

Karel Buckley visits with the Kamms

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Brad Andres

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Last November and December, I was fortunate to spend several months in South East Arizona. While traveling slowly around that area I spent a few weeks exploring near Sierra Vista, Ramsey Canyon included. Bill Brockner had often talked to me about Ramsey Canyon, the magical preserve owned by the Nature Conservancy in South East Arizona. I was enchanted to finally walk in the place he loved so much.

Long time, very active TENAS members (now Evergreen Audubon), Alicia and Dieter Kamm now live in that area.

Some may remember Alicia as the Dipper editor for many years. Dieter was a local bank manager, and also president TENAS for a time.

Dieter was very eager to guide me around that area and we birded together several times.

We hiked and drove gorgeous canyons in search of many species including Mexican Spotted Owls, which I especially wanted to see.

While together, we were constantly reminiscing. Dieter shared how grateful they were to have moved to Evergreen from New York City, to have met the Brockners, and to have been involved in TENAS. As one of Bill's many mentees, he and Bill chased rare birds together for years. According to Dieter, joining Evergreen Audubon changed the path of their lives and the lives of their children as the whole Kamm family became worldwide bird watchers.



Alicia & Dieter Kamm

Dieter also mentioned the Jefferson County schools and how he felt that both of their sons have succeeded in life because of the fine education they received. He also credits Fran Enright for stimulating their son Carl, now a Physician's Assistant, in science and math. Son Richard is now a successful attorney.

Dieter extends a invitation to Evergreen Audubon members: If anyone is visiting that area he would be happy to act as a birding guide, either accompanying you or sending you to the most likely spots to find your target birds.

During my time in the Sierra Vista, I participated in three Christmas Bird Counts and observed 25 new species. Needless to say, I had a fabulous time.

Happy Spring Birding, from Mancos, Colorado.

Karel Buckley