



# May 2018 REFUGE UPDATE

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## Calendar

### Member-Only Annual Picnic

Saturday, May 5, 2018

8:45 am - 3 pm

Space is limited. Reservations required. Please call 505-864-4021 or email [events@amigosdelasevilleta.org](mailto:events@amigosdelasevilleta.org)

There are still openings for this tour. Additional information on page 3

### Feathered Friends Hike

Saturday, May 12

8 am – 2 pm

Help us celebrate World Migratory Bird Day! Join Refuge Manager Kathy Granillo for a hike in the riparian area in search of some of our wonderful winged migrant and resident birds. Grab your hiking boots, water, binoculars, and lunch. We also suggest mosquito repellent. For more information on World Migratory Bird Day, visit [www.birdday.org](http://www.birdday.org) Call the visitor center 505-864-4021 to make reservations.

### Amigos de la Sevilleta Board Meeting

Wednesday May 16, 2018

5:30-7:00 pm

Meeting will be held at the visitor center conference room, pot luck and meeting start at 5:30

### Hummingbird Banding

Saturday, June 16

8 am – 10 am

Join Ann Adams for a morning of banding hummingbirds! Learn some fascinating facts about these tiny birds and observe hummingbird banding. No reservations required. See Flyer on page 4

### Raptor tour

Friday, June 29

8 am – 3 pm

Join us for this exploration of Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge in search of Raptors! Grab your binoculars, field guides and keep your eyes to the sky for this adventure! Pack your lunch and grab plenty of water, hiking will be limited and over uneven terrain.

## Manager's Update

Kathy Granillo, Refuge Manager

The biggest news is that our revised Hunt Plan and associated documents will be out for public review and comment soon (and might already be out by the time you receive this newsletter)! Please check out the refuge website to view these documents and for more information on how to comment and the due date for comments.

Riparian restoration continues in the Sevilleta wetlands. Heavy Equipment Operator Rich Calamusso and Term Maintenance Worker Doug Dibble continue to move lots of dirt as they sculpt a new area that the river will overbank at higher spring flows and provide back-water areas for the endangered Rio Grande Silvery Minnow. The Bureau of Reclamation and the Interstate Stream Commission continue to help us with the project monetarily and with equipment and staff. The trees we planted last February are starting to pop out their leaves, and it looks like we have very good survival in all planted areas.

Next time you visit the refuge Visitor Center you will see a new entrance sign and a new interpretive kiosk. The kiosk is adjacent to the walk-through in the fence and the trail up to the Visitor Center. Now we will start on acquiring and constructing new trail head kiosks for the Wildflower Loop and the Nature Loop Trails. We have a new addition to our trail system – there is now a trail that connects the Mesa View Trail to the Nature Loop Trail. Check it out the next time you visit!

Speaking of trails, if you've walked the Wildflower Loop you know there is a wooden bridge that you cross that is in disrepair. This bridge has served its purpose for about 16 years, but sun and rain and heat and cold have done it in. An Eagle Scout will be replacing that bridge as his Eagle Scout project, so soon there will be a new bridge.

## Amigos Board News

Ann Adams, Board President

Ola Amigos!

As part of our effort to broaden awareness of the Sevilleta refuge and expand membership in our Friends' group, we've been hosting a variety of "Dignitaries" over the past months. Our most recent visitors, nearly fifty of them, had signed up for a day's outing through the Oasis network in Albuquerque. Their bus arrived at 10 a.m. on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Kathy, Jeannine, and I greeted them in the Visitor Center, sharing info on the refuge, regaling them with stories and promising an interesting tour around the refuge. Most of the visitors hiked the trails behind the center, enjoyed lunch under the new portal behind the center, and took advantage of our Nature store. The tour started early afternoon accompanied by howling winds...you can just imagine a luxury coach on Sevilleta's roads with dust flying and pronghorn fleeing. Our passengers enjoyed Jeannine's narrative as we drove East toward the Pinos. Everyone was on the lookout for the wild residents of the refuge. We were rewarded with sightings of horned lark and pronghorn...prairie dogs were hunkered down out of the wind! Nonetheless, we had a great tour and three new folks joined the Amigos.

Earlier this year, the refuge was visited by Flat Stanley. Perhaps you have heard of him?! You can check him out on Google. Flat Stan has been visiting the world over the past twenty years...sent out by school students from their classrooms around the country. Traveling with various friends and family, Flat Stanley collects selfie photos and stories on his travels to report back to his classrooms.

Our Flat Stanley came from Atlanta by mail to my friend Dominique in Albuquerque. I offered an opportunity to visit Sevilleta. So, we brought him down and introduced him to a number of the critters living in the Visitor Center. You can see from these photos how much Flat Stanley enjoyed his trip. When he returned home, Flat Stanley shared his experience and now a whole middle-school class in Atlanta knows about Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge! Hopefully, some of those students will come out to visit us in the future!!

So, bring your friends and family to hike the trails, see the residents in the visitors center, and even request a tour with a volunteer naturalist. We love to share our refuge!

Best,



## **Additional information Members Only Picnic Continued**

Cibola – It's not the Seven Cities of Gold but it's beautiful all the same. Cibola Canyon is one of the hidden treasures of Sevilleta NWR. Waterfalls, beautiful vistas, birds, fossils, spring flowers – what more could you ask? Plus you spend time with your fellow Amigos. Bring your own lunch - beverages and dessert will be provided. Exploring the canyon requires a short walk and a little scrambling over rocks and brush. A walking stick might prove useful to some. Bring binoculars, camera, and camp chair if you want. All participants must be Amigos members in good standing – you can join when you call or join online on the Membership page at [www.amigosdelasevilleta.org](http://www.amigosdelasevilleta.org). Individual memberships start at \$25, seniors at \$20, and students at \$10. Dress for the weather – hat, sturdy shoes, and sunscreen

### **Help Needed**

If you have social media skills consider becoming an administrator for the Amigos de la Sevilleta Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/amigossevilleta/>  
Contact Jeannine Kimble

## **HOW YOU CAN HELP SEVILLETA**

The Amigos de la Sevilleta provide valuable support to this unique refuge. There are several ways that you can help.

- Consider increasing your membership contribution to the next level or higher.
- Give an Amigos membership to a friend or family member.
- Make an annual or semi-annual donation.
- Include the Amigos de Sevilleta in your will.
- Donate appreciated property or stock.
- If you are 70½ or older you can donate a part of your required minimum IRA distribution and avoid paying taxes on it. Your broker can handle all the paperwork for you. You will need the Amigos' tax ID number (06-1819138) and the mailing address (Amigos de la Sevilleta, Box 1248, Socorro, NM 87801.)

Since the Amigos are a 501c(3) organization, all donations are tax deductible. Your generosity will ensure that Sevilleta continues its mission to provide for the wildlife in this spectacular refuge.

### **Amigos Contacts**

Amigos Web Site

<https://www.amigosdelasevilleta.org/>

Amigos On Face Book

<https://www.facebook.com/amigossevilleta/>

Refuge Web Site

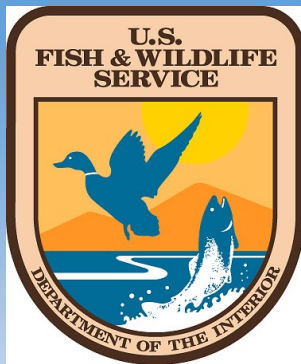
<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta/>

Jeannine Kimble

Visitor Services Manager

505/864-4021 X 106





## Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge

### **Hummingbird Banding**



Join us for Hummingbird banding with Ann Adams  
on Saturday June 16, 2018 from 8 am—10 am.

Sevilleta NWR Visitor Center I-25 Exit 169

505/864-4021. Reservations not required!

## Amigos de la Sevilleta Nature Store



New items: bookmarks, bug jars, guides for big and small



T-shirt sale: one for \$15, two for \$25 Do you have one...or two?