



## CALENDAR

All monthly meetings begin at 6:30 pm. **PLEASE NOTE ALL UPCOMING MEETINGS ARE AT THE WHITE MOUNTAIN NATURE CENTER, 425 S. WOODLAND RD. LAKESIDE UNTIL FUTURE NOTICE.**

Fieldtrip times and meeting places vary; see below or please check the website. You may call 367-2462 for more information.

### Meetings and Programs:

**March 7-** Mary Ellen Bittorf, Feathers: Form and Function. and how birds engineer their nests

**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

[www.whitemountainaudubon.org](http://www.whitemountainaudubon.org)

## FEBRUARY 2018

### Out on a Limb with your president-

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear,  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

Happy New Year to All!!!  
Mary Ellen

## Tentative Programs for 2018

**March 7-** Mary Ellen Bittorf, Feathers: Form and Function. and how birds engineer their nests

**April 4-** Larry & Gwen Ethelbah, Forest Fires and its effect on wildlife

**May 2-** unknown (see alternate programs of Sept)

**June 6-** Mike Cross, (AZ Dept. G & F) Band-tailed Pigeon Study

**July 11 -** Larissa Harding, (AZ Dept. G & F) Cormorants in Arizona

**August 1-** Jennifer Johnson & Tim Gatewood (US Fish & Wildlife & Tribal Fisheries biologist)  
exact topic unknown

**Sept. 5-** Annie Brown -Fossil Creek or Nancy Meister- Birding in Yuma area, or Fred Peters.

**Oct. 3-** Members program, photography and local bird snippet

**Nov. 7-** Donovan Hanridge & family, nest box project and Donovan's birding camp in Mexico

**Dec. 5-** Christmas Potluck program with Ron Miller (retired BIA Forester), Trees of the White Mountains, Christmas trees that go to the White House, and trees used in the Caribbean for Holiday celebrations

## Sightings from the Penas and Inmans

Bob and I are having lots of great birds in our yard now and wanted to share for your next newsletter. We have seen: Brown Creeper, Red-breasted, White-breasted and Pygmy Nuthatches, Spotted Towhee, all 3 sapsuckers- Williamson's, Red-naped, and Yellow-bellied, Bushtits and Yellow-rumped Warbler. Of course all the regulars too- Acorn, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, Eurasian Collared Doves, Brown-backed, Pink sided, and Oregon Juncos.

Loretta Pena

The Inmans had an immature Cooper's Hawk perch on their vehicle mirror, giving them a good view, but not long enough to grab the camera and take a picture. They've also had regular visits from a Williamson's Sapsucker pair, mostly drinking water thirstily from the water dish.

Jody and Richard Inman

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**The Pulse Flow:** The highly publicized “pulse flow” in 2014 was the first time the Colorado River met the sea since 1997. This pulse was the result of negotiations between the U.S. and Mexico to address the drying of the river from overuse and climate change. 5000 acres of dry floodplain finally saw water as the pulse flooded over 70 miles of dry riverbed to meet the ocean again, meeting with rousing social and environmental success as people celebrated the return of water to the desiccated land, riparian vegetation sprouted and grew, and birds such as the yellow-billed cuckoo returned to habitat long since dried and abandoned. That was Minute 319; a new chapter in the story of the U.S.-Mexico treaty to address water conservation along the Colorado River is Minute 323, which sets aside 210,000 acre feet of water for environmental purposes. Under this new agreement (in which the Audubon Society was an active participant), a series of smaller pulses will attempt to keep enough water and moisture in the delta to retain these conservation successes, and habitat restoration efforts by Audubon and its partners in the Raise the River conservation coalition will attempt to further restore the prime riparian habitat in the delta. Lower Colorado River “Delta” For Arizona’s human residents, this international water conservation agreement provides a respite from the hovering threat of a declaration of water shortage (and the social and economic consequences thereof) declared by the Interior Department if Lake Mead reaches the low water mark—and it’s close. For Arizona birds and birders, this means an extension of quality riparian habitat in the arid desert southwest and the improvement of a key migratory pathway, which could result in an expansion of the bird populations (like the yellow-billed cuckoo) that depend on that habitat, and increase in the number of birds moving through our state, providing us with a greater opportunity to observe and appreciate them. Link to Audubon’s article: <http://www.audubon.org/news/update-us-mexico-water-treaty-hugewin-conservation?ms=policy-eng-email-ea-wran>

[www.whitemountainaudubon.org](http://www.whitemountainaudubon.org)

## **Conservation Conversation**

(from [www.northernarizonaaudubon.org](http://www.northernarizonaaudubon.org))

2018 has been declared “The Year of the Bird” by over 100 organizations; including National Audubon Society, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Geographic, BirdLife International, and more, who are partnering to protect birds. This huge alliance lends hope and clout to important issues facing birds.

Why 2018? It’s the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA):

*“Many of the 1,027 species of birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act are experiencing population declines due to increased threats across the landscape. Of those 1,027 species, 92 bird species are listed as either threatened or endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.”*

The NAAS 2018 policy is looking toward the next step in conservation by expanding our Joint Venture partnerships with our local Sanctuaries to include post-graduate students research. Right now, we are educating you about “The Year of the Bird.” You can take the pledge without giving hours of time, mountains of money, your first-born, or living in a shack in the cold on a precipice while counting birds (unless, of course, you want to)!

By taking the Pledge, you can agree to take “... *a simple but meaningful action for birds each month.*” Once you sign the pledge, the campaign will prompt you with easy steps to a bird-friendlier home, suggestions for how to turn a child into a lover of nature, etc.

The goal of The Year of the Bird is, “*To inspire people around the world to commit to protecting birds for today and for the next one hundred years.*”

The hope of the committee is that by suggesting you take this pledge, we are offering a coherent, succinct, one-stop shop spot where you can advocate for something you are passionate about – birds!

***“If you take care of the birds,  
you take care of most of the big  
problems in the world”***

***~Thomas Lovejoy***

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**