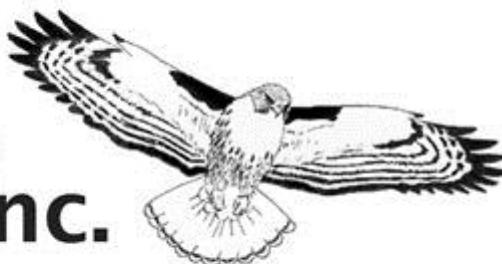


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HAI Flier
Your Monthly Newsletter



Hawks Aloft, Inc.

Conservation, Avian Research & Education

October, 10, 2017

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Avian Response to Ongoing Vegetation Removal in Corrales, by Gail Garber, Executive Director, and Trevor Fetz, Lead Avian Biologist

Has it seemed that there are fewer birds in the Corrales bosque than in past years? Hawks Aloft has monitored avian density and species richness throughout the Middle Rio Grande bosque since 2004, with 81 transects located between Rio Rancho and La Joya State Game Refuge thanks to generous funding from the US Army Corps of Engineers, and more recently from Tetra Tech. It's a huge data set with the power to measure change in multiple areas. Due to concerns about MRGCD plans to clear even more drainside vegetation, I asked Trevor to evaluate the overall change in avian density throughout the Corrales reach, including the interior transects as well as the US Army Corps of Engineers restoration sites (that have still not reached maturity).

A quick look at annual avian density by season in Corrales (mean number of birds across all Corrales transects in a given year) illustrates a troubling situation. Avian density in Corrales during winter 2017 was 57.8% lower than winter 2007 (the winter with the highest density) and 50.8% lower than winter 2010 (the last winter before severe drought beset the middle Rio Grande valley). Further, density in winter 2017 was only 1.5% higher than winter 2012, the lowest density winter in Corrales and at the height of the drought. Density in Corrales in winter 2017 was the second lowest among all years we have surveyed.

Summer annual avian density in Corrales also is discouraging. Density in summer 2017 was 31.1% lower than summer 2006 (the summer with the highest density) and 23.8% lower than summer 2009 (the last summer before the drought). The lowest summer density in Corrales was 2013, at the peak of the drought. But, summer density in 2017 was only 12.2% higher, a lower recovery than we documented in other land management areas. Overall, summer 2017 density was essentially equal to summer 2016 (0.004% higher) and higher than only the severe drought summers of 2012 and 2013.

The importance of retaining the woody understory vegetation on the west edge of the drain in Corrales is obvious. In 2017, the three drain transects in Corrales where woody understory vegetation still remains accounted for 11.4% of the area surveyed, but 28.4% of the birds documented during winter and 14.4% of the birds documented during summer. In contrast, the three drain transects where understory vegetation has been cleared accounted for 11.1% of the area surveyed but only 7.3% of the birds detected during winter and 3.3% of the birds detected during summer.

The 2017 issue of Aloft magazine, due out in November, will feature an extensive article about the issues affecting bird numbers within the Corrales bosque. If you have questions, please contact [Gail](#) or [Trevor](#) for further

2017 Board of Directors

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Terry Edwards - Director

Alwyn VanderWalt - Director

Who We Are

Gail Garber, Executive Director

Trevor Fetz, Lead Avian Biologist

Julia Davis, Education and Outreach Coordinator

Angela Green, Office Manager

October Greenfield,

information.

During winter months, Yellow-rumped Warbler is only found in areas with dense vegetation, particularly where there are abundant berry crops. Image by Keith Bauer.



Volunteer Appreciation Party

What happens when you mix 70 volunteers and staff, some delicious food, eight distinctly different educational raptors, and a quiz? We did just that on September 9, when we hosted our Volunteer Appreciation Party, a free event for all who help to make Hawks Aloft a great organization. We thank each and every one of you for your support.

A special thanks goes to Mary Chappelle and Terry Edwards, both board members who planned the event. They arranged for Scarpas Mobile Pizza Oven to cater the delicious meal. Eight of our avian ambassadors were on hand and their handlers were primed to provide cryptic details about each hawk, falcon or owl. After dinner, everyone at each table became a team and selected a name for their team as we began three rounds of quizzes – all about the information gleaned before the event began as folks visited with each bird and its handler. One team chose the name, “The Winners”. Indeed, they lived up to their prophecy and won the grand prize, gift certificates to Scarpas for each team member. Later, when I asked them how they managed to get so many correct answers, the unanimous response was, “Steve Vender”. Apparently, he visited each bird station and listened carefully, OR he simply has total memory recall!

A good time was had by all!



Thank you, Keith Bauer and Cosmos Dohner for photographing the event. Below, Liz Roberts speaks to Charles

Naturalist

Maggie Grimason,
Senior Editor, Educator

Michael Hill, GIS
Mapping and Field
Technician

Jeannine Kinzer,
Raptor Rescue
Dispatcher

Everett Ogilvie,
Statistician

Amanda Schluter,
Biologist and Educator

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Festival of the Cranes -
Friends of Bosque del
Apache NWR
Monte Vista Cranefest -

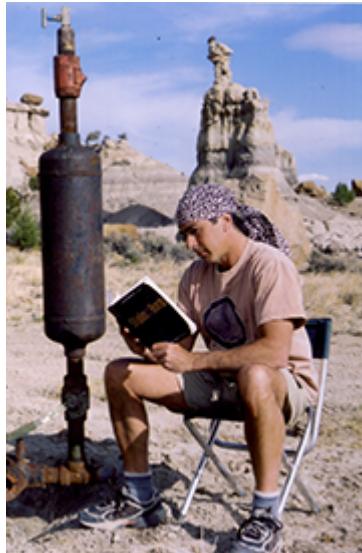
Cummings and Mike Hecht about Celeste, the HAI educational Barn Owl.



A Reunion of Lead Avian

September was a transition month. After a long summer month to rest and recover, the chance to get together colleagues. Many of you will our long-time raptor biologist moved back to Albuquerque a the New Mexico Department and I had only seen each surprise appearance (at least member appreciation to catch up with him (it was sophomore in high school) regular basis. Little did we less than two weeks later.

Ron always reveled in the challenging terrain. One of his abandoned vehicles in the



Sorts, by Trevor Fetz, Biologist

month, out of the field and back into the field season, it was nice to have a low key. The highlights of the month for me were with a couple of my former HAI remember Ron Kellermueller, who was until he moved to Seattle in 2010. Ron couple of years ago and now works for of Game and Fish in Santa Fe. But, he other once over that time. He made a it was a surprise to me) at the HAI gathering in early September. It was great hard to believe his son, Malcolm, is now a and we vowed to keep in touch on a more know, we would see each other again

most remote study sites with the most passions was photographing old, hinterlands of New Mexico.

Friends of Monte Vista NWR, CO
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USDA Forest Service: Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest
USDA Forest Service: Santa Fe National Forest
Valles Caldera National Preserve
Ventana Animal Clinic
Wild Birds Unlimited - Albuquerque
Wild Birds Unlimited -

Some of you also may remember John Stanek (AKA "Slick"), who arrived at Hawks Aloft just a couple of months after I started in 2004. John worked on a variety of projects while he was here, but primarily served as my field

technician on the Middle Rio Grande Songbird Study (MRGSS) until he left to pursue his master's degree at the University of Wyoming in 2006.

Currently, John works for the Southern Sierra Research Station in southeastern California. Much of their work focuses on Yellow-billed Cuckoo, and he has become somewhat of an expert on the species. And, possibly to the surprise of those who remember him, John now has two young children (ages 4 and 2). John and I spent many long, hot hours during the summer of 2004 establishing the paths for many of the MRGSS transects and developed a strong friendship. Although we had been in occasional contact since he left Hawks Aloft, we hadn't seen each other since 2010. But, in mid-September I received an email from John saying he was in Albuquerque for the Wildlife Society meeting. Ron also was at the meeting and the three of us were able to meet up for a far-too-short lunch reunion. It was a lot of fun being able to catch up and reminisce with both of them.



Las Cruces

Thank You Individual Donors - September 2017

Albuquerque Community Foundation
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Nancy Hall
Kelly Haller
Judy Knapp
Dave Parsons
Elizabeth Pitek
Ed Rodgers
Andrew Torree
Michelle Trumfio
Wild Birds Unlimited—
Las Cruces



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 Classes

**Saturday, November 4
10:00 a.m. - Noon
at the Hawks Aloft Office**

**Saturday, December 2
10:00 a.m. - Noon**

Wish List

Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Blue Ink Pens
Hand-held vacuum cleaner
Coffee (for the office)
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

at the Hawks Aloft Office

No walk-ins allowed, as we plan the agenda and birds according to registrations and staff availability. Please call (505) 828-9455 to reserve your space in the class, or e-mail [Julia](#)

A New Chapter for Raptor Rescue and a Look at the Last Month, October Greenfield

I just joined the team at Hawks Aloft at the beginning of October. I grew up in South Dakota and received a B.S. in Wildlife & Fisheries Science from South Dakota State University. I am currently finishing up a M.S. in Wildlife Science. During an internship at a raptor rescue center, I discovered my love and passion for raptors and have been working with them since then. Some of the former projects in which I have assisted include winter range and habitat use study on Red-tailed Hawks, dietary analyses of Ferruginous Hawks and Swainson's Hawks, and Peregrine Falcon restoration in Shenandoah National Park, as well as banding projects for several species of raptors and songbirds. My work with Hawks Aloft will consist of raptor rescue coordination, avian research, and education and outreach programs.

The Rescue Hotline received several calls at the beginning of September. A Red-tailed Hawk was admitted after being hit by a car in Gallup, NM. The bird was not opening its right eye and had severe head trauma. It also was thin and in a bit of a stupor. After several days of care, it was transferred to Desert Willow Rehab Center in Carlsbad for further treatment. Two Cooper's Hawks were rescued by volunteer Arlette Miller. The first Cooper's Hawk was found in Belen, NM and was unable to fly. It had an injury to one of its legs and was very thin at 177 grams. The second Cooper's hawk was from Rio Rancho. This bird was also unable to fly and was thin at 264 grams. Healthy male Cooper's hawks should weigh 300-400 grams. Both birds were admitted to treat their emaciation and injuries.

By the end of September, several more birds were rescued by Hawks Aloft volunteers. An American Kestrel was rescued in Belen, NM with head trauma, unable to fly. The bird was also soaking wet upon its discovery. A Swainson's Hawk in Albuquerque was found on the ground, not moving and had a fracture in its left wing. A Peregrine Falcon from Veguita, NM had a complex fracture of the radius and ulna on right wing. The falcon was transferred to Dr. Kathleen Ramsay for surgery. She named him "Buckie," and he is now doing well in recovery. Only time will tell if he will be releasable.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who go above and beyond to rescue birds from all across the state.

If you are interested in learning more about being a volunteer on the Raptor Rescue Team, [please email me](#).

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year, by Maggie Grimason, Senior Editor/Educator



HP Officejet 7000
Outreach tent
Assorted storage containers
Dolly

Veterinarians and Rehabilitators

Kariana Atkinson, DVM

Jim Battaglia

Linda Contos, DVM

Cottonwood Rehabilitation Center

Mikal Deese

Desert Willow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Eye Care for Animals

Ray Hudgell, DVM

Gavin Kennard, DVM, DACVO

Daniel Levenson, DVM

Mike Melloy, DVM

New Mexico Wildlife Center

Bob Peiffer, DVM, PhD

Petroglyph Animal Hospital

Kathleen Ramsay, DVM

Santa Fe Raptor Center

Southwest Veterinary Medical Center

Sammie Uhrig, DVM

As a child in northern Indiana, I remember standing on the rural hillside that was my front yard, watching the Canada Geese who had lived nearby, nested, and reared their young alongside our small pond, pass overhead on their way south to warmer climates. At that time, this image, and the sound of the geese's calls as they sailed passed, were what told me that autumn had arrived. These days, living in New Mexico, it is more often the arrival of Sandhill Cranes that announces the changing of the seasons. No matter what calls your attention to the turning of the world, migration is undoubtedly a special time.

Due to the fact that sustainable habitat may not be available in one location for all stages of an animal's life, migration is an adaptation that addresses those consistent needs. Typically, many species of non-resident birds move from northern habitats to warmer, more southerly habitats for the winter. It is that unique and awe-inspiring ability to fly that makes this adaptation especially useful among avian species, allowing them to travel, in some cases, very long distances. This is the case with the Swainson's Hawk, whose annual migration patterns take them—in large groups called kettles—as far north as Siberia, and then, all the way to Argentina to over-winter. This feat is especially impressive when you consider that they do it *twice* each year.

Most avian migration patterns follow natural land forms like coasts, mountain ranges, and rivers. In Albuquerque, we are lucky to live on the banks of the Rio Grande, whose forests, known as the bosque, create an important path and stop-over for migrant birds. The abundance of forest and water in an otherwise arid stretch of land makes our home an essential resting point for birds who have a long way to go before they can rest for the season.

About 500 of the world's 10,000 bird species have been spotted in New Mexico over the course of the last 100 years according to the NM Public Education Department, with about 100 of these being year-round residents of the state. Considering those numbers, migration is truly a unique time when birders in the area can spot birds that are just passing through, and a few errant species that may have veered off their typical migration routes. During this time you might spot Rufous and Calliope Hummingbirds making their way to Mexico and Central America to pass the winter months, for example. At spots like the world-famous Bosque Del Apache, you might spot flocks of Snow Goose and other waterfowl that will spend their winter there on the open water, or other species like the Bald Eagle, Mountain Bluebird, or Ferruginous Hawk. Big or small, passing through or over-wintering, our state offers lots of chances to explore the outdoors and learn about avian life by spotting species such as these during this time of year.

With so much movement happening in the coming months its all the more exciting to strap on your binoculars, and head to the river (or any one of New Mexico's forested areas with a body of water—Rattlesnake Springs, near Carlsbad, for example), and keep your eyes peeled. For people interested in avian life, this is an essential and rewarding time to slow down and take a look around you, appreciating the turning of the seasons and the adaptations of life around us.

Snow Geese in flight, image by David Powell, Ferruginous Hawk in flight, image by Tony Thomas.



Ventana Animal Clinic

Raptor Rescue Team

Jim Battaglia
Donna Borowsky
Sophia Borowsky
Charles Cummings
Julia Davis
Maggie Grimason
Bill Houston
Jeannine Kinzer
Dean Klassy
Toni Klassy
Maurice Mackey
Arlette Miller
Lisa Morgan
Chellye Porter
Larry Rimer
Emiliano Salazar
Amanda Schluter
Anita Sisk
Bruce Sisk
Sue Small
Mary Smith

Photographers

Greg Basco
Keith Bauer
Emmitt Booher
Doug Brown
Kristin Brown
Tony Giancola
Alan Murphy
David Powell
Larry Rimer
Tony Thomas
Steve Vender

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
Fred Hashimoto
Joan Hashimoto
Kay Jackson
Bob Kipp
Maurice Mackey
Arlette Miller
Lisa Morgan
Dave Parson
Chellye Porter
Larry Rimer
Renee Robillard
Allison Schacht
Dianne Schlies
Amanda Schluter
Mary Smith
Mary Walsh
Christie Wilcox

Photography Workshop, by Angela Green, Office Manager



Last month, Hawks Aloft held two wild bird photography workshops, led by Larry Rimer, Keith Bauer, Doug Brown, and Kristin Brown. My husband and I, along with about 15 other people, attended the earlier of the two sessions.

It was a treat to rub elbows with so many excellent photographers that afternoon. Taking pictures of the birds was, as always, exciting, but having world-class photographers available for tips and advice made all the difference in the world. All the equipment was fascinating as well—I had previously only seen lenses that size in magazines!

I was the most oblivious amateur in the group, with an old DSLR and no telephoto lens—and then my camera's batteries died less than halfway through the workshop. I must confess to feeling out-classed, but the others were so engrossed in taking pictures that no one seemed to notice. This was especially to my advantage when, after my batteries went dead, I whipped out my backup camera: my trusty iPhone.

In all, it was a wonderful workshop. Despite the heat and the lack of charged batteries (and sporting an iPhone

Raptor Driving Survey Team

Chuck Brandt
Mary Bruesch
Ed Chappelle
Gill Clarke
Gail Garber
Roger Grimshaw
Jerry Hobart
Bonnie Long
Donna Royer
Susan Russo
Sam Sanborn
Martin Schelble
Diane Schlies
Steve Youtsey

Upcoming Events - Please Help

instead of a real camera!), we came away with some great photos. We're already looking forward to the next opportunity to photograph our amazing ed birds!

Image of Sunny, the HAI Prairie Falcon, by Angela Green.



Falling into Winter, by Amanda Schluter, Biologist and Education

As September progressed, each morning the weather was progressively colder, reminding me that fall has arrived and winter is just around the corner. The majority of this last month was spent in the office completing articles for the 2018 *Aloft* magazine and starting reports for the past summer's projects.

Early in September our resident statistician, Everett Ogilvie, and I spent two days at El Segundo Mine, near Grants, NM in order to GPS map the road system. During the breeding season, we monitor breeding raptors within a two-mile buffer surrounding the mine, located on land owned by Elkins and Fernandez Cattle Companie. The majority of nests occur on the surrounding ranch lands. When I first began working on the project this spring, I often got turned around and confused on the unmarked roads scattered across the ranch. Before we start the project next year, we will map the road system so surveyors can easily identify unmarked access roads. Using satellite imagery, Mike Hill, our GIS expert, will create maps of these previously undocumented roads.

One weekend I accompanied Julia Davis, our education coordinator, to the Las Cruces Wild Birds Unlimited store for their 10th anniversary celebration

and grand opening of their nature education center. It was a busy weekend; we drove to Las Cruces the Friday before the event and stayed the night in a hotel room with seven birds. Then, after working a booth for five hours on Saturday, we drove three and a half hours back to Albuquerque with the goal of getting the birds back to their mews before dark. Julia and I were running just barely on time when we got stuck in traffic heading into Rio Rancho. Sometimes your plans don't always work out the way you intend but with a little rearranging, all was well in the end.

Another day in September was spent moving furniture in the office in order to better suit our needs. We used the opportunity to clean out some old things from the office that we never used. I've tried to use this as motivation to continue to organize my office and clean out old papers and equipment that are no longer of any use. It feels good to get things organized and clean out some of the clutter.

I also spent an enjoyable weekend camping in Red Canyon in the Manzano Mountains, northwest of Mountainair, NM. The weather was terrific and there was almost no one else in the campground. My dog, Dexter, loves camping with me and the long hikes we take. I enjoyed listening to the Mountain Chickadees, seeing Turkey Vultures soar overhead, watching Hairy Woodpeckers and Clark's Nutcrackers bounce from tree to tree and even hearing the hoots of a Flammulated Owl one night while sitting around the camp fire.

During the month of October, I will continue completing reports and entering data for all the projects from this summer. Outside of work, I am going to try and go on a few more camping trips before it starts snowing in the mountains. Lucky for me, I have a good sleeping bag to keep me warm at night.

Tuesday, October 10
Lowell Elementary School
9:30 a.m. – 2:45 a.m.
Living with the Landscape

Wednesday, October 11
Bel-Air Elementary School
9 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.
Living with the Landscape

Thursday, October 12
Palmilla Senior Living Center – Speaker's Series
3 – 4 p.m.
Life and Times of New Mexico Raptors

Tuesday, October 17
Lowell Elementary School
9:15 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.
Living with the Landscape

Wednesday, October 18
Seven Bar Elementary School
11:35 a.m. – 1:35 p.m.
Single Visit Birds of Prey

Thursday, October 19
Bear Canyon Estates
10 – 11:30 a.m.
All About Owls

Friday, October 20
State Bar Center
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Annual Meeting – Animal Law section of State Bar

Tuesday, October 24
Lowell Elementary School
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Living with the Landscape

Wednesday, October

Image of Dexter, above, by Amanda; Mountain Chickadee image by Doug Brown.



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25
Bel-Air Elementary
School
9 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.
Living with the
Landscape

Saturday, October 28
Ski Museum – Visit
Albuquerque
9:30 – 10 a.m.
General Bird Program
for Visit Albuquerque

September Rescues

Red-tailed Hawk, head
trauma, Gallup

Cooper's Hawk, leg
injury, Belen

Cooper's Hawk,
emaciated, Rio Rancho

American Kestrel, head
trauma, Belen

Swainson's Hawk, wing
fracture, Albuquerque

Peregrine Falcon,
complex radius and
ulna fracture, Veguita

Amazon Adventure - With Hawks Aloft and Wildside Nature Tours

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



Birding, photography, fun and relaxation, all from our 165 foot deluxe riverboat! A host of leaders for your trip will include Kevin Loughlin, bird photographer and owner of Wildside; Edison Buenano, South America's top birding guide; Gail Garber, Director of Hawks Aloft, plus two local naturalist guides.

Our cruise will include afternoon lectures on birds, wildlife and photography. We enjoy multiple excursions by motorized skiff each day, designed to reveal the incredible wildlife that calls the rain forest home and with any luck we'll spot sloths, monkeys, toucans, macaws, pink dolphins and so much more!

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 experience the magic of the Amazon on this once-in-a-lifetime riverboat adventure.

Focus and Highlights:

The Peruvian Amazon offers fantastic birds, monkeys, sloths, frogs and other great wildlife. We will explore rivers, creeks and forest trails in search of all we can find! On board the ship we will offer daily lectures on birds, wildlife, photography, art and the local culture.

[Click Here for full details.](#)

[Click Here to view optional pre- and post- tour day trips as well as an extended trip to Macchu Picchu](#)

Slate-colored Hawk is just one of the raptor species we might expect to see on this tour, well as pygmy marmoset, one of the smallest monkeys in the world. Our accommodation will be the luxury La Perla riverboat. Both images by Kevin Loughlin, Wildside Nature Tours.



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

Birding, photography, fun and relaxation, all from our 165 foot deluxe riverboat! A host of leaders for your trip will include Kevin Loughlin, bird photographer and owner of Wildside; Edison Buenano, South America's top birding guide; Gail Garber, Director of Hawks Aloft, plus two local naturalist guides.

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[Click Here for full details.](#)

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



>>



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

Birding, photography, fun and relaxation, all from our 165 foot deluxe riverboat! A host of leaders for your trip will include Kevin Loughlin, bird photographer and owner of Wildside; Edison Buenano, South America's top birding guide; Gail Garber, Director of Hawks Aloft, plus two local naturalist guides.

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



>>

Busy September, by Julia Davis, Education and Outreach Coordinator

Fall has officially begun, and the weather has been particularly moody and cold as I write this article. I've unpacked my jacket, sweatshirts, boots, warm socks, and all the things I might need for the cold come. September marks the beginning of school programs and also tends to be nearly fully booked. We started regular school visits for Living with the Landscape this month and have had an overwhelming number of single visit requests that, for whatever reason, were scheduled to be on the same day in October!

School programs, scheduling, mews cleaning, and other random jobs certainly keep me busy during the week. The weekends in September have also been booked up with community outreach events. Every year we visit the fine folks down at the Las Cruces Wild Birds Unlimited to celebrate their anniversary. We also celebrate Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge's birthday at the end of September. I look forward to both events every year as a way to spend time with awesome Hawks Aloft volunteers, the birds, and the community.

October promises to be busy too. Raptor handling classes start up again too. The calendar is filling up fast for the



fall! If you are interested in booking a program, please [follow this link](#) to our online scheduling form, or call the office at 505-828-9455 and ask for Julia!

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.



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.



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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 corvid!). 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 September Volunteers

We extend a huge thank you to Nancy and Bryan Hall, aka Santa Claus! They donated medical supplies, including heating pads to keep injured birds warmer, and a whole bucket-full of other supplies, like toilet paper, paper towels, Tide, cleaning rags. You name it - They brought it!

Mary Bruesch - Mews cleaning
David Buckley - Raptor care
Ruth Burstrom - Sheets/towels
Ed Chappelle - Raptor care
Mary Chappelle - Raptor care
Dagny Cosby - Outreach
Karen Kennedy - Outreach
Maurice Mackey - Outreach
Evelyn McGarry - Mews cleaning, outreach
Arlette Miller - Mews cleaning, outreach
Chellye Porter - Raptor care, medical supplies
Jeff Porter - Raptor care
Lizzie Roberts - Raptor care, outreach
Diane Rossbach - Outreach
Rebecca Szymanski - Raptor and corvid care



Photographers Monthly Gallery - Steve Vender

This month, we feature three songbird images, as well as our educational Flammulated Owl, taken by longtime volunteer and supporter Steve Vender. Steve was bitten by the photography bug when he got his first camera for Christmas 2014. He took his first official bird pic of a White-crowned Sparrow just before sunset on that same Christmas Day. He was inspired to get a camera and specifically take bird photos when a long time friend showed him a photo of a Dark-eyed Junco with amazing detail! You can see more of Steve's images [here](#).



© Stephen Vender

Spotted Towhee



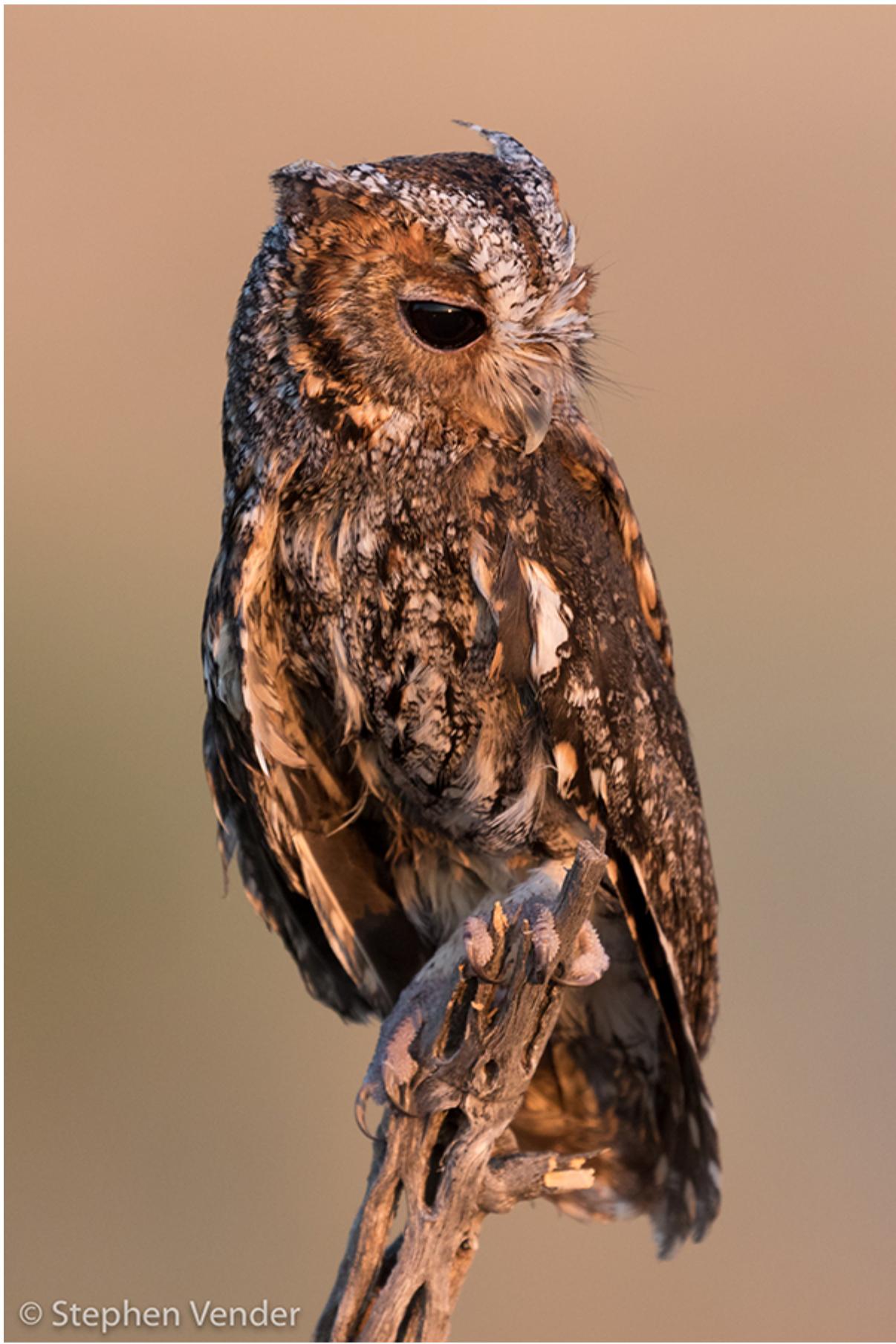
© Stephen Vender

Curve-billed Thrasher



© Stephen Vender

Mountain Bluebird



© Stephen Vender

Flame, the Hawks Aloft Educational Flammulated Owl

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