be coming give John Sproul (545-5157) or Bob Johnson (757-1876) a call. as we need an approximate count for buying the goodies. If you have a change of plans and on the last day you find you can come, **please come** even if you haven't called.

KEYSTONE MARSH

This trip will give you a chance to see the Wetland and gain an understanding of and see the exciting things going on at this location. We have a number of ducks and some shore birds that nest here, although not this time of year. Also at this time a few others are migrating through and some of the winter overs will be in. The nesters include *American Coot, Killdeer, Black-necked Stilts and American Avocets*. Migrants that could be seen are *Least and Western Sandpipers, Long-billed Dow-itchers, Spotted Sandpipers, Snowy Egrets*. This would be a great trip for beginners and young birders.

The Date: Saturday, **October 2, 2004**

The Time: **7:48 AM**

Meet at: Crossroads Ponding Area
Mesa and Doniphan

Call Bob 757-1876 or bobwildbirderj@cs.com

HUECO TANKS

Admission: Hueco Tanks Historical Park - \$4.
\$2 for Seniors 65, Children under 12 - FREE.

Bird Identification Tours

Saturday	October 16	8:08 AM
Sunday	October 17	8:08 AM
Sunday	November 21	8:08 AM
Sunday	December 19	8:08 AM

Please check in at the Headquarters.
Reservations and Information **857-1135**.
Leader Bob "Wildbirder" Johnson **757-1876**.

On The Trail

THANKS

ANNUAL INTERPRETIVE FAIR

October 16th and 17th, 2004

HUECO TANKS STATE HISTORICAL SITE

This will be the 10th Annual Interpretive Fair and will be held in conjunction with the LONE STAR LEGACY WEEKEND. Fair activities include *Birding Tours; Rare Plant Tour; Pictograph Tours; Guest Speakers; Native American Performances by Kiowas, Mescaleros, Ysleta del Sur, New Mexico Pueblo; Charro Performance; Climbing Demo; Atl-atl Throwing and other contests; Folklorico Dancers; Matachine Dancers; Cowboy Singers and Storytellers, at the Evening Campfire Program.*

Information Booths, Books and Art Crafts Booths, and a Food Booth.

Saturday 16th Oct. 10:30 AM - 8:30 PM

Sunday 17th Oct. 10:30 AM - 8 PM

(Bird and Plant tours will start at 8 and 10 AM)

FREE ADMISSION TO THE PARK

RATTLESNAKE SPRINGS

Sunday, Oct. 24. At 7:25 AM meet at in front of Evergreen Cemetery, 12400 Montana (east of Loop 375, across street from Sheriffs Academy and jail) Carpooling, distance is about 85 Miles to Rattlesnake Springs, near Carlsbad Caverns nearby is Washington Ranch also good birding. Reported on September 12, *Great-crested Flycatcher, Zone-tailed Hawk, Dicksissel, Cassin's Vireo, and Clay-colored Sparrows.* In the past we have seen *Vermilion Flycatchers* and *Wild Turkeys.* Don't forget binoculars, water, and lunch.

Megapixels

The first digital photography club in El Paso is always looking for people interested in digital photography. Meet the 3d Wednesday each month at 6 PM in CHAMOMILE CAFÉ, 4727 Hondo Pass. Info: Tim Holt 759-0562//David Davis 594-3617

The El Paso Chapter wishes to thank Fay Millett and family for the nice thank you letter and generous donation made in appreciation of the Tuscon trip.

DOWN THE VALLEY

McNary, Fort Hancock, and Tornillo Reservoirs are always good for *Gulls, Ducks, Egrets, Cormorants*, very possible are 4 species of Grebes and **WHITE PELICANS**. Quite a few species of passerines could also be present along with some birds of prey to include *Harris' Hawk*. Lunch break will probably occur at the Tornillo Rest Area.

Date: Saturday, November 6

Time: 7:17 AM.

Place: Feather Lake

Who: Bob Johnson (757-1876)

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, November 21, Bird ID at Hueco Tanks. Headquarters Building at 8:08 AM.

Sunday, December 4, ??????

Saturday, December 18. Hueco Tanks Christmas Bird Count.

Saturday, January 1. El Paso Christmas Bird Count.

Results past trips.

Bonito Lake in Ruidoso, Aug 27-29. 7 people and the highlight was a Northern Pygmy Owl coming into the camp site at dusk on Sat. evening.

Fort Bliss Ponds, Sep 12. 5 people identified 51 species included were 11 species of water and wading birds. Great birds were Townsends Warbler and Dickcissel.

Hueco Tanks, Sep 19. 6 People enjoyed many Green-tailed Towhee's. The best sightings were of Belted Kingfisher, Snowy Egret and a **Sora**.

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

Nonprofit Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 El Paso, Texas
 Permit #2440

Return service request

Dates to Remember

Call Bob Johnson for details 757-1876

National Audubon Society
 Chapter Membership Application

Yes, I'd like to join.

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and my local chapter. Please send AUDUBON magazine and my membership card to the address below.

My check for \$20.00 is enclosed

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

*Please make all checks payable to the
 National Audubon Society*

National Audubon Society
 Chapter Membership Data Center
 P.O. Box 51001
 Boulder, Colorado 80322-1001
 El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon

W10
 Local Chapter Code
7XCHA

October

Picnic at Feather Lake
 Saturday, 9
Board Meeting
 Monday, 11
Hueco Tanks
 Sat & Sun, 16 & 17
General Meeting
 Monday, 18
Rattlesnake Springs
 Sunday, 24

November

Down the Valley
 Saturday, 6
Board Meeting
 Monday, 8
Hueco Tanks
 Sunday, 21
General Meeting
 Monday, 15

December

Board Meeting
 Monday, 6
General Meeting
 Monday, 13
X-mas Bird Count
Hueco Tanks
 Saturday, 18
El Paso
 Saturday, Jan. 1

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: _____