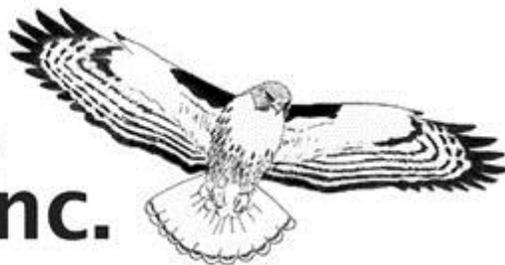


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Welcome our Newest Avian Ambassadors, by Gail Garber, Executive Director



It was a cold and wintry night on the lonely roads of Los Alamos County. The very observant Victor Mitchell, driving home from work, spotted what looked to be feathers sticking out of snow drift in a parking lot between Los Alamos and Pueblo canyons. He stopped to investigate. There, he unearthed a very cold, hypothermic Mexican Spotted Owl, with a badly injured eye and severe head trauma. He wrapped it in his jacket and put in the back seat of his truck. Meanwhile, his wife called for help, getting a response at Petroglyph Animal Hospital. So, he began the two-hour drive to get veterinary care for the owl. About halfway through the long drive, he looked back to see the owl perched on his lunchbox, a frightening specter, since previously she had looked mostly lifeless.

Dr. Kariana Atkinson did the initial exams that revealed severe head trauma and a badly damaged eye. It was unclear if the bird would survive. After several touch-and-go days, she improved enough to withstand surgery to remove the damaged eye. We thank Dr. Kariana Atkinson and her staff for the remarkably successful surgery. The owl does have vision in her remaining eye but, as a juvenile, she was not releasable. We called her our Christmas Miracle. We also thank Chuck Hathcock, wildlife biologist for Los Alamos Labs, for his guidance and support in this rescue.

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Trevor Fetz, Lead Avian
Biologist

Julia Davis, Education
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Angela Green, Office



You might note that there is no mention of her name yet. All of our avian ambassadors have names that are educational in some way, either about their species, where they came from, or their unique biology. Often, we give the honor of naming the individual bird to its rescuer(s). We didn't want to prematurely make that offer until we knew the permitting process would be successful. We await word from Victor as to what her name will be. Look for her to appear in programs within the next few months.

Earlier in the year, on September 5, 2016, a tiny, 52 gram (11% of a pound), Flammulated Owl, one of the few owls with dark eyes, arrived from the Alamogordo area. Dean and Toni Klassy volunteered to drive down to collect the little fellow and get him back to Albuquerque. "Flame," so named by the Klassys, had a severe shoulder girdle injury as well as an open wound, and appeared to be in considerable pain. Dr. Kariana Atkinson treated him the following day, when x-rays revealed a fracture that was not repairable with surgery. The wing was wrapped and we waited to see if it would heal.

Eventually, with time and care, Flame made a remarkable recovery considering the severity of his injuries. Now, as fully recovered as he will ever be, he has displayed a larger than life personality for one of the smallest species of owls in North America! Further, as a strict insectivore, his monthly food bill exceeds that of every other birds in our

program – just crickets and mealworms for this little handful of a bird!

Because Flame is so small, he will not wear the leather bracelets typical of our other birds. We hope that one volunteer will build a special, tabletop display cage for the little guy, so he can be used at programs sans the stress of being held. Are you that volunteer? Please [contact Gail!](#)

Thank you Larry Rimer for these images.

Owls in the Land of Enchantment at New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science

Revered and feared in folklore, owls are found throughout New Mexico. From open desert to mountain forest, these powerful hunters have evolved extraordinary senses to pinpoint their prey. For a limited engagement, the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science (NMMNHS) reveals this world in the Owls in the Land of Enchantment exhibition from **April 15 through September 25, 2017**. Images featured in Owls in the Land of Enchantment were captured by local amateur photographer Dennis Dusenbery.

"Through the ages, people of all cultures have been mystified by owls," said Margie Marino, Director of the NMMNHS, "This fascinating exhibition explores owl habitats, breeding and feeding habits. It features some specimens that are very old from the Natural History Museum's Bioscience collection and on loan from the Bird

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Division at the Museum of Southwestern Biology at the University of New Mexico.”

The photos by Dennis Dusenbery tell us a lot about this owl family, and owls in general. “This is a great example of where art meets science – both require careful observation and the time to look carefully,” said Ayesha Burdett, Bioscience Curator. “It’s wonderful to be able to take a close look at these magnificent birds.”

From the courting that begins in the fall, to spring nesting, hatching, feeding, and development of the chicks, the exhibition tracks one breeding season for a pair of local owls. Visitors can also learn about various species of owls and their habitats in New Mexico, exploring every aspect of this nocturnal, carnivorous hunter.

Photos by Dennis Dusenbery:

Top: One of the owl chicks looks nervously out of the nest.

Bottom: A male Great Horned Owl looks casually at the photographer.

Owls in the Land of Enchantment exhibition: **April 15 through September 25, 2017**

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science
1801 Mountain Rd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104

[Phone](tel:5058412800): (505) 841-2800

The New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science is a Division of the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs. The Department of Cultural Affairs is New Mexico’s cultural steward and is charged with preserving and showcasing the state’s cultural riches. With its eight museums, eight historic monuments, arts, archaeology, historic preservation and library programs, the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs is the largest state cultural agency in the nation.

The Summer Field Season Arrives, by Trevor Fetz, Lead Avian Biologist

Although raptor surveys have been underway since March, the summer field season for songbirds didn’t begin until mid-May with the initiation of surveys for the Jemez CFLRP and Willow Flycatchers. This was the first time since 2014 that I have been involved with surveys for the Jemez CFLRP, as Lisa and I made a couple of early morning car pools to survey routes along the Jemez River and in the Ponderosa Springs area of the Santa Fe National Forest. One highlight of my Jemez River survey was a singing Gray Vireo in juniper woodland just beyond the 125 meter limit of one point--my first Gray Vireo detection in several years. Another highlight was a singing Hepatic Tanager, as well as warblers moving through in decent numbers, with Yellow Warblers being the most abundant. The highlights from my time in the Ponderosa Springs area included American Three-toed Woodpeckers, Grace’s Warblers, and Clark’s Nutcrackers.

I am only responsible for two Willow Flycatcher survey routes along the Rio Grande this year, but one of those is a new route on the Pueblo of Sandia. The Sandia route was particularly productive during the first survey period, with four detections in the survey area, three additional detections from river



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bars, and two detections further west on the Corrales side of the river. After completing the Sandia survey, I moved on to Corrales to check my active Cooper's Hawk nests and had three additional Willow Flycatcher detections from densely vegetated areas along the west edge of the Corrales drain (or "clear ditch"). It was clearly a "moving day" for WIFLs. The next day, I added another Willow Flycatcher detection on the Rio Bravo Northeast survey route. Recording flycatchers on both survey routes was a nice treat.

The beginning of June will mean the beginning of the summer field season for the Middle Rio Grande Songbird Study and the transition of my schedule from limited forays into the field to daily songbird surveys. With the Rio Grande still running higher than normal, accessibility will initially be an issue on a number of transects. But, it will be interesting to see what impact the high runoff has had and how the birds react.

Willow Flycatcher above, by Alan Murphy. Yellow Warbler below, by David Powell.



May Mayhem by Amanda Schluter, Biologist and Educator

Another busy month has flown by. During the field season, I am always moving from one project to the next and things can get very hectic. I've learned to always keep my bags packed and to do laundry whenever possible. Keeping papers organized and planning my schedule, but still taking it one day at a time is important. Sometimes if I think about how busy I am it can be overwhelming, that, again, is why it is crucial to take everything one day at a time.

The raptor monitoring in the Upper Rio Grande Gorge and the El Segundo mine is still going well thanks to the help of dedicated volunteers and Hawks Aloft employees. With the eaglets growing rapidly at the Rio Grande Gorge, other raptors are just starting to have young in their nests. For the month of June, we will continue to monitor other raptors in the area like Red-tailed and Ferruginous Hawks, whose nests are active now, in order to determine their reproductive success.

Last month also brought the beginning of the songbird surveys in the Valles Caldera National Preserve and the

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AA Batteries
Coffee (for the office)
Toilet Paper
Paper towels
Bleach for bird laundry
8.5 x 14 copy paper
8.5 x 11 copy paper
Digital camera
Clear shower curtain
Laminating materials
Foam board
Binoculars
Nature-themed
children's books
8' wooden closet rods
Gift cards for Home
Depot, Lowe's, Target
or Staples
"Forever" postage
stamps
GPS units (even old
ones)
Spotting scopes and
tripods
4WD Vehicle, minivan,
or station wagon
Ink cartridges (920) for
HP Officejet 7000

Jemez National Forest. With the help of Gail Garber, Trevor Fetz, and Lisa Morgan, we were able to complete the first round of surveys for a dozen different routes within the national preserve and the forest. In June, Gail and I will continue with the survey efforts to complete the second round. Although the work can be tiring, being in the beautiful Valles Caldera National Preserve and the Jemez National Forest, and encountering things outside of the city make the work a pleasure.

In the last month, I have encountered everything from snow to mud to wind, and even had a very close encounter with a rattlesnake. Yet, being able to have an outdoor office and experience the amazing wildlife makes all the obstacles worth it.

Golden Eaglet image by Larry Rimer.



Raptor Handling Class

Raptor Handling classes are the perfect time to hone your raptor handling skills. Participants get to experience one-on-one time with various educational birds, learn their personal stories, and the biology of their species. Become one of our "expert" handlers at outreach events.

Raptor Handling Class
Saturday, July 1

Saturday, August 5
10:00 a.m. - Noon

At the Hawks Aloft Office

No walk-ins allowed, as we plan the agenda and birds according to registrations and staff availability. Please call

Veterinarians and Rehabilitators

Kariana Atkinson, DVM

Jim Battaglia

Linda Contos, DVM

Cottonwood
Rehabilitation Center

Mikal Deese

Desert Willow Wildlife
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Eye Care for Animals

Ray Hudgell, DVM

Gavin Kennard, DVM,
DACVO

Daniel Levenson, DVM

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New Mexico Wildlife
Center

Bob Peiffer, DVM, PhD

Petroglyph Animal
Hospital

Kathleen Ramsay, DVM

Santa Fe Raptor Center

Southwest Veterinary
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Sammie Uhrig, DVM

Ventana Animal Clinic

Raptor Rescue Team

(505) 828-9455 to reserve your space in the class, or e-mail [Julia](#)

Looking Ahead, by Angela Green, Office Manager

May has been a very quiet month in the Hawks Aloft office. I feel like I've settled nicely into the daily rhythm in my position as Office Manager. In addition to the day-to-day work of making sure things run smoothly around the office, I'm working on distributing a letter to our members and supporters to request donations that will help us pay for the West Nile Virus vaccine. Vaccinating all of our Avian Ambassadors will cost over \$1,700, which is a huge cost, but an absolutely vital one.

At the beginning of June, I will attend my first Raptor Handling class. It has been many, many years since I worked directly with raptors, and I'm looking forward to re-learning all the details of working with them that time has erased.

Additionally, in the coming months I will hopefully have an opportunity to get out in the field so that I can see firsthand the work that pays many of the bills around here. Although I enjoy "bean-counting," it will be fantastic to experience the research side of HAI.

Outside of the office, my family and I recently went camping at Conchas Lake. We had a lovely campsite overlooking the water and were fortunate enough to see many birds from our vantage point. It was incredible to watch swallows chasing ravens away from their nests. Those little birds were fierce as they defended their offspring from birds so much larger than they were.

As I continue my work at Hawks Aloft, I find that I am frequently provided with opportunities to learn, while still having lots of time to spend with enjoying time with my family and in the outdoors. As such, the work so far has struck a nice balance.

Shelley Armitage
Anthony Bailey
Jim Battaglia
Donna Borowsky
Sophia Borowsky
Jacquelyn Chacon
Linda Chandler
Charles Cummings
Joanne Dahringer
Julia Davis
John Douglas
Marion Fisher
Tim & Jan Florence
Maggie Grimason
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Jeannine Kinzer
Dean Klassy
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Photographers

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Doug Brown
Kristin Brown
Tony Giancola
Alan Murphy
David Powell
Larry Rimer
Tony Thomas
Steve Vender



Conchas Lake, photograph by Angela Green

Upper Rio Grande Gorge Raptor Survey Team

Amanda Schluter
Jeannine Kinzer
Bob Kipp
Everett Ogilvie
Larry Rimer
Tom Ryan

Bosque Nesting Raptors Study Team

Wendy Brown
Ed Clark
Charles Cummings
Vicki Dern
Trevor Fetz
Gail Garber
Joan Hashimoto
Kay Jackson
Bob Kipp
Maurice Mackey
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Lisa Morgan
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Chellye Porter
Larry Rimer
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Allison Schacht
Dianne Schlies
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Mary Smith
Mary Walsh
Christie Wilcox

Raptor Driving Survey Team

Chuck Brandt
Mary Bruesch
Ed Chappelle
Gill Clarke
Gail Garber
Roger Grimshaw
Jerry Hobart
Bonnie Long
Donna Royer
Susan Russo

On the Road Again, and Other Adventures, by Lisa Morgan, Raptor Rescue Coordinator/Field Technician

The month of May was primarily spent on the road and finishing up round three of our Bosque Raptor Nest Monitoring project.

There were two trips to the El Segundo mine outside of Grants with Amanda. Both proved to be stunningly beautiful and surprisingly full of adventure. Earlier in the month, it was snowing and the mine roads were so bad that they had already pulled all the vehicles off of those roads. Amanda and I contemplated how to approach the survey area that day. We obviously couldn't turn around, drive to Grants, and check into a hotel. We were there—we needed to do something! We soon learned why the mine had taken the vehicles off of the roads: There is something about that soil that, when wet, it turns into a skating rink. I finally had an excuse to put the Jeep into 4-wheel drive low! However, as with any icy situation, no matter how many wheels are turning you still are at the mercy of the conditions. We did manage to check on quite a few nests that day. However, the next day proved to be the most successful for our work. The Long-eared Owl nest we spotted made my heart the happiest. We visited all of the nests on the west side that day, and found a few new ones. That jeep can really get the job done in 4 low!



We had to cut another trip short recently, as we blew out a tire on the east side of the mine. Together, Amanda and I managed to get the tire changed in the sand. I'm so thankful for Amanda and her muscles, but was pretty disconcerted about having to leave the mine when it felt like we were going to have a productive day.

There also were two day trips to the Jemez mountains with Trevor for songbird surveys in riparian and ponderosa pine habitats. Those were less eventful, but very rugged and equally beautiful. I came away feeling exhilarated, but also discovered that my Ponderosa birding skills needed some brushing up!

The bosque continued to be flooded for much of round three of the raptor monitoring project, and the mosquitoes have been horrible. About a mile-long stretch on one of my routes has been pretty much impassable throughout the season, and there is an active nest that requires wading through water to access. As I write this, I have 15 active nests including species like the American Crow, Common Black Hawk, Great Horned Owl, and of course, Cooper's Hawks. I even have a confirmed pair of Cooper's Hawks in which there is an adult female with a sub-adult male. Not completely unheard of, but pretty rare.

Long-eared Owl image by Mike Fugagli

Amazon Adventure - With Hawks Aloft and Wildside Nature Tours

**Amazon Adventure
with Hawks Aloft and Wildside Nature Tours
February 3-11, 2018**

Sam Sanborn
Martin Schelble
Diane Schlies
Steve Youtsey

Upcoming Events - Please Help

Saturday, June 10
Navajo Nation ZooFest
10 am - 3 pm
Outreach Booth

Monday, June 19
Los Ranchos de Albuquerque Farm Camp
1-2 pm
Single Visit Birds of Prey

May Rescues

American Kestrel - Head trauma
Great Horned Owl - Fell from nest in busy parking lot - transferred to Dr. Ramsay for continued care.
American Kestrel - Predator attack - pending
American Kestrel - Fell from nest - placed back in nest
Great Horned Owl - Congenital defects - pending
American Kestrel - Fledgling - human interference - pending
Mississippi Kite - Gunshot - pending



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The cuisine on-board is regional and provides a unique and delicious window into local culture. Gain a rare glimpse of how life 'on the river' is lived and

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Suites on the riverboat, above, [Pygmy Marmoset](#), the smallest monkey on Earth, weighing just 100 grams (3.5 ounces). Both images by Kevin Loughlin, Wildside Nature Tours.



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Black-collared Hawk, Hoatzin, and riverboat images by Kevin Loughlin, Wildside Nature Tours.



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[Click Here for full details.](#)

Black-collared Hawk, Hoatzin, and riverboat images by Kevin Loughlin, Wildside Nature Tours.



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Working with the Birds, by Julia Davis, Education and Outreach Coordinator

In May 2014, I started working at Hawks Aloft. On my first day, I went field trip destination scouting at Elena Gallegos Open Space and cleaned mews. Throughout the initial training period I had many interactions with the Hawks Aloft Avian Ambassadors. Working with the birds is a special part of the job and working with each bird is a unique experience.

Recently, I got to handle Jamaica, our older retired Red-tailed Hawk that lives at Gail's house. Most of my interactions with Jamaica involve me going into her mews to clean while she and her mews mate, Quemado, put on impressive and intimidating territorial displays. On this particular day, Gail and Lisa took Jamaica out of her mews so I could give it a good clean. When the mews were done being cleaned I put Jamaica back into her mews. She kept an eye on me, had a square head, and peeped while I walked her to her mews. Once inside her mews she patiently waited for me to get her equipment off and release her to her perch. As soon



as she was back on her perch, her attitude changed and she looked *much* bigger as she screamed at me to get out of her mews! I forgot how “small” she had seemed. These days, I am used to working with Lilla, a much larger rufous morph Red-tailed Hawk.

Lady Kiki, one of our Merlins, is a bird I work with often. I feel a special connection to Lady Kiki since we both started working at Hawks Aloft in 2014. Lady Kiki came to us from Utah after a car strike. As a result of her accident she had to have part of her wing amputated. We sort of learned the ropes together at Hawks Aloft. She is a great program bird with a lot of attitude. Merlins themselves are a very interesting and secretive falcon. I have only seen one in the wild. I was lucky enough to see it out hunting for food in the fields near the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge.

Education birds are a special part of any Hawks Aloft program. I have been around when new birds arrive for training and have experienced the loss of education birds. Both situations, for me, are sad. When a new bird comes to us, I am excited to meet them and work with them, but sad that they were injured, experienced trauma, and can no longer live their life in the wild. The death of an Avian Ambassador is sad because they become only a fond memory. Still, the part that cheers me is knowing that the birds are able to safely live their lives with Hawks Aloft. You can improve the quality of their lives too by [adopting](#) one of our beautiful birds. All funds go to bird care and to the purchase of their food. Please consider making an adoption, so that the public can continue to learn from our unique and spectacular Avian Ambassadors.

Lady Kiki above, and Jamaica below. Both Images by Doug Brown.



East Mountain Observations by Everett Ogilvie, Statistician

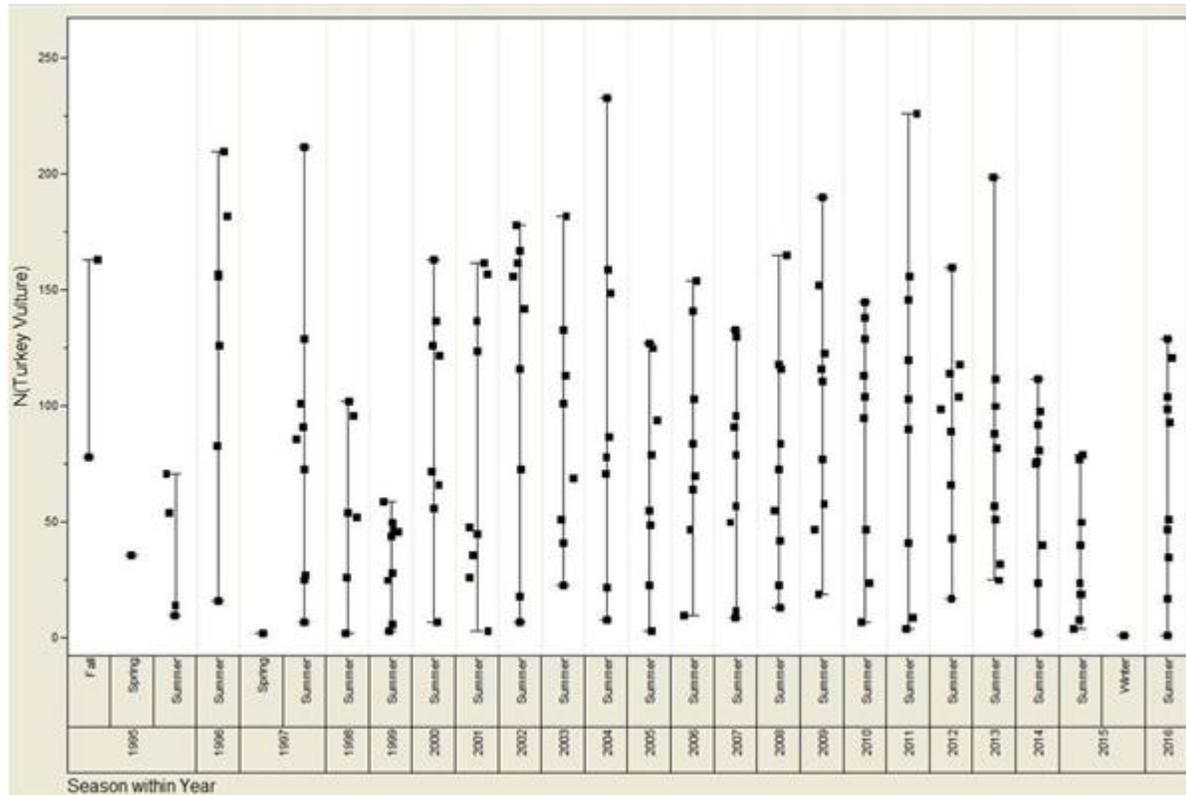
This spring, I have been watching the Red-Tailed Hawk nest that is in the top of a Ponderosa pine about a quarter mile from my home in the East Mountains. We watched this nest last spring as well, and the Great Horned Owl family that spent lots of time in the trees around our property. Sadly, the owls are gone—the juveniles left as they were meant to, and the pair of adults stayed around throughout the fall and winter, but then we heard from a neighbor that a dead Great Horned was found nearby, and it was not long after that that the

remaining adult left the area. With no owls around this year we focused on the hawk's nest and I can say that the two chicks appear pretty close to branching. I will keep watching closely to see how things progress.

We saw our first hummingbird about two months ago, but we don't have near the numbers so far that we did last year. I don't know if it is too early to see the quantity of birds we did last year, or if this year will simply be different.

We began seeing Turkey Vultures a month or two ago, as they started moving back north after the winter, but they appear to have moved further north now as I have not seen any in the last several weeks. On our last survey trip to the Rio Grande Gorge we saw large numbers of them, and it is my understanding that New Mexico is part of the breeding distribution area, as opposed to the year-round distribution area. The breeding distribution area extends pretty far north, to include some southern parts of Canada.

Around the office, I am currently in the process of compiling and analyzing 22 years of data from our Raptor Driving Surveys in central New Mexico. Below is a graph showing the number of Turkey Vultures observed, broken down by year and season—if summer is the only season present in a given year there were no Turkey Vultures observed in winter of that year. It appears we had one Turkey Vulture in winter of 2015.



I've had the chance to see some other birds as well. For example, I may have seen a Prairie Falcon this past week in our area, but I am not very good yet at identifying these raptors. Our gorge survey trips are helping me improve my birding skills. Near my home, we have good numbers of Western Scrub-jays, but I have yet to see a Steller's Jay this year. We observed a small flock of about ten Band-tailed Pigeons in one of our trees several weeks ago.

As for mammals, we have not had any bats in our bat house so far this year (though it might still be a bit early). Last year we had a few for a short time, the year before we had great numbers that stayed around for several months. I need to do some repairs on the house and maybe then they will find it more suitable.

Of course we have many other species in our area, and the ones above are just a few that we have observed the past several months. It's a pleasure to live in the East Mountains, where viewing wildlife is so easy!

Hawks Aloft 2017 Raffle Quilt - Tickets Available Now

Get your tickets now! They are \$1 each or 6/\$5. You can purchase them [on our website](#). We will draw the winning ticket on December 2, 2017, at our annual Holiday Party.

Image by Steve Elkins.



Doves Aloft!, by Maggie Grimason, Senior Editor/Educator

A few weeks ago I headed out of my house and down the sidewalk to work on my usual walking commute through downtown Albuquerque. Before I had left my block, however, I was stopped short. On the sidewalk was a pinkish mass, not moving, breathing hard where it lay on the cement, directly in the morning sun.



The nestling seemed rather big, its eyes were still sealed shut, but it had pin feathers coming in. I ran through the protocol I knew—I looked for the young bird's parents, I gazed upwards into the boughs of nearby trees and looked for a nest. Spotting no other birds and no nest overhead, I called my boyfriend and made him stand watch while I fashioned a nest lined with toilet paper, secured within a well-ventilated box. I hurriedly returned outside, lifted the featherless bird into the nest, and moved the box somewhere stable, quiet, and dark.

My boyfriend then took the bird to [Wildlife Rescue](#), arriving just as they opened their doors, and I continued on my walk to work. The nestling turned out to be a White-winged Dove, with a common communicable (and treatable!) disease that must have led to it intentionally having been muscled out of the nest. The rehabilitators were confident that the little dove would be in better shape by the end of the day, and in a few weeks, ready to be released. It was a great way to start the day!

This is certainly the time of year when many young birds are fledging, and calls are flooding our [Raptor Rescue Hotline](#) (505-999-7740). If you have concerns about what to do should you happen to find a baby bird, refer to our [blog on the topic](#), and if you have remaining questions, seek the guidance of a rehabilitator. It certainly felt good to see this little bird get to safety, but what felt best was knowing that we took the appropriate course of action to ensure the young White-winged Dove would have a healthy future.

New Peregrine Falcon T-shirt Available Now

We are thrilled with our brand new T-shirt design, featuring Doug Brown's Peregrine Falcon image. This image won second place in an international photography contest and Doug traveled to France (I believe) for the award.

We worked with [Jim Morris Environmental T-shirts](#) this year, and are equally thrilled with the results of our new partnership. The T-shirts are wonderfully soft feeling, made with Earth Friendly Organic Cotton and produced in the USA. We have a wide range of sizes in both short and long sleeves, with both Ladies and Unisex styles. We have no youth sizes. So, pick the one you want, but don't delay! These will be selling quickly!

The price for short sleeve is \$19 and long sleeve is \$25. [Order yours today on our website](#) or stop by the office to try one on!

As always, please call the office at 505-828-9455 to ensure that someone will be there when you arrive. We often are out of the office attending to other business.



Support Hawks Aloft by Shopping at Smith's!

Smith's

FOOD & DRUG STORES

Did you know there are plenty of ways to support Hawks Aloft without spending a single extra dime or changing any little thing about your daily schedule? In addition to registering to support Hawks Aloft with your Amazon purchases via smile.amazon.com (you've already done that, right?), now you can kick back a few extra dollars to Hawks Aloft just by shopping at your local Smith's.

We recently enrolled in [Smith's Community Rewards Program](#), a program that allows individuals to enroll online and support their favorite nonprofit with their purchases. At the end of each quarter, Hawks Aloft will receive a percentage of the total dollar amount spent by shoppers who have selected us as their preferred local nonprofit.

Signing up is easy and makes a big difference in our budget.

Signing up is a simple, three-step process:

- 1). With your Smith's Reward Card handy, log on to [Smiths Community Rewards](#)
- 2). Enter your rewards card number and your preferred Smith's shopping location
- 3). Search for Hawks Aloft by entering our name or our Community Rewards ID number: 16635

It's as easy as that! Then, next time you buy your groceries, all you have to do is use your Rewards Card for discounts, fuel points, and to provide additional revenue to Hawks Aloft!

Thank you for supporting us so we can continue to care for injured wild birds, educate the community about raptors, and conduct research that provides meaningful insights about the health of our local ecosystem.

Adopt an Educational Ambassador



Help support our non-releasable raptors through our Adopt-a-Raptor program. Hawks Aloft houses and cares for 25 permanently disabled raptors (and one covid!). Our Avian Ambassadors travel throughout the Southwest, helping us to educate the public about how to help protect these beautiful animals. We provide them with top-quality housing, food, and medical care for their entire lives. It costs an average of \$2000/mo. just for their food. When you adopt a raptor, you help feed our birds, make home improvements, and provide veterinary care for one avian ambassador of your choice. Prices range from \$35-\$100 depending on the species.

[Click here to Adopt a Raptor](#) - such as Aspen, our Northern Saw-whet Owl, photographed by Doug Brown.

When you adopt a Hawks Aloft raptor you will receive:

- A one-year Hawks Aloft membership
- An Adoption Certificate
- An information sheet about the individual bird you have adopted
- Exclusive access to video updates about your bird
- Your choice of:
 - A professional 8x10 photo of your bird, or
 - A stuffed Audubon Bird with realistic vocalizations

[Click here to learn more about our Avian Ambassadors](#)

Amazon Smile - Support Hawks Aloft

Support the conservation efforts of Hawks Aloft! Amazon Smile Foundation donates 0.5% of your shopping done through Amazon to Hawks Aloft. All you have to do is simply click [here](#), or on the image below, and do your

usual Amazon shopping. Thank you for shopping at Amazon and helping Hawks Aloft.



You shop. Amazon gives.

Thank You to Our May Volunteers

Donna Borowsky - Raptor Rescue
Sophia Borowsky - Raptor Rescue
Mary Bruesch - Data entry, mews cleaning, outreach
David Buckley - Raptor care
Ed Chappelle - Raptor care
Mary Chappelle - Raptor care, outreach
Dagny Cosby - Outreach
Rebecca Ezechukwu - Outreach
Karen Kennedy - Outreach
Dean Klassy - Raptor Rescue
Toni Klassy - Raptor Rescue
Molly Lord - Outreach
Maurice Mackey - Outreach
Evelyn McGarry - Outreach
Tom Mayer - Road Noise Effects on Birds Study
Jeff Porter - Raptor care
Chellye Porter - Raptor care, outreach
Rail Runner - Raptor transport
Larry Rimer - Raptor Rescue, Taos Gorge raptor surveys
Lizzie Roberts - Raptor care
Bridget de Saint Phalle - Mews cleaning
Allison Schacht - Outreach
Anita Sisk - Outreach, Raptor Rescue
Bruce Sisk - Outreach, Raptor Rescue
Sue Small - Mews cleaning
Rebecca Szymanski - Raptor and corvid care

Photographers Monthly Gallery - Alan Murphy

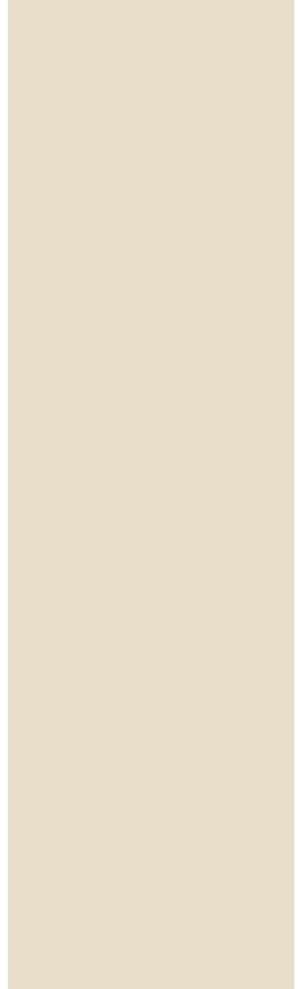
This month, we feature four raptor images by Alan Murphy, taken during his South Texas Photography Workshops. Alan Murphy, an award winning photographer, grew up in England and is an avid birder. Upon immigrating to the US, Alan picked up a camera and began pursuing his vision of how birds should be photographed. Alan has developed a style that is very recognizable with stunning portraits of birds on beautiful perches. Alan became a full time professional bird photographer a 12 years ago and is now in demand to speak at festivals, conferences and photography clubs around the nation. Alan is the author of many instructional ebooks and videos which have sold thousands of copies and has helped many photographers learn how to take better photographs of birds.

Alan teaches his techniques around the nation through his highly successful in-the-field workshops with small groups. If Alan is not in the field taking images, then he is busy submitting images to many magazines. His published credits include *National Geographic*, *Birders World*, *Wildbird*, *Birding*, and many more. Visit Alan's

Website: <http://www.alanmurphyphotography.com/>



Aplomado Falcon





Harris' Hawk

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