



1100 W. Moana Lane, Reno, NV 775-825-0602  
11301 S. Virginia Street, Reno, NV 775-853-1319  
7655 Pyramid Hwy., Sparks, NV 775-425-4300

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May 1, 2013



**"Nature News" from Wild Birds Unlimited at Moana Nursery**

**Save on a Gift for Mom ...  
or a Gift for You!**

**Save  
20%**

**Save 20% on One Regularly-Priced Wild Bird  
Unlimited Non-Bird Food Item ... Now thru 5/31\***

**Feeders, Bird House, APS Pole System &  
Accessories, Birdbaths & More**

\*Excludes bird food, gift cards, Brome Bird Care feeders and sale items.

One discount per purchase with coupon.

Offer Expires: Enter May 31, 2013

Wild Birds Unlimited Special Offer from our WBU Nature Store within a Store:

Ladies Day  
**Fill-A-Bag**  
**20% OFF**

Everything You Can Fit  
in Our Shopping Bag



\*Some Exclusions Apply



**One Day Only ... Sunday May 5th ... 20% Off - -**

## Everything Wild Birds Unlimited you can fit in our shopping bag\*

\*One bag per person. Not valid with other discounts, gift cards, Brome Bird Care branded feeders. Items must fit fully inside our designated Moana Nursery shopping bag and may not extend beyond the bag handles. **Valid only for one day - - May 5, 2013.**



### Bird Moms

A new generation of birds will soon be entering the world and the food and housing we provide can make a significant difference on how well they will thrive and survive in our own backyards.

Recent research studies have shown that bird moms with access to bird feeders will often lay their eggs earlier than those without feeders. This is significant because earlier broods typically have better rates of survival and fledging success than later ones.

Feeders also allow breeding birds to spend less time searching for food and more time selecting better nesting sites and constructing higher quality nests. The adults will also have more time available for protecting their nest, eggs and young from predators.

When abundant, quality food is accessible to parent birds it means that more food is provided to their chicks. Studies have shown that this extra nutrition reduces aggression among nest siblings and increases their rate of growth.

But food is not the only key in helping birds to nest successfully in your yard. A properly designed and installed nesting box can make a significant improvement in nesting success, especially during extreme periods of cold and damp weather.

Now is the time to take action for the next generation of birds in your yard. Drop by the store for all the products and expert advice you need to get started or update your offering.

Jacque Lowery, Manager  
Wild Birds Unlimited at Moana Nursery





## May High Desert Bird-of-the-Month:

### American Robin

#### AS AMERICAN AS APPLE PIE

In colder climates in the Midwest and East, the return of the Robin is one of the first harbingers of spring. Although some Robins do migrate to warmer areas in winter, a good

portion of our area's population are year-round residents. While Robins are common town and city birds, they are equally at home in mountain forests and the Alaskan wilderness.

Robins are the largest members of the thrush family. Take notice of the robin's upright posture with tail down and beak pointed upward; this is the basic shape of most thrushes. They are gray-brown with warm orange underparts and a dark head. Females have a paler head with less contrast to the gray back.

Spring through fall you are most likely to see American Robins foraging on grassy areas, looking for earthworms. When foraging they will run a few steps, stop abruptly to stare at the ground with head cocked to the side. It was once thought they were listening for worm



movement; we now know they are listening to hear the worms underground. It is great entertainment to watch them tug and tug to pull an earthworm out, and then see how incredibly quick they are to devour it. Robins tend to eat more earthworms in the morning and more fruits later in the day. Because they spend so much time on lawns, they are very susceptible to pesticide poisoning.

[Click here to read more of Jacque's complete Robin Bird of the Month article.](#)

### May Nature Happenings

- \* Big Brown Bats might be seen swooping at dusk to eat flying insects.
- \* Dawn Chorus: It's a most delightful avian chorus as males sing their finest to start the nesting cycle.
- \* Hummingbirds arrive. Be sure to have their feeders up early in the month.

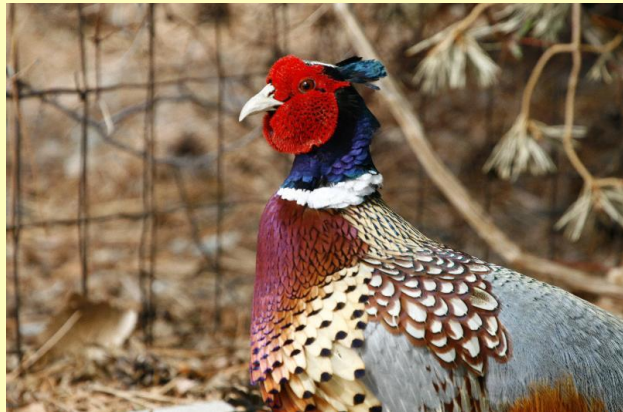
- \* Chokecherry, Serviceberry, Cottonwood are in bloom early in the month.
- \* Peak of warbler migration happens early in month.
- \* Nesting materials are being collected.
- \* Bullock's Orioles return and begin nesting. Be sure to have their feeders, nectar, fruit and jelly out early.
- \* Black-headed Grosbeaks return.
- \* Be on the lookout for tadpoles in ponds.
- \* Eta Aquarids meteor shower is early-May.
- \* International Migratory Bird Day is mid-May.

## Local Bird Sightings by Jacque Lowery

May is here, hurray! It is now officially time to hang hummingbird feeders and watch for the smallest, feistiest, most entertaining birds you are likely to ever see in your yard. Be sure to increase your chances of successfully attracting hummingbirds by including hummingbird-friendly plantings.



Penstemon, rose of Sharon, trumpet vine, bee balm, agastache and honeysuckle are just a few plants that are hummingbird approved; even a pot of red petunias near a feeder can help these little dynamos find your feeder for the first time.



May is also the peak bird migration month. This is a good time to make sure the feeders (seed, suet, peanut, seed cylinder) are well stocked and that the birdbath is cleaned and filled regularly. Some migrating birds, depending on species, may make long migrations without stopping much to refuel along the way. Others may take several weeks to reach their summer breeding grounds and may stop over to refuel and rest in our area. Rufous hummingbird would be an example, as they typically travel to Alaska for nesting season, but may linger here briefly on their spring migration. Other birds may only be migrating as far as our local forested or riparian areas from their wintering grounds. Western Tanagers, some of the flycatchers, some warblers, would fit this category. For more than a backyard peek at many of these travelers, consider a stroll through Oxbow Nature Study Area, Rancho San Rafael Park, Galena Creek Park. The opportunity for some great sightings is practically guaranteed this time of year.

[Click here to read more.](#)

## **A New Way to Reward Yourself at Moana Nursery**

**We now offer a Home & Garden Showplace Discover Card**

**Easy application in our stores - receive a \$10 voucher for Moana Nursery by purchasing \$10 or more the first time you use your card - and then keep on earning rewards. Ask for more information next time you visit us.**



- **3% - 2% - 1% Reward: Receive a 3 percent reward on all Moana Nursery purchases, 2 percent reward on all gas and grocery purchases and a 1 percent reward on all other purchases made with the card. The 3-2-1 reward is provided in the form of a Home & Garden Showplace voucher card that can be redeemed at all Moana Nursery locations.**
- **Financing option: Receive 0 percent interest for six months on purchases of \$299 or more if the balance is paid in full at the end of the six-month period.**

## **TWO CONTAINER GARDENING WORKSHOPS**

**SATURDAY, MAY 4TH**

**MOANA LANE GARDEN CENTER**

### **10:00 am: Spring Container Workshop for Novices and Experienced Gardeners**

Join long-time gardening expert, speaker/instructor and container specialist Lainie Vreeland to learn the essentials of creating a living container plus design and planting tips you can apply any where in your garden. You'll leave with a 15" dia.,/3 gallon container complete with spillers, fillers and a thriller which can easily be popped into an urn or pot you already own.

Workshop cost is \$35 and includes all the materials necessary. Must sign-up and pay in advance at our Moana Lane store or you can call 825-0600 and register with your credit card. (No shows will not be refunded their money.) Class size is limited to 25. Registration closes Thursday, May 2 or when full, whichever comes first. Bring your gloves!

**1:00 pm: Mother's Day Herb Container Workshop for Kids - ages 5 to 14**



Join high desert plant enthusiast Kristen Smith for this fun, hands on workshop to learn the basics of container gardening and all about herbs while creating a gift that Mom will enjoy throughout the growing season. She will teach how to water and care for the herbs.

Kids will leave with a 10" dia./2 gallon container planted with three herbs. It can be easily dropped into an urn or pot Mom already owns - or you can upgrade your gift by selecting a cool new pot from the nursery.

Workshop cost is \$19 and includes all the materials necessary. All kids must be accompanied by an adult. Must sign up and pay in advance at our Moana Lane store or you can call 825-0600 and register with your credit card. (No shows will not be refunded their money.) Call size is limited to 25 children.

## **Upcoming Meetings & Events:**

### **Lahontan Audubon Society**

Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday, August through May, at the Moana Nursery Landscape and Design Center, 1190 West Moana Lane, in Reno. Social hour begins at 6:30 pm; meeting begins at 7:00 pm. Check Audubon Society first as meeting location may change; we're outgrowing our current site.

- May 28, 2013 - Jenni Jeffers - Owls of Nevada

### Field Trips:

- Saturday, May 4th, 2013 - McCarran Ranch, Truckee River
- Saturday/Sunday, May 11-12th, 2013 - Owling & The Dawn Chorus
- Saturday, May 18th, 2013 - South of the Border Down Markleeville Way
- Saturday, June 15th, 2013 - Silver Saddle Ranch

[For information on the Lahontan Audubon Society and the below listed Bird ID classes, click here](#)

### **Birds of the Truckee Meadows Bird Identification Classes**

Where: Moana Nursery Landscape and Design Center, 1190 Moana Lane (adjacent to Moana Lane Nursery)

When: 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Cost: \$40 for all five classes or \$10 per single class (payable at the door)

- Wednesday May 1, 2013 Introduction to Birding, Dave Jickling
- Wednesday May 8, 2013 Birds of Lakes and Marshes, Alan Gubanich
- Wednesday May 15, 2013 Birds of Prey, Bob Goodman
- Wednesday May 22, 2013 Mountain Birds, Jim Eidel

- Wednesday May 29, 2013 Neighborhood Birds, Alan Gubanic

A field trip will be included, to be scheduled during the classes.

## Animal Ark

### Piñatas & Predators

**Saturday, May 4**

**10:15 am - 2:30 pm**

Prices for this special day event: Adults \$15; Seniors \$13.50; Children \$12; children 2 years and under are free.

Come watch the fun as our predators break open their treat-filled piñatas! Great photo opportunities!

### Cheetah "500"

**Sunday, May 26**

**5:30 pm**

**Reservations required due to limited seating. RSVP: 1-775- 970-3431**

Prices for this special evening event: Adults \$40; Seniors \$35; Children (10-16 years old) \$30.

May 26th is the day for the Indianapolis 500 and the Cheetah 500! Come see the world's fastest land mammal in action as our cheetahs run at top speeds - completely off-leash - around the Animal Ark cheetah field! Children must be at least 10 years old.

[For more information about Animal Ark click here.](#)



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[Special spring Garden Center savings ... see them here.](#)

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Moana Nursery | 1100 W. Moana Lane | 11301 S. Virginia St. | Reno | NV | 89509



