

# ROADRUNNER RAMBLINGS

www.mvaudubon.org

Volume 34, No. 3. May-June 2012

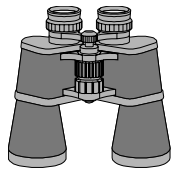


### MVAS Programs

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

**Annual Potluck. May 16.** See announcement to right.

**Birding in Yosemite. June 20.** Carol Campbell, Associate Professor of Geography, will present photographs of birds, wildlife and scenery from her summers doing bird surveys in Yosemite National Park.



### 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 mpndltm@gmail.com.

**Camp Robledo. May 19.** C.J. Goin will lead this trip to a portion of Leasburg Dam State Park that is closed to public access, and the birding should be great. Thanks to Evaristo “Skeeter” Giron of NM State Parks for allowing us to bird in here. Hopefully we’ll see some warblers, flycatchers, and who knows what else?! Meet at 6:45 AM at the southwest corner of the Lowe’s parking lot on N. Main; we’ll leave at 7:00 AM. For more info, contact Mark Pendleton (at mpndltm@gmail.com or 575-635-8711).

**TBA. June 23.** Check the MVAS website and Facebook page (below) for updates on our destination for this trip. Or, sign up for the field trip email list by contacting Mark Pendleton at mpndltm@gmail.com.

### Annual MVAS Potluck May 16

at Lorraine Schulte’s home,  
1740 Mariposa (phone 524-7029)  
5:30 PM

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.

### Excellence in Teaching Award

At our April program meeting, Joshua Hernandez, a bilingual science teacher at Santa Teresa Middle School, was awarded the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Lorraine Schulte Excellence in Teaching Award. Mr. Hernandez uses inquiry-based science activities to improve his students’ problem-solving skills, and this spring he has had his students create their own portfolios about the various ecosystems in the state of New Mexico. Since the majority of his students are classified as English Language Learners, he incorporates many language arts lessons into his teaching, and he has used the Audubon Adventures classroom kits as a resource for his students’ work in both science and language arts.

### Bird-a-thon 2012

As announced in the recent Audubon New Mexico newsletter, our annual Bird-a-thon fundraiser will be held during the first 2 weeks of May. Several board members and officers are having a friendly competition to see who can see the most species, and who can raise the most funds, during this year’s event. For more information on how to pledge your support, or how to create your own Bird-a-thon team, contact Nancy Stotz at 575-521-8087 or nstotz1@comcast.net.



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](mailto:nstotz1@comcast.net).

## MVAS Awards Scholarship

The Mesilla Valley Audubon Society scholarship committee announces Forrest East as the 2012 Richard Bischoff Memorial Scholarship winner. Mr. East is a Master's student conducting research in the Center for Applied Spatial Ecology at New Mexico State University.

This year the MVAS scholarship winner's research addresses the effects conservation practices may have on wildlife habitat, specifically Scaled Quail, by modeling changes in habitat based on predictions of state-and-transition models. These models may improve our knowledge and predictive capabilities of how plants respond to disturbances. The aim is to use the predictability of the models to project probable plant distributions after a conservation practice is implemented. Forrest East is a Graduate Research Assistant in the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology at NMSU. The scholarship will provide support to validate his models by conducting field work.

Contributions to the MVAS scholarship fund are accepted at any time; checks, made out to MVAS, should be mailed to the MVAS Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1645, Las Cruces, NM 88004.

## Las Cruces Tour of Gardens

The Las Cruces Tour of Gardens will be held May 5, from 9 AM to 5 PM. The Tour has long been a generous supporter of MVAS's Audubon Adventures program. They are looking for volunteers to work 2-hour shifts. If you're interested, contact Beulah Oyler at 522-0143.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.mvaudubon.org)

**To receive this newsletter in electronic form, email [nstotz1@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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