



ROADRUNNER RAMBLINGS

www.mvaudubon.org

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May 23 Field Trip to Mesilla Park

A field trip, free and open to the public, is planned for Saturday, May 23, at Mesilla Park. We will meet at the Zia Middle School parking lot at McDowell Road and University Ave. at 7 a.m. and travel down McDowell to the park to look for May Migrants in Mesilla. C.J. Goin will lead what has become a very productive field trip in past years. In addition to binoculars, bring bug repellent, a broad brimmed hat, water and, if desired, a snack. The event will end by early afternoon before the heat of the of the day. For more information contact Mark Pendleton at 575-635-8711, mpndltn@gmail.com, or C.J. Goin at 575-202-1354, cjgoin11@gmail.com.



Annual MVAS Potluck & Silent Auction May 20, 5:30 PM

Lorraine Schulte's home
1740 Mariposa
phone 575-524-7029.

Bring a main dish, side dish or dessert to share. A small silent auction of books and pictures will be held. Proceeds will benefit MVAS's education and outreach programs.

Table service, iced tea and water are available; BYOB for other beverages.

MVAS Offers Bird Camp Scholarship to a Youth from Groundworks Doña Ana

For the first time, MVAS will provide a scholarship to a teen or young adult from Doña Ana County to attend a week-long bird camp.

To enhance our education program, the MVAS Board voted to provide tuition and travel to a pool of candidates associated with Groundworks Doña Ana. In the summer of 2014, Groundworks Doña Ana launched an innovative program for teens and young adults to serve the community. These 16- to 24 year-olds worked full-time in partnership with the Las Cruces District Bureau of Land Management building trails, cleaning trash off the public lands and, most importantly, developing conservation interpretation programs for the BLM's recreation sites.

On any given weekend, one of the Groundworks team gave hikes, patio talks or lectures at Dripping Springs or Aguirre Springs.

MVAS will provide one of these terrific students the opportunity to learn more about birds at an Audubon or similar type of bird camp. In return, the student will be required to present an educational program to a local group of middle school students.



MVAS 2015 Scholarship Awarded

MVAS Scholarship Committee has chosen Matt Gould, a PhD student in the Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology department at NMSU, for our 2015 Scholarship.

He is monitoring black bear populations in the American Southwest and northern Mexico with a focus on genetic variation and populations that may exhibit genetic isolation due to habitat loss and other human related activities. Gould will present his findings at the MVAS potluck in 2016.

The MVAS Richard Bischoff Memorial Scholarship was established in 2007, and the first grant awarded in 2008. This year it drew five proposals.

The scholarship supports graduate student research at New Mexico State University that is consistent with the MVAS mission and promotes natural resource conservation.

To maintain this scholarship, contributions are always needed. Send donations to Mesilla Valley Audubon Society, PO Box 1645, Las Cruces, NM 88004. Note "scholarship" on your check memo. The application period runs from March 15 to April 15 each year.

Bye Bye Birdie

MVAS will be on vacation for the months of June and July. Regular meetings will resume in August.

Roadrunner Ramblings is published six times a year — January, March, May, July, September and November. Submissions welcome; please email copy to Judi Schultz, judi626@earthlink.net. Next deadline: June 15. Printed on 100% recycled paper with soy-based inks by **insta-copy printing**. Image credits: roadrunner, Dale Zimmerman; clipart, IMSI's Master Clips/Master Photos© Collection.

Birdathon 2015

During this annual fundraiser, birders raise money by soliciting pledges for the number of species they can see in a 24-hour period. Funds raised support our education and community outreach efforts. You can participate in many different ways: by counting birds, soliciting pledges and/or pledging your own support.

If you want help creating your own team or want to pledge to an existing team, contact Nancy Stotz at 575-521-8087 or nstotz1@comcast.net for more details.

JOIN NOW!

- National Membership (one year): Join both the National Audubon Society and Mesilla Valley Audubon Society for the introductory rate of \$20 (a \$15 savings!). You'll receive both *Audubon Magazine* and *Roadrunner Ramblings*. Make check payable to National Audubon Society (NAS).
- Chapter Membership (one year): Join just the Mesilla Valley Audubon Society for \$15. You'll receive *Roadrunner Ramblings*. Make check payable to Mesilla Valley Audubon Society.

For either option, send a check and your mailing address to:

Membership, MVAS
PO Box 1645
Las Cruces, NM 88004

To receive newsletter via email,
contact Judi Schultz
at judi626@earthlink.net

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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