



Volume 25 (2)

One May
March-April, 1995

The ROADRUNNER

Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society

Spring Wildflowers

April
General
Meeting

General Meeting, Monday, April 17, 7:30 PM - Have you been to the Wilderness Park Museum to see the carpet of poppies that covers the museum grounds and the surrounding desert? At our April meeting, Dr. Richard Worthington, Professor of Biology at UTEP, will talk about the poppies and the other spring wildflowers of El Paso. He also discuss what makes for a good year in wildflowers in this area. (Perhaps the El Nino effect?) This is a meeting that shouldn't be missed by anyone who spends time outdoors, whether birding or hiking. See you there.

The meeting will be held at the Garden Center, 3105 Grant, in Memorial Park.

Tour the El Paso Zoo

May
General
Meeting

General Meeting, Monday, May 15, 7:00 PM - This month's meeting is at a special time and place. We will be treated to a tour of the El Paso Zoo by Karen Kaplan, Education Director at the zoo. The zoo has been expanded and has added some exhibits, so if you haven't been to the zoo lately, this will be your chance for a guided tour. The tour will take approximately forty-five minutes to an hour and will conclude with refreshments. We may have the opportunity to see some of the new areas if construction is completed.

Meet at the zoo, Paisano at Evergreen street, at **7:00 PM**. Karen says that there may be a surprise in store for us on the tour. Bring your family and we'll see you at the Zoo!

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It's Easy to Get Involved

by George Barnett

Audubon Activist

Have you wanted to do something about issues that concerned you? Unhappy with the trend of things? Have you wanted to help in some way, but couldn't afford the time or didn't know what to do? There are a couple of ways to help.

The Armchair Activist

The Armchair Activist is a concept that goes back several years and has been one of Audubon's fastest growing programs. Armchair Activists receive monthly mailings outlining a timely national, state, or local environmental issue. Members choose from different activities: Letter-of-the-Month Club people write to relevant decision makers; Village Voice people attend town meetings; Media Masters write to local newspapers.

Perhaps the best thing about Armchair Activism is that your time commitment is kept to a minimum - about a half hour a month. In addition, instructions on just what to do on a particular issue is provided to you to make contributing your help even easier.

For more information on the Armchair Activist, call the Activist's toll-free number, 1-(800) 659-2622.

Modem Volunteers

The SEED Coalition is looking for some help from volunteers with who have a computer and modem. The SEED Coalition consists of various environmental and consumer-interest, and health groups, including Texas Citizen Action, Public Citizen, American Lung Association, Sierra Club, and Audubon Society. "SEED" stands for "Sustainable Energy and Economic Development." The SEED Coalition's mission is to "to build a sustainable economy in Texas through development of our renewable sources, increased energy efficiency, and active public participation in these issues.

A modem volunteer is someone who lives closely with his computer, has Internet access, checks his e-mail at east

once daily, and would like to help with environmental issues in Texas. These people will be depended upon to send e-mail or make phone calls about impending legislation or other important matters that affect Texans. Several such people are needed in each State Senate District.

For more information, contact Jim Busby at (512) 477-1155 or by email to Jim Busby (jim_busby@infinet.com) or (pubcit@bga.com).

Alaska Wolf Control

Dave Cline

Audubon Activist

In a victory for wildlife conservationists in Alaska and nationwide, Alaska's new governor, Tony Knowles, issued a strongly worded press release on February 3, 1995 announcing permanent cancellation of the state's highly controversial wolf control program. Reasons given for the cancellation include completion of an investigative report done by the Department of Public Safety which found that the program had, among other things, no written policies or procedures, and no training for personnel who carried out control practices in the field. Knowles said that "the findings of this report will be disturbing to all Alaskans," and added that "this (wolf control) program has harmed Alaska's reputation and done a disservice to Alaska's legitimate trappers and hunters."

Knowles has directed the commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to develop conditions and procedures to insure that any future predator control be acceptable to the public and the scientific community, and that a "thorough examination" of overall predator control costs and benefits be done. This is a major step in a new direction that Audubon can support.

Alaska's contentious wolf control program has long been opposed by Audubon because it was not grounded in good science, and because it failed the test of public opinion. Perhaps now in Alaska we will give the wolf the respect it deserves as a living symbol of the last great American wilderness.

Governor Knowles needs to hear some words of thanks and appreciation from conservationists both in Alaska and throughout the country on this one. So please take the time to fax him a short message at 907-465-3532, or send letters to Governor Tony Knowles, P.O. Box 110001, Juneau, AK 99811-0001.

Wolf Bounties in Alaska?

On the other hand... Alaska State Senators Bert Sharp, Miller and Taylor introduced a bill which would pay \$400 for each wolf killed, and would make it legal to kill a wolf "by any method or means without restriction." Senator Sharp has said the he introduced the bill in response to the state's wolf-kill program being canceled by Governor Tony Knowles. Although Sharp said that the bill was mostly intended to make a political statement, it does have strong support in the Senate.

The Alaska Wildlife Alliance knows from long experience with this issue that anything can happen, and we are taking this bill seriously. Bounties have proven to be the fastest way to exterminate a species. Alaska's senior wildlife managers, and others in power refuse to be educated about the value of all wildlife, and continue to fight for predator elimination and maximum "hunter opportunity."

Please express your outrage to the U.S. Fish & wildlife Service in D.C., to Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, your own congressional representatives, and of course to the Alaska Legislatures. (Senate President Drue Pearce, Alaska State Legislature, State Capitol MS 3100, Juneau, AK 99801-1182, phone (907) 465-4993, or 907-465-4648. Also contact Governor Tony Knowles, PO Box 110001, Juneau, 99811, 907-465-3532.

For more information, contact The Alaska Wildlife Alliance, POB 202022, Anchorage, AK 995200-2022.

The Good That Government Does

*by Peter A. A. Berle
Reprinted from Audubon Activist*

Many of the sweeping changes proposed by the new congressional majority and embodied in the Contract with America stem from a perception that the federal government has gotten too big and too costly.

Every discussion begins with a horror story about some unsuspecting, well-meaning citizen who becomes ensnared in bureaucracy. Nobody seems to talk about the destruction of values that caused bureaucracies to be created in the first place.

No one disagrees with the premise that government services must be cost-effective and that ineffective bureaucracy should be eliminated. Why should we? As a nonprofit corporation, Audubon strives to apply the same sound business principles to its own operations.

The danger is that in its blind rush to eliminate bureaucracy, Congress is on the edge of doing some dumb things.

What's missing from current debate is a balanced appraisal of what needs to be done to achieve the environmental goals set forth in laws that protect natural resources and wildlife. Polling data reflect Americans' undiminished commitment to those goals. The fact is that our environmental laws have had a tremendous positive impact.

How clean would our drinking water be without the Safe Drinking Water Act? How many rivers and lakes would be unfishable - or even devoid of life - without the Clean Water Act? Would the names "Everglades," "Yellowstone," and "Yosemite" have any meaning if the federal government had not established the greatest national park system in the world?

Would our majestic national symbol, the bald eagle, be soaring in America's skies once again without the Endangered Species Act or the federal statute that banned the pesticide DDT?

One need only look at other nations - developed or developing - for a sobering reminder of what societies without environmental protection look like. Consider Eastern Europe, for instance, where a lack of air pollution control has resulted in countries blanketed in gray, smog-

choked air; or much of Central America and Southeast Asia, where wild lands are disappearing at unprecedented rates because few countries have protected areas - and those that do have few resources to ensure their protection.

The protection we have created for our natural world is fragile and imprecise, but indiscriminate. Dismantling the laws and regulations, slashing funding for enforcement, and disabling the government's ability to act for the public good - as portions of the Contract with America would do - is a losing strategy.

Peter A. A. Berle is president and CEO of the National Audubon Society.

Seasons Change at Feather Lake

by John Sproul

Feather Lake News

Our Feather Lake Wildlife Sanctuary (9500 North Loop, between Zaragosa Road and Americas Ave. in El Paso) is now far along in its annual transition to spring.

The cottonwoods and willows are leafing out, the wolfberry shrubs are a brilliant green. Turtles are basking on mounds of vegetation in the marsh. And the mix of birds is ever changing. Duck numbers dropped rapidly in March as our winter residents headed north. At the same time, White-faced Ibis numbers grew. By late March, up to 1000 ibis were arriving each evening near sunset and spending the night at Feather Lake.

Feather Lake also enjoyed a steady stream of human visitors this winter. April 30 marks the close of the visitor season, so plan on a visit soon (see back page for days when the sanctuary is open). If you get thirsty while there, try the new drinking fountain beneath the ramada. If it gets dark, try the new lighting. Thanks go to Charles Simpson for his hard and dedicated work installing these facilities.

You will, of course, still have chances to visit Feather Lake after the visitor season ends. Our next workday is Sunday, May 21. We'll start at 10 AM, break for lunch, then continue as needed in the afternoon. Come on down; there's a tumbleweed waiting with your name on it...

Earth Day on the Border

by John Sproul

April 22, 1995 marks the 25th anniversary of Earth Day, and, once again, El Paso will celebrate in style with Earth Day on the Border. The event takes place that day at the Chamizal National Memorial, with activities from 10 AM to 6 PM, followed by a concert by La Vienta in the Chamizal's auditorium at 8 PM.

The Chamizal grounds will be alive with environment-related exhibits, music and other entertainment throughout the day. The focus of this year's event will be children, and there will be lots of hands-on activities specifically for kids: an earth quilt, planting an earth garden, building with adobe, leaf rubbing, fossil making, bottle terrariums, corn-husk dolls, composting, making solar hot-dog cookers, and much more.

All events are free except the La Vienta concert, for which tickets are \$12. Join us at the Chamizal National Memorial on Saturday, April 22 for Earth Day on the Border!

Birdathon 1995

by Nancy Wilson

It is spring, and the young man's and woman's fancy turns to thoughts of Love - Love of BIRDING, that is! And we all know what that means. Yes, Birdathon 1995 will soon be here and planning has begun.

This year's event will take place on Saturday and Sunday, May 6 - 7. As is customary for Birdathon events, all profits will be divided among designated beneficiaries. Recipients of those monies will be the Southwest Regional Office of the National Audubon Society, Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue, Education Fund, and Sanctuary Fund.

Birdathon is our single largest fundraiser, and its success rests solely in the hands of our membership. Our efforts have made us the best in our region three years running. We have impressed a lot of people and we should take pride in this. I suspect this year will be no different.

The coordinator for Birdathon 1995 is Nancy Wilson. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or wish to offer your talents to organizing this year's event. My number is 833-3907.

ESA and NGS

by George Barnett

In the coming weeks we will be hearing a great deal about "unfunded mandates" like the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and especially the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Much of it will be anecdotal with doubtful veracity. Some of what we will hear will be true and some not and it may be difficult to tell the difference.

Demonstrating a timeliness rivaled only by its photography, the March, 1995 issue of *National Geographic* has as its cover story the Endangered Species Act. The triumphs of the Act (the Bald Eagle) and the controversies (the Snail Darter) are covered as well as why obscure creatures like some freshwater mussels need protection. Amidst the coming rhetoric, this quiet piece of journalism may require our attention.

The *National Geographic* is available at most libraries. Or, perhaps you could borrow it from a friend who owes you a favor. The last few paragraphs may be all that is needed to explain why we, as humans, do what we do with things like the Endangered Species Act.

Pelagic Birding Trips

The Chip XI, a fast 65' crewboat, has been chartered from Port O'Connor for the exclusive purpose of searching the deep waters off the continental shelf in the NW Gulf of Mexico for storm-petrels, pelagic terns, shearwaters, whales and other marine mammals. Our first four trips in 1994 resulted in fourteen state records! Storm-petrels were seen well on every trip. We'll spend over six hours beyond the 200-fathom line.

Call Dwight Peake (409) 740-4621 for reservations or call Mark Elwonger, (512) 573-5666, or write 405 W. Brazos, Victoria, TX 77901 for further information.

Dates: Thursday April 20; Saturday, May 27; Saturday, June 24; Saturday, July 22; Saturday, August 19; and Saturday, September 30.

Rare Bird Alerts

Listed below are the phone numbers for Rare Bird Alerts in both Texas and New Mexico. To get numbers for other states or Canadian Provinces, call George Barnett at 581-1829.

NEW MEXICO - Statewide (505) 662-2101

TEXAS - Statewide (713) 992-2757
Northeast (903) 759-8989
Austin (512) 483-0952
Northcentral (817) 329-1270
Lower Rio Grande Valley (210) 565-6773
San Antonio (210) 733-8306
Sinton (512) 364-3634

Officers of the El Paso/ Trans Pecos Audubon Society

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Craig Braginton 877-4138

Vice President

John Kiseda 833-6212

Treasurer

Larry Jordan 833-5969

Secretary

Jane Fowler 598-2448

Directors:

Charles Simpson

Roxanne Schroeder 534-7019

Bob Johnson 757-1876

About the Newsletter

The chapter newsletter, THE ROADRUNNER, is published six times a year by the El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society. The annual subscription rate for the newsletter only is \$5.00. The newsletter is included with your membership in the National Audubon Society. Send subscription requests to
Newsletter Subscription
El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society
P.O. Box 9655
El Paso, TX 79986

Chapter members are encouraged to submit articles for publication in THE ROADRUNNER. The articles may be of any length and in any format, but the editor reserves the right to modify submissions to fit space available.

Articles may be submitted to the editor:

George Barnett
600 Espina Dulce Pl.
El Paso, TX 79912

Day: 779-3835
Night: 581-1829
Fax: 778-2808
Internet: labelman@aol.com

Donations

The El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society gratefully acknowledges donations from the following individuals:

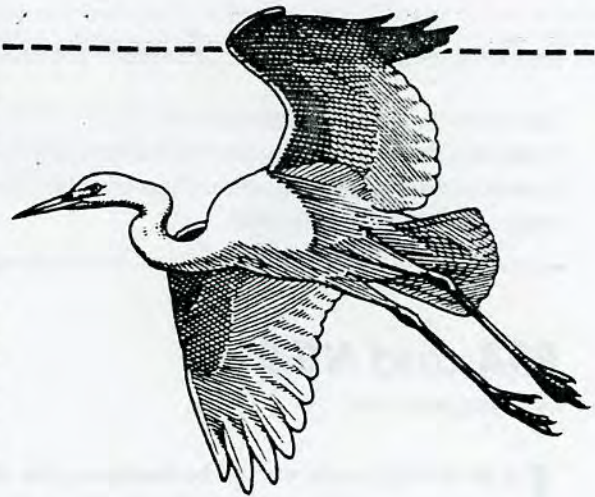
For general chapter work:

- Bob Johnson

Memorial donation for Mabel Woodcock from:

- Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Morrow
-

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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 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.
PO Box 9655
El Paso, TX 79986

Local Chapter Code
7XCHA



JOIN THE PLEDGE FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS

Did Americans vote for dismantling 25 years of environmental legislation last November? We don't think so, but the majority in Congress seems to think we did. A truly alarming anti-environmental agenda is hurtling through Congress, and unless there is a strong public protest, 25 years of environmental protection may be in shreds by the end of the year. At stake is protection for clean water, clean air, wetlands and endangered species.

Join us in a citizens campaign calling for a renewed commitment to environmental protection in the U.S. This spring, citizens across the country are launching an Environmental Bill of Rights pledge drive and National Audubon Society is joining in the campaign. We are offering to collect thousands of pledges to the Environmental Bill of Rights and, together with other environmental organizations and citizen groups, present them to Congress in mid-July.

Please take a moment to sign the attached pledge to the Environmental Bill of Rights and send it to Audubon's Washington, D.C., office before July 1. We will join other organizations in presenting at least one million petitions to Congress this summer.

Earth Day, April 22, is a wonderful opportunity to inspire a renewed sense of commitment to protecting our fragile environment. Please help put Earth Day to work for the Earth by participating in the Environmental Bill of Rights pledge drive. To obtain additional petition sheets, call Audubon's Chapter Services Hotline at (800) 542-2748.

★ ★ ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS ★ ★

EVERY AMERICAN HAS THE RIGHT TO A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT.

We urge all elected officials — local, state and federal — to protect that right. We oppose any measures that would roll back the environmental progress of the last 25 years. We commit ourselves to supporting the following simple principles, and will hold public officials who represent us accountable for their stewardship of the planet.

I. PREVENT POLLUTION. Every American is entitled to air, water, food and communities free from toxic chemicals. Government policies and regulatory standards must prevent pollution before it happens, expand citizens' right to know about toxics, and guarantee protection for citizens, particularly for the most vulnerable among us — infants, children, pregnant women and the elderly.

II. PRESERVE AMERICA'S NATIONAL HERITAGE, wild and beautiful, for our children and future generations. Wildlife, forests, mountains, prairies, wetlands, rivers, lakes, coastlines, urban parks and open space are all part of our national heritage.

III. END THE GIVE-AWAYS OF PUBLIC ASSETS, such as mineral, timber and grazing resources. End the subsidies for oil and energy companies. Polluters should pay to clean up the mess they create. No one has the right to use property in a way that destroys or degrades the surrounding community. We reject the idea that good neighbors must pay bad ones not to pollute.

IV. CONSERVE AMERICA'S NATURAL RESOURCES by controlling waste, increasing energy efficiency, and protecting against overuse and abuse. Encourage sustainable technologies that meet human needs without destroying the environment.

V. GET THE BIG MONEY OUT OF POLITICS. No more government for sale. Let's take our government back from the big campaign contributors and exploiters who control it today.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE
ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE (DAY, W/AREA CODE)	PHONE (EVENING, W/AREA CODE)
	<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE SEND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE
ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE (DAY, W/AREA CODE)	PHONE (EVENING, W/AREA CODE)
	<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE SEND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE
ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
PHONE (DAY, W/AREA CODE)	PHONE (EVENING, W/AREA CODE)
	<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE SEND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

To obtain additional copies of the Environmental Bill of Rights pledge sheet, call (800) 542-2748. Please return signed petitions BEFORE JULY 1 to: Environmental Bill of Rights, National Audubon Society, 666 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, #200, Washington, DC 20003-4319 TEL: (202) 547-9009 • FAX: (202) 547-9022

APR - MAY 95

On The Trail

PERCHA DAM

An all day trip up the Rio Grande to a birding hot spot. ??? maybe White-throated Sparrows, some good migrants, and Caballo always has Gulls and other water birds. John Kiseda (833-6212) will meet you on **Sun. April 9 at 7:27 AM** at Trans Mt. Road and I10, Ass't Leader Cliff Edson (584-9338).

SPRING MIGRATION

The 4th Annual North American Migration Count will be held on **Sat. May 14th**, which is also International Migratory Bird Day. This a one day "snapshot" of the progress of spring migration. Call ahead to be assigned to a team. Leader Bob Johnson (757-1876) additional info John Sproul (545-5157).

FRANKLIN MOUNTAIN S W P

On Sunday April 23d we will conduct the first of a number of outings over the next few years to determine the status of **Breeding Birds of the Franklins**, this sort of trip is a lot of fun and also very educational. Come on out and learn how to determine various stages of the breeding bird. Meet John Sproul(545-5157) and Craig Braginton at the entrance to Tom Mays Area at 7:30 AM.

THE UPPER/UPPER VALLEY

The Anthony area will be the place to see something different on **Sat. June 10th**. The first stop will be at Helen Bigalows Wildlife Rehabilitation Ranch, then on to the river to check on a Heron Rookery, and many more good birds. Meet Bob Johnson (757-1876) at **4:04 PM, where Transmountain Road and I 10**. Assistant Leader George Barnett (581-1829).

PLAN AHEAD

The Friends of Hueco Tanks sponsor a Bird Identification tour at Hueco Tanks State Historical Park on the third Sunday of each month at 8:30 AM. Conducted bt the El Paso-Trans Pecos Audubon Chapter.

For your summer weekend trips, we will going to **Santa Fe, NM** during the Fourth of July weekend. We will also visit **The Bosque Del Apache NWR and Water Canyon** on the weekend of Aug. 5 & 6. More info in the next Roadrunner.

CHIRACAHUA MOUNTAINS



Southeast Arizona is the place for our annual Memorial Day outing. **May 27-29** will be the dates. Come for all or part of the weekend, or for more. Your leader Bob Johnson will be going to Madera Canyon on the 24th, then to Portal to secure campsites on the 26th. Plan to see the **Elegant Trogon** as well as Painted Redstarts, Blue-throated hummingbirds and Yellow-eyed Juncos. Also our famous campground picnic will be on Sat. evening. Call "Wildbirder" Bob (757-1876) for detailed itinerary. For indoor sleeping call Cave Creek Ranch, Cathedral Rock Lodge or the Portal Bed & Breakfast at the Portal Store.

Audubon Birdathon '95

Birdathon '95 takes place this year **May 6 - 7!** Birdathon is both our annual Spring Big Day Count and El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society's most important fundraising event of the year. Each year, vital conservation and education projects are supported by monies received from Birdathon. Please join us for a full, rewarding weekend of birding throughout the El Paso area.

Birdathon contributions are divided equally between National Audubon Society programs and local EP/TPAS projects. This year's beneficiaries will be:

- ▶ **Education.** Birdathon is the main source of funds for both our **Audubon Adventures** youth education program and our **scholarship program**, which gives local educators the chance to attend Audubon Ecology Camps in Wyoming, Maine, or Connecticut, where they can enhance their environmental education skills.
- ▶ **Sanctuary.** Feather Lake is our Jewel of the Desert. Much hard work and dedication go into maintaining Feather Lake. Funds are now needed to continue our efforts. Not only is Feather Lake a nice place to visit, but it is also one of our best tools in our education efforts.
- ▶ **Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue.** Although the work of the Wildlife Rehabilitators transcends dollars and cents, the Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue continues to work within a very limited budget. We have been a major contributor to Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue in the past and will do so again this year.
- ▶ **National Audubon Society's Southwest Regional Office.** The Southwest Regional Office continues to be a vigorous and effective voice for our West Texas environment. Monies dedicated to the Regional Office's operations are needed to keep the office at full strength and working for us.

The counters on the reverse side are ready to do their all for Birdathon. How can you help? (over)



El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society BIRDATHON '95

- YES! I'll sponsor _____
for \$ _____ per species for each
species s/he finds on the 1995
Birdathon.
- I'll sponsor _____
for a flat \$ _____.
- I will add a bonus of \$ _____ if my
counter sees a _____.
- My tax deductible gift of \$ _____
sponsoring _____
is enclosed, payable to El Paso/Trans
Pecos Audubon Society.



From: _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____

Please clip and return this form by April
28 to: Birdathon '95
c/o Jane Fowler
3212 Kilkenney
El Paso, TX 79925

Thank you for your Birdathon pledge!
Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law.

How Birdathon Works

On the weekend of May 6 - 7, our Birdathon counters will go all out trying to find as many birds as possible in a single 24-hour period. They'll start early, stay out late, visit multiple habitats, and give their eyes, ears, and knowledge of birds a full workout. Why? For the pleasure of a day afield, for the chance to collect meaningful data for a nationwide census project, for a test of their birding skills and, most important, for a better West Texas environment. Each counter will be backed by sponsors who have pledged tax-deductible gifts based on the number of species found. Every new species thus means another big boost for our Education Fund, the Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue, and Audubon's Southwest Regional Office.

Whether it's \$.25 per species, \$1.00 per species or any amount, we hope you will consider a Birdathon pledge. Your support makes Birdathon work. Some counters will see around 40 species, others over 100; most will be somewhere in between. Please use the form on the reverse of this flyer to sponsor one or more of our hard-working Birdathon counters. Also this year, in lieu of a single celebrity counter, we will be working to organize teams of school children from our Audubon Adventures classes. Let us know if you would like to reward their efforts as well.

Prizes

The satisfaction of supporting a worthy cause isn't the only benefit your sponsorship brings. All sponsors will be eligible for a drawing to be held May 7. This year's Grand Prize is a beautiful Bill Kolliker etching. Other great prizes will be up for grabs for some lucky sponsors or counters.

Pot-luck Dinner

The drawing will take place at our annual post-Birdathon pot-luck. It will start at 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 7 at the Garden Center, 3105 Grant, in Memorial Park in El Paso. Please join us. Reports of the weekend's best birds, great food, door prizes, and results of our drawing await you!

The Counters

This year's list of counters is a hardy and dedicated group. Most have been involved in a number of Birdathons. These people are:

Mary Lou Alcorn
Tom Baker
George Barnett
Mat Bingham
Paul Bingham
Mary Bradley
Craig Braginton
Kathy Ditlevson
Tara Ditlevson

Phil Dolan
Jane Fowler
Joe Guinn
Richard Hermosillo
Sally Homen
Anne Hussmann
Bob Johnson
Larry Jordan
John Kiseda

Paul Milios
Jo Nagel
Iola Pennington
Mark Riede
Peggy Riede
Susie Schneider
Charles Simpson
John Sproul
Nancy Wilson

We welcome and encourage additional counters. Also, please keep in mind that we hope to have several teams of enthusiastic school children. Would you like to participate as a counter or sponsor? Please contact Nancy Wilson (833-3907), Jane Fowler (598-2448), or Craig Braginton (877-4138) for details.



AUDUBON
BIRDATHON

Observations

January 16, 1995 - March 15, 1995
 Uncommon, RARE, and CASUAL sightings

Due to space limitations only one or two sightings of many species are listed, although in many cases more were reported. Report your sightings to Bob Johnson (757-1876)

(Observers: Craig Braginton, Doug Emkalns, Roxanne Gunter, Larry Jordan, John Kiseda, Kathy Kiseda, Bruce Neville, Flora Pitard, John Sproul, Chad Wayne.)

IBIS to FALCONS

WHITE-FACED IBIS	3/5-15	(JS)	FLk
Snow Goose	1/16-2/9	(Mob)	Sun
	All	(Mob)	FLk
CANADA GOOSE	All	(Mob)	FLk
WOOD DUCK	3/11	(JK/CB)	CCA
<u>BLUE-WINGED TEAL</u>	1/22	(JS)	FLk
<u>MISSISSIPPI KITE</u>	3/4	(CB/JK)	Sun
HARRIS'S HAWK	3/5	(CB)	Can
Ferruginous Hawk	2/12	(JK)	Sun
<u>PEREGRINE FALCON</u>	3/5	(JK)	Sun

PLOVERS to SWALLOWS

<u>MOUNTAIN PLOVER</u>	2/19	(DE/BN)	Sod
<u>LESSER YELLOWLEGS</u>	2/5	(LJ)	Tor
<u>DUNLIN</u>	2/5	(LJ)	Tor
Great Horned Owl	1/22	(DE/BN)	D/O
LONG-EARED OWL	1/23	(DE)	HTk
ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD	2/2	(LJ)	Cen
RUFUS HUMMINGBIRD	2/1	(LJ)	Cen
<u>RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER</u>	2/11	(LJ)	CEN
	2/25	(JK)	Cor
NO. RGH-WING SWALLOW	2/13	(LJ)	CCA



Var. is various dates; Can-Canutillo, Cen-Central El Paso Area; CCA-Coronado Area; D/O-Durlings/Owens; EFM-East Side Franklin Mts; FLk-Feather Lake; Hor-Horizon City; HTk-Hueco Tanks; Sod-AG Sod Farm; Sun-Sunland Area; Tor-Tornillo; ZOO.

JAYS to NUTHATCHES

Scrub Jay	2/19	(FP)	Hor
<u>GREEN JAY</u>	Var.	(JK)	Zoo
	2/11	(JS)	Cen
<u>BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE</u>	1/23	(DE/BN)	Sun
	1/25	(J&KK)	Sun
MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE	1/23	(DE)	HTk
RED-BRESTD NUTHATCH	2/12	(JK)	Cen
<u>WHT-BRSTD NUTHATCH</u>	1/23	(DE)	HTk
	2/12	(LJ)	CCA
<u>PYGMY NUTHATCH</u>	2/12	(LJ)	CCA
	3/12	(DE/BN/CW)	CCA

BLUEBIRDS to GOLDFINCHS

<u>EASTERN BLUEBIRD</u>	1/22	(DE/BN)	D/O
HERMIT THRUSH	2/19	(LJ)	CCA
BROWN THRASHER	2/3	(LJ)	EFM
Cedar Waxwing	2/28	(JK)	Zoo
<u>GRAY SILKY FLYCATCHER</u>	1/16-3/4	(Mob)	CCA
ORANGE-CRWN WBLR	2/19	(LJ)	CCA
<u>GOLDEN-CRWN SPARROW</u>	All	(Mob)	HTk
COMMON GRACKLE	Var.	(RG)	CCA
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	3/5	(JK)	CCA

CALENDAR

April

- Sat., 1** - Feather Lake open, 8:0 AM to Noon.
Sun., 2 - Feather Lake open, 2:00 PM to Dusk.
Sun. 9 - Field trip to Percha Dam, see page 8.
Sun., 9 - Feather Lake open, 2:00 PM to Dusk.
Mon., 10 - Board meeting at Mary Lou Alcorn's home, 4332 Emory, 584-8768, 7:30 PM.
Sat., 15 - Feather Lake open, 8:00 AM to Noon.
Sun., 16 - Feather Lake open, 2:00 PM to Dusk.
Mon., 17 - General Meeting, see page 1.

Sat., 22 - Earth Day, see page 4.

- Sun., 23** - Feather Lake open, 2:00 PM to Dusk.
Sun., 23 - Breeding Bird Atlas, see page 8.
Sun., 30 - Feather Lake open, 2:00 to Dusk.

May

Sat., and Sun., 6 - 7 - Birdathon

- Mon., 8** - Board Meeting at Larry Jordan's home, 6316 El Risco, 833-5969, 7:30 PM.
Sat., 13 - North American Migration Count, see page 8.
Mon., 15 - General Meeting, see page 1.
Sun., 21 - Feather Lake workday.
Sat., Sun., and Mon., 27 - 28 - 29 - Field trip to southeast Arizona, see page 8.

June

- Sat., 10** - Field trip to Upper Valley, see page 8.

El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society

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