

The Roadrunner

Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

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The 13th annual Celebration of Our Mountains is a month-long festival of events to encourage appreciation of the El Paso region's environment.

Nearly 50 hikes, field trips, driving tours, nature walks and other activities will be offered to the public Sept. 23 - Nov. 4. Most events are free; some have costs listed for park entry fees, transportation or other nominal expenses.
www.celebrationofourmountains.org

General Meetings

at UTEP Centennial Museum,
 corner of Wiggins & University

**Monday, October 16 at 7:00 PM.
 El Paso Open Space Planning!**

Inform yourself and share your vision for El Paso! Chuck Kooshian, lead long range planner for El Paso City government, will discuss proposals to preserve open space so that as the city grows, the most valuable natural areas are conserved. A current hot issue is the fate of some PSB-owned lands in undisturbed open areas.

Participate in your city's future!

Refreshments will be available.

Don't miss our November program!

**Monday, November 20 at 7:00 pm
 "Images of the border region
 from the Bartlett Collection, 1850-1853"**

Dr. Jerry E. Mueller, Research Associate of the John Carter Brown Library, compares John Russell Bartlett's historic drawings of the U.S. and Mexico borderland landscapes with recent photos of the same west Texas, New Mexico and Arizona sites. Bartlett was one of several heads of the Boundary Commission that set the border with Mexico after the Mexican-American War.

Dr. Mueller is the author of *An Annotated Guide to the Artwork of the United States Boundary Commission 1850-1853, Under the Direction of John Russell Bartlett* (2000), and the editor of *Autobiography of John Russell Bartlett* (2006).



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

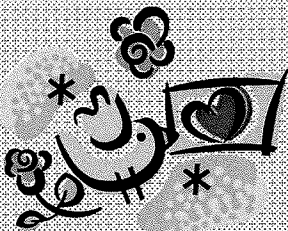
El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Officers

President: open
 Vice President: Bob Johnson, 757-1876
 Secretary: Lucretia Chew, 587-9589
 Treasurer: Eddie Chew, 587-9589

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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: Bob Johnson, 757-1876	Ways & Means: Flora Pittard, 852-2353
Hospitality: Scott Cutler, 581-6071	Sanctuary: John Sproul, 545-5157



BIRDS and PEOPLE
SATURDAY OCTOBER 21, 4:30 until ????
 What's going to happen?

15th Annual Pot Luck Picnic
At our FEATHER LAKE sanctuary
9500 North Loop Drive

The chapter will provide the burgers, dogs (will have a few Bratwurst also) 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 Oct. the 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 (except with Bob). Our coffee pot with hot water and instant mix will be ready.

Good chance of seeing: American Wigeon, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Pintail, Black-necked Stilt, Eurasian Collared Dove, 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 a call, 757-1876 <bobwildbirdertj@es.com> 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.

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, TX 79902

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** () _____

ALBERTSONS PREFERRED SAVINGS CARD NUMBER: _____

AT FEATHER LAKE

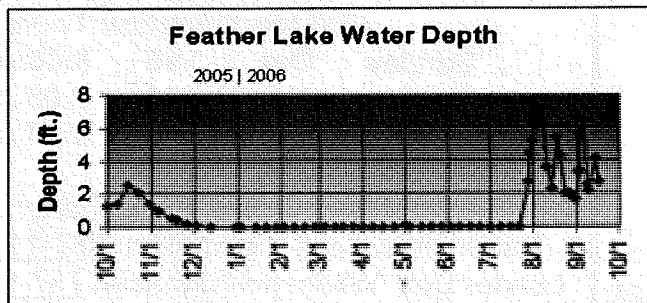
After 7.5 dry months, Feather Lake was put through its paces as a storm water detention basin between late July and early September. With each heavy rain, runoff quickly filled the basin. Water levels then dropped over the next few days as the basin drained, only to climb again with the next storm. The peak depth of approximately 7.5 feet on August 1 was 2 feet deeper than our previous record depth.

With water back in the basin, we re-opened Feather Lake to the public Sept. 2. We'll keep it open as long as water remains. That, of course, means we need volunteers to staff the lake during visitor hours. Want a perfect excuse to spend a relaxed morning or afternoon at our sanctuary? Please contact John Sproul (747-8663, jsproul@utep.edu).

The return of water wasn't this summer's only noteworthy event. On Aug. 5, a long-overdue Painted Bunting was in the willows on the lake's east side, our sanctuary's 213th bird species.

Don't forget our annual pot-luck picnic at Feather Lake on **Sat., Oct. 21** (see page 2). And be sure to visit in November, when the cottonwoods turn golden. The perfect day for a visit? Join us for our next workday on **Sat., Nov. 25**, starting at 2 p.m.

Feather Lake is located at 9500 North Loop at Bordeaux in El Paso, 0.3 miles west of Americas Ave. It is open 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday mornings and 2 p.m. to dusk on Sunday afternoons. Admission is free.



RIO BOSQUE WETLANDS PARK



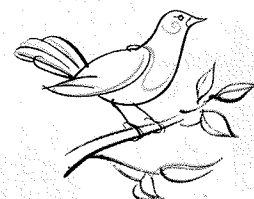
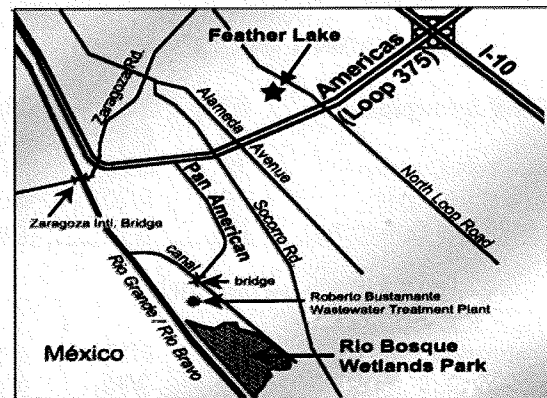
Each month, UTEP offers walking tours and other activities at Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, 4 miles from Feather Lake.

Coming up:

- 9 a.m. Sat., Oct. 7 (Bird tour)
- 9 a.m. Sat., Oct. 21 (Workday)
- 9 a.m. Sun., Oct. 22 (Introductory tour)
- 8 a.m. Sat., Oct. 28 (Faunal monitoring)

- 3 p.m. Sun., Nov. 5 (Bird tour)
- 9 a.m. Sat., Nov. 18 (Workday)
- 3 p.m. Sun., Nov. 19 (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. Web: riobosque.org



OBSERVATIONS

July 16, 2006 to September 15, 2006

Listing of birds is determined using the checklist "Birds of El Paso County, Texas and Adjacent Areas" 8th Edition May 2003. The area is defined as the western one-half of Hudspeth County (west of longitude 105 30, and the southern one-third of Dona Ana County (south of latitude 32 10) the line will be approximately thru Mesquite.

Sighting to Bob "Wildbirder" Johnson, E-mail bobwildbirderj@cs.com, phone (915) 757-1876. Uncommon - no highlights; Rare—bold highlights; Casual - Italics & bold

Observers: Dan Allen; Helen Bigalow; Cliff Eidson; Al Gavit; Tom Gill; John Kiseda; Kathy Kiseda; Jim Paton; John Sproul; Barry Zimmer. -y in yard.

PELICANS THRU FALCONS

American White Pelican	All	MOB	Tor
White-faced Ibis	JS	8/20	RBq
Osprey	JP	9/10	McN
Northern Harrier	BZ	8/3	Tor
Peregrine Falcon	JK	8/11	Key
Prairie Falcon	JS	9/9	RBq

WADING BIRDS

Upland Sandpiper	BZ-y	8/3	Ton
	BZ	8/4	McN
Long-billed Curlew	JS	8/20	RBq
Baird's Sandpiper	JP	8/20	Sod
Short-billed Dowitcher	DA	8/17	LaU

GULLS TO HUMMERS

Laughing Gull	JS	8/20	RBq
Sabine's Gull	JP	9/10	McN
Black Tern	JP	8/20	Sod
Anna's Hummer	JK-y	8/25	KnJ



Locations: Ant-Anthony; Cor-Coronado Area; FBP-Fort bliss Ponds; Hor-Horizon; Key-Keystone H. Park; KnJ-Kenyon Joyce; LaU-LaUnion; McN-McNary Reservoir; MsH-Mesa Hills; RBQ-Rio Bosque W. Park; Sod-The Sod Farm; Sun-End of Sunset at drain; Tor-Tornillo Reservoir; Ton-Tonto.

FLYCATCHERS

Eastern Phoebe	AG	8/28	Hor-
Great-crested Flycatcher	BZ-y	9/4	Ton
Cassin's Kingbird	TG	8/27	MsH
Warbling Vireo	DA	7/26	Cor
Cedar Waxwing	JK-y	9/10	KnJ

WARBLERS

Lucy's Warbler	JP	8/20	Sun
Yellow Warbler	DA	8/5	LaU
Black-throated Gray Wbler	HB	7/30	Ant
Grace's Warbler	BZ-y	8/16	Ton
Northern Waterthrush	JK	9/9	Key
Mourning Warbler	DA	8/30	LaU
Yellow-breasted Chat	JS	8/4	RBq

SPARROW TO SISKIN

Lincoln's Sparrow	DA	8/30	LaU
Painted Bunting	CE	8/5	FBP
Hooded Oriole	KK-y	8/20	KnJ
Pine Siskin	KK-y	8/30	KnJ

HUECO TANKS

Bird Identification Tour

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

Bird Identification Tours

Sunday	Oct	15	8:08 AM
Sunday	Nov	19	8:08 AM
Sunday	Dec	17	8:08 AM

Please check in at the Headquarters.
Reservations and Information [857-1135](tel:857-1135).
Leader Bob "Wildbirder" Johnson [757-1876](tel:757-1876).

ANNUAL INTERPRETIVE FAIR

October 21st and 22nd, 2006

HUECO TANKS STATE HISTORICAL SITE

This will be the 11th 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.

Campfire Program.

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

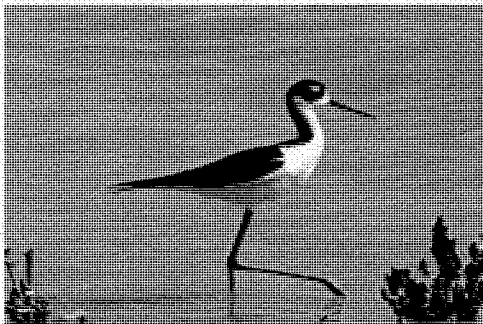
Saturday 21st Oct. 10:30 AM - 8:30 PM

Sunday 22nd Oct. 10:30 AM - 4 PM

(Bird Tours will start at 8 AM both days)

CELEBRATION of OUR MOUNTAINS

On October 28, 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* and come to the General Meeting on October 16th to learn more.



Black-necked Stilt at Keystone

LAKE STINKY Sunday November 12

Located southwest of Alamogordo NM off of US 70, near Holloman Air Force Base. A good spot for shore birds and water birds.

Bring lunch and water.

Meet: Lowe's parking lot 4531 Trans Mt. Rd. on the front side behind Taco Bell.

TIME: 7:30 AM

DESERT BIRDS / BIRDS OF PREY

Date: Saturday December 2nd

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: 7:47 AM

Meet: El Paso Museum of Archeology (formerly Wilderness Park Museum)

4301 Trans-Mountain Road

BIRDWATCHERS WELCOME at Keystone Heritage Park.

The gate will be opened the last weekend of each month. Sat. AM and Sun. PM.

No guides, ... you are on your own.

Sat. Oct. 28, special activity 7:30AM - noon, see Celebration of our Mountains.

Sun. Oct. 29, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM.

Sat. Nov. 25, 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM.

Sun. Nov. 26, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM.

Sat. Dec. 30, 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM.

Sun. Dec. 31, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Looking Ahead: Christmas Bird Count—Hueco Tanks, between Dec. 14th & Jan. 5th
For further info on bird watching trips, contact Bob Johnson(915)757-1876 bobwildbirderj@cs.com
Annual Trip to the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge Jan. 13 & 14

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

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Dates to Remember Call Bob Johnson for details 757-1876

October

7, 21, 22, 28: **Rio Bosque**
 Mon 9: **Board Meeting**
 15, 21&22: **Hueco Tanks**
 Mon 16: **General Meeting**
 Sat 21: **Feather Lake Picnic**
 Sat 28: **Keystone**

November

5, 18, 19: **Rio Bosque**
 Sun 12: **Lake Stinky**
 Mon 13: **Board Meeting**
 Sun 19: **Hueco Tanks**
 Mon 20: **General Meeting**
 Sat 25: **Feather Lake**
 25 & 26: **Keystone**

December

Sat 2: **Birds of Prey**
Rio Bosque
 Sat 12: **Shore Birds**
 Mon 4: **Board Meet**
 Mon 11: **General Meet**
 Sun 17: **Hueco Tanks**
 30 & 31: **Keystone**

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

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: _____

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