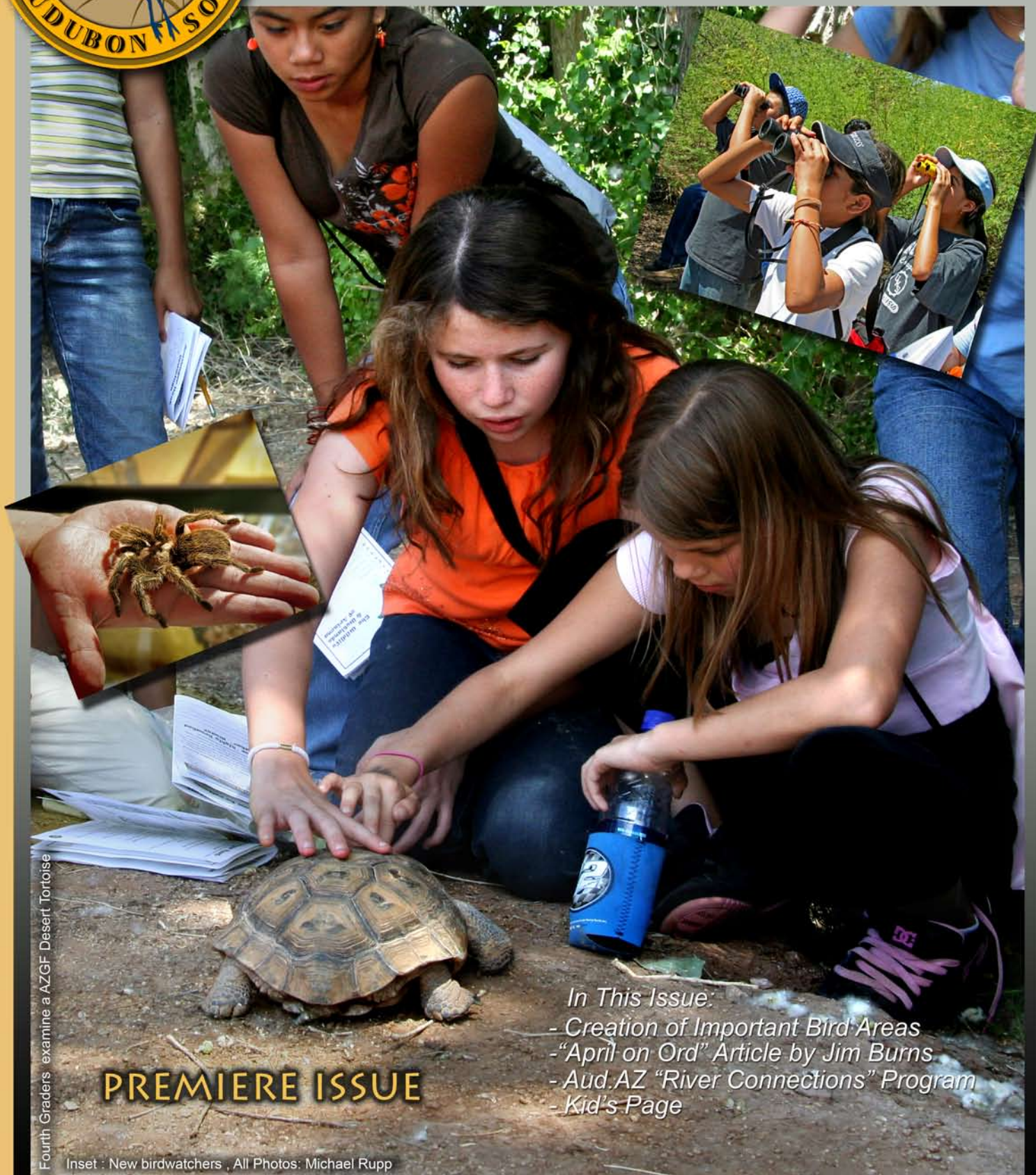




# DESERT RIVERS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Educating and inspiring our community to protect and preserve birds, wildlife, and their habitats

VOLUME 1 - FALL 2007 NEWSLETTER



Fourth Graders examine a AZGF Desert Tortoise

## PREMIERE ISSUE

### *In This Issue:*

- Creation of Important Bird Areas
- "April on Ord" Article by Jim Burns
- Aud.AZ "River Connections" Program
- Kid's Page

Inset : New birdwatchers , All Photos: Michael Rupp



# THE MAKING OF AN IMPORTANT BIRD AREA (IBA)

**Truly a global project**, the IBA concept was developed by Bird Life International, the worldwide alliance of conservation organizations that works to conserve birds, habitats and global biodiversity. ([www.BirdLifeInternational.org](http://www.BirdLifeInternational.org)) According to the Birdlife website, IBA's do one or more of three things;

- \*They hold significant numbers of one or more globally threatened species.
- \*Is one of a set of sites that together hold a suite of restricted-range species.
- \*Have exceptionally large numbers of migratory or congregatory species.

In the United States, Audubon is the international cooperating conservation organization that oversees the U.S. IBA program. Locally, various Arizona Audubon chapters and individuals have developed the science criterion for the Arizona IBA program. Most folks that enjoy birds would agree that the Arizona landscape holds unique qualities that fulfill all three IBA qualifiers.

Not to underestimate the rigors of qualifying an area to IBA status, there are many suitable locations in this state that do not have IBA status. Indeed, there are areas with IBA status that lack current monitoring needed to maintain IBA status. The weak link seems to be a lack of organized, dedicated and trained volunteers. The Prescott Audubon Chapter has proven to possess these qualities. Their territory includes the upper reach of the Verde River. The group has been surveying the private and state owned land from Sullivan Lake at the Verde head downstream to the Prescott National Forest boundary and subsequently nominated that reach of river for IBA status. The application was returned with the recommendation the scope be expanded to include an additional lower reach of the Verde and to locate evidence of Belted Kingfisher as they should be nesting there pre-monsoon.

The new recommendation brought a difficult challenge to the Prescott group. The area they had been surveying was accessible by automobile. This new reach of river is on national forest land and road access is highly restricted—a new means of access had to be found. My new position with DRAS provided me an invite to help with the solution. Tice Supplee, with Audubon Arizona, asked about accessing the river by boat. She and I had talked of a recreational boating trip down the Verde for years but that had not happened due to busy schedules. That changed as we discussed the trip priorities. Hers were the time of year the targeted species would be in that habitat. Mine were lesser birds; the trip could not take place after the first monsoon rain. I was not worried about high water from the rains, quite the contrary. We were boating the upper reach, where the water is at its thinnest. The first rains dump large amounts of material into the water thus making it impossible to see the underwater obstacles. If one has not had that experience, boating shallow, muddy water trust this; you will be out of your boat pushing it off rocks all

Desert Rivers Audubon & Audubon Arizona  
working together for bird conservation  
*Don Farmer, DRAS Conservation Director*



*Karen O'Neill and Tice Supplee - Photo: Don Farmer*

day long. It was decided our survey would take place in June, before the rains came. Rounding out our merry band was Karen O'Neill.

Karen has had long experience with birding in the area. Being a natural outdoors woman from Prescott and a member of that Audubon chapter, she has been heavily involved in the bird surveys on the head of the Verde.

We spent night one on Verde Ranch property and launched at sunrise, stopping at our designated mileages to run the surveys. We continued this pattern of boat/survey through-out the morning then found a shaded area to rest during the afternoon heat. Back on the river late afternoon, we continued the boat and survey pattern until evening camp.

We spent the first day and one half recording the birds we saw and heard. The highlight of the trip came when a Kingfisher flew overhead like a blue missile. Continuing our work routine and one hour later, Mr. Kingfisher, regaled with a small fish in beak came rocketing back downstream. With that evidence, a nested pair of kingfishers was suspected. Then to our surprise, the blue missile returned rocketing overhead. He returned with yet another small fish for his nested mate. We had to be close to the nest. While we didn't locate the nesting burrow, the female was observed flying in the immediate area proving the nest nearby.

The amended IBA application will be offered soon and hopefully, with this additional survey work, Arizona will enjoy its newest IBA. This is important to us all as the IBA helps identify the stressors and threats to the birds in an area. The other critical role is the education and engagement of the public in the value of resource stewardship.

If you or a friend would like to participate in adventures such as this, or less rigorous IBA counts, please contact Don Farmer at [huntnhabit@msn.com](mailto:huntnhabit@msn.com) Audubon Arizona holds periodic training for volunteers in count protocol and methods. There are existing and proposed IBA's in need of survey counts—please consider joining a team!



# GILBERT FAMILY BIRDWALKS

Desert Rivers Audubon's birdwalk program  
for new birders, scouts, and families

*Krys Hammers*



**A pair of Green-winged Teal** forages in the shallows of the pond. They just flew in from their breeding grounds in northern Alaska a few days ago, showing their latest offspring the way south. Around them are Northern Pintails, Mallards and Northern Shovelers. Along the mudflat is a congregation of about 40 Long-billed Dowitchers. A trio of Least Sandpipers runs along the shoreline. Black-necked Stilts are poking their long beaks in the shallow water feeding on tadpoles and aquatic insects. They spent the hot summer months right here.

The Gilbert Riparian Preserve is a 110-acre water recharge facility located on the southeast corner of Greenfield and Guadalupe in Gilbert. This urban habitat has attracted birders from around the world who come to see the 200 species of birds that can be found there. The vision at the Water Ranch is to preserve valuable natural resources, support creation and conservation of scarce riparian areas, and protect needed habitat for wildlife. (See [www.riparianinstitute.org](http://www.riparianinstitute.org))



On the trail by the edge of the pond Joy Dingley, Desert Rivers Audubon Society Education Chair is with a group of families who are learning to identify these bird species. They are looking through a telescope to see the field marks up close. The youngest of the group focuses his loaner binoculars in on a large graceful, white bird in the far distant mud pond.

It is a Great Egret. Over one hundred years ago, the large white feathers from this bird were fashionable on ladies' hats. They had been hunted to near extinction. Joy explains that the National Audubon Society formed to protect this bird. The children race back to the Desert Rivers tent to claim their prize from playing Bird Bingo. They return the binoculars that they've been loaned and set about to make a list of the 40 species that they've seen on the white board. They drift over to get a close up look at a Great-horned Owl and Harris Hawk. They are education birds from Liberty Wildlife on display. As Joy relaxes for a moment before taking out another group, she comments that the last group was really excited about the birds they saw and what they learned. Some of them had a "WOW" experience – you know that experience you get in nature when you look at something for the first time and say, "WOW." She says that's what makes being a volunteer Birdwalk leader so rewarding. Another volunteer leader, Charles Saffell agrees. He has just returned from leading a group on Boy Scouts who are now on their way to earning a Birding Badge.



Join us for our monthly Beginning Birdwalks at the Gilbert Riparian Preserve on the third Saturday of each month from October through April. Walks start at 8AM. Loaner binoculars are available. There is Bird Bingo for the kids. Birding books and supplies are for sale. Bird artifacts, conservation and membership information are available. This is a great way for adults and kids alike to learn more about our birds and nature in an urban setting and close to home. (See back page)







## The Bird on our Logo

The bird on our logo is an expert fisherman. He wades through the water on his long, long legs spearing fish and other small animals with his long sharp beak. He's a big bird as well, if he stretches out his neck he can be nearly four foot long and when he spreads his wings he's about six foot from wing tip to wing tip. You can't miss him as he flies above you beating those wings in a slow steady beat.

He's called the Great Blue Heron but most people would call him a grey bird. You have to look carefully to see the bluish tinge to his wonderful feathers.

So why is a water bird the logo for a bird group in the Valley of the Sun? Well our rivers and creeks have always been important, they have always made life possible in a very dry hot place. Wherever there are rivers and creeks you will find the herons making a very good living. The herons are very adaptable birds though; they've learned a few new tricks. I often see herons on roof tops near golf courses, waiting to investigate the ponds there. You will find them at water treatment areas and near those shopping centers with the artificial landscaped lakes. So they teach us a lesson, water is very precious wherever it comes from, don't waste a drop.

## Word Search

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CAKESTRELSNI PEOL  
KLCROSPREYI BISNT

Aberts Towhee	Hummingbird	Roadrunner Pintail
Avocet	Ibis	Ruddy Duck
Bittern	Kestrel	Sandpiper
Blackbird	Killdeer	Shoveler
Cactus Wren	Mallard	Snipe
Cormorant	Oriole	Stilt
Dowitcher	Osprey	Teal
Great Blue Heron	Piedbilled Grebe	Verdin
Great Egret	Pintail	Warbler
Grosbeak	Ringnecked Duck	Wigeon

## KIDS PAGE

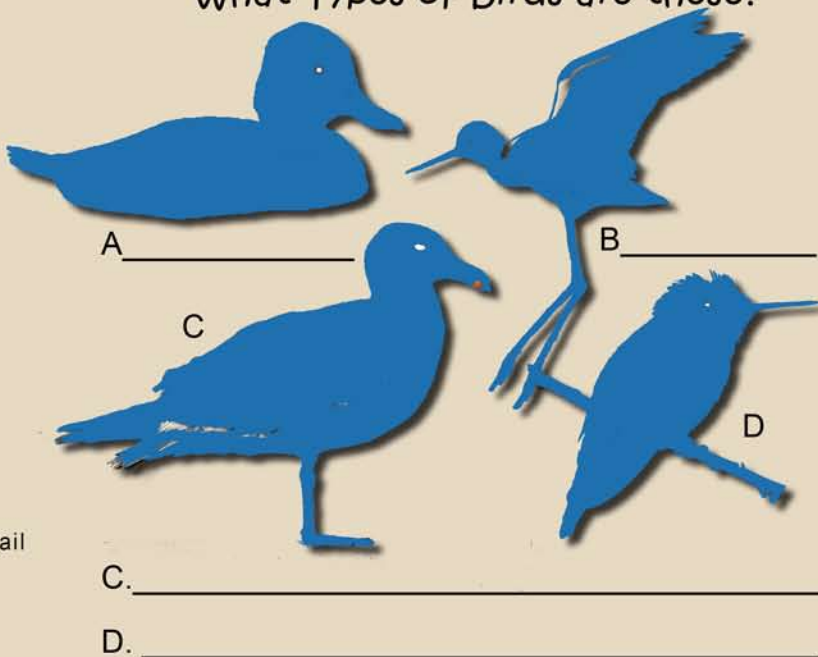
Calling All Nature Artists!



Send in your best nature drawing! Each issue we will publish a few drawings from different age groups and award a prize to all that are published!! Mail your drawings to : Mike Rupp, 1048 E Tuckey Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85014 Please include your name, age, and address!

## Silhouette Quiz

What Types of Birds are these?



ANSWERS: A-Duck B-Shorebird C-Gull D-Hummingbird



# AZGF BALD EAGLE NESTWATCHERS PROGRAM

## Article and Photos: Mike Rupp

April 21st was a special day for a number of Desert Rivers members and friends who made their way up to Camp Verde, AZ to observe biologists Tuk Jacobsen and Kyle McCarty of the Arizona Game & Fish Department as they checked on two nestlings as part of the Bald Eagle Nestwatcher's Program. This program, which has its roots in Maricopa Audubon and Salt River Project decades ago, stations biology students and others near Bald Eagle nest sites during mating season that are in close proximity to human activities that may threaten the success of the nest. At this nest site, ATV's on local "jeep trails" and canoes coming down the Verde River can intrude too close to the nest, so the nestwatchers are there to ward off encounters that the Eagles can't tolerate. Once or twice a year, Tuk and Kyle show up at selected nest sites to conduct these assessments of the Eagles by collecting biological data, and occasionally fitting a nestling with a radio transmitter which is tracked periodically by satellite.

Our trip began with an early morning drive to Camp Verde, following the guys out to the nest site, well, at least to a point as far as our vehicles could go, then piling in their high clearance 4x4's and bumping our way to the actual cliff face where these eagles nest along the Verde River. Once there, we watched as Tuk and Kyle rigged their gear for a rappell down the cliff to acquire the nestlings. The adult eagles usually fly off to the other side of the canyon and watch, occasionally calling and fussing about the disturbance. Once Tuk reached the nest, he covered the nestlings feet and head with booties and a leather cover to protect the birds, placed them into a duffle bag, and had Kyle pull them up. On the top of the cliff, Kyle took several measurements of the bird's beaks, feet, and wings, took a blood sample, their weight, and an inspected for parasites. Blood samples are used for DNA studies and to check for internal parasites. After all the science is finished, there's a quick opportunity for those observers who wish to hold a nestling for a photo opp, and the birds are returned to the nest. Of the 43 pairs of desert-nesting Bald Eagles in the state, AZGF monitors about half of the nest sites, and has seen the number of successful breeding pairs and number of nestlings steadily rise during the course of the program, proving the success and importance of this conservation effort. Despite the recent federal decision to remove the Bald Eagle from the Endangered Species



List the Arizona Game and Fish Department and Salt River Project have indicated that they will continue this program.

Desert Rivers Audubon will be offering a yearly field trip when possible with AZGF each April for about ten people to this or another nest site. If you would like to participate, and learn more first-hand from AZGF biologists, contact our Field Trips Director in early March to reserve your spot on this exclusive once-in-a-lifetime trip experience. See list of officers and directors for contact numbers.



Claudia Kirscher



Cindy West



Tuk Jacobsen, Ariz. Game & Fish Dept.



**The sun hits the tent at 6:30.** I stumble out of my sleeping bag and look to the west. The west doesn't look good. There are high clouds and, behind them, the unbroken overcast presaging the 50% chance of rain that was predicted for late today and tomorrow. I'm on a high saddle on the east side of Ord because last night on my way up an unoccupied car was parked in my regular campsite on the west side. As I drive back down the mountain to the 1688 road after a quick breakfast, I guesstimate the sun may not hit there until 7:00.

I have two goals this weekend--to get good images of Black-chinned Sparrow and to finally finish up my last seven rolls of Velvia, the last film I'll ever own after three fitful years of stopping and starting along the winding road to going completely digital. Deva will be happy. Film has taken up a shelf in our refrigerator for longer than we can both remember.

I have averaged a couple trips up Ord every year for maybe 20 years, never failing to hear and see Black-chinneds, but never getting the image I want. I have shots of juveniles bathing and females foraging, but I want a territorial male singing from atop an oak. Typically the males have always come in and teed-up above the 1688 road, which puts the sun behind them in the morning, or they will skulk in below me, tantalize, then dive for cover as I swing the lens around. Apparently I've never paid the right homage to the sparrow gods, and this morning's sky suggests I still don't have it right.

As I set up, Black-throated Gray Warblers are bzz-buzzing everywhere and Bewick's Wrens are proclaiming "See me me me me me" and doing their odd little "GIBB- et" call all around me. There are two vehicles at the 1688 entrance now, and I always wonder who, if not birders, would be up here this early in the morning. I linger near each of the two water troughs, but nothing is coming to drink or bathe, and the strong west wind is probably as good a reason as any. There is a disturbance nearby in the waist high chaparral. A Gray Vireo pops up and snatches some leaf crawling morsel, but flies off before I can get on it.

As I cross the first drainage a man in complete camouflage steps out of the brush. My first thought is hunter--what season is in progress? Archery bear perhaps, but then I see camera and binoculars around his neck. A birder. But not one with whom I am familiar. He reports a Red-faced Warbler upslope and Cooper's Hawks nest building down in the drainage. We exchange pleasantries and I continue up the 1688. A large blob at eye level in a pine tree growing up from the drainage below proves to be one of the Cooper's. The thin sun is fading in the growing overcast, but I shoot half a roll. Maybe this is a good omen. Adult Cooper's NEVER sit for me.

The wind strengthens as the 1688 winds around the mountain to the southwest. I play the Black-chinned tape. Once. A Black-throated Gray emerges from the chaparral, frame filling close, fussing at something, perhaps the tape. As I ratta-tat-tat away on the shutter release, as promiscuous now with my remaining film as I have learned to be with digital, a Black-chinned whips by my right ear and buries itself in the bushes. I play the tape again, once. Nothing. But a Plumbeous Vireo pipes up high in a pine. Do Grays and Plumbeous overlap here, or have I crossed over some unperceived altitudinal gradient?

Farther along the 1688, nearing a clearing where I know there is a campsite, I hear voices. As I step past the entrance, another man in full camouflage is standing beside a backpack tent, pants at his knees, urinating in front of God and everyone. I am more embarrassed than he, and pass quickly up the road without wave or greeting. Does everyone on Ord wear camouflage?

## APRIL ON ORD

*Photo and article by Jim Burns*



A Steller's Jay cackles in the background. At least now I have accounted for the two vehicles, so there should be no more surprises.

Well, unless random gunshots would be considered a surprise. An hour spent farther up the road trying to entice Spotted Towhees to hold still with the sun behind me is punctuated by gunfire, to my unpracticed ear probably small rifle. Are these campers just plinkers or hunters? I would actually feel much safer knowing they were the latter. Oh, and the sun isn't really behind me any more. It's behind the overcast. But soft, even lighting works for photography too. At least that's what I'm telling myself as the towhees and the Black-throated Grays flip around low in the chaparral, never teeing up in the wind which is now gusting up to perhaps 20 mph.

Back at the first drainage, an hour later by a different route, I find the hummingbird bush. In my next life I vow to become a plant guy, but I have no label for this 20 foot high patch of greenery which has long buds burgeoning to spring fruition with tiny tufts of white, downy fluff which is being harvested by two female Broad-tailed and two female Anna's hummers, squabbling with one. There are no males around of course, as male hummingbirds, like many males of another species we all know well, bring only one thing to the breeding cycle, and that one thing isn't homemaking. I hold the shutter down through two rolls of film--Deva is going to be happy--hoping I get just one in-focus image. Unlikely, though, as the sun has just about lost its battle with the overcast and this is, after all, Velvia film I'm using.

I hear voices and turn to see the urinator walking down the road toward me with a woman. She, too, is in full camouflage. The gun I have been hearing is in a black case, and their backpacks indicate they are leaving the area. This is three days past Virginia Tech on the eighth anniversary of Columbine and, in this context, the two figures coming toward me are slightly scary. That's what a culture of guns can do. We exchange a greeting without incident, and I am glad to have the mountain to myself now.

A Turkey Vulture, inexplicably low, teeters down the road below treetop level, checks me out, then peels off down the drainage. Startled, I move to let it know I am not a tall pile of carrion. Maybe I should check my deodorant. Or maybe I need to get my brain checked--when was the last time you read a headline, "TV attacks birder?" A Virginia's Warbler lands in the hummingbird bush, forages through, then leaves for the top of the tallest pine where it sings a few "Hurry hurry hurry up bars"

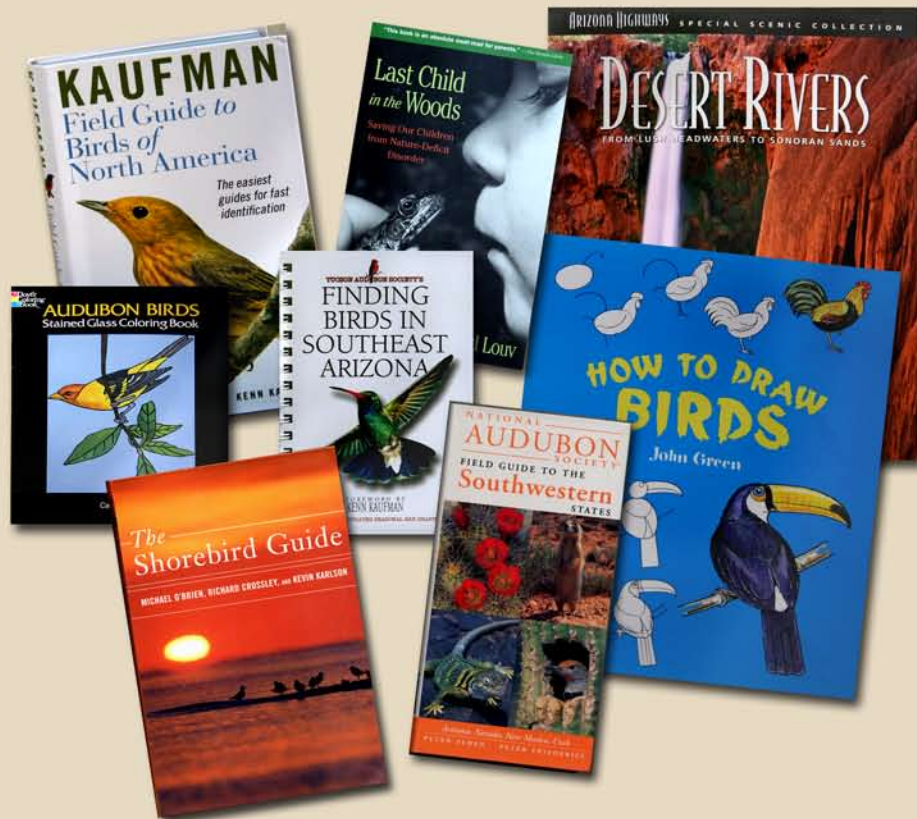
(continued on page 7)



The chapter maintains a fairly extensive selection of books on birds and bird-watching, conservation, children's books, field guides, and a few selected nature items. These are always available for purchase at our Book Table at our monthly meetings, the Gilbert Birdwalks, and special events, and sometime in the future will be available on-line through a web store. Your purchase of items from our Book Table helps support the chapter and is much appreciated.

## MEETING NOTICE

All monthly membership meetings will be held on the second **Mondays** of each month, September through May, 7PM, 2007-2008. All meetings except for May are at the Southeast Regional Library (Gilbert Library) near the Gilbert Riparian Preserve at the southeast corner of Guadalupe and Greenfield Roads in Gilbert. Please note this change on your calendars. Doors open at 6:30PM.



## DONORS AND GIFTS

Our deep appreciation goes to the following donors who have given to support a program or overall operating costs of the Desert Rivers Audubon Society :

### Founding Members

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Arizona Cactus Sales- Mr. Jim Elliot- \$300  
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Theona Vyvial

## JUNIOR AUDUBON

Hey kids! Would you like to learn how to identify birds? Do you want to know how to record your sightings? Are you between 7 and 14 years of age?

If you can answer yes to these questions we would like to invite you to a monthly club with a difference. We meet **outdoors at the Gilbert Riparian Preserve** at Greenfield and Guadalupe Roads in Gilbert, and we meet at 7.00 am in the morning. On every **3rd Saturday from October to April** we hold family birdwalks at the preserve that start at 8.00 am because that's when most people start the day. The birds get up a lot earlier though so our exclusive little group is going to start at 7:00 AM. To join this group you must be aged between 7 and 14 years and have your parents' permission. We need to have you registered so we can provide the right amount of materials for you. You need to come in suitable outdoor clothes, bring some water and we will provide the rest. For more information and a registration form contact Joy Dingley at 480-419-9804 or at [joy.dingley@cox.net](mailto:joy.dingley@cox.net).



## APRIL ON ORD *continued from page 5*

I don't even reach for the tripod. Tiny bird silhouetted against white sky. Even down to my last four rolls of film, profligacy runs against my nature.

I'm back at the van, both the other vehicles departed as I suspected. I set up camp, eat lunch, wonder why I haven't heard the Cooper's Hawks squawking, look once more at the white sky turning leaden gray, and crawl into my sleeping bag for a nap, fully expecting to be awakened by the sound of raindrops. Not a good day for slow film. Not a Velvia day.

I'm awakened by the sound of another vehicle. I look out and see a Sheriff's Patrol car idling on the road up the mountain. The deputy is not in the car. I step out and see him 20 yards behind my van, peering intently at me. Maybe a license plate check, certainly an everyday occurrence for birders in the sky islands, but this isn't Border Patrol and I'm nowhere near the border. Then I realize his vehicle says "K-9." I'm guessing he stopped to let his dog run, but I can't decide whether I'm happy or sad to find Sheriff Joe's boys patrolling this relatively remote mountaintop. He asks if everything is alright. I consider telling him about the problem with the gray skies and my slow speed film. Or maybe about the urinator and the gun and the anniversary. Or about the TV and my deodorant. I smile and tell him everything is fine. And thanks. As he returns to the vehicle, a small group of Western Scrub-Jays passes through, laughing. Why do scrub jays always sound like they're laughing and the joke's on you?

I change into my running clothes and debate whether to go up or down the mountain. Logic says to go up because coming back down when I am already fatigued will be easier.

## BOOK REVIEW

Those who heard Richard Louv speak last Feb. 15th at the Phoenix Zoo were treated to an interesting verbal update to his popular new book, *Last Child In The Woods*. As a result of his book, a group has formed that is bringing Louv's concepts and ideas to schools and organizations across the country - No Child Left Inside. ([www.nochildleftinside.org](http://www.nochildleftinside.org)) The local "chapter" is called the AZ Children and Nature Network, and Desert Rivers is a participating member. In his book, Louv cites many studies and anecdotal evidence supporting his basic tenet that children do much better in many areas of life when they are involved with nature on a regular basis, whether that be camping and hiking in the wilderness, or even discovering nature in urban parks. Louv even characterizes deprivation of nature experience as "nature-deficit disorder", and suggests many ways we can rethink the way our kids spend their time. This is a must read if you have an interest in environmental education. Available from bookstores, or our chapter meetings and events, or by emailing an order to Kryz Hammers at [kryz.hammers@cox.net](mailto:kryz.hammers@cox.net)



The west wind, though, is even stronger now and rain looks imminent. Down the mountain is into the wind, so coming back up I will be warmer and have the benefit of a tailwind. And will be going VERY slowly, so I'll be able to notice any birds that are out prospecting for a late afternoon snack before giving up on this most unspringlike of spring days. I go down the mountain. And see no birds. And I run back up the mountain and see no birds. And then as I clean up and prepare dinner, a Black-chinned Sparrow sounds off right behind my campsite.

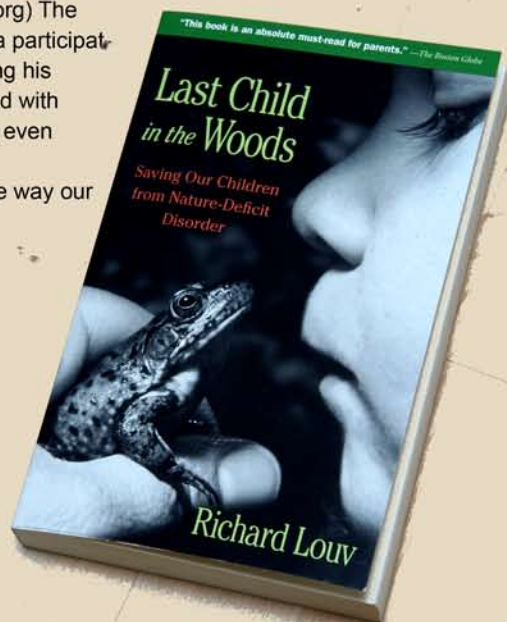
Well, maybe tomorrow. If it doesn't snow! Come to think of it, Ord would be beautiful in snow. And I might get the only photograph ever taken of a Black-chinned Sparrow in a snowstorm.



### SPECIAL NEED!

The patch to the left has been designed as a take-home gift for each child who completes the Audubon Arizona "River Connections" program, which consists of four separate four hour sessions at the Rio Salado Habitat. They are encouraged to become "protectors" of habitats and wildlife, and this

iron-on patch helps them identify with nature as "guardians". A sponsor is needed to cover the cost of sewing 1,000 patches for the upcoming Fall sessions. The cost of about \$1 each can be covered by one donor, or several. Please contact Mike Rupp at [mikerupp@cox.net](mailto:mikerupp@cox.net) or 602-388-4072





## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Desert Rivers Audubon Society meetings are held every second Monday of the month at the Southeast Regional Library (Gilbert Library) at 7PM in the auditorium, September through April. The library is at the southeast corner of Greenfield and Guadalupe Roads in Gilbert. All are welcome. See website under "Events" for list of speakers and topics. Doors open at 6:30 PM.

## GILBERT FAMILY BIRDWALKS

The Gilbert Family Birdwalks are held every third Saturday of the month from October to April, at the Gilbert Riparian Preserve, located on the SE corner of Guadalupe and Greenfield Roads, in Gilbert. (East of library) Walks run from 8AM to noon, and depart every few minutes. We provide loaner binoculars, expert leaders, childrens and adult books, and there is no charge.

## BIRD LISTSERV - RARE BIRD ALERT

Bird alert information for rare Arizona and New Mexico birds can be obtained by subscribing to the bird listserv at the Univ. of AZ. This is the most popular method in the valley to know what rarities are in the area, and find out lots of other birding information. To subscribe, go to [listserv@listserv.arizona.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.arizona.edu) and in the message area type: subscribe birdwg05 your name Do not put anything in the subject area.

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Desert Rivers Audubon Society  
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Chandler, AZ 85226

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

We welcome your interest in becoming a member and participant of Desert Rivers Audubon. Your membership dues help support our outreach activities. You can join National Audubon and Desert Rivers Audubon by downloading a form from our website, and receive the bi-monthly Audubon magazine. Most Audubon chapters also have a "Friends" membership which entitles you to our quarterly newsletter, and discounts.

<i>Students / Seniors (65+) Membership .....</i>	<i>\$20.</i>
<i>Individual Membership.....</i>	<i>\$25.</i>
<i>Family Membership.....</i>	<i>\$40.</i>
<i>Founding Membership.....</i>	<i>\$100+</i>
<i>(not a lifetime membership,..... available until Dec.2007)</i>	
<i>Corporate Membership.....</i>	<i>\$300+</i>

**What is the difference between a Desert Rivers "Friends" membership, and National Audubon membership?** National Audubon and chapters are separate entities. All dues and gifts to Desert Rivers are used for local programs. You can be a member of Desert Rivers and also be a member of National Audubon simultaneously, or become a Desert Rivers member without joining National Audubon. You can even be a member of more than one Audubon chapter at the same time, regardless of your home address. If you are a National member, you can help this chapter by designating Desert Rivers as your "assigned chapter" by contacting : [kvullis@audubon.org](mailto:kvullis@audubon.org)

**Desert Rivers Audubon Society** is a 503(c) non-profit organization incorporated in Arizona, formed to provide environmental education and conservation opportunities to valley residents and advocate for our environment. For information on planned giving or bequests to the chapter, please contact Treasurer Janice Miano at 480-946-1327

See our website for much more information

480-668-9393

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



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