



# The Roadrunner

## Newsletter of the El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

### BIRDATHON 2008

The field identifying is over and it's time for the **20 counters** to notify the sponsors of their species count, and collect the donations (many are in already).

At the picnic countdown, held at Kathy Whelen and Carlos Humphrey's house, good food was enjoyed while the sponsors prizes were drawn. **12 great gifts** were given away, including gift certificates, framed pictures and other useful items. The prizes for the counters were given out at the General Meeting, held on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

The prize for the most species was declared a three way tie as the numbers were so close. John Kiseda (116), Jim Paton (115), John Groves (114). Cliff Edison was awarded the "rarest bird seen" prize, a White-tailed Kite.

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*Thank you!*

*John Groves &*

*Andy Kasner*

*For speaking at the*

*April & May*

*General Meetings.*



WHITE - TAILED KITE

Other rare species seen during the count were; Zone-tailed Hawk, Virginia Rail, Least Flycatcher, Blue-headed Vireo, Lucy's Warbler, and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

Total species count - **164**. To date over **5500** dollars have been raised,  
**THANK YOU all!**

A new website is coming soon.....

Board members and volunteers will attend training to provide updated information about upcoming field trips, a calendar of upcoming events, recent bird sightings.

For now, you may still find information at:

<http://www.gbarnett.com/eptpas/eptpashome.html>

Make bird sighting reports at:

**EIPasoBirdAlert @gbarnett.com**



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: Janet Perkins, 581-2849
Programs: Ursula Sherrill, 526-7725	Education: Kathleen Whelen, 751-2408
Conservation: vacant	Publications: Jane Fowler, 598-2448
Field Trips: Ursula Sherrill, 526-7725	Ways & Means: vacant
Hospitality: Janet Perkins, 581-2849	Sanctuary: John Sproul, 545-5157

**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 [jsproul@utep.edu](mailto:jsproul@utep.edu).



For further information on all **BIRD WATCHING** trips contact

Call Ursula Sherrill 526-7725;  
[usherrill@miners.utep.edu](mailto:usherrill@miners.utep.edu)

**What is TogetherGreen?**  
<http://www.togethergreen.org>

**Conservation Organizations**

Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue  
[www.whc.net/cdwr](http://www.whc.net/cdwr)

El Paso Zoo 521-1850  
[www.elpasozoo.org](http://www.elpasozoo.org)

Keystone Heritage Park 581-7920  
[www.keystoneheritagepark.org](http://www.keystoneheritagepark.org)

Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park  
(505) 524-3334 [www.cdnep.org](http://www.cdnep.org)

Friends of Rio Bosque 747-8663  
[www.riobosque.org](http://www.riobosque.org)

Southwest Environmental Center  
(505) 522-5552  
[www.wildmesquite.com](http://www.wildmesquite.com) [swec@zianet.com](mailto:swec@zianet.com)

Franklin Mt. Wilderness Coalition  
[www.franklinmountains.org](http://www.franklinmountains.org)

It's all about helping you get involved in creating a brighter, healthier future. It's a dynamic and innovative Audubon program funded by Toyota that aims to provide inspiration, leadership and opportunities that inspire people everywhere to take action at home, in their communities and beyond to improve the health of our environment.

**TogetherGreen will:**

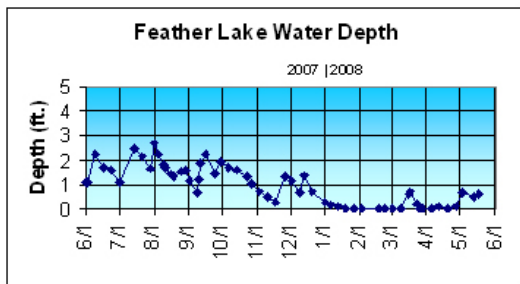
- Connect all kinds of people across America with the nature and resources that surround and sustain us, hopefully inspiring concern and conservation action;
- Fund and support innovative conservation projects, leadership development and volunteerism to engage people in land, water, and energy conservation;
- Work to produce and report real results for the health of our communities and our planet.

Announced on March 26, 2008 *TogetherGreen* also represents an important alliance between Audubon and Toyota. It's built on our shared belief that we must all work together if we hope to confront the tremendous environmental challenges and opportunities of today and the years ahead. Together, we can make a difference. We invite everyone to get involved through *TogetherGreen*. Act Today. Shape Tomorrow.

## AT FEATHER LAKE

Feather Lake has yet to be fully flooded this year, but it has held at least some water most of the time since mid-March. With water present, we were open to the public from late March through June 1. Our stalwart crew of volunteers during this period included Marshall Carter-Tripp, Lucretia and Eddie Chew, Clarence Cooper, Jane Fowler, Inga and Joe Groff, Bob Johnson, Carlisle Navidomskis, Janet and Mark Perkins, Roxanne Schroeder and John Sproul. Many thanks to all!

With two exceptions, the lake is closed now until September. The exceptions, of course, are our upcoming workdays on **Sat., June 7 and Sat., August 2**. For each session, the gates will open at 8 a.m., but you can come any time to lend a hand. Join us and see Feather Lake at its summer best.



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



To enjoy Bell's Vireos, Painted Buntings, lots of Burrowing Owls and more, visit Rio Bosque Wetlands Park during the summer months. For up-to-date information on what is being seen, check the recent-bird-sightings page on the Park's website, [www.riobosque.org](http://www.riobosque.org).

Upcoming free walking tours at the Park:

- 8 a.m. Sun., June 1 (Bird tour)
- 8 a.m. Sat., June 14 (Introductory tour)

- 8 a.m. Sat., July 12 (Bird tour)
- 8 a.m. Sun., July 20 (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.

For an air-conditioned "walk" through Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, don't forget to visit the **Building a Bosque** exhibit at UTEP's Centennial Museum. It runs through August 16.



**Black-necked Stilt**

# Summer Bird-watching

## Heron Rookery - June 7, 2008



We hope to see Snowy Egrets, Cattle Egrets, and Black-crowned Night Herons sitting in their nests with young. If time permits, we will go to other good birding sites as well.

**Date:** Sat., June 7

**Time:** 7:00 a.m.

**Meet at:** Burlington Coat

Factory front parking lot, at I-10 & Yarborough Exit

**Trip Coordinator:** Ursula

Sherrill 526-7725;

[usherrill@miners.utep.edu](mailto:usherrill@miners.utep.edu)



## Keystone Heritage Park-June 22

Over 200 species of local and migratory birds have been observed by visitors to the pond and riparian shrublands of Keystone Heritage Park. See a variety of ducks and shorebirds there, along with young American Avocets and Black-necked Stilts. Anyone interested in wildlife and wetlands is welcome!



**Date:** Sunday, June 22

**Time:** 7:00 a.m.

**Meet at:** Keystone Heritage Park, 4200 Doniphan

**Trip Coordinator:** Ursula Sherrill

526-7725; [usherrill@miners.utep.edu](mailto:usherrill@miners.utep.edu)

## iGive.com

### HOW IT WORKS

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>

Shop the online 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!

## HUECO TANKS

**Admission:** Hueco Tanks Historical Site \$4

Seniors 65 \$2. Children under 12 **FREE.**

### Bird Identification Tours

Sunday June 15 7:00 AM

Please check in at the Headquarters. Reservations and information 857-1135

**Sunday, July 13, 2008  
Double Sunset Tour**



Sunset Drive at sunset is a good place to see juvenile birds learning survival skills in their new world. We hope to see Mississippi Kites that nest in the area and other bird species in the thickets along Nemexas Drain at Sunset Drive's west end.

**Mississippi Kite (ODNR)**

**Date:** Sunday, July 13

**Time:** 5:00 p.m.

**Meet at:** Crossroad's Pond (corner of Mesa, Doniphan, and Country Club Road)

**Trip Coordinator:** Bob Johnson 751-0125; [wildbirderbob@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wildbirderbob@sbcglobal.net)

**Saturday, August 9, 2008  
Down The Valley**

McNary, Fort Hancock and Tornillo Reservoirs are always good for Gulls, Ducks, Egrets, Cormorants, and Grebes. Quite a few passerine species could also be present, along with birds of prey, such as Harris's Hawk.

**Date:** Saturday, August 9, 2008

**Time:** 7:30 a.m.

**Meet at:** Feather Lake, 9500 North Loop & Bordeaux St., 0.3 miles west of Americas Ave

**Bring a lunch** we'll stop under cottonwood trees at the Tornillo Rest area

**Trip Coordinator:** Ursula Sherrill 526-7725; [usherrill@miners.utep.edu](mailto:usherrill@miners.utep.edu)



**Sat, & Sun, July 26, and 27, 2008  
Water Canyon & Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge**

Travel from the Rio Grande River Valley to the Cibola National Forest. First stop is Bosque del Apache NWR for summer birds such as Neotropic Cormorant, Green Heron, and Cinnamon Teal. Next is the Cibola NF to search for Warbling Vireos and Black-throated Gray Warblers. In the past we have found Red-faced Warblers there. Two side trips will include the Magdalena area for Western Bluebirds and possibly Pinyon Jays, and the Very Large Array Radio Telescope.

**Accommodations:** Campsites in Water Canyon are reserved for us beginning Friday, July 25, in case some folks will arrive early, There are also motels in Socorro, NM.

**Date:** Saturday, July 26

**Time:** 10:30-11:00 a.m.

**Meeting Place:** Bosque del Apache Visitors Center parking lot

**Trip Coordinator:** Ursula Sherrill 526-7725; [usherrill@miners.utep.edu](mailto:usherrill@miners.utep.edu)



Red-faced Warbler

**Sunday, August 17, 2008  
Shore Birds in Northeast El Paso**

Some of the best places to find good birds in El Paso are the watery, muddy areas of Northeast El Paso after late summer rains. In August, shorebird migration is at its peak. Passerine migration may also be underway. We will check Hawk Alley to see if Red-tailed Hawks have started to arrive and if young Swainson's Hawks are still near their nests.

**Date:** August 17, 2008

**Time:** 7:15 a.m.

**Meet at:** The south end of Lowe's parking lot behind Taco Bell

**Trip Coordinator:** To be announced. To sign up, call Ursula Sherrill 526-7725; [usherrill@miners.utep.edu](mailto:usherrill@miners.utep.edu)

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 Ursula Sherrill for details 526-7725**

June

Mon 9: **Board Meeting**

Sat 7: **Feather Lake**

**Heron Rookery**

Sat 14: **Rio Bosque**

Sun 15: **Hueco Tanks**

Sun. 22: **Keystone**

28 & 29: **Keystone**

July

12 & 20: **Rio Bosque**

Sun 13: **Double Sunset**

**No General Meeting**

26 & 27: **Water Canyon**

**Keystone**

August

Sat 2: **Feather Lake**

Sat 9: **Down the Valley**

Mon 11: **Board Meeting**

**No General Meeting**

Sun 17: **Shore Birds, NE**

30 & 31: **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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