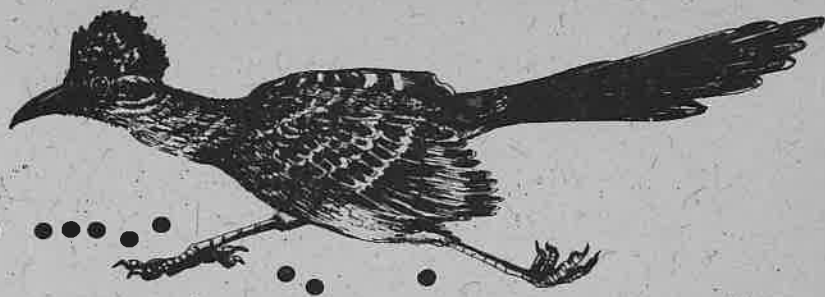


# the ROADRUNNER.....



NEWSLETTER OF  
El Paso Trans-Pecos Audubon Society  
published at  
2809 Hector Drive, El Paso, Texas 79935

November, 1978; Vol. 8, No. 9

R. P. Bleicher, Editor

## CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, November 8 at 7:30 P. M. Union Ballroom, UTEP AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM. Tom Sterling brings his film "SUPERIOR--LAND OF THE WOODLAND DRUMMER." Other dates for these superbly narrated films are: Saturday, February 24, TOM DIEZ "NORTHWEST ADVENTURES"; Thursday, April 12, Walter H. Berlet "WEST SIDE STORY -- MEXICO TO ALASKA." Mark your 1979 calendar.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20 - 7:30 P. M. Monthly meeting at the Garden Center in Memorial Park on Grant Avenue. Joe Guinn will show color slides taken in Hawaii on a recent trip; He will also give us an update on the Franklin Mountains. Future plans for Feather Lake are on the agenda.

FIELD TRIP, November 19, 7:30 A. M. Meet at Tom Lea Park and work the Rim Road area for birds. Rock wrens, quail, towhees.

The Nominating Committee, composed of Bob Dukes, Jeanette Cole and Helen Barto, will be presenting a slate of officers in due time for the election.

Dates for the Christmas Counts will be voted upon at the next meeting.

FIELD TRIP on the 28th of October which met at Feather Lake was well attended and the doughnuts and coffee served by the young Gavits really appreciated. Besides the usual duck species of mallards, pintails, gadwalls, widgeon, green-winged teal, blue-winged teal, cinnamon teal, ruddy duck, redhead were two Common goldeneye and a few ring-necked duck for a nice species variety. Some vegetation is emerging from the lake, promising to make a good habitat for wintering wild fowl. Al and Madeline Gavit, Conrad and Jo Nagel, Jane Fowler, Bob Bleicher, Joe Guinn, Lucile Swick, Sarah Jane Dodd, Geth White and Jeanette Cole were the birders who met at the lake. Going on down the valley to the holding reservoir at Tornillo, the group discovered the lake bed was grown up in weeds and the only water there was runoff from recent rains, creating a marsh effect for about a third of the lake. Pondweed was growing profusely, sunflowers had seedheads and a banquet of weed seeds were being sought after by wintering land birds including white-crowned sparrows, yellow-rumped warblers, song sparrows, a lone scrub jay, verdin, rufous-sided towhee. A quick stop at the Surrat's lake produced some wintering cattle egrets and two snowy egrets among the usual ducks species already sighted at Feather Lake.

Additional species sighted were marsh hawk, grey-headed and Oregon, pardon, dark-eyed juncos, marsh wren, Bewick's wren, empidonax flycatcher, Brewer's blackbird, great-tailed grackle, brown-headed cowbird, pyrrhuloxia and golden eagle. Once you get up, the mild desert sunshine and bright blue sky make chasing birds in winter a great pleasure. Come on and join us -- field trips are fun.

RESTORATION OF RIO GRANDE planned was the caption on a news item in the El Paso Times on November 2. U. S. Commissioner J. F. Friedkin of the Boundary Commission, Presidio and Hudspeth County judges, U. S. Fish and Wildlife, National Audubon Society and other conservation society members met the last week in October at Van Horn to discuss plans for restitution of the boundary of the Rio Grande.

Dr. Albert Canaris and graduate students at UTEP made the study conducted in a six months' period covering the ecology of the river system from El Paso to Presidio. The proposed action, based on the study, would restore segments along the natural alignment of the Rio Grande channel totaling 86 miles to provide a readily identifiable channel to mark the international boundary and would provide for a cleared passageway to pass overflows along 170 miles along each side of the channel. A 25 foot fringe of trees, stabilizing the bank and providing wildlife benefits, would be a part of the plan. Grassing of the passageway and construction of ponds would mitigate wildlife losses. Dr. Dede Armentrout, representing the National Audubon Society, stated that the biological studies performed for the proposed action were thorough.

#### ARIZONA BIRDING CAN GET RARITIES

From "The Phalarope" October, 1978. Georgia Porter moved to Arizona in November, 1977, and sent notes on her birding activities to her colleagues in Midland.

Shortly after moving she made a Christmas Count with the Tucson Audubon Society and saw the Lawrence's Goldfinch -- these pretty birds are abundant when good rains insure a bountiful seed crop.

The Golden-crowned Sparrow was seen in the foothills of the Rincon Mountains just east of Tucson.

In Patagonia she added the Thick-billed Kingbird, the Black Hawk and the Gray Hawk.

In May Mile Hi produced a White-eared Hummingbird; in June she saw the Violet-crowned Hummingbird in the same canyon.

In June she added the visiting Aztec Thrush at Huachuca Canyon for a most cooperative lifer; in July Kathy Grascupin, who was doing her thesis on the Five-striped Sparrow, led us into Chino Canyon about 17 miles south of Green Valley; back to Mile-Hi in July for two Berylline Hummingbirds. She added the Plain-capped Star-Throat at Patagonia which was seen at a feeder at a private home. Most birders would give a pretty penny to have many of the lifers on the sixteen new ones she added in a year in Arizona and it is nice for the birders to live in a state where so many unusual Mexican species stray across the border.

Presumably I mean

John Hodge - (a person who

has attended John's church)

also lives in Irving - you'll meet  
at Boise - John's room at  
in Calgary

for  
OCT 1

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PAID  
PERMIT NO. 2440  
EL PASO, TEXAS

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El Paso, Texas, 79935

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