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# Greater Arkansas River Nature Association



*1st Place and People's Choice Holiday Category: Snowy Sunrise, Andrea Wilkerson*

The GARNA Gab - December 2016

[garna.org](http://garna.org)



## Colorado Gives Day

Tuesday, December 6

Now's the time to join, donate or give a GARNA membership. Give on or before December 6 and your dollars will be increased by Colorado's Community First Foundation. You'll also be entered into a drawing to win a set of GARNA photo notecards, a photo bird mug or a photo wall calendar.

## SAVE THE DATE!

### GARNA Annual Meeting and Environmental Presentation with Paul Bannick

Owl: A Year In The Lives of North American Owls

Thursday, January 26, 2017 \* Salida Steamplant Theater

*A pre-party for members will take place before the presentation. Consider joining GARNA or renewing your membership!*



Paul Bannick's program will featuring video, sound, stories from the field and several dozen new images from his book: **Owl: A Year in the Lives of North American Owls**. Paul uses intimate yet dramatic images to follow owls through the course of one year and in their distinct habitats.

Youth spend an average of only seven minutes per day outside... you can help!



In 2016, the Greater Arkansas River Nature Association inspired over 700 youth in Salida, Buena Vista and Leadville by providing environmental opportunities in public schools, summer camps and after school programming. Your membership and donations will allow us to double that number in 2017. Youth programs are just one way that GARNA fosters stewardship of the natural, cultural and historical resources of the region.

GIVE TO GARNA BY DEC. 6  
[COLORADOGIVES.ORG/GARNA](http://coloradogives.org/garna)



Nature Centered, Community Driven

Your GARNA membership and donations support getting kids outside via environmental education and stewardship programs. Visit [coloradogives.org/GARNA](http://coloradogives.org/GARNA) by December 6 and your dollars will be increased by Colorado's Community First Foundation. In addition to influencing the next generation of citizens and leaders, your GARNA membership and donations work NOW to protect the places you love. Join now and take advantage of 2016 membership prices (on back). Please let us know if your donation is intended for membership in the special instructions. Contact us at 719-539-5106 or [info@garna.org](mailto:info@garna.org) with questions.

### GIVE TO WIN!

Donate through Colorado Gives by December 6 and you will be entered into a drawing for amazing prizes. Look for the contest announcement in our December newsletter, the GARNA GAB. Not getting the GAB? Sign up on our website! Be sure to check your spam folder or check the email address on file by emailing [info@garna.org](mailto:info@garna.org). Checks can also be accepted, but won't count towards Colorado Gives.



[garna.org](http://garna.org)

## Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas Program

Wednesday, December 7 \* 7:00 to 8:30 pm \*  
 Salida United Methodist Church

The GARNA Birding Club is pleased to present a special program on the "Second Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas: Changes in Distribution of Colorado's Breeding Birds Across a 20-Year Interval". This program is timed with the release of the Second Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas. Lynn Wickersham, Atlas Project Coordinator, will give us a unique glimpse into the five-year bird survey work carried out for the Second Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas. The first atlas was completed twenty years earlier and much has changed in this time. Lynn will share population changes and conservation concerns for some of the 262 bird species represented in the Atlas. Cost for the program is \$3 for GARNA members and \$5 for non-members. The registration fee will be collected at the door, cash or check only please.



Colorado Bird Atlas Partnership

## Inspire Chaffee County Retreat

Thursday, December 8 \* 5:00 to 8:30 pm

Paul Bannick is an award-winning wildlife photographer specializing in the natural history of North America with a focus on birds and habitat. Coupling his love of the outdoors with his skill as a photographer, he creates images that foster the intimacy between viewer and subject, inspiring education and conservation. Paul's photography can be found prominently in bird guides from Audubon, Peterson, The Smithsonian, Stokes, The National Wildlife Federation, and in several volumes of the Handbook of the Birds of the world.

## GARNA's 2 new Board Members!

We welcomed Emily Osborn and Heidi Slaymaker to the GARNA Board this past month.

**Heidi Slaymaker** teaches biology and earth science at Salida High School. She has a Masters from the University of British Columbia in Environmental Science, specifically studying how people interact with their environment. She loves living in Salida where wilderness is so accessible and wants to share this with others. Heidi's favorite outdoor activity is mountain biking.



Heidi Slaymaker

**Emily Osborn** is the Recreation Director for the Town of Buena Vista. She has a BS from CSU Fort Collins in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism and a Masters from Penn State in Recreation, Park and Tourism Management & Human Dimensions of Natural Resources. She has been a river guide and along with rafting, loves to ski, hike, and camp.



Emily Osborn

GARNA and other partners are working on a plan to request funding to get **ALL** Chaffee County kids outdoors.

The December 8 retreat will include:

- Youth Advisory Council presentations revealing how they are contributing to the ICC effort and recommendations they have for planning outcomes.
- Businesses, outfitters and organizations sharing services they offer that you may not be aware of.
- A review of the initial draft of the Chaffee County Youth Places and Programs Asset Map and help us identify and fill in any gaps in our data.
- Preliminary results from the Community Feedback surveys.
- Announcement of the Request for Proposal for pilot projects in the community.

If you are interested in taking part in the retreat, please contact the GARNA office at [info@garna.org](mailto:info@garna.org) or 719-539-5106.

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## Not a GARNA member?

GARNA is the Arkansas River Valley's only local broadly focused conservation and educational institution with non-profit status. GARNA is supported by membership fees. We have over 300 members and growing... [will you join us?](#) Benefits for GARNA members:

- 20% discount on all items at all times in GARNA book and map outlets
- Advanced notification and invitations to special events and activities
- Reduced registration fees for GARNA programs
- Access to GARNA's special interest clubs

Thank you for supporting GARNA and our mission of fostering stewardship of the resources of the greater Arkansas River region through education, volunteerism and experiences.



## GARNA Board of Directors

Kate Garwood, Chair  
Aaron Derwingson, Vice Chair  
JD Longwell, Treasurer  
Deb Bass, Secretary  
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Jody Bol  
John McCarthy  
Logan Myers  
Terry Porter  
Emily Osborn  
Heidi Slaymaker

Alan Robinson, Friends of Fourmile  
Kate Garwood, Upper Arkansas Wilderness Volunteers  
Cathy Amenta, Crestone Wilderness Stewards  
Steve Harris, Chaffee County Heritage Board

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