



The Roadrunner

Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

No General Meetings until September, 2007

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<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:
EIPasoBirdAlert@gbarnett.com

Thank you, John Sproul, for the May presentation at the general meeting.
 Happy Birthday
 Río Bosque!

Birdathon 2007

By, Kathy Whelen

Birdathon 2007 was a flying success. The event was held on the weekend of May 5 & 6th, complete with a potluck picnic. Approximately 22 counters went out in teams to try and find as many bird species possible. Jim Paton saw the most species, (over 100). John Groves and John Kiseda saw the most unusual bird. The five most unusual birds were; Eurasian wigeon, black & white warbler, brown pelican, golden-crowned sparrow, and least tern.

Many thanks to all the volunteers, counters and sponsors for your efforts. The monies raised from generous sponsors will benefit the following programs and projects:



photo by, Carlos Humphreys

RIO BOSQUE WETLANDS PARK

Our ongoing support has been critical to habitat restoration at this site. We want to continue that support to help UTEP get water to the park during the growing season.

FRANKLIN MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS COALITION

Works with the Franklin Mountains State Park in preserving the Ecological System of the mountains and surrounding areas. It encourages recreational, scientific, and educational uses of the mountains consistent with preserving their scenic beauty and wilderness character.

CHIHUAHUAN DESERT WILDLIFE RESCUE


A nonprofit organization which exists to help rehabilitators in the care of injured or orphaned wildlife and also works to educate the public about wildlife conservation issues.

FEATHER LAKE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Scouts, students and adults can enjoy seeing birds up close in a natural habitat. When the lake has water, we have docents on duty to answer questions, provide printed trail guides & lend binoculars.

AUDUBON TEXAS

Our support helps keep National Audubon's state office an effective voice for birds, other wildlife and their habitats in Texas.



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

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Officers

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

Committees

Membership: Roxanne Schroeder, 533-0061	Publicity: Kathy Kiseda, 533-4615
Programs: Ursula Sherrill, 526-7725	Education: Kathleen Whelen, 751-2408
Conservation: vacant	Publications: Jane Fowler, 598-2448
Field Trips: vacant	Ways & Means: vacant
Hospitality: Janet Perkins,	Sanctuary: John Sproul, 545-5157

Audubon Chapter T-Shirt Sales Continue



The beautiful chapter t-shirts are still available for purchase. The shirt displays local birds.

These are great t-shirts which would make a wonderful gift. Wearing this original art work advertises the chapter and your concerns for wildlife.

Proceeds from the sales of the shirts will help to offset the costs of various chapter initiatives, such as our education and conservation projects, and is thus, a gift to wildlife as well as to yourself or a loved one. For more information, call Flora Pittard at 852-2353

Conservation Organizations

Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue
www.whc.net/cdwr

El Paso Zoo 521-1850
www.elpasozoo.org

Keystone Heritage Park 581-7920
keystonepark.com keystonepark.org

Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park
 (505) 524-3334 www.cdn.org

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

Southwest Environmental Center
 (505) 522-5552
www.wildmesquite.com
swec@zianet.com

Franklin Mt. Wilderness Coalition
www.iloveparks.com/fmwc/

Sign up as an Albertsons/El Paso Trans-Pecos Audubon Society Partner

Mail to: EPTP Audubon Society, c/o Kathy Kiseda 404 Kenyon Joyce Lane, El Paso, 79902

NAME: _____ PHONE: () _____

ALBERTSONS PREFERRED SAVINGS CARD NUMBER: _____

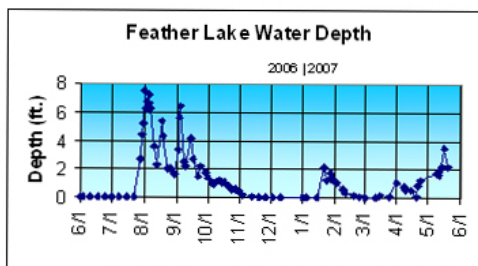
AT FEATHER LAKE

Last year at this time, Feather Lake was 6 months into a dry period that ultimately lasted 7.5 months. The stress on the vegetation was severe, and we lost many cottonwoods and willows. This year, the picture has been brighter, wetter and greener. Since late March, Feather Lake has received enough irrigation water and storm runoff to keep the basin consistently flooded. Following storms in mid May, the depth at the inlet reached almost 3.5 feet.

The riparian vegetation at our sanctuary has responded favorably. It looks better than it has in several years. Gambel's Quail, Green Herons, Swainson's Hawks and more are all taking advantage.

Our public-use schedule this past year can only be described as erratic, dictated by cycles of drying and flooding. After water returned in late March, we opened again to the public in April and stayed open through the end of May. Sincere thanks go to Jane Fowler, Mike Gaglio, Joe and Inga Groff, Flora Pittard, Roxanne Schroeder, Ursula Sherrill and John Sproul for staffing our sanctuary during this period. The lake is now closed until September.

Closed, that is, with one exception. Will Feather Lake stay consistently flooded during spring and summer this year for the first time since 2002? You can find out by taking part in our next workday. It takes place **Sat., August 4**, starting at **8 a.m.** Come on down and pull a few tumbleweeds. 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



Painted Buntings returned to Rio Bosque in mid May. Look for them throughout June, July and early August. For locations where they are being seen, check the recent-bird-sightings page on the Park's website, www.riobosque.org.

Upcoming free walking tours at the Park:

- 8 a.m. Sun., June 3 (Bird tour)
- 9 a.m. Sat., June 9 (Introductory tour)
- 8 a.m. Sat., July 14 (Bird tour)
- 8 a.m. Sun., July 22 (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.



BIRD WATCHING

EGRETS / HERONS

On this field trip we hope to get some good looks at ***Snowy Egrets***, ***Cattle Egrets*** and ***Black-crowned Night-Herons*** sitting in their nests with young. Then we will move on and maybe see ***Blue-winged Teal***, ***Burrowing Owls***, and ***Blue Grosbeaks*** & others.

Date: Sat. June 9

Time: 7:15 AM

Place: Meet at Feather Lake,
9500 North Loop Drive.

Coordinator: Mark Perkins Cell 637-5269

GLENWOOD - LUNA

The **weekend of 23/24 June** we will meet on Sat at **11 AM** in the parking lot of the Ranger Station, located at the south end of Glenwood NM. This will be a great weekend in a part of the Gila National Forest that many of you have not birded. For camping we'll go to Pueblo Park campground, where sightings of ***Mountain Chickadee's***, ***Steller's Jays*** and ***Cassin's Kingbird*** are possible. The last trip, two years ago, we had a ***Tassel-eared Squirrel*** that visited us regularly, and along the road going in, a young ***Northern Goshawk*** was sitting in a tree.



Tassel-eared Squirrel

We will also visit the Luna-Reserve area with a good chance of ***Lewis's Woodpecker*** and maybe ***Pinyon Jay***, also some Prairie Dogs are in the area. We'll then go over to Luna Lake for lunch, here we could have good views of Mergansers, and a possible ***Bald Eagle***. In Glenwood a stop at the fish hatchery could yield ***Summer Tanager*** and some ***flycatchers***. From there it's out to the Catwalk where the ***American Dipper*** nests.



American Dipper

On the return trip to El Paso we'll stop at Mangas Springs which is often good for the ***Common Black-Hawk*** and ***Lincoln's Sparrow***. If you want to sleep inside there are motels in Glenwood and Reserve. Please call by **18 June** if you are going to attend. If we do not have at least **5 people** it's a no-go. Bob 751-0125, wildbirder-bob@sbcglobal.net

DOUBLE SUNSET

This will be a **SUNSET** tour (the sun will set about 8 PM) along **SUNSET Dr.** Many young birds are now fledged and out learning how to survive. A number of ***Mississippi Kites*** have nests within the area and the young probably will not have fledged yet. We always see some great birds in the thickets along the Nemexas Drain at the west end of Sunset Drive. To end a great trip a stop in Mary Lou's backyard BIRD SANCTUARY.

DATE: Sunday July 8th

TIME: 5:15 PM

PLACE: Crossroads Ponding Area
Corner of Doniphan, Mesa, Country Club
Coordinator: Betty Fisbeck 581-0174



WATER CANYON
July 21 - 22

Trip will take us from the Rio Grande River Valley to the fir forests. We first stop at the Bosque del Apache NWR for *summer birds*, **Neotropic Cormorant, Green Heron, Cinnamon Teal**. Then up into the Cibola Nat. Forest hoping to find **Warbling Vireo, Black-Throated Gray Warbler**. *We have had Red-faced Warbler a few times in the past.* A side trip into the Magdalena area for **Western Bluebirds** and maybe **Pinyon Jays**. Also a stop at the Very Large Array Radio Telescope. Camping in the Canyon or Motels in Socorro. Meet in the parking lot of the Visitor Center at the Bosque. Time 10:30 - 11:00 AM. Call Bob "Wildbirder" for details 751-0125. E-mail wildbirderbob@sbcglobal.net

HUECO TANKS

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

Bird Identification Tours

Sunday	June	17	7:07 AM
Sunday	July	15	7:07 AM
Sunday	August	19	7:07 AM

Please check in at the Headquarters.
Reservations and Information 857-1135.
Leader Bob "Wildbirder" Johnson 751-0125.

PLANNING AHEAD

August	18 - 19	Fort Davis, TX
September	29 - 30	Hawk Watch
		Manzano Mts (South of Albuquerque)
October	27	Celebration of our Mts
		Keystone Heritage Park

IMPORTANT NOTICE

As of April 1st Bob's phone number is
(915) 751-0125
E-mail wildbirderbob@sbcglobal.net
Bob is no longer doing the observation column, but will take reports until a volunteer is recruited to accept reports.

iGive.com

Tell-a-Friend about iGive.com, and El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society gets \$5. iGive.com invites you to change your online shopping into support for a truly worthy cause.

You will be supporting El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society just by shopping online for brand-name stuff at over 682 well-known online stores. You will get free deals and coupons just by being an iGive.com member. If you join iGive.com and make a purchase within 45 days from one of 682 or so participating stores, iGive.com will donate \$5 FREE to your favorite worthy cause!

HOW IT WORKS

1. Join to support El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society It's FREE, private, & easy.<http://www.iGive.com/html/refer.cfm?memberid=480225&causeid=38480>
 2. Shop the Mall at iGive.com You'll see familiar stores like Lands' End, Office Depot, JCPenney, Neiman Marcus, Expedia, Barnes & Noble, and eBay to mention just a few!
 3. Watch the \$\$ roll in for El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society! Up to 26% of EACH purchase gets donated!
- Remember, shop within 45 days of joining, and get an extra \$5 donation, FREE. (This is a limited time offer!)

Referrals must join through your personalized Tell-a-Friend link:
<http://www.iGive.com/html/refer.cfm?memberid=480225&causeid=38480>
(give this link to friends)

El Paso/Trans-Pecos
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 El Paso, Texas 79997

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Return service request

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

Dates to Remember Call Bob Johnson for details 751-0125

June

3 & 9: **Rio Bosque**
 Mon 11: **Board Meeting**
 Sun 17: **Hueco Tanks**
No General Meeting
 23 & 24: **Glenwood/
 Luna, NM**
 23 & 24: **Keystone**

July

Sun 8: **Double Sunset**
 14 & 22 : **Rio Bosque**
No Board Meeting
 Sun 15: **Hueco Tanks**
No General Meeting
 21 & 22 **Water Canyon**
 : 28 & 29 **Keystone**

Aug

Sat 4: Feather Lake Work
 Mon 13: **Board Meeting**
 18 & 19: **Ft. Davis, TX**
 Sun 19: **Hueco Tanks**
No General Meeting
 25 & 26: **Keystone**

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