

4th Annual

Arizona

Young Birders Camp

June 8-10, 2018

*Chiricahua Mountains
Cave Creek Canyon*



*Southwestern
Research Station*



LEADER BIOGRAPHIES

Jennie MacFarland

As the Conservation Biologist for the Tucson Audubon Society, Jennie coordinates the Arizona Important Bird Areas Program and the Tucson Bird Count. Having adopted Tucson as her home town Jennie has lived in southern Arizona for over 18 years and loves the varied habitats and birds of the region.



Luke Safford



Luke grew up in a family that loved outdoors and quickly blossomed into a birder after his grandparents gave him his first bird book at age seven. He was enamored with making bird species lists and keeping track of the day to day bird life in his suburban back yard near Tacoma, WA. After moving to Tucson in 2014, he started working for Tucson Audubon Society as the Volunteer, Field Trip, and Festival Coordinator and helps compile the Tucson Valley CBC.

Vivian MacKinnon

Vivian MacKinnon was raised in Florida and graduated from Florida State University with a degree in Anthropology and Environmental Sciences, then headed west the next day! When required to attend a birding tour at Saguaro National Park, she took one look at a Black-throated Sparrow and was hooked. Since then she has led natural history and birding tours for various environmental organizations and especially enjoys introducing beginning birders to the natural wonders of the Sonoran Desert.



Deb Vath



Deb Vath has been an elementary and middle-school teacher/librarian for most of her professional career. Noting that children rarely engage in outdoor activities, Deb made it her mission to mentor students and provide opportunities for them to enjoy and appreciate the great outdoors. With the support of Tucson Audubon, she has developed the Trekking Rattlers, a local middle school student group **that offers** monthly nature outings to underserved youth. Deb offers birding opportunities to various youth groups in the Tucson Valley.

Homer Hansen

Homer Hansen grew up in Willcox, Arizona and has a passion for sharing bird watching with others. Homer is a regular field trip leader for several birding festivals and served as chairman of Wings Over Willcox for 17 years. Homer is co-founder of the Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club and the annual Arizona Young Birders Camp. He regularly instructs a wide variety of birding workshops for several organizations. Homer currently serves on the Western Field Ornithologist board as chairman of the Youth Programs Committee.



SSVYBC aims to provide expert guidance and resources for young birders to connect and learn about birds and their ecology as participants in the Arizona Young Birders Camp. The camp allows young birders to meet, learn, and bird together while developing skills in leadership, peer mentoring, community involvement, and conservation ethics. Visit us at www.the-cranes.org

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, June 8th

- 11:45 am Meet at the Hansen Home (see instructions)
- 12:00 pm Depart for Cave Creek Canyon, Birding en route
- 4:00 pm Check in at the Southwestern Research Station
- 4:30 pm Orientation, Introductions & Ice Breakers
- 5:30 pm Feeder Watch at SWRS
- 6:00 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Presentations
- 7:00-7:25 ***Birding Etiquette – Scenarios & Situations***
Presented by: Deb Vath
We all have experienced an awkward circumstance birding where someone is not respecting wildlife, the environment, or the rights of others. How does one handle this circumstance? This presentation will involve small groups working through such a situation.
- 7:25-8:00 ***Hummingbirds – Living on the Edge***
Presented by: Jennie MacFarland
Hummingbirds are fragile but fierce and live their lives in the fast lane. Many of their amazing adaptations allow these birds to push the limits of life itself. Jennie will cover the species we are most likely to see during the weekend.
- 8:00 pm Night Owl Field Trip (*Optional – Kids Only*)
- 9:00 pm End of Day



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, June 9th

- 6:00 am Early Birder Field Trip (*Optional – 10 and over*)
- 7:30 am Breakfast & Pick-up sack lunches
- 8:30 am Field Trip – Uplands
- 11:30 am Lunch in the field (sack lunch)
- 1:00 pm Return from Field Trip and Break



- 2:00 pm Presentations
- 2:00-2:30 **Haiku, Beyond 5 – 7 – 5**
Presented by: Vivian MacKinnon
Vivian will review what makes a haiku and why it may be the perfect poetry form for combining today's technology with the ancient appreciation of nature and birdwatching.
- 2:30-3:00 **Sound Maps – Outdoor Practice Session**
Presented by: Vivian MacKinnon
Sound maps provide a different approach to listening. From research to writing well, the skill of how to listen will be exercised during this ginko (a visit to nature for inspiration).
- 3:00-3:30 Break
- 3:30-4:00 **Journals & Field Notes**
Presented by: Homer Hansen & Deb Vath
Field notes can be mandatory for documenting a species, and journals can provide memories for a lifetime. Note-taking approaches and content will be discussed as part of this presentation.
- 4:00-4:30 **Bird Photography – Outdoor Practice Session**
Presented by: Homer Hansen & Dorian Escalante
Useful techniques for bird photography using point-and-shoot cameras, DSLRs, and digi-scoping will be practiced at the research center.

- 4:30-5:00 **It's Just Another**
Presented by: Deb Vath
Mourning Dove, House Finch, European Starling: these and other "common" birds are regularly overlooked at feeders and elsewhere. Yet there is more to these species than meets the eye.
- 5:00-5:30 **Species Spotlight – Elegant Trogons**
Presented by: Jennie MacFarland
The amazing Elegant Trogon is a highly sought after species of the Sky Islands. The foraging, nesting and other behavioral characteristics will be presented, along with male and female traits, and a discussion about its range and expansion in the Sky Islands.
- 5:30 pm Feeder Watch at SWRS
- 6:00 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Presentations
- 7:00-7:15 **Tally Rally – Review of Birds Seen**
Using photos taken by leaders & young birders
- 7:15-8:00 **Young Birder Presentations**
Presentations by Scholarship Recipients
- 8:00 pm Night Owl Field Trip (*Optional*)
- 9:00 pm End of Day

Sunday, June 10th

- 6:00 am Early Birder Field Trip
- 7:30 am Breakfast
- 8:30 am Field trip – Lowlands & Uplands
- 11:30 am Return from field trip and pack
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Depart for Willcox



Experience Arizona Young Birders Camp

It's midday, you are sweating, having finished a birding hike in the Chiricahuas. You review your life list, 12 new birds! You recall watching the Brown Creeper forage like a piece of bark moving up the pine. Then the House Wren carrying agave silk into its nest cavity. And even more new life experiences. Can you recall a better day?



*Arizona Young Birders Camp
is sponsored by the
Sulphur Springs Valley
Young Birders Club.*



*Would you like to be
on the mailing list for 2019?*

Contact us at:

admin@the-cranes.org

Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club



ARIZONA YOUNG BIRDERS CAMP

General Registration Information & Forms

Please read the following instructions carefully:

1. This registration packet contains general information about the camp and is **required reading**.
2. The parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) **must initial** each page of this document as it is read and the entire completed packet must be returned as part of the registration process. Please pay special attention to:
 - a. "Participant Rules" on Page 5 (initials required)
 - b. "Publication of Photo(s) & Name(s)" section on Page 5 (initials required)
 - c. Complete and sign the "Agreement to Hold Harmless" on Page 6
 - d. Complete and sign the "Health History & Emergency Medical Authorization Form" on Page 7 & 8
3. Upon completion of the registration packet, please **send the packet with payment in full** for the number of children and adults that are attending to:

Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club
P.O. Box 1044
Willcox, AZ 85644

Personal checks, cashier checks, or U.S. Postal Service money orders should be made to the order of ***Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club***. The registration fee is **\$150 per child** and **\$175 per adult**. The **registration deadline for the camp is March 31st**.

4. Immediately upon placing the registration packet in the mail, please **notify us through email** at admin@the-cranes.org so we know to expect your packet. Please provide the name of each child and adult that is attending in your email. If you do not hear a response from us within 72 hours, please resend the email or call us at (520) 400-6176.
5. The meeting location at **11:45 am on Friday** is the Hansen Family Home. Directions to the Hansen family home will be provided in the planning documents that will be sent following registration.

Parent's Initials: _____

DESCRIPTION:

The Arizona Young Birders Camp is an annual event designed to draw together young birders from around the state of Arizona and to provide them with the opportunity to learn about birds, ecology, and conservation in the company of their peers. The camp provides educational opportunities through field trips observing birds and other facets of our natural world, and through presentations given by regional birding experts and by youths attending the camp. The following information is provided to prepare young birders and their parents for what to expect during the camp. This document also has forms that must be completed and signed in order to participate in the Arizona Young Birders Camp. Please read through this document thoroughly and carefully.

LOCATION, HABITAT & BIRDS:

The camp takes place in Cave Creek Canyon of the Chiricahua Mountains, one of the most renowned places in North America to go birding. The open country below the canyon is host to birds found in the desert and grassland habitat, including: Scaled and Gambel's Quail, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Chihuahuan Raven, Curve-billed Thrasher, Loggerhead Shrike, Black-throated Sparrow, Scott's Oriole, and Eastern Meadowlark. Up in the canyon, the South Fork of Cave Creek is a beautiful riparian corridor that drains the canyon. Lush riparian vegetation, including sycamore, oak, pines, and cypress provide excellent habitat for many species of birds, including: Elegant Trogon, Arizona Woodpecker, Sulphur-bellied and Dusky-capped flycatchers, Hutton's and Plumbeous Vireos, Grace's Warbler, Painted Redstart, and Hepatic Tanager. The Southwestern Research Station itself will also afford excellent birding, and the hummingbird feeders alone will offer wonderful views of dozens of hummingbirds, including: Blue-throated, Magnificent, Broad-tailed, Black-chinned, and Anna's Hummingbirds.

PARTICIPATION:

The camp is open to youths between the ages of 8 and 18 years of age and welcomes birders of all skill levels, including novices. Parents of youths age 10 and under are also encouraged to attend with their children. The camp is limited to 25 participants, including any parents that may accompany their children. Parents are allowed to participate during the daily presentations and the Sunday field trip, but principally as passive observers and chaperones, and are requested to "stand back" and let the youths direct how the weekend proceeds (i.e. with asking questions, use of spotting scopes, etc.).

WHAT TO BRING:

Because the field trips may cover a variety of elevations, it is important to be prepared for a variety of conditions. The desert and grasslands may reach up to 90° and the evenings in the canyon may fall into the mid 40°'s. Although this camp will be held earlier than the typical monsoon season, it is advisable to check the weather conditions beforehand and pack clothing for rain or humidity. Most clothing should be associated with warm weathers, but layers is advisable. Pants, a long-sleeved shirt, and a light jacket may be handy for the early morning or late evening optional field trips. Quick-drying clothing is always recommended. A hat is essential, as well as sun protection and a container for water. Good fitting footwear is also mandatory as some hiking on trails will take place during field trips. A belt pack or day pack is recommended for carrying books, journal/note pad, sunscreen, a one-quart water bottle, cameras, etc. ***Other recommended items include a camera, insect repellent, flashlight and/or headlamp, journal/note pad, and sketching pens and pencils.*** A pair of binoculars that are in good repair are recommended (loaners will be available as well). The field trip leaders will have spotting scopes, but if you have one and wish to bring it, feel free to do so.

ACCOMODATIONS:

All accommodations will be provided by the Southwestern Research Station (SWRS). The SWRS is a year round field station under the direction of the Science Department at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Since 1955, it has served biologists, geologists, and anthropologists interested in studying the diverse environments and biotas of the Chiricahua Mountains in southeastern Arizona. More information about the SWRS is available at <http://research.amnh.org/swrs>. The following information is provided on behalf of the research station:

- All meals are served promptly at 7:30 am, 12:00 noon, and 6:00 pm. Guests eat family style in the dining room or at outside picnic tables.
- Wireless is available in most outdoor research station locations. Internet at the station is free.
- The research station has NO cell phone service. A phone is located in the computer room and you may purchase a calling card in the Main Office or Gift Shop. Guests CANNOT be reached through the main research station number, 520-558-2396, except in real emergencies. Email is the best form of communication at the SWRS.
- All lodging is in dorms. The dorm accommodations are rooms with 2 or 3 single beds. The dorm rooms do NOT have bathrooms or showers – a common use bathroom with shower is provided.
- All linens are supplied. Dorm rooms do not have televisions or telephones. A common-use refrigerator is available.
- During breaks, participants will be free to relax, play games, catch up on notes and lists, or explore the immediate area in small groups.

FEE, PAYMENT & CANCELLATIONS:

The fee for the camp is \$150 per child and \$175 per adult and is due no later than March 31st. This includes all meals from dinner on Friday through lunch on Sunday, all accommodations as detailed in this document, and leadership services provided by the volunteers. The fee does not include any transportation expenses (i.e. gas, use of vehicle, etc.) and carpooling is strongly encouraged.

To register for the camp, please contact an SSVYBC administrator. Payment in full may be provided in the form of a check or money order. The included registration forms MUST be completed, signed, and provided along with payment. **The registration deadline for the camp is March 31st. Registrations are on a first come, first served basis. If registration is full you will be notified by email and offered the option to be put on a waiting list.**

A full refund will be provided if cancellation is given in writing to an SSVYBC administrator 60 days or more before the first day of camp. If cancellation is given in writing fewer than 60 days before the first day of camp, a refund shall be provided ONLY if another participant registers to fill the vacancy, otherwise, no refund shall be provided.

A limited number of scholarships are available through the Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club (SSVYBC) and awarded to participants who otherwise could not attend. All scholarship recipients are expected to give a presentation or similar on Saturday evening. Please contact an SSVYBC administrator for further information (admin@the-cranes.org).

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Participant's Name (Child #1): _____ Birthdate: _____

Participant's Name (Child #2): _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

PARTICIPANT RULES:

This camp is intended to provide all participants with an equal opportunity to learn about birds and nature. The leadership services are all provided by volunteers. It is our goal that participants will engage in positive and rewarding experiences. The success of the camp depends on the leadership and organization of the volunteers; however, the level of enjoyment and learning that each individual participant achieves will depend on his/her willingness to engage in the experience, cooperate with others, and share in the learning. In order to provide this opportunity to all participants, the following rules MUST be adhered to:

- There will be no usage of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products permitted. This is a zero tolerance policy for both youths and their parents.
- If any disputes that arise between participants, these will be mediated by the leadership volunteers. Fighting will not be tolerated.
- Cooperation is essential. Every day brings a host of responsibilities to the volunteer and participants may be requested to assist with a task at hand. Non-cooperation is not an option.
- The damage or destruction of property of others is strictly prohibited and is considered grounds for dismissal.

For and in consideration of the participation of the registered participant in the Arizona Young Birders Camp, a program of the Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club, I/we, agree that the child will be bound by the above participant rules. Parent's Initials: _____

PUBLICATION OF PHOTO(S) & NAME(S):

During the camp, photographs will be taken of the participants and activities in which they may be involved. Permission is requested to publish photographs(s) of your child, and your child's name in print and/or in online publications of the Arizona Young Birders Camp and/or Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club. By signing this registration form and initialing your preference below, you are giving/denying permission to publish photograph(s) of your child and/or his/her name.

- Yes, you have my permission to publish photograph(s) and/or the name of my child.
Parent's Initials: _____
- No, you do not have my permission to publish photograph(s) and/or the name of my child.
Parent's Initials: _____

Parent's Initials: _____

AGREEMENT TO HOLD HARMLESS:

For and in consideration of the participation of the registered participant in the Arizona Young Birders Camp, a program of the Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club, I/we, the parents of the afore-named child hereby give permission for the participation of said child in any and all activities of the camp, which may include but are not limited to: hiking in tall grass (and possible poison ivy areas), hiking along rocky trails or near water, being outdoors during all types of weather, using equipment such as binoculars and spotting scopes, and catching live animals (bird banding).

Furthermore, we release, discharge and forever hold harmless Arizona Young Birders Camp, the Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club, and their employees, officers, directors, trustees, donors, volunteers and agents, including any person transporting said child to and from the camp or during any camp activities, and the organizers and sponsors of said activities, from and against any and all claims, damages, obligations, liabilities, loss, costs and/or expenses, arising out of any aspect of said child's participation in the camp activities.

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date of Signature: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parent's Initials: _____

HEALTH HISTORY & EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION FORM:

Purpose: To enable parents and guardians to authorize the provision of emergency treatment for participating children who will become ill or injured while under authority of Arizona Young Birders Camp and Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club, when parents or guardians cannot be reached.

Participant #1 – Full Name (please print): _____ Gender: _____

Participant's Birth Date: (mm/dd/yy) _____ Age During Camp: _____ Grade Level: _____

Participant #2 – Full Name (please print): _____ Gender: _____

Participant's Birth Date: (mm/dd/yy) _____ Age During Camp: _____ Grade Level: _____

Participant's Address: _____

Mother's Full Name: _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Father's Full Name: _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Guardian's Full Name: _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Alternate Emergency Contact: _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Relationship to Participant: _____

Part I - Participant's Medical Information :

Please list all known allergies, describe reaction and management of reaction

List Any and all medication(s) being taken, or indicate:

☐ This person currently takes no medication on a regular basis

Use this space to provide any additional information about the participant's health about which we should be aware.

Part II - Insurance Information:

Is the participant covered by family medical/hospital insurance? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, indicate carrier or plan name: _____ Group #: _____

Carrier Address: _____

Name of Insured: _____ Relationship to participant: _____

Social Security number of policy holder or insurance ID number: _____

The parents, or legal guardians, of all participants are expected to have medical insurance that provides coverage for his/her son or daughter. The participants are also expected to be current on medical vaccinations, including tetanus.

Parent's Initials: _____

Part III - To Grant Consent:

I hereby give consent for the following medical care providers and local hospital to be contacted:

Name of Physician: _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Name of Dentist: _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Name of Preferred Hospital: _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

In the event that reasonable attempts to contact me have been unsuccessful, I hereby give Arizona Young Birders Camp and Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club representatives my consent for (1) the administration of any treatment deemed necessary by the above named doctor, or in the event the designated preferred practitioner is not available, by another licensed physician or dentist; and (2) the transfer of the child to any hospital reasonably accessible. This authorization does not cover major surgery unless the medical options of two other licensed physicians or dentists, concurring in the necessity for such surgery, are obtained prior to the performance of such surgery.

Please list facts concerning the child's medical history including allergies, medications being taken, and any physical impairments to which a physician should be alerted.

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Part IV – Refusal to Consent

I do NOT give consent for emergency medical treatment of my child. In the event of illness or injury requiring medical treatment, I wish Arizona Young Birders Camp and Sulphur Springs Valley Young Birders Club authorities to take the following action:

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Initials: _____