

ROADRUNNER RAMBLINGS

www.mvaudubon.org

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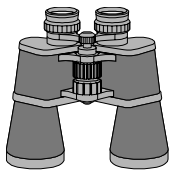
MVAS Programs

Membership meetings and programs are held the third Wednesday of each month at the Village at Northrise, Hallmark Building, 2882 N. Roadrunner Pkwy. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM. Programs begin immediately following the business meeting and announcements. Questions? Contact Katie McLane 523-6317.

Paleo-Environment of the Trackways. September 19.

Fossil finds at the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument, northwest of Las Cruces, have taught us much about the life of the Permian Period in our region. McKinney Briske, Park Ranger with the Bureau of Land Management, will talk about the animals and natural environment that occurred here 280 million years ago.

Manzanos Hawk Watch. October 17. Hawk Watch International has been conducting annual hawk counts and banding operations in the Manzano Mts. south-east of Albuquerque for decades. Ian Dolly will tell us about some of the techniques and findings of this research program, which documents the southbound movement of more than 5000 raptors each fall.



Field Trips

Field trips are free and open to the general public. Entry fees to some areas may be required and driving costs are shared. On all field trips wear appropriate clothing and bring water, sunscreen, and binoculars. Announced trips subject to change—to receive updates and reminders, sign up for the field trip email list, by contacting Mark Pendleton at mpndltn@gmail.com.

Las Cruces Dam. September 22. Nancy Stotz will lead our visit to this 700-acre flood-control facility east of Telshor Blvd. Monsoon rains typically create great habitat for fall migrants behind the dam: Dickcissels, buntings, and sparrows galore, plus shorebirds and ducks if we get enough rain. Fall rarities in recent years have included Red-necked Phalarope, Bobolink, and Eastern Kingbird. Meet in front of Big 5 Sporting

Intro to Birdwatching

MVAS is once again offering its introductory birdwatching course through Doña Ana Community College's Community Education program. The class provides a great introduction to the birds of our region. Through classroom sessions and field trips, we'll help you start identifying local birds, and you'll get an introduction to some of our local birdwatching hotspots. We'll also give you some tips for attracting birds to your yard, information on optical equipment, and a review of various birding publications.

Our classes will be on October 23 and 30, and November 6, from 6:30-8:30 PM, with field trips on October 27, and November 3 and 10. For registration information contact the DACC Community Education program at 527-7527, and be sure to mention our Course Code, HL101.

Goods store (3060 E. Lohman Ave.) at 7:00 AM and be prepared to walk 2 to 3 miles, with some patches of soft sand, and hopefully, sticky mud. For more info, contact Nancy at nstotz1@comcast.net or 575-521-8087.

Manzanos Hawk Watch. October 20. Following up on our October program, MVAS will journey to the Manzano Mts. northeast of Socorro to experience the fall raptor migration and observe banding efforts. More than 5000 raptors, of up to 18 different species, pass over this site each fall. The hawk watch site is about a 5-hour drive from Las Cruces, so some participants may want to consider an overnight stay in Socorro. Logistics were still TBD at press time, but a carpool caravan will also likely be leaving Las Cruces *very early* Saturday morning. For more info, contact Mark Pendleton at mpndltn@gmail.com or 575-635-8711.

8th Annual Gila River Festival Sept. 13-16 in Silver City

Celebrate New Mexico's last free-flowing river.
For schedule of events and registration, contact
575-538-8078 or go to gilaconservation.org

Looking for recent bird sightings? Visit the MVAS website and Facebook page.

www.mvaudubon.org

www.facebook.com/MesillaValleyAudubonSociety

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.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ C2ZQ540Z

Send this form and your check to:

Membership, MVAS
P.O. Box 1645
Las Cruces, NM 88004

Questions about your membership status? Contact Nancy Stotz at 575-521-8087 or nstotz1@comcast.net.

David Henderson Memorial: September 3

New Mexico's conservation community lost a powerful voice with the passing of David Henderson in early August, after a long struggle with cancer. David was Executive Director of Audubon New Mexico for more than 20 years, where he was a strong advocate for environmental education and wildlife conservation. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 pm, September 3rd at the Randall Davey Audubon Center in Santa Fe. If you are planning on attending the service, please RSVP to Juliana Henderson at julianarhenderson@gmail.com. Audubon NM has negotiated a discounted hotel rate at the Lodge at Santa Fe for out-of-town attendees. For those wishing to remember David's legacy, contributions may be made to the "David Henderson Conservation and Education Endowment Fund", c/o Audubon New Mexico, P.O. Box 9314, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

SW Women in Conservation: September 29

This year's event honors Rachel Carson, on the 50th anniversary of the publication of her influential book, *Silent Spring*. Guest speakers will be Elizabeth Grossman, an author and journalist who focuses on hazardous chemicals, and Nadine Padilla, who works on Native American healthcare and environmental issues, including the effects of uranium mines in northern New Mexico. The event will run from 10 AM to 1 PM at the Randall Davey Center in Santa Fe. For more info, see the Audubon NM website at nm.audubon.org or call Maryam Miller at 505-983-4609.

****NOTE: NM Audubon Chapter Conference** at the Rio Grande Natural Center, originally scheduled for 15 September 2012, has been postponed until Spring of 2013.**

Mesilla Valley Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society, is a conservation and natural history organization in southern New Mexico that promotes appreciation and conservation of birds, other wildlife, and habitat, through environmental education, issue advocacy, and natural history experiences.

Board meetings are held monthly, on the Thursday before the 3rd Wednesday at 5:30 PM at the Southwest Environmental Center (on the downtown mall). All Audubon members are welcome.

For contact information for officers and board members, visit our website at

www.mvaudubon.org

**To receive this newsletter
in electronic form, email
nstotz1@comcast.net**

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