



CALENDAR

All monthly meetings begin at 6:30 pm at the Pinetop-Lakeside Town Council Chambers. Fieldtrip times and meeting places vary; see below or please check the website. You may call 367-2462 for more information.

Meetings and Programs:

Nov. 1-Carol Sletten, a Pinetop writer and illustrator, will present "September at the Petrified Forest". She will show images and talk about what she learned while she was an artist-in-residence at the Petrified Forest.

Dec. 6-Annual Holiday Party Potluck. Last names beginning A-M: Bring appetizer or side dish, N-Z bring salad or dessert. Sue Sitko will give a program on her trip to Thailand, with a slideshow of the birds of Thailand.

Special Events and Field Trips: To be announced.

Officers:

President: Mary Ellen Bittorf 367-2462
Vice-Pres.: Tom Jernigan 532-1510
Secretary: Liz Jernigan 532-1511
Treasurer: Chuck Bittorf 367-2462
Field Trips: Rob Bettaso 368-8481
Editor: Jody Inman 369- 3240
Webmaster: Allen Vickers
Membership: Position open

Board Members: Joan Patrick, Jody Inman, Mary Freemon, Kathy Dahnk, Rob Bettaso

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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2017 OUT ON A LIMB WITH YOUR PRESIDENT

A couple of reminders: The speaker for our November meeting will be Carol Sletten-Kramer. Carol is an accomplished author, playwright and artist. I'm sure you will find her talk very interesting and informative.

Don't forget our Christmas program on Dec.6, as always, is a potluck and I will bring a ham. See program description on left of here for details. Also, December is our annual meeting and at that time we will elect officers for 2018.

I am excited to announce that the Hantridge family; Amy, Jonathan and Donovan, have consented to monitor the birds they see at the White Mountain Nature Center for the coming year, as well as to develop and oversee a nest box trail. On Sunday, October 22, I met with the Hantriges, John Jarkow of WMNC and Rob Betasso to talk about how to plan the nest box trail and monitor the birds. The Hantriges have also consented to record their sightings on e-bird on a regular basis. They have already placed the White Mountain Nature Center on e-bird as a birding hot spot. I hope that other groups or families in or out of White Mountain Audubon will consent to do the same monitoring of their favorite birding area. Any of you who are interested in doing this should call me and we will develop a plan.

I have realized over the past couple of months that not only is this a great time for bird watchers, but it is also a fabulous time to look at butterflies. Butterflies are as colorful and varied as the different birds that we can see in the Fall. Some of the butterflies we have seen include: Monarchs, Queens, hundreds of Painted Ladies, Fritillaries, Sulfurs, several varieties of blue butterflies white butterflies. Weather permitting, I recommend that you look around for migratory birds of all kinds and for butterflies. You'll like what you see!

As the holiday season approaches, I want to wish you all a wonderful time with family and friends, and...enjoy birding.

Mary Ellen



Here is Chuck Bittorf, giving a few friendly hints to a child playing the Bird ID game at this year's Wildlife Fair, held September 2 at the White Mountain Nature Center.

FOOL HOLLOW FIELD TRIP NOTES FROM ROB BETTASO

It was a breezy Fall day (September 30) at the Fool Hollow Recreation Area, with temperatures in the 60s. About a little after 8 am. We made our way down the steps at Raven Ramada and walked along the gravel path along the shoreline. Waterfowl were visible but most were in the sun's reflection on the lake. So we moved ahead and were rewarded with a variety of birds in the field, forest, and water habitats. In the dried out thistles were a number of Lesser Goldfinches, Yellow-rumped Warblers and a Wilson's Warbler. The waterfowl came into view and we identified a Ring-necked Duck, Canada Geese, Ruddy Ducks, and American Coots. A number of Mallards were in flight. On the walk back we spotted an American Kestrel. We took some time identifying a pair of Hammond's Flycatchers (ruled out a Gray Flycatcher) Here is the list for all identified species: Pie-billed Grebe, Canada Goose, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck, Ruddy Duck, Osprey, Cooper's Hawk, American Kestrel, Lewis' Woodpecker, Hammond's Flycatcher, Stellar's Jay, Scrub Jay, Common Raven, Barn Swallow, Mountain Chickadee, Western Bluebird, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Lesser Goldfinch, American Coot.



Do you see yourself here?

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SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER SIGHTINGS

| Name | What Seen | Where |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Inmans | Red-naped Sapsucker, Pinon Jays, Gray Jays, Northern Flickers, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawks | White Mountains |
| Don Hollender (sightings in June and July, too late for last newsletter) | Violet -crowned Hummingbird, Broad-billed Hummingbird, Magnificent Hummingbird, Elegant Trogon, Slate-throated Redstart, Yellow-eyed Junco, Say's Phoebe, Broad-tailed Hummingbird | Southeast Arizona |
| Ann Anspach | Roadrunner, lots of Hummers, Pinon Jay, Robins, Crows, Phainopepla | Taylor |
| Bittorfs | Green-tailed Towhee, Hepatic Tanager, Western Bluebirds, Northern Flickers, Red-naped Sapsucker, Virginia's Warbler, Plumbeous Vireo, Chipping Sparrow, Belted Kingfisher | Pinetop yard, Lake of the Woods |
| Jernigans | Juniper Titmouse, Mountain Chickadee, Kestrel, Western Bluebird, Wilson's Warbler, Acorn Woodpecker, Spotted Towhee | Show Low |
| Mary Freemon | Raven, Western Bluebirds, Juvenile Robins, Nuthatches, Tanagers | Lakeside yard |
| Rob Bettaso | Townsend's Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler | Ft. Apache Reservation |
| Joan Patrick | Harlequin Duck, Belted Kingfisher | Seattle, WA |

ARIZONA'S BALD EAGLES EXPAND BREEDING SITES IN 2017 (Sept. 12, 2017, Arizona Game and Fish Department)



PHOENIX — Arizona's bald eagle population continues to soar as the number of breeding areas expanded statewide and a record 82 young hatched during the 2017 breeding season, according to an annual Arizona Game and Fish Department survey.

While the number of hatchlings rose from the previous high of 79 in 2016, the number of young that actually fledged dipped slightly to 63 birds that made the important milestone of their first flight. In Arizona, at least 95 eggs were laid, which was slightly less than the 97 laid in 2016, and a record 85 breeding areas were identified, including two new areas.

“We continue to see phenomenal growth of Arizona's bald eagle population,” said Kenneth Jacobson, AZGFD bald eagle management coordinator. “An increase in breeding areas and increasing numbers of hatchlings is a testament to the resiliency of these magnificent animals and our ongoing efforts to help recover bald eagles in Arizona.”

Arizona's bald eagle populations have flourished since 1978, when 11 pairs were counted within the state and the species was listed as endangered. Today there are an estimated 67 adult breeding pairs.

Bald eagles in Arizona were removed from the federal Endangered Species Act in 2011. The department's conservation efforts contributed to the species recovery. Nationally, the birds remain protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

The impressive growth of the population is attributed to the continued efforts of the Southwestern Bald Eagle Management Committee – a coalition of AZGFD and 25 other government agencies, private organizations and Native American tribes – and its years of cooperative conservation efforts, including extensive monitoring by the nationally-awarded Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program.

The breeding season for bald eagles in Arizona runs from December through June, although eagle pairs at higher elevations nest later than those in the rest of the state.

Continued support from the committee, State Wildlife Grants and the Heritage Fund (Arizona Lottery ticket sales), will help ensure that Arizona's bald eagles continue to thrive. For more information on bald eagles in Arizona, visit www.azgfd.gov (click on "wildlife") or www.swbemc.org.

"To the dull mind, all nature is leaden. To the illumined mind, the whole world burns and sparkles with light."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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If you find distressed songbirds, raptors including eagles, waterfowl and small animals, contact Susan Taggart at (928) 242-5796. If you are unable to reach her and need assistance immediately, you may call the White Mountain Animal Hospital in Lakeside at (928) 368-8425 or Alta Sierra Veterinary Clinic in Show Low (928) 537-2880. Susan works in conjunction with the animal hospitals and is sub-permitted through the Arizona Game and Fish Department to care for injured and orphaned wildlife as a community service.

DUES ARE DUE, PLEASE!

**White Mountain Audubon Society
Membership/Donation Form**

White Mountain Audubon Society membership dues are: **Individual \$15, or Family \$25 per year.** Please renew your membership. Your tax-deductible membership supports our on-going programs and activities, as well as future new projects. Your membership and donations do make a difference!!!

MEMBERSHIP _____ DONATION _____

Individual _____
 Family _____
 Name _____ Date _____
 Mailing Address _____ E-mail _____
 _____ Phone _____

**Send this form and your dues or donation to: White Mountain Audubon Society
 P.O. Box 3043
 Pinetop, AZ 85935**

You may use this form for either your Membership renewal or a Donation to WMAS. Please designate above which you are doing. Thank you very much for your support of White Mountain Audubon Society! **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

WHERE TO WRITE

President Donald Trump
 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
 Washington, DC 20206
 202-???????

U.S. Sen. Jeff Flake
 B85 Russell Bldg.
 Washington, DC 20510
 202-224-4521

Gov. Fred Ducey
 Executive Tower
 1700 W. Washington
 Phoenix, AZ 85007
 602-542-5219

Sen. Jamescita Peshlakai
 1700 W. Washington
 Phoenix, AZ 85007
 602-926-5160

U.S. Cong. Tom O'Halleran
 126 Cannon House Bldg
 Washington, DC 20515
 202-225-3361

U.S. Sen. John McCain
 241 Russell Bldg
 Washington, DC 20510
 202-224-2235

Rep. Wenona Benally
 1700 W. Washington
 Phoenix, AZ 85007
 602-926-5172

Rep. Eric Descheenie
 1700 W. Washington
 Phoenix, AZ 85007
 602-926-4846

White Mountain Audubon Society is dedicated to the enjoyment of birds and other wildlife by providing environmental leadership and awareness through fellowship, education, community involvement, and conservation programs in the White Mountains and surrounding areas.

**White Mountain Audubon Society
P. O. Box 3043
Pinetop, AZ 85935**