

ROADRUNNER RAMBLINGS

www.mvaudubon.org

Volume 35, No. 3. May-June 2013

Mesilla Valley Audubon Society Newsletter

Education Happenings

Since agreeing to become the MVAS Education Chair at our February meeting, CJ Goin has been busy. During March and April, he led 9 educational programs, including several in partnership with New Mexico State Parks and Audubon New Mexico. The programs also included a presentation to the NMSU Wildlife Society and an introductory program about birds for a local group of American Heritage Girls.

CJ has also committed to helping with four more Audubon New Mexico Programs before the end of the school year, so the first couple weeks of May will be busy for him as well.

If you are interested in helping CJ with these important outreach and educational events, contact him at 575-202-1354 or cjgoin11@gmail.com.

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 Jennifer Montoya 526-1320.



Annual Potluck. May 15. See announcement to right, above.

Conserving Migratory Birds through International Partnerships: A Full Life-Cycle Approach. June 19. Carol Beidleman, Audubon New Mexico's new Director of Bird Conservation, will talk about her past work in conserving shared migratory bird species through local, national, and international partnerships. Her program helped to protect migratory birds and their habitats in national parks and protected areas in the U.S., Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada, employing a full life-cycle approach. Carol's presentation will include New Mexico projects and species shared with Mexico and Central America.

Annual MVAS Potluck May 15, 5:30 PM

at Lorraine Schulte's home,
1740 Mariposa (phone 524-7029)

Bring a main dish, side dish, or dessert to share. If you've got them, a couple of folding chairs or TV tables would be helpful too.

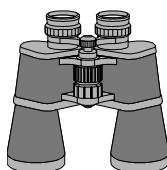
Table service, iced tea, and coffee will be provided; BYOB for other beverages.

North American Migration Count: May 11

This annual spring bird count samples diverse habitats throughout Doña Ana County. To volunteer, contact Marcy Scott at mtscott44@aol.com or 575-541-8083.

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.



Ditches and Driveways: May Migration in Mesilla. May 18 (tentative). MVAS's own David Griffin has tentatively agreed to lead this trip depending on his academic schedule on the 18th. Volunteers are being accepted just in case he can't do it. We'll meet in the parking lot of Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 East Picacho Ave. at 06:00 to leave at 06:15 (sunrise is 06:06). Carpooling can be arranged beforehand or on the spot. The usual reminders about comfortable walking clothes, shoes and broad-brimmed hats along with sunscreen, water, and snacks all apply. Many different warblers, woodpeckers, Inca Doves, bluebirds and many more species are possible. Information: Mark Pendleton mpndltn@gmail.com or 575.635.8711.

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

www.mvaudubon.org

www.facebook.com/MesillaValleyAudubonSociety

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. All Audubon members are welcome.

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

www.mvaudubon.org

Excellence in Teaching Award

At our April program meeting, Gregory Contaldo, a science teacher at Gadsden High School, was awarded the 16th Annual Lorraine Schulte Excellence in Teaching Award. This \$250 award recognizes a teacher who makes an extra effort to help his or her students learn to appreciate and care for the natural world. In his classes, Mr. Contaldo has his students do hands-on field ecology research projects, and uses classroom laboratory experiments to explore the mechanisms of climate change.

Birdathon Reminder

As announced in the recent statewide newsletter, Birdathon, our largest annual fundraiser, will be held in May. If you want help creating your own team or want to pledge to another team, contact Nancy Stotz at 575-521-8087 or nstotz1@comcast.net.

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

Roadrunner Ramblings is published six times a year: January, March, May, July, September, and November. Submissions welcome; please email copy to nstotz1@comcast.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.

Mesilla Valley Audubon Society
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JOIN NOW!

Choose one of two membership options:

- 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.

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

Name_____

Address_____

City_____

State_____ Zip_____

Email_____ C3ZQ540Z

Send this form and your check to:

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