

**Letter to membership during Covid-19 pandemic:**

**3/13/2020**

Dear MVAS Member or Friend,

Thank you for visiting the Mesilla Valley Audubon Web site. It is a very sad day that we announce the cancellation of activities during the months of March and April and maybe beyond. It is a terrible time for our country and our world experiencing the Coronavirus pandemic and that is a priority we must all face.

Although MVAS gatherings are necessarily on hold, Mesilla Valley Audubon encourages individuals to continue to keep their concern for the environment and love of birds and all things birding very much in mind. On your own, or with a friend or two, continue with your bird walks. These may be to your favorite places or to new locals. There are ever so many places to “bird” in Southern New Mexico.

The MVAS Bird Survey and Conservation Project is still up and running and any of you who wants to visit the survey site can continue to contribute to citizen science by reporting what you see to eBird.org. See the Conservation page on this website for details and protocols.

With the current emphasis of “working at home” while confronted with the pandemic, I would like to use this time to strengthen this website and to make sure the next addition of our newsletter, Roadrunner Ramblings, addresses issues important to Audubon. If any of you have ideas to help, please address them with a visit to the web’s “Contact Page” and I will respond. In advance, thank you very much.

There is an old Audubon saying: “Don’t forget the birds.” This is a good time to keep that in mind. My best to all of you.

Yours,

Sid Webb

MVAS web page manager and Roadrunner Ramblings editor

**9/2/2020 Addendum:**

Covid-19 continues, with the weight of this pandemic impacting our daily lives in devastating ways. It has been six months since we last conducted an in person meeting or conducted a bird walk or field trip. We are adapting. We are learning how to conduct “virtual meetings” and we have joined with our NM State Council to promote conservation issues.

Meanwhile, the Audubon New Mexico has combined with Audubon Arizona to become Audubon Southwest. At the national level, there has been much activity by the National Audubon Society directed at preserving our natural world and responding to the many social changes taking place in our country.

We are updating the website to help publicize the virtual meetings and to inform our members of regional and national developments that impact us. There is no timetable at this time for resuming in-person activities, but surely that day will come!

Bear with us. We need your support now more than ever.

Yours,

Sid Webb