



APRIL EDITION 2024

Out on a Limb by Jon Orona (WMAS Member & Field Trip Leader):

I would like to thank Jon for contributing this edition's Out on a Limb article and you will find it as a second attached document on the email that also contains this Newsletter. Due to formatting issues, I decided that Jon's wonderful Out on a Limb article would work better as is a stand-alone document. As you will soon see, Jon's article includes some fantastic photos he took of various gorgeous birds that he saw perched "out on a limb."

Thx. –Rob Bettaso (WMAS Newsletter Editor)

White Mountain Audubon Society (WMAS) 2024 Chapter Officers:

President: Mary Williams	480-235-1792
Vice-President: Tom Jernigan	928-892-3004
Secretary: Ron Pedersen	505-313-9343
Treasurer: Tom Jernigan	928-892-3004
Field Trips: Rob Bettaso	928-368-8481
Newsletter: Rob Bettaso	928-368-8481
Membership: Susie Walker	480-205-6119
Webmaster: Alan Vickers	

2024 Board Members:

Mary Williams, Tom Jernigan, Liz Jernigan, Mary Freemon, Susie Walker, Gerry Hodge, Ron Pedersen, & Rob Bettaso.



President's Corner by Mary Williams:

Do you feel joyful? Thankful? Hopeful? Relaxed? If not, why not? I encourage you to do some evaluating – and perhaps see a medical professional or consult with a spiritual advisor. Mostly, I want to encourage you to **get outside!** Especially at this time of year. The birds are singing and breeding and nesting. Migrants are returning! Flowers are blooming! Trees are budding! Happy Spring!!



Eric Kramer, President of Save Our Park, will be the guest speaker at our first meeting of the year on April 3 at 6:30 at the Nature Center. He will talk about a dramatic expansion of Woodland Lake Park which will give Pinetop-Lakeside one of the largest recreation and nature areas of any community in the state. He will discuss the scope of the expansion, tentative plans for the property and what is needed to care for the larger park and its facilities. Eric and Ken also will lead a walk from the Woodland Lake Park boat launch area to Big Springs on April 4 at 8:00. (Weather permitting.)



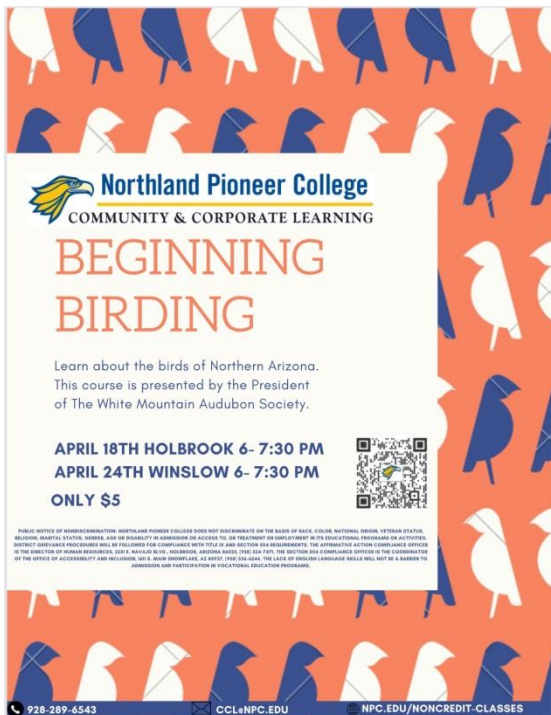
Surprised by this poster for the annual Global Big Days? Once called Migratory Bird Day, this year's May Global Big Day is on Saturday the 11th. I'm again serving as the Navajo County Coordinator and Sue Sitko is again serving as the Apache County Coordinator. If you are willing and able to survey an assigned area (we want to cover as much territory as possible) and submit an eBird checklist, text or call one of us please. (I'm at 480-235-1792; Sue's is 928-368-6832.) Remember: without insects we are losing many of our beautiful migratory, as well as local, species. Don't use pesticides and inform others who continue to do so. Plant native flowers, shrubs and trees that attract insects. Hope to see you on April 3. Wishing you good birding and many blessings, Mary

White Mountain Audubon Society Calendar:

For 2024 we expect that **all monthly Audubon programs** will continue to start at **6:30 pm on the first Wednesday of the month (except in December, January, February & March when there are no meetings)**. The programs are free and open to all. Monthly meetings are **held at the White Mountain Nature Center, 425 Woodland Road, Pinetop-Lakeside**.

As Mary W. mentioned above, the first WMAS Speaker Presentation of 2024 will be **Eric Kramer on April 3rd**. Eric will speak on the latest developments in the Save Our Park efforts.

Also, this month Mary W. will also do another one of her birding classes and this class will be presented in both Holbrook and Winslow (please see the graphic directly below):



Northland Pioneer College
COMMUNITY & CORPORATE LEARNING

BEGINNING BIRDING

Learn about the birds of Northern Arizona.
This course is presented by the President
of The White Mountain Audubon Society.

APRIL 18TH HOLBROOK 6- 7:30 PM
APRIL 24TH WINSLOW 6- 7:30 PM
ONLY \$5

*PUBLIC NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION: NORTHLAND PIONEER COLLEGE DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, VETERAN STATUS, RELIGION, MARITAL STATUS, PREGNANCY, AGE OR QUALITY OF ADVERSITY OR ACCESS TO, OR TREATMENT OR EMPLOYMENT IN ITS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES. IMPROVED ACCESS PROCEDURES WILL BE FOLLOWED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE II OF THE 1964 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT. COMPLIANCE OFFICER: THE ASSISTANT VICE CHANCELLOR OFFICER IN THE OFFICE OF ARIANA RODRIGUEZ, 2025 S. HAYWARD BLVD., MESA, ARIZONA 85204, (480) 834-7474. THE SECTION FOR COMPLIANCE OFFICER IS THE COORDINATOR OF THE OFFICE OF ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUDING: (480) 834-7474. (480) 834-7474. THE USE OF INTERPRETING SERVICES WILL NOT BE A BARRIER TO ADMISSION AND PARTICIPATION IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

928-289-6543 CCL@NPC.EDU NPC.EDU/NONCREDIT-CLASSES

The Regular Monthly WMAS Birding Field Trips: Monthly bird watching field trips on the **3rd Sat of every month**, alternate between Rob Bettaso & Jon Orona. If you're interested in attending, feel free to give me a call and leave a message so that I can return your call to give you the details for the upcoming trip. The **next outing is April 20th**. Also, on the **fourth Sat of each month** I lead a "Fitness Birding" outing that combines slightly strenuous activities (longer hikes, bicycling, paddling, X/C skiing) with birding. The next **Fitness Birding trip will be April 27th**. Feel free to give me a call if you're interested (Rob: 928-368-8481).

UPDATES & REMINDERS:

Have you paid your annual membership dues? If not, a friendly reminder that WMAS relies on membership dues for such important Chapter actions as our annual Scholarship Awards to White Mountain area graduating seniors who have expressed an interest in pursuing a career in natural history, conservation, and other related fields. Thank you for helping us to continue to make such programs a regular part of our Chapter mission. Note that the Donation form is at the end of every Newsletter. Dues are for the year in which they are paid and **not** good for 12 months following payment (unless you pay in January).

Also, if you are not a member of the National Audubon Society, we encourage all Chapter members to join the national organization. Information on joining the national organization is easy as you only need to type "National Audubon Society" into your internet search engine to obtain the simple instructions for joining.

And remember, you can always feel free to offer your assistance to the Board. For that matter, there are some on the Board who are interested in moving on from the Board to focus on other aspects of their lives, so, we are always interested in hearing from anyone who might want to accept the fun challenges of filling a Board position! **We are especially keen to recruit diverse candidates to be a part of WMAS, including more people below the age of 60 (so that we can plan for our Chapter's future) and also more people that are representative of the various demographic groups found in the White Mountains. And remember, you can be on the Board without being an Officer – in fact, you can even just attend a Board meeting as a guest. Please feel free to join us (call Rob: 928-368-8481).**

Membership/Donation Form

White Mountain Audubon Society chapter membership dues are: Individual \$15 or Family \$25 per year. Please renew your membership every January. 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 and visit our website.

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.