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SKY ISLANDS
BIRD OBSERVATORY



Western Bird Banding Association Annual Meeting Sky Islands Bird Observatory and Arizona Folklore Preserve

Sierra Vista, Arizona – Wednesday – Saturday, September 11 to 14, 2013

Where will it be? The Arizona Folklore Preserve is in Ramsey Canyon located 5 miles south of Sierra Vista, in the Huachuca Mountains of southeast Arizona. The Folklore Preserve's center opened in 2001 in a beautiful green canyon filled with abundant wildlife. www.arizonafolklore.com. The 2013 meeting will take place from **Wednesday**, September 11 to **Saturday**, September 14, 2013.

What to Expect: We will have banding demonstrations, workshops featuring data management and analysis tools and field trips to local hot spots. Dr. Charles Van Riper, USGS Research scientist and professor, will deliver an exciting and informative keynote address on his work: "**How plant phenology information can enhance the understanding of bird banding data: an example from southwestern North America**". Dr. Stephen M. Russell will also share with us his experiences doing field work and banding in Arizona and Sonora over the last 50 years. Mist nets will be operated at the nearby Sky Islands Bird Observatory (SIBO) field station. A North American Banding Council (NABC) certification for banders and trainers is also planned at SIBO field sites.

Setting and Meeting Location: We will be in the mild climate of the Huachuca mountains at 5500 feet, approximately 70 miles southeast of Tucson. Just 1000 feet up the canyon from the Folklore Preserve is the Nature Conservancy's Ramsey Canyon Preserve. World renowned for its outstanding scenic beauty, the interplay of geology, biogeography, topography, and climate results in the diversity of plant and animal life that provide the backdrop for the 2013 meeting. Known as "The Hummingbird Capital of the United States", fifteen species of hummingbirds are known from the Huachucas, as well as many other species whose ranges lie mostly in Mexico. Bird species regularly seen within a short walk from the Folklore Preserve include Gray Hawk, Whiskered Screech-Owl, Elf Owl, Mexican Whip-poor-will, Elegant Trogon, Acorn and Arizona woodpeckers, Dusky-capped, Ash-throated, Brown-crested and Sulfur-bellied flycatchers, Mexican Jay, and Painted Redstart. People from all over the world visit Ramsey Canyon to experience its unique and abundant wildlife. Black bear, collared javelina, coati mundi, ring-tailed cat, bobcat, mountain lion, Coues white-tailed deer and many other species of wildlife have been

sighted on and near the Arizona Folklore Preserve property.

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Call for Papers and Posters (by August 15th).

Abstracts are now being accepted for the oral and poster presentation sessions on Thursday and Friday. Presentations can reflect original research, summarize existing information, or address the use of banding as a tool in avian research and monitoring. It is best if abstracts identify study objectives, describe study methods and data analysis, discuss the significance of the research, and propose future research directions. Oral presentations will be limited to 20 minutes, including 3-5 minutes for questions. Abstracts should include: (1) List of authors (last name, first name, and affiliation of lead author and first name, last name, and affiliation of co-authors); (2) Mailing address and e-mail of presenting author; (3) Title; and (4) Brief (300 or fewer words) summary of project.

**Please submit paper or poster abstracts electronically by 15 August to
WadeLeitner(wleitner@birdsci.com)**

Workshops and Demonstrations. If you have some equipment, methods, etc., that you can share, please contact Wade Leitner (wleitner@birdsci.com)

Field Trips: We have planned field trips to the nearby San Pedro River, Carr Canyon and The Nature Conservancy's Ramsey Canyon Preserve. More details on this exciting birding will be on the WBBA web site.

Meals and food: We are planning on buffet style meals catered from local southwestern eateries served at the Arizona Folklore Preserve. Continental breakfast including fruit, muffins, coffee and tea will be provided at the Folklore Preserve. The dinner meals will feature a no-host bar of wine and beer.

NABC Evaluation Sessions. Trainer evaluations will be held Wednesday, Sept. 11, beginning at 6:00AM at the SIBO field site in Ramsey Canyon. The bander-level laboratory practical exam will be held on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 14, in Tucson at the University of Arizona Bird Collection in Tucson and the bander-level field practical will occur Sunday, Sept. 15, beginning at 6:00AM at SIBO study sites on the Santa Cruz River 70 miles south of Tucson near Tubac, Arizona. Contact Joséé Rousseau (jsr@klamathbird.org)

Hotels:

The Windemere Hotel and Suites 2047 South Highway 92, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635, 520-459-5900, 8 miles from the Arizona Folklore Preserve, Rates from \$90 per night.

<http://www.windemerehotel.com/>

Fairfield Inn and Suites, 3855 El Mercado Loop, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635, 520-439-5900, 8 miles from the Arizona Folklore Preserve, Rates from \$119 per night. <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/fhufi-fairfield-inn-and-suites-sierra-vista/>

Camping: Sky Islands Bird Observatory field site: Primitive camping, water and toilets available. No power available. Site is within 800 feet (walking distance) of the Arizona Folklore Preserve. The road is rough and rocky. Vehicles may enter and leave only once to keep traffic at a minimum. This is a bear-proof required area. Reservations are required. **Contact Patricia Leitner. (pat@leitnercpa.com).** Forest Service campgrounds are available in Carr Canyon, about 7 miles (and 20 minutes) from the Folklore Preserve.

Transportation: Sierra Vista and the Arizona Folklore Preserve are 70 minutes south-east of the Tucson International Airport.

Exciting Silent and Live Auction: Do you have something to contribute to a silent or live auction? If so, please bring it to the meeting. All sorts of nature and bird-related items (pictures, books, traps, feeders, t-shirts, equipment, etc.) are welcomed as auction items. Come and share your extras, and have fun!

Updates will be posted on the WBBA website.

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PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Final program will be available on the web one month prior to the meeting.

Wednesday, Sept. 11:

8:00 am-5:00 pm

NABC trainer certification session.

5:00-7:00 pm Registration and Social at the Arizona Folklore Preserve.

7:00 pm dinner at The Mesquite Tree Restaurant (Hwy. 92 and Carr Canyon Rd, Hereford, AZ) (not included in registration fee)

Thursday, Sept. 12

Banding Demonstrations & Work-shops:

All activities at Folklore except banding

6:00 -8:00 am continental breakfast at Folklore Preserve

6:00 -11:00 am banding at SIBO in Ramsey Canyon near Folklore Preserve

8:00 am-2:00 pm Registration

11:00 am -12:30 pm Catered Lunch at Folklore Preserve

12:30 -4:00 pm Workshops

12:30 -4:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting

5:00-6:00 pm Social Hour

6:00 pm Dinner - Local BBQ buffet with your choice of chicken, beef, or vegetarian entree

7:00 pm Evening Program evening program with speaker Dr. Stephen M. Russell

Friday, Sept. 13:

All activities at Folklore

6:00 -8:00 am continental breakfast

6:00 -8:00 am birding in Ramsey Canyon

9:00 am-12:00 pm Scientific Session

12:00-1:30 pm Catered Lunch

1:30-4:00 pm Scientific Session

4:00-5:00 pm WBBA Business Meeting

5:30-7:00 pm Poster Session and Social, Silent auction

7:00-10:00 pm Dinner - Mexican buffet (including vegetarian options), and evening program with keynote speaker Dr. Charles Van Riper

Saturday, Sept. 14:

Field trips meet at Folklore

6:00 AM Fieldtrips visiting San Pedro River, Carr Canyon or Ramsey Canyon Nature Conservancy (depends on interest)

2:00PM NABC laboratory practical exam at University of Arizona Bird Collection Lab

Sunday, Sept. 15:

6:00AM NABC field practical exam at SIBO study sites on Santa Cruz River near Tubac, Arizona