



Gambel's Tales

The Newsletter of the Sonoran Audubon Society

Volume 9 Issue 5



January, 2008

At our next meeting....

Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 7 p.m.

Rob Fergus – Common Birds in Decline

All over America many of the common birds are in decline. What you used to see in your backyard everyday, you may now see only once in awhile. Why is this? What is happening?

Come out to this meeting and hear Rob Fergus of the National Audubon Society tell us some of the answers and inform us of what we might be able to do to help.



Rob Fergus

Rob Fergus is a Senior Scientist for the National Audubon Society. He is formerly the founding director of the Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory (www.hornsbybend.org) and was the first executive director of the Travis Audubon Society in Austin, Texas. As a Senior Scientist for Audubon, Rob works on programs to encourage urban, suburban, and rural landowners to create and maintain habitat for birds.

He also works on a range of bird-related issues including avian influenza and windpower, and helps coordinate the Great Backyard Bird Count and eBird. He is co-author of *The Purple Martin* (UT Press: 2002) and lives in Pennsylvania with his wife and their three young birders.

What's Happening in our Chapter?

By Your Editor, George Wall

The Sonoran Audubon Society board meeting convened at 7 p.m. on December 5, 2007. The attendees were board members Bob McCormick, Chuck and Loretta Richards, John Arnett, Eleanor Campbell, Rich Schooler, Andrée Tarby, Suzanne Cash, George Wall and Daniela Yellan.

Committee Reports:

A. Membership: An official report wasn't available, but there were 34 new members and it was noted we now have between 80 and 90 Friends of the Sonoran Audubon Society.

B. Education and Outreach: Darnell Kirksey, Rich Schooler and George Wall led a walk that was attended by a group from of seniors from the Baptist Village Retirement Home. The walk scheduled for December 8, 2007, was cancelled due to weather.

C. Field Trips: The Rocky Point, Mexico, trip was changed from February to January. Eleanor Campbell reported that 18 people attended the Painted Rock trip.

D. Programs: Eleanor Campbell reported that speakers for our general membership meetings are scheduled through May, 2008.

E. Conservation: The USFWS held a public hearing on the Mexican Gray Wolf reintroduction in Glendale on December 8, 2007.

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EVENTS IN AND AROUND THE VALLEY

Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Project

There are bird walks, nature programs and other items of interest. Their location is 2439 S. Central Ave., Phoenix. Check the website at www.phoenix.gov/riosalado.

A birders paradise awaits you just 1/2 mile south of downtown Phoenix! Discover many of the 200 species of birds that have been identified at the Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Area as you walk along the Salt River. Participants will learn the basic skills of binocular use and bird identification before taking an easy 1-2 mile walk around the habitat. Please bring binoculars, camera, and field guides if you have them. The walks for this month are on Sunday, January 6, 2008, Saturday, January 12, 2008 and Sunday, January 20, 2008.

The walks start at 8 a.m. and end at 10 a.m. Meet at the visitors' plaza on the north bank at Central Ave. You should make your reservation in advance by visiting <http://phoenix.gov/PARKS> and click on "classes and programs". You can also call 602-262-6863 and leave a voice mail.

Hassayampa River Preserve

Winter hours are in effect. It's open Wednesday-Sunday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Entrance fees are \$5, TNC members \$3 and children 12 and under are free. For information call 928 684-2772 or e-mail www.bmccollum@tnc.org

On Friday, January 18, 2008, from 8-11 a.m. there is a Birding 103C course on the E's and F's of Birding. Kathe Anderson will be giving this course. It is not necessary to have attended the previous courses.

Learn the fascinating world of bird banding. The first of three sessions presented by master bird bander Anne Leight-Watzek will be held Saturday, January 5, 2008, 9-10 a.m. and then continues with field work from 10:30 a.m.—1 p.m.

There is also an interpretive nature walk on Saturday, January 26, 2008, from 8:30—10 a.m.

Boyce Thompson Arboretum

Boyce Thompson Arboretum is now in their Winter schedule. They have daily tour walks at 1 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday general tours at 10 a.m. Bird walks will begin in February 2008. Their hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. The price of admission is \$7.50 for adults and \$3 for children ages 5-12. For driving directions or other details, call 520-689-2811 or visit their internet website at <http://cals.arizona.edu/BTA/>

Birders' Anonymous

Birders' Anonymous, a group of birdwatchers, has their monthly meeting on Friday, January 18, 2008, from 10 –11:30 a.m. At this month's meeting, George Wall will present his PowerPoint program on his trip to Argentina and Brazil. He gave this program at the October SAS meeting. If you missed it, you may want to come out to the Birders' Anonymous meeting.

They meet on the third Friday of each month **all year around** at the Church of the Palms on the corner of Boswell and 103rd Ave. in Sun City in King Hall. For further information contact George Wall at gwall5@cox.net

Estrella Mountain Park

The Sonoran Audubon Society will provide guides for Bird Walks at Estrella Mountain Park the 4th Sunday of each month through March, 2008. The walks will start at 8 a.m. The January walk will be on January 27, 2008. There is a \$6.00 entrance fee per car.

Desert Botanical Garden

Each Monday morning from now through April, 2008, there will be bird walks from 8 a.m. to approximately 10 a.m. There will be additional walks on the second Saturday of each month at the same time. They see as many as 40 birds during these walks.

Desert Botanical Garden entrance fees of \$10.00 (\$9.00 seniors) apply unless you're a DBG member. Membership is \$55 a year. See their website at www.dbg.org for further information.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Our annual picnic will be on Sunday, March 30, 2008, from noon—3:30 p.m. at Thunderbird Park located just off of 59th Avenue past Melinda Lane in Glendale. This is a free event open to all members and friends of the Sonoran Audubon Society and their guests. We had a great time at the last one.

The SAS will furnish the main items—hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, condiments, drinks, plates, etc.

We request that you register for this event. There will be a sign-up sheet at future meetings. You can also register by calling George Wall at 623-875-7057 or e-mailing him at gwall5@cox.net.

It would also be nice if families brought a side dish like baked beans, salad or dessert.

Join the National Audubon Society

New adult or family membership: \$20.00

Seniors and students: \$15.00

Renewal fee for seniors and students: \$15.00

These fees cover membership in the National Audubon Society and a subscription to Audubon magazine. An application form for National membership may be obtained from the chapter at the regular meeting or by contacting <chuckkan@mindspring.com>.

Each year all National members in the Sonoran Audubon chapter area receive the September *Gambel's Tales* that describes major chapter activities for the year. All monthly issues of *Gambel's Tales* may be obtained free from the chapter website <www.sonoranaudubon.org> or by mail for \$10.00 per year. If you wish to get the newsletter by mail or to be notified when a new issue is placed on the website, please contact chuckkan@mindspring.com or by mail to: Sonoran Audubon Society, P O Box 8068, Glendale, AZ 85312-8068. For Information or questions call 623-939-6181.

SAS Web Site: www.sonoranaudubon.org

Arizona Audubon Web Site: www.az.audubon.org

Desert Rivers Audubon Web Site:

www.desertriversaudubon.org



Sonoran Audubon Society Officers, Board Members and Committee Contacts:

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Committees

Programs: Eleanor Campbell, Bob McCormick and George Wall—See phone numbers and email addresses above.

Education: Eleanor Campbell 623-977-7639

ercamp@juno.com and Rich Schooler 623-930-8904 raschooler@peoplepc.com

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Newsletter: George Wall 623-875-7057 gwall5@cox.net

Conservation: Tina Bickel 623-939-1667

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I SAW THE RUFIOUS POTOO

By Dr. Jerry Theis

In October, 2003, I joined a Neblina Forest tour at Ecuador's Guaponi (Gareno) Lodge, 77 km. east of Tena, Ecuador. One evening, after several days of intense jungle birding, several of the local Huaorani guides informed us that they had located a Rufous Potoo, our most sought after species. This species is a poorly known South American night bird, confined to lowland forest interiors. We enjoyed close-up views of this smallest, most brightly-colored Potoo. However, the real highlight was seeing this nocturnal species at its day roost, perched low on a horizontal branch, under clumps of brownish-speckled leaves. The Rufous Potoo's most unique behavior was observed as it slowly rocked on its sleeping perch to mimic the surrounding leaves as they gently swayed in the breeze, thereby avoiding detection by diurnal predators. The significance of our sighting was verified when we were notified that Peter Kaestner, the world's #3 ranked bird lister, was arriving the next week to search for the Rufous Potoo!



Picture from an old website that had no photo credit

Side note: The rufous potoo is one of five species of living potoos, nocturnal birds that make short flights to catch flying insects. Potoos are named for their wailing cries, which sound like "po-TOO."

FAMILY BIRD WALKS

Members of the Sonoran Audubon Society are conducting FREE monthly family-oriented bird walks at Tres Rios Wetlands in Phoenix on the 2nd Saturday morning of each month. The next walk is scheduled for Saturday, January 12, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. Join other outdoor enthusiasts on an easy hike through the desert, around the ponds and into the woods at this beautiful site. The walks will start at 8 and continue with the last one at 11 a.m.

Leaders will loan binoculars and bird guides and will introduce participants to the fun of birding in an environment ideal for attracting birds. On top of this, **there will be live raptors** furnished by Andrea Nesbitt of the Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center.

Meet at the Tres Rios Wetlands Hayfields Site. The entrance to the site is located on 91st Avenue, one mile south of Broadway Road in Phoenix past the sewage treatment plant on the left just prior to the Salt River. You'll see a yellow gate and a sign to the Hayfield site. Turn in and go about 1/3 of a mile to the end of the dirt road.

Bring your own binoculars if you have them. For more information contact: Rich Schooler at (623) 930-8904 or e-mail raschooler@peoplepc.com.

The December 8th bird walk was cancelled because of rain. Hopefully, we'll have better weather for our next walk.

ARIZONA BIRDS AT RISK

In the December 14th edition of the Arizona Republic, there was a large article on 47 Arizona birds at risk. Also, Audubon Arizona along with the American Bird Conservancy put out a press release on this same subject. What is this?

It's simple, from many sources like the Christmas Bird Count and the annual Breeding Bird Survey, 176 species in the continental U.S. and 38 species in Hawaii have been identified as needing conservation help. 119 are on the "yellow list", meaning they are rare and have drastically declining population and 59 are on the "red list", meaning they are at the greatest risk of extinction. 47 of those spend all or part of their time here in Arizona and 11 of them are on the "red list".

Here's the "red list": Baird's Sparrow, Bell's Vireo,
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What's Happening in our Chapter?

Other Items of Discussion:

A. The date for our annual retreat will be February 2, 2008. It was suggested that we schedule future ones in September. Karen LaFrance will see about getting a facilitator for the coming retreat.

B. A discussion ensued about the picnic that is scheduled for March 30, 2008. There will be a sign-up sheet for reservations at the January general membership meeting as well as e-mail coordination on accepting reservations. More on the picnic very soon.

C. Insurance was again discussed. Loretta was given the go ahead to get us insured as needed.

D. It was announced that Andrea Nesbitt will receive an Award of Excellence at an upcoming AGFD banquet.

E. Bob McCormick requested some input for the 2007 annual report he is compiling. Some of this was given during the meeting.

At the General Membership Meeting, the DVD Video "Hope Takes Wings" was shown and seemed to be well received by the approximately 40 attendees.

TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CARE OF WILD BIRDS

The following was copied from a handout from Jody Kieran of Fallen Feathers.

Keep the bird warm.

The first and most important thing to do when you find an orphaned or injured bird is to warm the bird to a normal temperature. The bird must be warmed before it can be fed!

Place paper towels or rags in the bottom of a box, small cage or other container. Place the bird inside. You may need to use crumpled paper towels to prop up the bird if it is weak so that it is in a safe position.

Place the container on a heating pad set on **low**. If your heating pad has auto-shutoff, be sure to check it to make sure it is still on. If you do not have a heating pad, be sure to keep the bird in the warmest place available, but don't overheat the bird.

Never put water in a bird's mouth!

A bird's airway is located on the bottom of their mouths behind their tongue. Because of the location of the airway, it is not uncommon for the water to go into the bird's airway then to their lungs; if this happens, they could die from aspiration.

Feeding the bird – Do not feed the bird if it is a hummingbird or a raptor, or if the bird is lethargic!

After the bird is warmed, you may want to give a small amount of food. Prepare as listed.

Baby Birds: Take any dry cat or dog food, place it in lukewarm water and wait for it to turn soft. Once the food is softened, take small pieces of the food and squeeze the water out of it so that it is moist but not dripping. You can then place the food in the back center of the bird's mouth; this will give the bird moisture and protein at the same time but avoids the chances of aspiration. The baby bird will need to be fed every 15-20 minutes.

Adult Birds: Because of the various diets that each particular bird eats, it is best to offer a small variety of foods. Seed, fresh fruit and water-moistened dog food can be placed before the bird; allow them to choose which most appeals to them.

CALL US: Fallen Feathers – Rescue, Rehabilitation & Education – 9532 W. Cielo Grande, Peoria, AZ 85383 – 623-533-2348 – www.fallenfeathers.org

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ARIZONA BIRDS AT RISK

California Black Rail, California Condor, Gilded Flicker, Lewis's Woodpecker, "Mexican" Spotted Owl, Mountain Plover and Thick-billed Parrot.

What can you do? Start at home. It may seem indirect, but by conserving energy, for example, you can save habitats from the worst impacts of global warming. Take action for sound environmental policy, urging lawmakers to pass laws to fight global warming, improve farming practices, and save wetlands. And as a volunteer, monitor birds and protect their habitats through citizen science efforts like Audubon's Christmas Bird Count and the Important Bird Areas program. To see all of the information on this subject, go to www.audubon.org.

YOUR EDUCATION COMMITTEE AT WORK

On November 30, 2007, three members of your education committee, Rich Schooler, Darnell Kirksey and George Wall, provided a break to a retired group from the Baptist Village Retirement Home in Youngtown. The group was treated to an overview of the Tres Rios Constructed Demonstration Wetlands in Phoenix. They were also given a talk on the plants, trees and wildlife in the area and then taken to a spot where they could view the birds in the largest pond.



Photo by George Wall

HELP IS NEEDED—Your board can't do it all!

Dan Bohlmann has requested he be replaced on the **Hospitality Committee**. If everyone who attends the meetings would volunteer for a nine month period that we have meetings, the position would be filled for years. Dan currently gets there at 6 p.m. bringing with him an ice chest, coffee pots, utensils and anything else that is needed. Please help out. If you don't, we may have to curtail refreshments.

Chuck Kangas, chairperson of the **Membership Committee** would like someone to take over the Membership Database. He currently receives a database in Excel from the National Audubon Society with updates, deletions and additions. This in turn, has to be incorporated into the File Maker database so that notifications, letters, etc. can be sent out to expired members and new people.

The **Program Committee** needs someone to step in and be the chairperson. Currently Eleanor Campbell and George Wall have been contacting people and firming up the programs. Eleanor and George are on several committees already and they need someone take over the main responsibility of doing this. They can still help, but on a limited basis. The programs are currently scheduled through May 2008; so this would give a new person plenty of time to orient themselves into this position.

Some of the other committees like **Conservation, Education, Publicity and Field Trips** could also use help.

Let's keep the Sonoran Audubon Society a vital influence in our community. You can help in this respect by volunteering in one of the areas mentioned. Take a close look at page 3 of this newsletter and contact any board member or committee member and give your support.

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

The GBBC is just around the corner. It will be held February 15-18, 2008. The following information was taken from the GBBC website at <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual four-day event that engages bird-watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the continent. Anyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes. It's free, fun and easy – and it helps the birds.

How do I participate?

1. Plan to count birds for least 15 minutes during February 15-18, 2008. Count birds at as many places on as many days as you like – just keep a separate list of counts for each day and/or location.
2. Count the greatest number of individuals of each species that you see together at any one time and write it down.
3. Enter your results through the web page listed above.

Statistics from 2007

Total checklists submitted: 81,003
Total species observed: 613
Total individual birds counted: 11,082,387

Here's what Arizona reported in 2007:

Total checklists submitted 2,207
Total species observed 253
Total individual birds counted: 154,865

Highest numbers:

Mourning Dove = 14,933
House Finch = 11,920
Sandhill Crane = 10,560
House Sparrow = 8,394
Gambel's Quail = 7,401

The Great Backyard Bird Count is jointly sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.



GLOBAL WARMING

The following excerpts and picture were taken from an associated press article from the Boston Globe.

Stampedes kill thousands of walrus.

By Dan Joling, A&P | December 15, 2007

ANCHORAGE - In what some scientists see as another alarming consequence of global warming, thousands of Pacific walrus above the Arctic Circle were killed in stampedes earlier this year after the disappearance of sea ice caused them to crowd onto the shoreline in extraordinary numbers.

Unlike seals, walrus cannot swim indefinitely. The giant, tusked mammals typically clamber onto the sea ice to rest, or haul themselves onto land for just a few weeks at a time. But ice disappeared in the Chukchi Sea this year because of warm summer weather.

As a result, walrus came ashore earlier and stayed longer, congregating in extremely high numbers, with herds as big as 40,000 at Point Shmidt, a spot that had not been used by walrus as a "haulout" for a century, scientists said.

Walrus are vulnerable to stampedes when they gather in such large numbers. The appearance of a polar bear, a hunter, or a low-flying airplane can send them rushing to the water.

The reports match predictions of what might happen to walrus if the ice receded, said wildlife biologist Tony Fischbach of the US Geological Survey. "We were surprised that this was happening so soon, and we were surprised at the magnitude of the report," he said.

Scientists said the death of so many walrus - particularly calves - is alarming in itself. But if the trend continues, and walrus no longer have summer sea ice from which to dive for clams and snails, they could strip coastal areas of food, and that could reduce their



Winter/Spring 2008 Field Trips

An * indicates a Birders' Anonymous planned trip

REQUIREMENT: On all trips, make reservations by calling or e-mailing the leader. The leader can then give updated information as to the meeting place, times, etc. Also, some trips are limited in size.

Saturday, January 5, 2008

Southern Avenue Ponds

Leader: Donna Smith 623-556-9535 rms15247@cox.net

This is a morning trip only. There are 2 ponds located off Southern Avenue. Last year some odd waterfowl turned up – a Barrow's Goldeneye and a Cackling Goose. Meet at Sun Bowl Parking lot on 107th Ave. just south of Peoria Ave. in Sun City to LEAVE at 8:00 a.m. Call leader for alternate meeting site.

Difficulty: 1

***Tuesday, January 15, 2008**

P.I.R and Area

Leader: George Wall – 623-875-7057 gwall5@cox.net

The marshes near the Phoenix International Raceway still provide refuge for shore and water birds. Walk on the old road to PIR to look for resident Belted Kingfisher, Osprey, egrets, ducks and others. Look for raptors and field birds enroute. Meet at Sun Bowl Parking lot on 107th Ave. just south of Peoria Ave. in Sun City to LEAVE at 8:00 a.m.

Difficulty: 1 Morning only.

Tues., Wed. & Thur. - January 22-24, 2008

Rocky Point, Mexico

Leaders: Rich Schooler - 623-930-8904

raschooler@peoplepc.com, Chuck Richards 623-594-6554 carichards@nowonline.net & Dick Fogle - 623-584-3922 rpfogle@yahoo.com

You want to see a lot of Shore Birds? Then you want to go on this trip to Mexico. You'll need a passport if you want to come back. Call a leader for details. **THIS TRIP IS NOW FULL.**

Wednesday, January 30, 2008

Pebble Creek Ponds

Leader: Barb Meding – 623-266-1847

Join us for Ducks and lunch on January 30th. No – not ducks for lunch!

We will explore the ponds of Pebble Creek for wintering ducks. In the past there have been grebes, herons, 10 species of ducks, and of course local land birds.

We will be driving from spot to spot with very little walking. Afterwards, if you wish, we can have lunch at Toscana's, a nice restaurant in Pebble Creek.

(Between Litchfield road and Highway 303). Contact the leader Barb Meding for further instructions to the meeting place.

Difficulty: 1

Friday, February 8, 2008

Salome Road

Leader: Eleanor Campbell - 623-977-7639

ercamp@juno.com

Search for several species of thrashers and gnat-catchers known to be found in this desert habitat west of Phoenix. A variety of sparrows, raptors and other field birds should be seen.

Difficulty: 1 Call leader for meeting place and time.

Saturday, February 16, 2008

Arlington Area

Leader yet to be determined

Arlington Valley west of Phoenix and south of Arlington with its fields, ponds, canals, a dam, and a desert butte provides a variety of habitats to search for birds. On the North American Spring Migration bird count in May, 2003, a White Ibis was seen amidst the Great Egrets, swallows, blackbirds, raptors and sparrows.

Difficulty: 1

***Wednesday, February 20, 2008**

Tres Rios

Rich Schooler - 623-930-8904

raschooler@peoplepc.com

The Tres Rios Constructed Wetlands Project located at the 91st Ave. Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Salt River is a haven for many bird species. The habitats include open water, running stream, marsh, desert and woodland which provide a good environment at any time of year for ducks, shorebirds, and migrating passerines.

Difficulty: 1, morning only. Call leader for time and meeting place.

Wed.—Fri., May 21,-23, 2008

Portal and Cave Creek

The Portal and Cave Creek area is located in South-eastern Arizona. The area offers a multitude of bird habitats as well as magnificent views of beautiful vistas. There will be a local leader for this trip (Melody Kehl) who has led us once before. Contact: Donna Smith 623-556-9535 rms1524@cox.net for details.

Note: Trip is full, but there is a waiting list.

BIRDING AND NATURE FESTIVALS

Wings over Willcox January 17-20, 2008 – Willcox, AZ

This festival combines adventure, entertainment and education to provide a fun-filled weekend of birding pleasure for the novice, expert or curious. From the rugged peaks of the Dos Cabezas Mountains to Middle March Pass of the Dragoon Mountains, nature is one of southeastern Arizona's greatest attractions. The Sulphur Springs Valley, which lies between these two mountain ranges, is home to a great variety of plant and animal life. It is this diversity that draws nearly 500 species of birds to Cochise County. Every year, thousands of nature enthusiasts from around the world come to the valley to enjoy this wonderful attraction. The Magic Circle of Cochise, which begins and ends in Willcox, offers the birding enthusiast the opportunity to visit some of the best birding attractions in southeastern Arizona. See their website at www.wingsoverwillcox.com

San Diego Bird Festival February 6-11, 2008 - Marina Village Conference Center in Mission Bay, CA

The San Diego Audubon Society is sponsoring the 12th San Diego Bird Festival. The banquet keynote speaker will be Kenn Kaufman, photographer and author. They have added several new trips and workshops and are repeating our most popular events. For further details see the website www.sandiegoaudubon.org/birdfest

Tres Rios Nature & Earth Festival March 15-16, 2008 – B&M area by Phoenix International Raceway (P.I.R.)

This festival is a two-day outdoor event that focuses on the rich diversity of wildlife, habitat, history and culture of the Gila River drainage. Join us March 15-16, 2008, on the River at B&M Wildlife Area, just north of Phoenix International Raceway. Discover a world of wildlife, history and culture in your own back yard! See the website at www.tresriosnaturefestival.com

Yuma Birding and Nature Festival April 16-20, 2008

Yuma hosts the Yuma Birding and Nature Festival. You can bird by boat along the Colorado River, bird in nearby Mexico and view the many delightful migrants to be found this time of year in the Yuma area. There's even a dunes trip guaranteed to round up some fascinating reptiles and insects.

There are lots of trips like one down into Mexico to the Cienega de Santa Clara, a wildlife refuge. See picture.

See Website at www.yumabirding.org



Cienega de Santa Clara—Photo by George Wall

Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival April 24-27, 2008 - Dead Horse State Park

Despite its distinctive name, Dead Horse Ranch is situated amidst an abundance of life along the Verde River. A six-mile reach of the river is known as the Verde River Greenway. Its unique ecosystem, the Cottonwood / Willow riparian gallery forest, is one of less than 20 such riparian zones in the world. Life along the river changes with the seasons, giving visitors a glimpse of the numerous species of raptors, neotropical migrants, resident songbirds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. See the website at www.birdyverde.org

Festival of the Hummingbirds May, 2008 Tucson, AZ

More on this festival later.

Southwest Birding and Nature Festival August, 2008 Sierra Vista, AZ

More on this festival later

Monterey Bay Birding Festival September 26-28, 2008 Watsonville, CA

Join us for the 4th annual Monterey Bay Birding Festival, headquartered in Watsonville, California. Participate with Central Coast birding enthusiasts in a full weekend of activities centered in the Pajaro Valley, heart of the Monterey Bay's world-renowned birding area 95 miles south of San Francisco. Over 220 species found in 2007.

Sign up for guided outings to: Watsonville Wetlands, Monterey Bay, Elkhorn Slough, Pajaro River and Dunes, Moss Landing State Beach, Big Sur, Sunset Beach, Santa Cruz Coast, Pinnacles National Monument and Carmel River. See website at <http://www.montereybaybirding.org/>

Calendar of Monthly Meetings...

**Location: Auditorium, Glendale Public Library, 5959 West Brown Street
(one block south of Peoria Ave. & 59th Ave. intersection) Time: 6:30 p.m. for socializing and
7 p.m. for the start of the meeting and program**

January 9, 2008—Rob Fergus (NAS): Common Birds in Decline

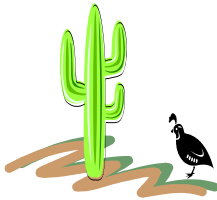
February 13, 2008—Moez Ali: Birds of Kenya

March 12, 2008—Mike Quigley: Sky Island Alliance

April 9, 2008—Rich Ockenfels: South African Adventure

May 14, 2008—Rob Smith: Global Warming

Other Dates of Interest January 2, 2008, 6:45 p.m. Board Meeting at Glendale Library in the small meeting room – all SAS members welcome. AAC Meeting - January 12, 2008. Retreat - February 2, 2008, Hassayampa from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Sonoran Audubon Society

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