



HAWKS ALOFT, Inc.

Conservation, Avian
Research & Education

30 Years
Taking Flight
Let's Celebrate!



A Labor of Love The Hawks Aloft Raffle Quilt!

**by Gail Garber
Executive Director**

There are moments in our lives where a seemingly simple decision has a profound effect not just on our own life, but also on many others. It was 30 years ago, in February 1994, that the original founders of Hawks Aloft



gathered at the kitchen table to dream about a new organization dedicated to avian conservation in New Mexico. We managed to hang on, barely, in many years, always following our vision that is now reflected in the four arms of our mission statement: Conservation Education, Avian Research, Raptor Rescue and Collaboration with Others.

As we grew, some years are especially memorable, like 2004: Trevor Fetz joined our team as a songbird biologist, double timing his work here with studies to finish his Ph.D. Now our research director, Trevor oversees all HAI studies and collaborates with others in the science community to ensure that our work complements that of conservation efforts within New Mexico. That also was the year that we finally moved from my house into an office, the one we continue to occupy today. In 2013, Lisa Morgan joined our team and our Raptor Rescue Program was born.

Along the way, various educators built our program, each adding their own special ideas and insights. Today, under the guidance of Jenny Sternheim and Liz (Lizzie) Roberts, "Living with the Landscape" (LWL) has blossomed far beyond our expectations. Although we do still bring live, non-releasable birds to each classroom, our curriculum is all about learning through play. Together, the duo dreams of new games and re-imagines former ones. Each age-specific game we play in the classroom teaches a concept that leaves a lasting impression. Further, each of our games is handmade, mostly by the amazing creativity and hands of Lizzie, Jenny, and our education volunteers.

What could be more effective and fun than playing a pretend game where their teacher discovers a pristine mountain lake and then shares photos on social media? As each new visitor to the beautiful landscape leaves their own mark on the environment, students add various items (trash from naughty students, illegally dumping waste, pesticides from crops, soap from car-washing and cow poop) as the lake suffers. Later, a whole community springs up, complete with factories and businesses, and it seems that no one is aware of the damage they are doing. In the end, the lake water is clearly toxic with chemicals bubbling up and clouding the water. Students are asked if they would swim in that lake now. The follow-up discussion explores how things might have been done differently to prevent this from happening.

The youngest students play with puppets as they learn about the food web and who eats



who and why! It's our newest re-imagined game and just flat adorable thanks to Liz Roberts' creativity.

Photos by Stephanie Schulz



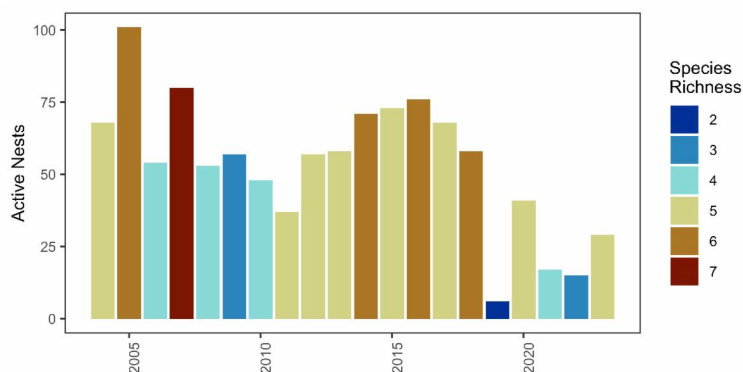
**Thank you to the
Frederick H. Leonhardt Foundation
for supporting Raptor Rescue!**

This month we recognize the [Frederick H. Leonhardt Foundation](#) for their donation of \$5,000 towards our Raptor Rescue efforts. We greatly appreciate this generous gift that will have a direct impact in helping our team save birds all across the state of New Mexico!



Bosque Nesting Raptors

Jessalyn Ayars
Songbird and
Raptor Field
Technician



A crucial part of Hawks Aloft's mission is the inclusion of our community in avian conservation. One way we do this is by recruiting volunteers as citizen scientists, such as for our annual Bosque Nesting Raptor Survey.

The Bosque Nesting Raptor Survey began in 2004 as a collaboration with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). USACE was planning levee work in the bosque, and needed to know where raptors were nesting to avoid disturbance. Our data provided real-time information for USACE to avoid active nesting areas.

Hawks Aloft has continued to run the Bosque Nesting Raptor Survey (in a more limited capacity) since our collaboration with USACE paused in 2018. Since then, about 14 citizen scientists have walked sections of the Bosque each spring, checking on raptor nests to see what species are nesting, where, and how their offspring fare. Since 2004, we have monitored 1202 active nests and watched 4919 baby raptors live to leave the nest. Long-term data like the Bosque Nesting Raptor Survey is crucial to our understanding of avian ecology in the face of accelerating ecosystem change.

[Cooper's Hawks](#) are the most prevalent nesting raptor in the Bosque, making up about 75% of active nests each year (Fig. 2). Next, [Great-horned Owls](#) make up around 24% of active nests each year (Fig. 2). Rounding out our list are the [American Kestrel](#), [Common Black-Hawk](#), [Long-eared Owl](#), [Osprey](#), [Swainson's Hawk](#), [Western Screech-Owl](#), and the [American Crow](#) and [Common Raven](#), which are not raptors but use raptor nests.

It is difficult to say whether trends in the past 5 years are due to ecological changes, or changes in survey effort after funding was eliminated in 2018. For instance, it would make sense that monitoring fewer areas of the bosque after 2018 would result in fewer active nests monitored and fewer species observed, as seen in Fig. 1. However, other trends are

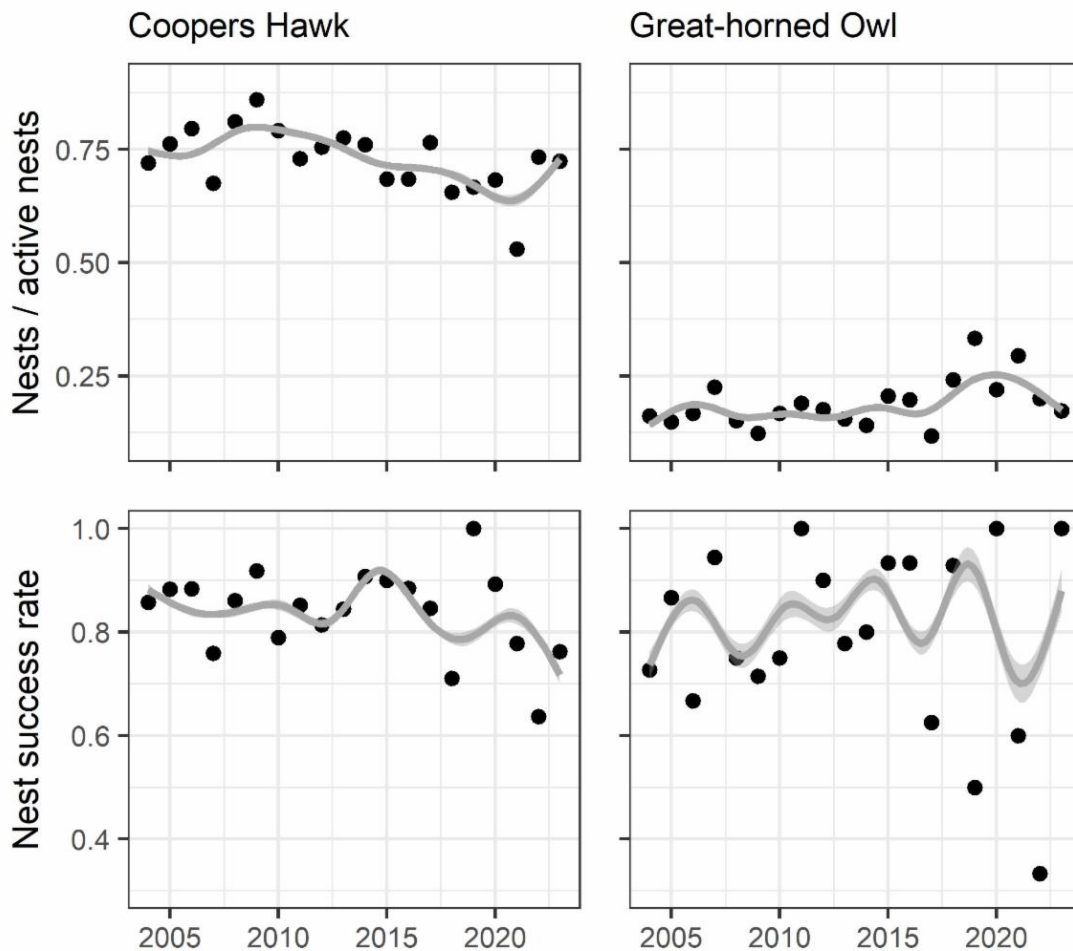
murkier. It appears that variation in nest success rate for Cooper's Hawks and Great Horned Owls is greater after 2016 (Fig. 2). It could be that ecosystem change is destabilizing the conditions surrounding nest success for these species, leading more nests to fail in some years. Or, it could be that we are missing the full picture, since we were unable to monitor as many areas in the bosque in the past five years as previously.

What will the future of raptors in the bosque look like? Will nest success rates continue to fluctuate? How will raptors respond to cottonwood death? These questions are hard to answer, but our long-term monitoring provides key historical information for scientists and conservationists studying raptor communities.

This summer, we have volunteers new and old running surveys, as well as a new staff member (myself!) funded by USACE to survey near their new levee projects. Let's see what we can do together going forward!

We thank Jessalyn Ayars, our newest staff member, for compiling and analyzing these data and authoring this article and creating the charts that accompany it.

Thank you Tony Giancola for the nestling Cooper's Hawk photo.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

CHELLYE PORTER



Volunteers are vital to Hawks Aloft! We are so grateful to have had Chellye Porter on our raptor rescue team since 2005! She has helped with various education programs and research projects as well.

Chellye considers the most rewarding part of her work is “being able to have a positive impact on the raptors of New Mexico through research and rehabilitation and being able share [her] knowledge with others.” She also treasures the close bonds she has formed with the birds in her care.

We recognize her commitment to saving birds of New Mexico and thank her for all that she does!



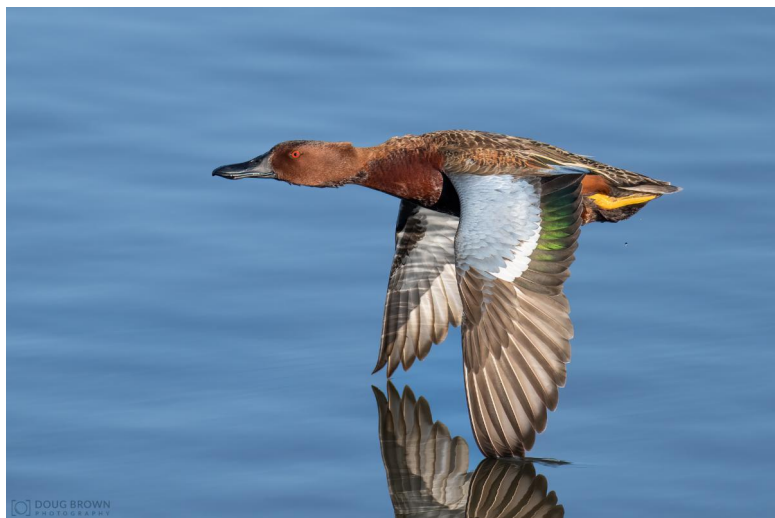


A Quick Summary of the Valles Caldera Waterfowl Study

**Dr. Trevor Fetz
Research Director**

**WAITING FOR A PHOTO
FROM ALAN MURPHY!**

In 2023, Valles Caldera
National Preserve (VCNP)



contracted Hawks Aloft to conduct a one-year waterfowl study at areas with open water across the Preserve. Although waterfowl were known to be present in VCNP, little information had previously been gathered about which species were present and whether they were breeding or non-breeding summer residents.

In order to increase the knowledge of breeding season waterfowl presence, we conducted surveys at 10 different ponds and along 10 different stream sections across VCNP, ranging in length from about 600 meters to nearly 2,000 meters. Each pond and stream section was surveyed at least three times between mid-May and the beginning August.

We documented six duck species, including [Cinnamon Teal](#), [Green-winged Teal](#), [Ruddy Duck](#), [Gadwall](#), [Ring-necked Duck](#), and [Mallard](#). We were able to confirm successful breeding by Cinnamon Teal, Green-winged Teal, and Mallard; it also is likely that Gadwall at least attempted to breed. We also documented two rail species, American Coot and Sora, and were able to confirm that both species bred successfully.

Additionally, we documented two shorebird species, [Wilson's Snipe](#) and [Spotted Sandpiper](#). Wilson's Snipe, a species that is considered "Imperiled in New Mexico" by Natural Heritage New Mexico, is common in VCNP and undoubtedly breeds there. But locating nests and confirming the presence of fledglings is extremely difficult. During daylight hours, snipe tended to remain silent and adults only revealed their presence when they flushed directly in front of a surveyor. Young birds likely stayed hidden in the dense vegetation. Snipe place their nests in or under clumps of grass, making them nearly impossible to locate unless a person were to essentially step right on one.

I extend my sincere thanks to ace volunteer Tom Mayer for his extensive work on this project. Tom took control of large sections of the survey area and conducted nearly 50% of the surveys, including some of the most challenging sections along the east fork of the Jemez River. Although the grasslands in the valleys of Valles Caldera look easy to walk through from the roads, they are actually quite challenging. The native bunchgrasses are much taller than they appear and make for difficult, uneven footing; and streamside areas where we focused our survey efforts were often very boggy and treacherous. Without Tom's efforts, we simply would not have been able to complete all of the surveys, especially after I had biceps tendon surgery and was no longer able to get into the field.

*Wilson's Snipe photo by [Alan Murphy Photography](#).
Cinnamon Teal photo by [Doug Brown Photography](#).*

YOU'RE INVITED!

**WINGSPAN - Celebration of Flight
April 6, 2024**

To ring in 30 years of Hawks Aloft, Inc., we invite you to join us for for an evening of dinner, drinks, and fun! We will have entertainment and hold both a silent and live auction.

Tickets are on sale now!

HAWKS ALOFT INC. PRESENTS

WINGSPAN



Celebration of Flight

Celebrating 30 years of Hawks Aloft, Inc.

Music | Poetry Reading | Raptor Photobooth | Appetizers & Dinner | Cash Bar | Silent Auction | Live Auction | Raffle



April 6, 2024

Where: Albuquerque Garden Center, Albuquerque, NM

Time: 6 PM | Cost: \$75 | \$25 per child (under 12)

All proceeds from this event will help fund medical supplies, education programs, and research efforts, and most importantly, help find a new home for Hawks Aloft, Inc. For more information regarding sponsorship, contact:
Gail Garber at gail@hawksaloft.org or via phone at (505) 828-9455

BUY TICKETS

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, contact Gail Garber at gail@hawksaloft.org!

Thank you to our current event sponsors! We appreciate your support!

Chellye & Jeff Porter



— The Power of WE —

Claudette & William Horn





Flying Free Again

Stephanie Schulz Marketing & Fundraising Specialist

Last month, Chellye Porter, one of our longtime volunteers, received a call from her friend, Robert, about an injured female American Kestrel found at a construction site where his friend Lou worked.

The tiny kestrel smashed into a window at a building under construction. Lou picked her up and set her in a safe place outside, but noticed she still hadn't flown by the time the sun was setting.

After relaying what he'd seen to Robert, Lou was able to get the kestrel to Chellye – who transported the bird to safety by steering her car with one hand while holding the bird in the other. Our veterinarian, Dr. Linda Contos, examined the bird and determined she was suffering from spinal trauma, unable to use her wings or legs, often an injury with a poor prognosis. Luckily this particular kestrel had a miraculous recovery! Chellye worked with her over the next week or so sharing that “it was emotional to work one on one with her during her rehabilitation and then be the person to release her back into the wild and see her fly free!” We are thrilled to share our little American Kestrel was released back into the wild on February 18!

Thank you Kristin C. Brown Photography for these photos.

NOW HIRING

RAPTOR RESCUE COORDINATOR & WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR
Full time Permanent Position.

**SONGBIRD AND RAPTOR FIELD TECHNICIAN:
May 1 – July 30 (Start and End Dates Are Flexible)**

[Click here to view and share](#) the position announcements.



The Woodpecker that does not Peck Wood!

**by Nate & Jeanne Gowan
Guest Authors**

One of our favorite and most colorful visitors to our backyard this time of year is the [Northern Flicker](#). With the bright red-colored shafts on its wing and tail feathers and a white rump patch, they are easy to

identify in flight. They are the most widespread woodpecker in North America; their range reaches from northern Canada through the United States down to Central America.

There are two different regional races of Northern Flicker which are distinguished by the color of the shafts of their tail and flight feathers. Red-shafted Flickers are found in the western part of the range, while the yellow-shafted ones are commonly found in the eastern areas. Yellow-shafted Flickers have tan faces and gray crowns, a red crescent on the nape and a black mustache stripe on the males. Red-shafted Flickers have a gray face, brown crown, no nape crescent and the males sport a red mustache stripe. Both varieties have a black bib and black spotted belly. Despite their color and geographical habitat differences, the two forms are considered a single species by the American Ornithologists Union.

The two forms may hybridize where their ranges overlap. A hybrid could have traits from each of the two forms. For the record, there is another flicker that inhabits the Sonoran Desert areas of Arizona, California and Mexico. The [Gilded Flicker](#) has markings similar to a red-shafted Northern Flicker, but has yellow/gold shafted feathers. It nests in the giant cacti and is considered a separate species.

Red-shafted Northern Flickers can be found year-round in New Mexico, although they may move from the mountains to lowlands during winter. That probably explains why we see fewer of them during the summer in central New Mexico. Yellow-shafted Northern Flickers are more migratory with many breeding in Alaska and Canada then traveling south or southeast in the fall.

Unlike most other woodpeckers, Northern Flickers feed on the ground searching for insects such as ants or beetles. They often go after underground ants and larvae pecking at the soil the way other woodpeckers drill into wood. In winter, more than half of their diet is composed of fruits and nuts. Their strong bill is slightly arched and nearly as long as its head. Its worm-like tongue, can be extended far beyond the end of its bill. Using its sharp-tipped tongue, flickers spear insects inside a hole. The sticky saliva on their tongue helps to capture ants and other small insects.

Along with many other bird species, Northern Flickers sometimes engages in a behavior known as "anting." The bird lies on the ground near an ant nest and allows ants to crawl among its feathers. The ants actually secrete a formic acid on the bird's plumage that repels lice and other parasites that might infest its feathers.

The Northern Flicker is sometimes called the woodpecker that does not peck wood. That is mainly true because it does not peck on wood to feed as most other woodpeckers do. But it does indeed peck and drum on trees during mating season to attract a mate. It also pecks wood to create a nesting cavity. Regardless of how much wood it pecks, the Northern Flicker is still one of our favorite woodpeckers.

All Photos by Nate Gowan



New Year, New Game Part Two

**by Jenny Sternheim
Education Coordinator**

On our continuing quest to review and improve our games, the next one we tackled was our watershed game designed for grades 3-5. Students take turns reading aloud through a story about a teacher who discovers a beautiful lake and the consequences of what happens when humans start to make their homes there.

We explain that the lake is the main part of the watershed where all the water in the area accumulates. In the story, humans are not careful, and pesticides, oil, trash, and animal waste make their way into the lake, polluting the water, and making it undrinkable. All the

animals move away.

At the end of the story, we ask the students how the people in the area could clean up the pollution or prevent it from happening in the first place. We impress on them that there are things they can do to protect their local watershed, even though they are young. To

provide a visual element for the game, we placed a clear bin filled with water in the middle of a plastic sheet that was colored to look like the natural landscape around the fictional lake. As we tell the story, students are invited to put fake pollutants into the water and place cabins, cars, and stores around the landscape.

The parts we needed to improve were mostly the visual elements. The illustration of the landscape was drawn by our educator Liz Roberts over 10 years ago and most of the pieces of the village came from her own children's toys. Liz, who is an artist drew an entirely new landscape that is more color-accurate and detailed. She also made replacement cabins, stores, and businesses, some of which represent donors who support our Living with the Landscape program. Changes to the story include altering a sheep farmer to a cow farmer and making the wool processing factory originally bought by the farmer into a generic one. With these improvements, we hope to make the game more engaging and visually interesting to the students.

This game is so much fun that our staff even enjoyed playing it at our annual kickoff staff/board meeting! L-R: Trevor Fetz, Jessalyn Ayars, Jenny Sternheim, Evelyn McGarry

Thank you [PNM Resources Foundation](#), McCaughin Mountain Foundation for Empowerment, K. Taka Revocable Trust, Perrienne Houghton and Gerald Swanson for funding Living with the Landscape.

Photos by Stephanie Schulz





Meet Electra!

**by Lisa Morgan
Raptor Rescue Coordinator**

On January 9, 2024 we received a call that a hawk was in a chicken coop making quick work of its occupants. The distraught caller managed to capture the hawk and was holding it for us to pick up - IMMEDIATELY!

The bird turned out to be a very large adult female Red-tailed Hawk. She was taken directly to Dr. Linda Contos for an exam. Dr. Contos could only find a broken blood feather and small lacerations to her feet - likely from inviting herself into the chicken coop. It is not unheard of for birds of prey to break into chicken coops, especially in the dead of winter when it is difficult to stay warm and prey is scarce. Dr. Contos and I agreed that I should observe the hawk for a few days while we made arrangements for her to be transferred to another facility with larger mews.

By the next day, she was bashing in the crate and appeared to be ruining the feathers on her left wing. She was quickly transferred to Gail Garber who had a bigger outdoor mews.



However, it did not take long to realize there was something more going on when she developed a significant left wing droop.

Dr. Fiorello examined the hawk finding that there was dried blood to the wrist joint of the left wing. Upon conducting radiographs, it revealed that the very tip of her left wing was completely missing! It looked like an old injury. How in the world did she survive this long? As the days wore on, signs of electrocution began to present: electrical burns began appearing on the wing and the right foot. Electricity typically enters one part of the body and exits out the other. However, sometimes it can take time for electrical injuries to appear. Once they do appear, they are usually fatal.



On January 30, Dr. Fiorello examined the hawk again. Amazingly, the areas of electrocution on her left wing and foot were not sloughing off as is typical for electrical burn. However, the end of her left wing was necrotic and needed to be removed. Dr. Fiorello performed surgery on the area and the hawk survived and began the slow but steady process of healing.

Obviously, she is not releasable, but this lucky bird has healed soundly which is very atypical for electrical injuries. She is still living at Gail's and has been given the name "Electra" by Dr. Fiorello. Gail continues to work with Electra to convince her that getting on the glove is not a traumatic event. Eventually, you will see Electra at Hawks Aloft events teaching the public about the seriousness of avian collisions with unprotected electrical lines.

As always, it takes a village for so many of these rescues. We thank everyone who helped make Electra's survival possible, especially [Northwest Animal Clinic & Hospital](#) that donates the use of their veterinary services and surgery center.

Hawks Aloft Tours



Hawks Aloft & Holbrook Travel

Ecuadorian Cloud Forest and the Galapagos Islands

June 18-29, 2024

\$7495 per person

***includes land cost only**

Only 2 spots left!

Join Gail Garber and Hawks

Aloft as we return to one of our favorite places on Planet Earth – the Galapagos Archipelago! After our first magical trip there in 2018, everyone agreed it was the trip of a lifetime!

Before we head off to the Galapagos Archipelago, we will begin our adventure by exploring [Sachatamia Reserve](#) as well as the [Yanacocha Reserve](#), home to the critically endangered endemic [Black-breasted Puffleg](#). We thank MacCauley Library for the above photo of the puffleg.

Combining a wild array of endemic species like the giant tortoises, albatross, Sally Lightfoot crabs, flamingos, marine iguanas, penguins and Blue-footed Boobies, several of these unique volcanic islands will be ours to explore. Our home will be a luxury yacht, the Tip Top 5. Swimming and snorkeling will be available nearly every day, along with panga rides, and both dry and wet landings. Access to each of the islands is carefully controlled by the Ecuadorian government, so crowds will not be a part of this excursion.

- Visit the [Alambi Cloud Forest Reserve](#), where 250 species-including 32 varieties of hummingbirds-have been recorded.
- Venture to Milpe Bird Sanctuary, a 250 acre subtropical rainforest reserve and ecoregion and biodiversity hotspot that supports 62 restricted-range species, the

largest of any Endemic Bird Area in the Americas.

- See [North Seymour Island](#) and observe [Blue-footed Boobies](#), marine iguanas, pelicans, frigatebirds, shorebirds, sea lions, and endemic Palo Santo trees.
- Land at Punta Espinosa to observe a large colony of sea lions, marine iguanas, Flightless Cormorants, and clumps of lava cactus.
- Witness the native forests and [Los Gemelos](#), a pair of sinkholes created by the collapse of surface material in underground fissures and chambers, on Santa Cruz Island.

[Click here for more details and a complete itinerary.](#)

Red-footed Booby Photo by Gail Garber.

Black-breasted Puffleg, photo by MacCauley Library.



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DOLPHINWINDPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

**Birding Costa Rica
with
Hawks Aloft &
Holbrook Travel
February 9 - 19, 2025**

From \$3625.00

It will have been 10 years since our inaugural visit to the wonders of Costa Rica, with its incredible biodiversity found in 12 different climate zones and numerous ecosystems packed into a small country. We are excited to return again!

We will begin our journey with a stay at Selva Verde Lodge,

owned by Holbrook Travel since the mid-1980s. The lodge protects 500 acres of primary forest in the Sarapiquí region. It was after a visit to explore Costa Rica that Andrea Holbrook wanted to take an active part in preserving the country's natural resources. As a result, visitors might view some of the country's 900-plus bird species, including toucans, macaws, motmots, quetzals and trogons. Our journey will take us to the cloud forest, Caribbean lowland rainforest, arid mountain peaks, and dry Pacific forests.

Costa Rica's natural wealth is no accident. In the mid-20th century, leadership determined that conservation was the future of the nation. Now, 23 percent of Costa Rica's land mass is under preservation. Rather than developing a military, officials instead built educational and social security programs. Despite the ensuing growth of tourism, the country remains peaceful, friendly and open. Costa Ricans continue to exude appreciation and joy for the treasures of their country.



Highlights include:

- Take guided hikes in the private rainforest reserve at [Selva Verde Lodge](#), home to more than 350 bird species, including the endangered [Great Green Macaw](#).
- Ascend the 328-foot suspended walkway at [Tirimбина Biological Reserve](#) for the chance to see species that spend their time high within the forest canopy layer. Enjoy an evening talk about the lives of bats!
- Bird the trails of the world-renowned [La Selva Biological Station](#), where more than half of Costa Rica's species have been recorded, including the [Great Tinamou](#), [Ornate Hawk-eagle](#), [Pied Puffbird](#), and [Spectacled Owl](#).
- Spend a full day in [Carara National Park](#), an ecologically diverse hotspot due to its location at the convergence of northwestern tropical dry forest and humid southern Pacific rainforest with perhaps its most famous inhabitants, not birds, the enormous American crocodiles that lounge on the banks.
- Search for the [Resplendent Quetzal](#), [Slaty Flowerpiercer](#), [Ruddy Treerunner](#), and other high-elevation species in the cloud forests of the [Talamanca Mountains](#).

[Click here for more details and a complete itinerary.](#)

We want to thank Doug Brown and Kristin Brown for providing numerous bird photos from their previous trips to Costa Rica.

*Resplendent Quetzal and Black Guan
photos by [Doug Brown Photography](#).*

Hawks Aloft Merchandise



T-shirts (both long and short-sleeved) are \$30 and can be ordered on our website or can be picked up at the office. Ladies sizes are available in short sleeves; all long-sleeved shirts are unisex, and we also have youth sizes in short sleeves available for \$25.

[Order yours today!](#)



Donate Your Old Car to Hawks Aloft!

Your old car might just be taking up space in your garage--but it could make a huge difference in the lives of New Mexico's native birds, natural landscapes, and the many people who delight in these things.

Car donation is simple. And in fact, it might just make your life *easier*.

[Here's the link to donate your old vehicle!](#)

Call our office if you still have questions: **505-828-9455**.

**Thank you,
One Community Auto!**



Where Everybody Wins!

Support Hawks Aloft by Shopping at Smith's

Many of you have long been Hawks Aloft supporters, and a good number of you have also been longtime Smith's shoppers. For those not in the know, the grocery chain has

a program that provides a small kick-back quarterly to nonprofits when their supporters link their shopper's cards to the organization.

The company recently changed their policies regarding the program—so even if you've signed up in the past, you may need to do it again! The good news is that it is easy to do so.



1. Go to [Smith's Foods](#)
2. Either create an account or sign-in to an existing one
3. Once logged in, click on "**Account Summary**" on the left sidebar
4. From there, scroll down to "**Inspiring Donations Program**" and click "**Enroll**"
5. A searchable list will come up, you can either search for "**Hawks Aloft**" or enter our ID number for the program, "**GL430**"
6. Shop using your card and know that every time you do, you help out Hawks Aloft!

We appreciate your ongoing support in this, and so many other capacities!

Meet Commie! A Senior Hawk!

Commodore was rescued as an adult with a fractured wing, most likely caused by a car strike. He found his way to his forever home at Hawks Aloft in 2004, via a local wildlife rehabilitator. Commodore lives with Aires and is fully retired from attending programs. He was given the name Commodore before he arrived at Hawks Aloft, and is affectionately known as "Commie" by most of the Hawks Aloft staff and volunteers. He was at least two or three years old when he broke his wing, making him 22-25 years old now, one of our senior birds. Consequently, he is sometimes more nervous around humans than some of the birds who came to us as juveniles.



When you adopt a Hawks Aloft raptor you 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:
 1. A professional 8×10 photo of your bird, or
 2. A stuffed Audubon Bird with realistic vocalizations (if available for that species)

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

Photo by Larry Rimer



Photographer's Monthly Gallery Bob McInteer

Photography has been a lifetime hobby for me, almost all of it here in New Mexico. I also made a profession of video production at KOB-TV, at a small production company here in town and then at Sandia National Laboratories - all told about 39 years. Photography, cinematography and processing images was an important part of that.

Since retiring, I've kicked up my photography game and gear. I've also branched out into astrophotography.

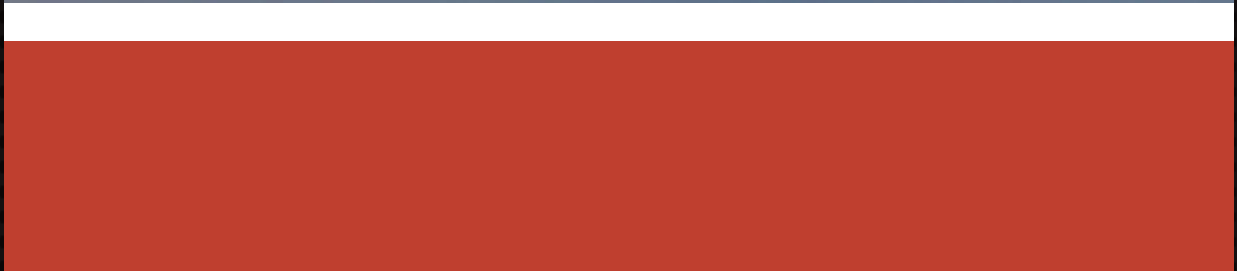
Image 1. This [Cooper's Hawk](#) was part of a nesting pair and didn't appreciate my presence and interest - I was followed all the way around the park and highly urged to go elsewhere.

Image 2. [Shiprock](#) at sunrise. This is a drone shot.

Image 3. Neighborhood [Greater Roadrunner](#). We've had roadrunners living nearby for years. This one gave me a good opportunity to try out settings I would use the following week at Bosque Del Apache.

Image 4. Milky Way and thunderstorm. Camping at Armendaris Ranch in August we had a wonderful night of camping and star watching. This was a 13 second exposure that captured both stars and lightning.

Image 5. I don't know much about [Sandhill Crane](#) behavior but at Bosque del Apache I watched this group for more than an hour and I would swear the open-winged one was impatient to migrate while everyone else wanted to stay and feed. Until I was processing this photo I didn't realize its feet left the ground during the wing stretching. This one makes me smile.





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DONORS, SUPPORTERS, AND VOLUNTEERS

[Donate to Hawks Aloft](#)

[Become a Hawks Aloft Member](#)

Thank You to our February Donors, Members, and new Volunteers!

Aaron Abeyta
Lauren Bendel
Kristin & Doug Brown
Mary Bruesch
Niels Chapman & Ruth
Burstrom *
Mary & Ed Chappelle
Nick Chojnowki for Cody Ross
Shannon Cooley
Charles Cummings
Barb & Rick Deshler
Ken & Sandy Duckert

Our Veterinarians and Rehabilitators

Kariana Atkinson, DVM
Candace Auten, DVM
Avery Berkowitz, DVM
Calista Veterinary Hospital
Mary & Ed Chappelle
Linda Contos, DVM
Coronado Animal Hospital
Desert Willow Wildlife
Rehabilitation Center
Eye Care for Animals
Christine Fiorello, DVM
Tim Fitzpatrick, DVM
High Desert Veterinary Care
Rebecca & Robert Kraimer

February Calls and Intakes

Total Calls: 32

Total Cases: 6

- Cooper's Hawk: Illness
- Red-tailed Hawk: Failure to Thrive
- Barn Owl: R wing injury
- Western Screech-Owl: Head & L wing trauma
- Cooper's Hawk: Trapped in warehouse
- Cooper's Hawk: DOA; impact injury

Dana Espinoza	Daniel Levenson, DVM
Mima & Don Falk	Stephanie Lindsell
Andrew Faust	(NMWLC)
Bob McInteer	Sherry McDaniel
Cynthia Figueroa-McInteer	Mike Melloy, DVM
FHL Foundation	Matt Mitchell
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