



The Roadrunner

Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

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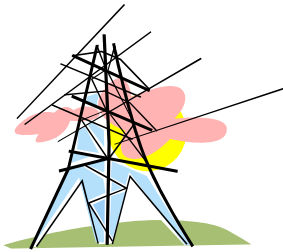
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General Meetings



Monday, October 15, 2007 at 7:00pm

at UTEP Centennial Museum, corner of Wiggins & University



Electric Company Lineman Saves Raptors from Electrocution

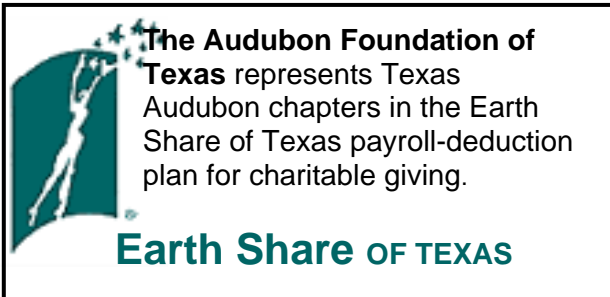
Electric company lineman Steve Ayers will recount his experiences and present photos related to his work for more than a decade to stop accidental raptor deaths, a global problem occurring in deserts and prairies. He had noticed many hawks and eagles were being electrocuted on older utility poles in his work area around El Paso. When plastic bird guards became available for new pole installations, Mr. Ayers began to also retrofit older lines with the guards to prevent long-winged birds from touching two electrical conductors simultaneously. The public is welcome to attend this important meeting. Refreshments will be provided.

Monday, November 19, 2007 at 7:00pm

at UTEP Centennial Museum, corner of Wiggins & University

Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park Opening Soon!

Folks seeking nature will be able soon to roam a new 400-acre New Mexico State Park opening in the Mesilla Valley officially in February 2008. Heritage educator for the new Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, Alex Mares, will speak on the park's developmental history as well as the seven indigenous plant communities and the resident and migratory birds found there. Mr. Mares says that a number of novel interpretive exhibits and a new amphitheatre are now under construction there. He also foresees offerings such as educational walking tours that will showcase the historic park setting and offer glimpses of its wildlife. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be provided.



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

ABOUT EARTH SHARE

September marks the start of workplace campaigns for Earth Share of Texas and other charitable organizations. If your workplace offers the Earth Share option, that's where we'd like to urge you to direct your contribution.

And specifically, we'd like to encourage you to contribute to the Audubon Foundation of Texas (AFT), one of Earth Share's member organizations. AFT's mission is to support the National Audubon Society's 20 Texas chapters. Among other things, it provides funding for new chapters just getting off the ground. And it helps established chapters meet their operating expenses.

The AFT also provides grants to support chapters' special projects. Some recent grants include \$1000 to Travis Audubon for work at Chaetura Canyon, the Chapter's newest sanctuary. Big Country Audubon Society used a grant to construct an observation blind in Abilene State Park. Other grants have supported conservation work in Latin America. Working with the Houston Audubon Society, AFT helped fund Ninos y Crias, an educational organization in the Yucatan which works to protect Caribbean Flamingos and to encourage sustainable development. And together with the Nature Conservancy, AFT helped supported a conference of Central American researchers studying the wintering grounds of the endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler.

For a complete list of workplaces participating in the Earth Share campaign, visit

<http://www.earthshare-texas.org/workplace.htm>.

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/

<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

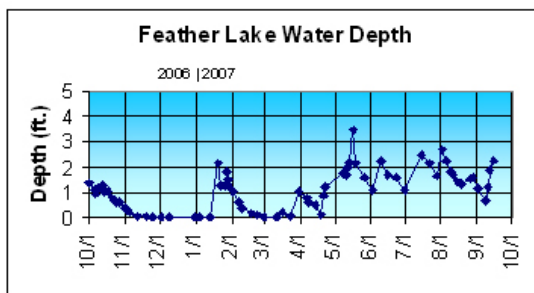
AT FEATHER LAKE

Feather Lake re-opened to the public September 1. Water conditions are good right now, but we'll need some late-fall/early-winter storms to keep it a lake into the winter months. Among the avian visitors September 1: a Cordilleran Flycatcher, the 217th bird species recorded at the lake.

Volunteer response to staffing our sanctuary during visitor hours has been terrific. Thanks to everyone who has helped so far. Are you interested in spending a relaxed morning or afternoon staffing Feather Lake this fall? Please contact John Sproul (747-8663, jsroul@utep.edu).

We hope you'll join us for our annual pot-luck picnic on **Sat., November 3** (see page 4). Celebrate the final day of Daylight Saving Time at Feather Lake! And don't forget our final workday for the year. It's **Sat., December 1**, starting at **2 p.m.** If the cottonwoods put on a good display of fall color, this will be prime time to be at the lake.

Feather Lake is located at 9500 North Loop at Bordeaux in El Paso, 0.3 miles west of Americas Ave. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays and 2 p.m. to dusk on Sundays. Admission is free.



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 jsroul@utep.edu.

Audubon at RIO BOSQUE WETLANDS PARK



Last year, water deliveries to Rio Bosque began October 29. For the latest on this year's water conditions and what birds are being seen, check the Park's website, www.riobosque.org. Upcoming free walking tours at the Park:

9 a.m. Sat., October 6 (Bird tour)
9 a.m. Sun., October 14
(Introductory tour)

9 a.m. Sat., November 3 (Bird tour)
3 p.m. Sun., November 18
(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

BIRDS and PEOPLE

SATURDAY November 3, 4:00 until ????

16th Annual Pot Luck Picnic.

At our FEATHER LAKE sanctuary 9500 North Loop Drive
Bring your own main dish, hot dogs hamburger, or steak. This is a family affair, the kids will enjoy it as the birds will be performing. The grill will be hot about 5:00 so you may cook. But come at **4:00 PM** so you can build up your appetite as you walk around looking at the birds. By early Nov. ducks are arriving 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. Our coffee pot with hot water and instant mix will be ready.

Usually spotted at the Lake after Sep: American Wigeon, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Pintail, Sora, Black-necked Stilt, Eurasian Collared Dove, Burrowing Owl Belted Kingfisher, Yellow Warbler, Western Tanager, Lark Sparrow.

If you think you might be coming give John Sproul (545-5157, jsproul@utep.edu) or Bob Johnson (751-0125, wildbirderbob@sbcglobal.net) or Jane Fowler (598-2448 williamjr8243@att.net) a call.

need an If you have a change of plans and on the last day and find you can come, **please come** .

DONA ANA

Let's see what we can find in the neighboring county. After leaving the X roads, a drive to Crawford Road, then on to the Sod Farm and maybe, if time permits, out to Gardner Road. *we might see some buntings.*

Date: Sunday, October 14.

Time: 7:30 AM

Place: Crossroads Ponding area
(Mesa/Doniphan/Country Club)

Trip Coordinator: John Groves
Cell 490-2892

CELEBRATION of OUR MOUNTAINS

On October 27th, from 7:30 AM -12 N we will be having a birding observation and identification location staffed at **Keystone**. This will be in conjunction with various tours conducted for the Celebration of Our Mountains. For these tours check the Oct. EL PASO SCENE, the El Paso Times each week from the end of Sep. Come to The Oct. General Meeting on the 15th to learn more.



YOUNG FOLKS DAY

Bring your pre-teen and teenagers to the Crossroads ponding area, so that they may learn about our wild birds of the valley. If you no longer have young people at home bring your grand-kids, nieces and nephews and/or the neighbors young-uns. Come everyone even if no kids to bring, all are always wel-

come. **Date:** Sunday **Nov. 11th**

Time: **3 PM** (sunset will be at 5:10)

Where: Doniphan and Mesa
(Crossroads Ponding area)

Instructors: Chapter Birders

For further information on all BIRD WATCHING trips contact Bob Johnson.

October 20th and 21st, 2006
HUECO TANKS STATE
HISTORICAL SITE

This will be the 13th Annual Interpretive Fair and will be held in conjunction with the LONE STAR LEGACY WEEKEND. Fair activities include **Bird 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.**

Booths with: Info., Books, Art & Crafts, and Food.
 Saturday 20th Oct. 10:30 AM - 8:30 PM
 Sunday 21st Oct. 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM
(Bird Tours will start at 8 AM both days)

DESERT BIRDS / BIRDS OF PREY

Date: Saturday, December 1st

Chance to see some of the birds that inhabit the desert scrub, *Cactus Wren, Pyrrhuloxia, Scaled Quail and Curve-billed thrasher* to name a few.

Then out along Hawk Alley for *Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel*. Sometimes there is a *Prairie Falcon* or *Golden Eagle* sitting on the poles. **Time: 7:45 AM**

Meet: El Paso Museum of Archeology (formerly Wilderness Park Museum)
4301 Trans-Mountain Road.

For those of you that would like to sleep a little longer, we will regroup at Lowe's parking lot 4531 Trans Mt. Rd. **8:45 AM**

BIRDWATCHERS WELCOME

The gate at Keystone will be open the last week-end of each month for birders to come in and bird on their own. No tour guides.

Sat. Oct. 27	7:30 -- 12 Noon
Sun. Oct. 28	4:00 -- 6:30 PM
Sat. Nov. 24	7:00 -- 9:30 AM
Sun. Nov. 25	2:30 -- 5:00 PM
Sat. Dec. 29	7:30 -- 10:00 AM
Sun. Dec. 30	2:30 -- 5:00 PM

HUECO TANKS

Bird Identification Tour

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

Bird Identification Tours

Sunday	Oct	21	8:08 AM
Sunday	Nov	18	8:08 AM
Sunday	Dec	16	8:08 AM

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

LOOKING AHEAD:

Christmas Bird Count - Hueco Tanks, some-time between Dec 14 and Jan 5. Date and details in the Dec. Roadrunner

Annual trip to the Bosque Del Apache National Wildlife Refuge near Socorro NM Jan. 19 & 20.

JOIN THE FUN & WIN A PRIZE for Your PHOTO!

At THE EL PASO/TRANS-PECOS AUDUBON SOCIETY
2007 HOLIDAY CELEBRATION!!!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10 AT 7:00 PM
UTEP CENTENNIAL MUSEUM

TO ENTER THE CONTEST:

EMAIL YOUR PHOTOS TO SCOTT CUTLER at scutler@utep.edu. Limit of 5 photos per person. There will be a winner in each photo category:

- ◆ BIRDS
- ◆ OTHER WILDLIFE
- ◆ SCENIC PHOTOS
- ◆ KIDS & PETS
- ◆ HUMOROUS



You can send electronic JPEG FILES from a DIGITAL CAMERA, OR Bring TRANSPARENCIES OR PRINTED PHOTOS to Scott at the UTEP Centennial Museum

El Paso/Trans-Pecos
 Audubon Society
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 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 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

October

6 & 14: **Rio Bosque**
 Mon 8: **Board Meeting**
 Sun 14: **Dona Ana**
 Mon 15: **General Meeting**
 20 & 21: **Hueco Tanks Fair**
 27 & 28: **Keystone**

November

3 & 18: **Rio Bosque**
 Sat 3: **Feather Lake Picnic**
 Sun 11: **Young Folks Day**
 Mon 12: **Board Meeting**
 Sun 18: **Hueco Tanks**
 Mon 19: **General Meeting**
 24 & 25: **Keystone**

December

Sat 1: **Feather Lake Work Day**
 Sat 1: **Desert Birds**
 Mon 3: **Board Meeting**
 Sun 16: **Hueco Tanks**
 Mon 10: **X-mas Party**
 29 & 30: **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

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