

The



ROADRUNNER

VOLUME 20 (4)

EL PASO/TRANS PECOS AUDUBON SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER, 1990

The El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society meets on the third Monday of each month, September through May. The general meetings are held at the Garden Center, Memorial Park, 3105 Grant, El Paso, Texas. The public is cordially invited.

Monday, September 17, 7:30 PM. GENERAL MEETING - Presentation by the International Society for Endangered Cats. Despite an old saying to the contrary, cats, especially the many species of wild cats, do not have nine lives. Of the 37 species of wild cats worldwide, 21 are either rare or endangered. Many of these cats are not widely known, either by the general public or by the scientific community. More surprising to most of us, who would associate these animals with a foreign, jungle setting, is the fact that cats such as the Ocelot, Margay, Jaguarundi and the Jaguar were native to areas of Texas. Of these four species, only the Jaguarundi and Ocelot are still believed to exist in the wild but only in very small numbers. This is a meeting not to be missed! This first meeting of the new season promises to be interesting, informative and very important. Be sure to bring your non-disposable drinking cup for refreshments.

EL PASO/TRANS PECOS AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICERS

NOTICE---

to all the good folks who signed up for the complimentary copies of THE ROADRUNNER at EARTH DAY activities at Feather Lake and UTEP and at Creature Features in the Civic Center.

We invite you to use the membership application form in this newsletter (see the last page) to join El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society. You will receive both AUDUBON magazine and THE ROADRUNNER 6 times a year. In addition to enjoying all other benefits of National Audubon Society membership, you will be contributing to a healthier environment. Or, if you prefer, you can just subscribe to THE ROADRUNNER. To do so, please send your name and address with a check for \$5.00 (payable to El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society) to EPTAS, P.O. Box 9655, El Paso, Tx. 79986. We hope you'll join us.

PRESIDENT	John Sproul	545-5157
VICE-PRESIDENT	Larry Jordan	833-5969
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EDITOR	George Barnett	581-1829
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FEATHER LAKE NEWS

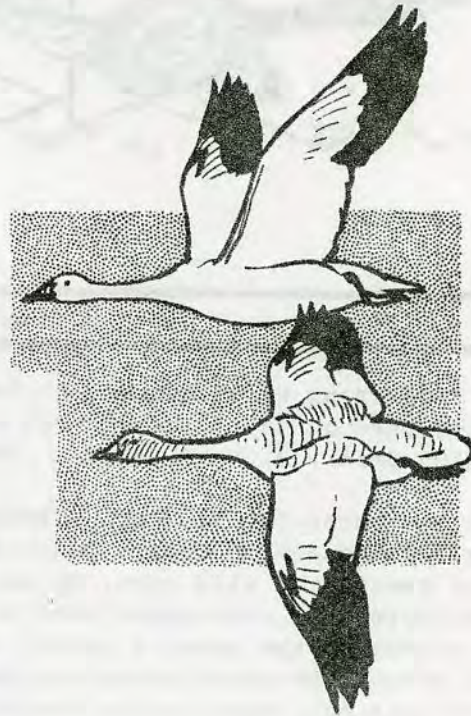
Did you get down to the Sanctuary this summer? It looks really wonderful with all the water in the lake now. The long-awaited rains have the young mesquites, willows and cottonwoods looking green and perky.

Many thanks to Joyce Davis, Jeannette Cole, Bob Johnson, Jo Nagel, Barbara Shults, Susie Schneider, John Sproul and Nancy Wilson who helped with chores during summer work sessions at the lake. Some days, in addition to fresh and exercise, workers received an added bonus. For example, while John Sproul was working in the basin on June 30, he flushed a LEAST BITTERN. In July, on more than one occasion, he found two of these elusive birds.

Upcoming Work Day: September 22

On October 6, the Sanctuary will once again be open for visitors, and volunteers are needed to greet them. If you are unable to attend monthly work days, this is your chance to contribute. It only involves 3 hours per shift and is just as important for the Sanctuary and for the chapter's education program as our cleanups. Jeannette Cole is co-ordinating the volunteers for visiting hours; please call her (566-1957) and sign up. The schedule will be the same as last year: 8 to 11 AM on the first and third Saturdays of the month, and 3:30 PM to dusk every Sunday. The Sanctuary will be closed on holiday weekends. This schedule will continue through April. It would be very helpful on field trip weekends if members not going on the trip would call Jeannette and volunteer for duty at Feather Lake. She will appreciate your thoughtfulness.

//Jane Fowler, Sanctuary Chair//

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LISTING

Susie Schneider has received the Annual Listing, which contains a list of all current members' names and addresses. Please notify Susie (779-4473, 543-3041) if your name and/or address needs to be corrected or changed.

FASHION NOTE!

The much heralded EPTAS Chapter T-shirts have arrived. The haute couture design houses of New York and Paris have expressed joy and admiration at the beauty of this new garment.

The T-shirts come in three different colors and several sizes and feature a design by our own Bob Johnson (remember the contest last season?). The shirts will be available at our monthly meetings for only \$9.00. Supplies are limited, so hurry to get yours now.

ON THE TRAIL

MONTAZUMA QUAIL

If you do not have this rare and elusive quail on your life list, this trip is a must. A concerted effort will be made to find them and assurances have been made that the effort will not be in vain. This will be an overnighter on SEP 15 & 16. Fort Davis State Park for camping has full hookups and hot water showers. Indian Lodge (1-426-3254) is located in the park and other accomadations (Limpia Hotel 1-426-3237; Stone Village Motel 1-426-3941; Crow's Nest Cabins 1-426-3300) are available in the area. A tour of historic FORT DAVIS will be a part of this trip. Call Bob Johnson (751-0125/757-1876) or Larry Jordan (833-5969) for trip details.

MIGRATION

Fall migration should be in full swing as you meander thru Memorial Park on Sat. SEP 8. Warblers, Flycatchers, Vireo' and ???, are but a few of the species to be seen here. Stops will also be made at Tom Lea and Arroyo Parks, the tour will last about 3½ hours. For a fun morning meet Sarah Jane Dodds (533-4150) at the Garden Center, 3105 Grant St. at 7:30 AM.

DRIPPING SPRINGS

Perhaps you have read of this place recently, because it changed from private to BLM ownership, also a special dedication ceremony was held last summer. The area is also referred to as La Cueva (The Cave). Either name the birds are the same, good rock mountain birds and fall sparrows. It is located on the west slopes of the Organ Mts. above Las Cruces. When you meet Larry Jordan (833-5969) at I 10 & Trans Mt. Road, it will be 7:30 Sun. morning SEP 30. Have a lunch with you as the trip will last into the afternoon.

OCTOBER

FOR THOSE WHO LIKE TO PLAN AHEAD

Fort Bliss Ponds	OCT 6
Guadalupe Mts. Nat. Park including the fall colors in Mckittrick Canyon.	OCT 20&21
Aguirre Springs	OCT 28



Tufted Titmouse

EXCITING BIRDS

WHAT YOU MISSED BY NOT GOING ON THE OVERNIGHTERS THIS SUMMER.

Eighteen lucky birders enjoyed themselves in Southeast Arizona May 26 -28, seeing approximately 95 species. The best were Gray Hawk, Magnificent Hummingbird, Gila Woodpecker, Buff-breasted Flycatcher, Bridled Titmouse and Abert's Towhee.

Nine people enjoyed Anne Bowman's hospitality in Cloudcroft NM on Jun 30/ Jul 1. Great birding, included Hairy Woodpecker, American Dipper, Red-faced Warbler, Mountain and Western Bluebirds. A tour of the Sun Spot Observatory was very interesting.

Only 5 serious birders showed up in Lordsburg on Aug 11/12 to tour Red Rock, where the New Mexico Fish and Game has a Wildlife Management Area. Seeing 16 Desert Big Horn Sheep was exciting, also hooded Oriole, Canyon Towhee, Great Horned Owl were good sitings, but the best was a Peregrine Falcon sitting on a pole about 20 yards off the road.

AUDUBON BIRDATHON

Thank you, Birdathon participants! Our 10th annual event exceeded all expectations, as some 223 generous contributors enabled us to raise over \$6,500.

Your support was fantastic and is greatly appreciated! You've made a major difference for our Feather Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, our education programs, our conservation work, Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue, and Audubon's Southwest Regional Office.

You've also brought honor and distinction (along with some great prizes) to our organization! A record 235 Audubon chapters took part in the 1990 Birdathon, raising over \$400,000. We were fortunate enough to be recognized as the top fundraisers in the Southwest

Region and No. 3 in our size category (300-999 members) nationally.

Recognition is also due our standout counters, the folks who did the birding on Birdathon weekend. This year's special honorees:

Top bird finder - Barry Zimmer (131 species)

Outstanding fundraiser - Mike Chintis

Most sponsors - Jane Fowler

Top new counter - Matt Bingham

Youngest birder - Mark Riede (Age: 7, species total: 67)

Bart Rumaker Award (most unusual bird found) - Nancy Wilson (for Black-billed Magpie)

Congratulations, all, and thanks again!

1990 BIRDATHON CONTRIBUTORS

Beata Abbs, Betty and Bob Adams, Vicki Adkins, Mary Lou Alcorn, Kathryn Alexander, Bill and Mary Appleton, Ronald Armstrong, Art and Donna Arteaga, Georgena Askins, Donna Ayers, Tom Baker, Jim Baptist, Bertha Barnhart, Berttye Barnhart, Helen Barto, Mrs. James Bayer, Bates Belk, Robert Belk, Judy Lynn Bellinger, Ken and Lois Beno, Hilda Bentley, Elayne Bernat, Linda Bingham, Matt Bingham, Paul Bingham, Donald Blashill, Bob and Patti Bleau, Betty Bowen, Anne Bowman, Mary Bradley, Carolyn Breck, John Bridges, Janet Brockmoller, Thomas L. Brown, Bill and Carolyn Brown, Jon Buchynsky, Lou Burmeister, Walt Byers;

Virginia Carri, Mike Chintis, Peter Chrapliwy, Jack Clark, Imogene Clyatt, Daryl Cole, Jeannette Cole, Jean Coyle, Branch Craige, David Curl, Scott Cutler, Joyce Davis, Cecile Dicks, Edwin Dierdorff, Mary Ann Dix, Sarah Jane Dodds, Bill Doebele, James and Linda Doering, Betty Duggan, Marguerite Dunnell, Helen Emery, Bob and Polly Erman, William Ertman, Linda Farrall, Ed Fisher, Bill Fowler, Jane Fowler, Susan Fox, Abel Garduno, Linda Gaunt, Al and Madeline Gavit, Sue Gibson, Elza Gilboe, Nicholas and Sara Goldstein, D. Goodall, Timothy Gray, Harvette Green, Jack and Linda Green, Joe Groff, Joe Guinn, William F. Guinn, Roxanne Gunter, Frances Gutierrez;

Jean Hagesfeld, Virginia Hair, Carrie Harper, Diana Harris, Jim Harvey, Dale Hawkins, Mary Haynes, Barbara Heggem, Monika Heisel, Pam Henderson, Lola Herrera, Susan Hetzel, Julie Hicks, Helen Holliday, Dennis Hulse, Sr., Anne B. Hussmann, Anne M. Hussmann, Harry Hussmann, Tom Hussmann, Marcelline Hutton, Robert and Barbara Hyland, Sally Jameson, Bob Johnson, Ken Johnson, Larry Jordan, Ed Joyce, Christine Kelso, Viola Kerns, Edward Koons, Ken Korn, Kathie Kormann-Lopez, Jim Koschmann, Sue Kurita;

Joe Leach, Lena Leahey, Tony Lewis, Bill Lorang, Virginia Lotspeich, Jack L. Lowder, Oscar Lozano, Edna Mae Lyons, Barbara Mader, William Manning, Charles S. Mayer, Tom McCabe, Beverly McCall, Richard McConn, Paul McCoy, Mary Sue McNeal, Heidi Metz, Martha Milios, Paul Milios, Margaret F. Mondore, Betty Morgan, Mary Morris, Nixon Morris, George and Lynn Moseley, John and Regina Murphy, Jo Nagel, Greg Odegard, Neil and Sue O'Hara, Miles H. Osborn, Cornelia Owen;

Betty Pagel, Pan Caribe, Inc., Elsie Pannage, Jimmie C. Parker, Iola Pennington, Norma Peticolas, Jim Polk, Helen Ponder, Mathew Ponton, Pat Pool, Alice L. Price, Mary Teen Pugh, Bill Quinn, Winnie Quinzi, Read Adoption Agency, Kathy Reynolds, Dick Richards, Mark Riede, Peter Riede, Bettie Roberts, Glenda Roberts, Fulton Robinson, Paul Robson, Trudy Rosas, Gertrude Rose, Bart Rumaker, Patricia Russell, Ruth Sapp, Cathy Sarrow, Ted Sawyer, Susie Schneider, Tom Shrader, Rafaela Schuller, Albert J. Schwartz, Sue Serna, June Shelby, Sid Shepperd;

Barbara Shults, Mrs. Paul Simpson, Lynn and Billy Slater, John Sproul, Andy Stanton, Helen Stoddard, Barbara Stevens, Don St. Germain, Elenor Sullivan, Lucile Swick, Evelyn Talbot, Dennis Taylor, Grace Thomas, Doris Thompson, Bonnie Tuck, Frances Valles, Henry Van, Norma Vargas, Mary Ann Vernon, Josie Villanueva, Ray Waite, Jimmie Walker, J. J. Watson, David Weinstein, Rock West, Frederick White, Geth White, Dorothy Williams, Gary Williams, Lucille Williams, Michael Wilson, Nancy Wilson, Scott Wilson, Cecilia Wisbrun, Mike Wiseman, Tom Wright, Mary and George Yelderman, Edna and Leo Young, Matt Youngblood, Shirley Youngblood, Bernie and Mary Zimmer, Yvonne Zimmer.



OBSERVATIONS



May 15 - August 1, 1990
uncommon, rare & casual sightings

CP - Crossroads Pond
DP - Doniphan Playa
FB - Ft. Bliss Ponds
FL - Feather Lake
FH - Ft. Hancock
FQ - Ft. Quitman
FM - Franklin Mountains
 /OC Oak Canyon
 /WC West Cottonwood Springs
 /WS Whispering Springs
HT - Hueco Tanks
LA - Lombardy Ave.
ML - Madden Lake
NPS - Newman Power Station
McN - McNary
RP - Randel's Pool
RT - Rattlesnake Tank
TR - Tornillo Rest Stop
WP - Wilderness Park Museum

Sightings by a field trip member are noted by a (+) after the leader's initials; sightings in an observer's yard or area are indicated by an (*) after his or her initials. Some of these sightings are rare only in summer.

LOONS - FALCONS

Double crested cormorant - 6/16, 6/24 FH; 7/4 CR; 7/8 NPS; 7/15 DP. (LJ, JD, BJ, PR, JF, JS)
Olivaceous cormorant - 6/16, 6/24 FH (LJ)
Least Bittern - 6/30, 7/7, 7/14 FL (JS)
Great Blue Heron - 6/24 FH, 5/27 - 7/4 FL; 7/29 DP (JS, JD, LJ)
Great Egret - 6/24 FH (LJ)
Snowy Egret - 6/16, 6/24 FH; 6/10-7/14 FL; 7/4 - 7/29 DP; 8/5 CP (JS, JD, JF, LJ)
Cattle Egret - 6/16 McN; 8/10 La Union (HB, LJ)
Green Back Heron - 6/10 FL; 7/29 DP; 8/5 CP (JS, JD+)
Black Crown Night Heron - 7/29 RP; 8/5 LA (JD+)
White-Faced Ibis - 7/8 FB (BJ, RH)
Snow Goose - 7/8 (BJ, RH)
Gadwall - 6/10 - 7/7 FL (JS)
Redhead - 6/16 - 6/23 FL (JS)

Ruddy Duck - 6/8 - 8/11 DP (JD)
Osprey - 6/16 FH (LJ)
Mississippi Kite - 8/5 LA (JD+)
Harris Hawk - 6/24 TR
Peregrine Falcon (injured) - 8/3 Downtown (HB)
Greater Yellowlegs - 7/8 FB; 7/14 FL; 7/15 DP (BJ, RH, JS, JD)
Willet - 7/8 FB (BJ, RH)
Wilson's Phalarope - 6/16 FH (LJ)
Spotted Sandpiper - 7/8 FB; 7/28 HT, DP; (RH, BJ+, JD)
Franklin's Gull - 6/16 FH; 7/8 FB (BJ, RH, LJ)
Ring Billed Gull - 6/16 (LJ)
Monk Parakeet (escaped) 8/5 LA (JD+)
Barn Owl - 7/15 NPS (JS)
Calliope Hummingbird - 7/19 (AA*)
Rufous Hummingbird - 7/2 (DT*)

FLUCATCHERS - VIREO

Vermillion Flycatcher - 6/24 FQ (LJ)
Cordillerian (Western) Flycatcher - 5/20 FM-WS (JS)
Black Phoebe - 6/24 FH; 7/8 NPS; 7/29 DP (JS, JD, LJ)
Violet Green Swallow - 7/29 RP (JD)
Bank Swallow (imm.) - 6/24 FH (LJ)
Scrub Jay - all spring/summer (HB)
Bewick's Wren - 7/7 FM/OC (JS)
American (Water) Pipit - 5/20 NPS (JS, JF, PD)

WARBLERS - WEAVER FINCHES

Lucy's Warbler 6/24 FQ (LJ)
Western Tanager - 8/5 LA (JD+)
Cassin's Sparrow 5/27- 7/8 WP, RS, NPS; 9/28 HT (JF, JS, BJ+)
Lark Sparrow - 6/16 ML (LJ)
Black Chinned Sparrow - 6/24 FM/WC (JS, SC)
Eastern Meadowlark - 5/20 WP; 7/8 RT (JS, JF)
Yellow-headed Blackbird - 6/24 MA; 7/17 FL; 7/4- 7/29 DP (JS, JF)
Bronze Cowbird - 7/20 Chapparal, NM (BJ)
Orchard Oriole - 7/2 (DT*)

Observers: Art Arteage, Helen Bigelow, Scott Cutler, Joyce Davis, Phil Dolar, Jane Fowler, Richard Hermosillo, Bob Johnson, Larry Jordan, John Sproul, Dennis Taylor.

OBS. EDITOR: Joyce Davis

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- Sat., 8 - Field trip to central El Paso Parks. See page 3.
- Mon., 10 - Board Meeting at Jane Fowler's home, 1594 B Bengal, 598-2448.
- Mon., 17 - Monthly Meeting. See page 1.
- Sat., 22 - Feather Lake work day. See page 2.
- Sun., 30 - Field trip to Dripping Springs See page 3.

National Audubon Society Chapter Membership Application

Yes, I'd like to join.

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

My check for \$20 is enclosed.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

Please make all checks payable to the National Audubon Society.

Send this application and your check to:

National Audubon Society

Chapter Membership Data Center

P.O. Box 51001 • Boulder, Colorado 80322-1001

LOCAL CHAPTER



El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Soc.

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El Paso, TX 79986

W10

Local Chapter Code
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