



Gambel's Tales

The Newsletter of the Sonoran Audubon Society

Volume 9 Issue 3

November, 2007

At our next meeting....

Wednesday, November 14, 2007 at 7 p.m.

Birding in Florida presented by Barb Winterfield

Barb is a Software Engineer and amateur birder. She became interested in birds growing up in Kansas. She would spend hours lying outside watching the huge flocks of birds migrate overhead in the fall. Her father taught her some of the local birds, but she didn't study them at that time. It wasn't until she moved to Arizona and visited Ramsey Canyon in 1991 that she and her husband became interested in birding.



They do the majority of their birding in the Phoenix area and their state list is roughly 390. However, they have birded a fair amount in California, Kansas, Indiana, Illinois, and Florida. They have ventured outside the US but mostly on guided tours: Kenya, Costa Rica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Mexico.

She and her sister, Daniela, went on a birding trip in Southern Florida in June. The program that will be presented will mostly cover this trip.

What's Happening in our Chapter?

By Your Editor, George Wall

The Sonoran Audubon Society board meeting convened at 7 p.m. on September 5, 2007. The attendees were board members Bob McCormick, Chuck and Loretta Richards, Eleanor Campbell, Suzanne Cash, Dick Fogle, George Wall, Andrée Tarby and our new secretary John Arnett. Tice Supplee also attended and provided input.

Committee Reports:

A. **Membership:** Totals weren't available, but membership has gone down.

B. **Education and Outreach:** Everything is ready for the Family Bird Walk on the 13th. The next meeting of the committee is Saturday, November 3, 2007, at 1 p.m. in the small conference room of the Glendale Library.

C. **Field Trips:** Nothing new to report.

D. **Programs:** The January 2008 program has been confirmed. Our speaker will be Rob Fergus of the National Audubon Society.

Other Items of Discussion:

A. The date for our annual retreat has been set for January 19, 2008, but the place where we'll meet is yet to be determined.

B. The date for our annual picnic will be Sunday, March 30, 2008, at Thunderbird Park. More on this later.

At the General Membership Meeting, the program on Birding in Brazil and Argentina was a well-received PowerPoint program depicting 90 species of birds.

If you have any ideas for possible programs, please contact one of the program committee members shown on page 3.

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 Saturdays, November 3rd and 24th.

The walk starts at 8 a.m. and ends 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.

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.desertbotanical.org for further information.

Hassayampa River Preserve

Winter hours began on September 15, 2007. 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

For November there is a Birding 103B course exploring the E's and F's of birding on Friday, November 16, 2007. You'll be carpooling from Hassayampa at 6:30 a.m. as the course will be held in Prescott. Be sure and call for reservations.

Bird Banding: Saturday, November 3, 2007, and Sunday, November 11, 2007. Bird banding takes place at 7 a.m. both days.

The interpretative nature walk takes place on Saturday, November 24, 2007, from 8:30—10 a.m.

If you're not into this, how about a Lizards, Snakes & Frogs program. Paul Hamilton who is director of Reptiles Research at ASU West will be giving the program on Saturday, November 10, 2007, from 9-10:30 a.m.

Boyce Thompson Arboretum

Boyce Thompson Arboretum is now in their Fall/Winter schedule. They have bird walks and other programs. 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/>



Magma Ridge

The high trail along Queen Creek Canyon is one of the most scenic vistas in the park. It offers views of Magma Ridge, the beautiful riparian area of Queen Creek Canyon.

Birders' Anonymous

Birders' Anonymous, a group of birdwatchers, has their monthly meeting from 10—11:30 a.m. 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. Their next meeting will be on November 16, 2007, and Tom Gatz will present a program on Birds of the Antarctic.

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 November walk will be on the 25th. There is a \$6.00 entrance fee per car.

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



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mcbobaz@aol.com

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Committees

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

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Hummingbird Fly Zone

By George Wall from an idea submitted by Jim Treece

Have you ever lived in a Ruby-throated Hummingbird fly zone? I have and it's quite an experience. My wife and I lived in Montgomery, Alabama, for many years prior to moving to Arizona. Every year, we'd put up several hummingbird feeders just outside our patio room filled with nectar waiting for the fly through and when they came – WOW. We had as many as 50 at the three feeders lining up waiting to land on an empty feeder spot like aircraft waiting to land at an airport.

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds don't chase off other hummers when they are flying through to the Gulf Coast and then off over the water to Mexico. They tolerate each other. These hummers are mostly on the east side of the Mississippi, but they can stray. As seen by the picture below, they have a black chin and bright red throat. They look very much like a Black-chinned Hummingbird which has a purple throat but can sometimes look red.

I hadn't thought of this until Jim Treece sent me some pictures and a short article he got from a friend.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Abigail Alfano of Pine, Louisiana, also lives in a humming bird fly zone, but she did something that I never thought of doing. She put a little red cup in her hand with sugar water in it and here is the result.

She said that the hummers were light as a feather. Her husband took the picture shown above.

Just for your information, there are approximately 338 species of hummingbirds found so far. I've seen 96 species which means I have a long way to go to see them all.

FIRST FAMILY BIRD WALK

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, November 10, 2007, 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 natural site.

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.**

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.

At the October 13th walk, we only had a few people show up because of road construction blocking 91st Avenue near Tres Rios. The construction will be finished way before the next walk in November.

It was a beautiful morning when members of the Education Committee arrived to set up the canopy and tables and displays. On display also were a live Burrowing Owl and Red-tailed Hawk provided by the Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center.



Canopy Setup

Walks were made around the area and ponds and a total of 29 species were seen including a Peregrine Falcon, Osprey, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher and several varieties of water birds.

BIRD WATCHERS, READ THIS

Kristen Wyatt – Associated Press – 30 Sep 07

DEAL ISLAND, Md. — Jim Rapp has one hand on the wheel and the other holding a pair of binoculars as he drives his truck slowly down a gravel drive on the banks of a Chesapeake Bay marsh.

"Do you see that? Right there?" he whispers, excitedly pointing to a black-and-white bird dabbling its beak in the mud. "That's a black-necked stilt. Wow. Oh, wow!"



Black-necked Stilt—Photo by George Wall

Not since the days of John James Audubon have birds gotten so much attention from naturalists. While hunting and fishing are declining in popularity, the old-fashioned act of bird-watching is hot again as people look for outdoor activities that don't require a lot of equipment or training.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which tracks wildlife recreation, bird-watching is now a hobby of 47.8 million Americans, with "wildlife watching" up 8 percent from 2000 to 2006. The bird-watching trend comes as both hunting and fishing declined in popularity, by 4 percent and 12 percent, respectively, over the same period.

More than 20 states have created "birding trails" since 2000 to guide newcomers to good spots to watch fowl. Outfitters that once specialized in hunting expeditions or horseback riding are branching out to offer trips focusing on feathery critters, too

"Birds are everywhere. You don't have to go to the Serengeti to see birds. You can see them right in your back yard," says Nancy Severance, spokeswoman for the New York-based Audubon Society, which promotes habitat protection and birding.

Tourism officials attribute the rise in bird-watching in part to a graying population. Some baby boomers want to get outside and see wildlife in their retirement years but don't want to take up a new, strenuous hobby.

"It's a chance to be outdoors and be active, but it doesn't require all the exertion of tennis or something," said Tom Wood, naturalist for the Southeastern Arizona Bird Observatory in Bisbee, Ariz. "You can be alone, do it as a couple, take the kids — it takes all different forms."

Wood said bird-watching has long been a hidden hobby, but since Texas' trails took off, tourism officials now recognize the value of attracting birders. Birders may not need expensive equipment, but they have money to spend. Americans spent \$45 billion observing, feeding and photographing wildlife in 2006, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service survey. And since the hobby requires no expensive infrastructure, rural towns across the nation are looking to attract birders.

"These folks are well-educated and well-compensated, and they will spend money if they have the opportunity," said Mary Jeanne Packer, a project manager for ecotourism company Fermata Inc. Packer has consulted on the creation of birding trails in Alabama, Louisiana, Illinois and New York. She said towns are eager to attract birders because birders tend to be affluent and seek out local businesses.

"They want to stay at a local inn with high-speed Internet. They want to eat at a restaurant with a nice wine list. They want to shop for local pottery. And they are a very thoughtful group that believes in leaving no trace, so they don't require a lot of municipal services to clean up after them."

BACKYARD BIRD COUNTER

Have you ever thought about being a backyard bird counter for the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Project FeederWatch. The new season starts November 10, 2007.

You can get info and sign up at the following web site: <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/>

!Que Ganga !
By Charles Kangas

The title for this message from your membership chairman is Spanish for "What a bargain!" Yes, the senior membership fee to become a member of the National Audubon Society is a great bargain at only \$15.00. For the \$15.00 one becomes a member of both the National Audubon Society and the Sonoran Audubon Society and will also receive the Audubon magazine six times a year. Further, if you use the application found on our web page, the Sonoran Audubon chapter will receive \$15.00 cash from National. Also, the fee for non-seniors is only \$20.00 and is also a wonderful bargain. The application found on our web page contains our chapter code of B07 which directs national to credit our chapter for the full amount of the membership fee. You thus not only join both the National Audubon Society and the Sonoran Audubon Society but also, are at the same time, donating the full amount of your membership fee to our chapter.

As your membership chair, I've been worried about the declining membership in our chapter and thinking of ways to reduce this trend. One of the ways is to remind our members of the inexpensiveness of becoming an Audubon member. Have any of you recently compared Audubon membership dues with those of other organizations? Let's get the word out about Audubon membership!

Christmas is coming up shortly. A gift all of us can make to our friends, siblings, children, and grandchildren is an Audubon membership. If you fill out the application from our web page with our chapter code you are not only giving a gift membership to that person but also at the same time making a donation to our chapter.

For your convenience a copy of the application for membership is found below.

-
- YES**, I want to join the National Audubon Society at the special Introductory Rate of \$20
 - As a senior citizen or student, I am eligible to join for only \$15
 - I wish to make an additional donation of: \$ _____

Method of Payment:

- My payment is enclosed
- Please bill me.

Please complete and return:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ ST _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____

Make checks payable to National Audubon Society. Dues include \$10 for Audubon Magazine. Please allow 4-6 weeks from receipt of payment to receive your first issue of Audubon.

- I do not wish to receive Audubon magazine.
- The National Audubon Society occasionally makes its membership lists available to carefully selected organizations whose mailings you might find of interest. To have your name omitted from this list, please check here.

Chapter Code B07

Please mail this application to National Audubon Society,
Membership Data Center
PO Box 510005
Boulder, Colorado 80323-1005

ARIZONA (& VICINITY) CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT SCHEDULE [2007-2008]

The National Audubon Society has conducted Christmas bird counts since 1900. Volunteers from across North America and beyond take to the field during one calendar day between December 14 and January 5 to record every bird species and individual bird encountered within a designated 15-mile diameter circle. These records now comprise an extensive ornithological database that enables monitoring of winter bird populations and the overall health of the environment.

Participants are typically assigned to teams based on their bird identification skill level and endurance. Many counts hold a compilation dinner at the end of the day where results are tabulated and stories shared. A \$5.00 participation fee defrays a portion of the cost of tabulating and publishing the overall count results. Help is needed on most of these counts, so find one that interests you and contact the compiler for more information.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Count Name</u>	<u>Compiler</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
12/14	Fr	Buenos Aires NWR	Bonnie Swarbrick	520-823-4251	bonnie_swarbrick@fws.gov
12/14	Fr	Pipe Spring Nat. Monument	Andrea Bornemeier	928-643-7105	andrea_bornemeier@nps.gov
12/14	Fr	Salt-Verde Rivers	Kurt Radamaker	480-837-2446	kurtrad@mexicobirding.com
12/15	Sa	Avra Valley	Mary Lou Cole	520-578-0114	birdingnana@msn.com
12/15	Sa	Martinez Lake-Yuma	Henry Detwiler	928-210-6474	henrydetwiler@earthlink.net
12/15	Sa	Mormon Lake	Elaine Morrall	928-526-1022	elaimorr@npgcable.com
12/15	Sa	Nogales	Michael Bissontz	520-577-8778	seetrogon@comcast.net
12/15	Sa	Payson	Dave Hallock	928-474-9475	eldoradh@rmi.net
12/15	Sa	Santa Catalina Mountains	Bob Bates	520-296-5629	batesr@u.arizona.edu
12/15	Sa	Timber Mesa	Jimmy Videle	928-337-2466	moonrise@wmonline.com
12/16	Su	Chino Valley	Russell Duerksen	928-925-5567	duerksen@msn.com
12/16	Su	Hassayampa River	Vanessa Montgomery	623-465-0012	hassayampacbc@hotmail.com
12/16	Su	Jerome-Cottonwood	Betsy Feinberg	928-203-0676	betsyfpub101@catharon.com
12/16	Su	Tucson Valley	Larry Liese	520-743-3520	larryliese@prodigy.net
12/17	Mo	Elfrida	Tom Wood	520-432-1388	tom@sabo.org
12/19	We	Prescott	Carl Tomoff	928-778-2626	tomoff@northlink.com
12/20	Th	Phoenix-Tres Rios	David Powell	602-441-5508	vireo@vireos.com
12/21	Fr	Saint David	Tom Wood	520-432-1388	tom@sabo.org
12/22	Sa	Ajo-Cabeza Prieta NWR	Curt McCasland	520-387-4992	curtis_mccasland@fws.gov
12/22	Sa	Patagonia	Abbie Zeltzer	520-394-2921	azeltzer@theriver.com
12/27	Th	Gila River	Troy Corman	602-482-6187	aplomado@cox.net
12/28	Fr	Green Valley-Madera Canyon	Reid Freeman	520-625-9895	wallcreeper@cox.net
12/28	Fr	Havasu NWR	Norma Miller	520-578-1399	n8urnut@comcast.net
			DeeDee DeLorenzo	928-758-2707	poncho@citlink.net
12/29	Sa	Bill Williams River NWR	Kathleen Blair	928-667-4144	kathleen_blair@fws.gov
12/29	Sa	Dudleyville	Doug Jenness	520-909-1529	d_jenness@hotmail.com
12/29	Sa	Flagstaff-Mount Elden	Terry Blows	928-774-8028	terence.blows@nau.edu
12/29	Sa	Portal	Larry Gates	520-558-1020	hummers@vtc.net
12/29	Sa	Ramsey Canyon	Ted Mouras	520-803-0221	tedmourast@mindspring.com
12/29	Sa	Sierra Pinta-Cabeza Prieta NWR	Curt McCasland	520-387-4992	curtis_mccasland@fws.gov
12/30	Su	Sedona	Dottie Hook	928-204-1894	dottiehook1@aol.com
1/2	We	Carefree	Walter Thurber	480-483-6450	wathurber@cox.net
1/3	Th	Glen Canyon	John Spence	928-608-6267	john_spence@nps.gov
1/4	Fr	Superior	Cynthia Donald	480-283-4515	planres@earthlink.net
1/5	Sa	Appleton-Whittell	Robert Weissler	520-803-0794	wissler@aves.org
1/5	Sa	Camp Verde	Anita MacFarlane	928-282-4063	ajmac@sedona.net
			Betsy Feinberg	928-203-0676	betsyfpub101@catharon.com

Other Nearby Counts

12/15	Sa	Puerto Penasco, Sonora, MX	Steve Ganley	480-830-5538	sganley@cox.net
12/30	Su	Peloncillo Mountains, NM	Tony Godfrey	520-558-3350	kingbird@vtc.net

If you want to see the various sites on a map, Maricopa Audubon has the info. Go to www.maricopaaudubon.org

Our New Secretary is

John Arnett who was born in Orlando, Florida, but he spent many childhood summers in the southern Appalachians of western North Carolina. It was in these mountains that he became interested in birding around the age of 9. John has BS and MS degrees in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Florida and he does, in fact, bleed orange and blue. He has worked on bird and many of other wildlife-related research projects in Florida, Georgia, Arizona, Brazil, and Chile. He is currently working as a wildlife biologist for Luke Air Force Base where his primary task is to manage the natural resources of the Barry M. Goldwater Range.



John Arnett

WHOOPIING CRANES

On October 15, 2007, in the Arizona Republic, there was a little article that caught my eye. It stated, "They're off again. For the seventh year, young whooping cranes took off from a Wisconsin wildlife refuge, led by ultralight aircraft on a 1,250-mile journey to Florida. This time, the project to establish a second migratory flock of the endangered birds in North America is recovering from a Florida storm last winter that killed all but one of the 18 young cranes. The survivor died later."

The video program to be shown on December 12, 2007, "Hope Takes Wings" is about this type of journey. I hope you come out to watch it.

Fall 2007 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, November 3, 2007**

McCormick Ranch Lakes & Pavilion Ponds

Leader: Dick Fogle 623-584-3922

rpfogle@yahoo.com

McCormick Ranch is a master planned community in North Scottsdale. It has several lakes/ponds with grassy areas and trees to explore. In this urban setting there are always wintering ducks and Canada Geese and occasionally some rarities. We should see large flocks of American Wigeon. There is also the Pavilion Ponds near a shopping center that has plenty of waterfowl. Difficulty: 1 Morning only. Meet at Bell Recreation Center, SW corner of parking lot (Boswell and Hutton Dr. one block south of Bell Rd.) in Sun City to LEAVE at 7:00 a.m. or call the leader for a meeting place farther east.

Saturday, November 17, 2007

Gilbert Water Ranch

Leaders: Chuck and Loretta Richards

623-594-6554 carichards@nowonline.net

The Gilbert Water Ranch is one of the Valley's better winter birding places. The ponds attract large numbers of ducks and shore birds. There are many common permanent valley birds, plus lots of other winter migrants.

The trails are well maintained, graveled and level. Fifty plus birds are usually seen or heard on trips to this site.

Difficulty: 1 Morning only.

Be sure to contact the leader to register and arrange carpooling. Meet at Lowe's parking lot on Thunderbird just west of 83rd Ave. by the Burger King. There is lots of parking available. We plan to leave at 7:00 a.m.

Thursday, November 29, 2007

Painted Rock Dam/Petroglyph Site

Leader: Eleanor Campbell 623-977-7639 [er-](mailto:er-camp@juno.com)

[camp@juno.com](mailto:er-camp@juno.com)

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Fall 2007 Field Trips

This area is located approximately 90 miles from Phoenix near Gila Bend. Not only can you look at birds, there is also a nearby petroglyph site along with picnic tables and a restroom.

Call leader for details and to make reservations.

Plan now for this trip as space will be limited to 12 participants: **Portal and Cave Creek** in SE Arizona on **May 21-23, 2008**, (Wednesday-Friday), 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.

The Portal and Cave Creek area is located in Southeastern Arizona. The area offers a multitude of bird habitats as well as magnificent views of beautiful vistas. The Elegant Trogon nests along Cave Creek regularly. Grace's, Virginia's and Black-throated Gray Warblers and Painted Redstart may be seen. The Arizona Woodpecker is common. The Magnificent Hummingbird as well as several other species of hummers should be present along with several vireos and flycatchers. The Elf owl and Western Screech will certainly be heard and possibly seen. Besides the many national forest trails and campgrounds to explore there are private residents who welcome visitors to their backyards to view birds and they have put up feeders just for this purpose. This spot offers a range of ecological communities from desert and grassland through pine/oak woodlands, piñon/juniper, and cottonwood riparian areas—each providing a unique habitat for birds.

On our last trip to this area in June 2004, we saw 97 species. Check out the trip report on our website.

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.wingsoverwilcox.com

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

The San Diego Audubon Society is sponsoring the 12th San Diego Bird Festival. Our banquet keynote speaker will be Kenn Kaufman, photographer and author. We 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. See Website at www.yumabirding.org

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

Southwest Birding and Nature Festival August, 2008 – Sierra Vista

Calendar of Monthly Meetings...

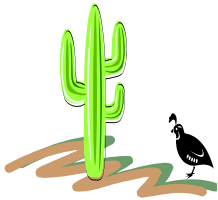
**Location: Auditorium, Glendale Public Library, 5959 West Brown Street
(one block south of Peoria Ave. & 59th Ave. intersection) Time: 6:30 p.m. for socializing and
7 p.m. for the start of the meeting and program**

November 14, 2007—Barb Winterfield: Birding in Florida

December 12, 2007—"Hope Takes Wings" DVD Video

January 9, 2008—Rob Fergus (NAS): Audubon at Home

Other Dates of Interest November 7, 2007, 6:45 p.m. Board Meeting at Glendale Library in the small meeting room. All SAS members welcome.



Sonoran Audubon Society

P.O. Box 8068

Glendale, AZ 85312-8068