



Audubon NEW MEXICO

February 27, 2006

Stuart Gentling
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Randall Davey Audubon Center
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Dear Stuart,

Thank you so much for considering a talk for our donor group, the Randall Davey Roundtable, in 2007, and the possibility of exhibiting some of your *Birds of Texas* works here. Pen Cranz says that you would have enjoyed Randall Davey – two artists with lots of spirit!

I am enclosing a description of the Roundtable and one of our series invitations from a couple of years ago. I hope these give you some notion of the series. If possible, I would like to have the speakers and dates set for 2007 by October of this year. If it works into your schedule, I am thinking of you as our lead speaker sometime in the Spring, perhaps March or April, with the theme for the year being something along the lines of *Artistic Interpretations*. I've been communicating with author Richard Rhodes about being a speaker, too – he did the biography of J.J. Audubon a few years back.

I would also very much enjoy having your talk coincide with the opening of an exhibit of your and your brother's work on birds in our conference room. I've enclosed a diagram of the space so you have some indication of the available walls. The ceilings are quite high. We have held several exhibits in the room on the subject of the natural world.

For exhibits, we ask the artist to make a contribution of 10% of sales at the end of the exhibit or a minimum of \$150. Although we would be glad to help clients with sales, checks would be payable to you and we would ask that you handle credit card sales through your website and shipping. If we make credit card sales through our nature store, we would require a 4% processing fee. Again, we would be here to help do whatever we can. We could schedule a show for up to three months from the date of the opening.

I will be on a leave of absence for five weeks so I hope we can talk further about this when I return. I know your life is quite full these days through the Fall. I would be glad to correspond via email: kmstraus@audubon.org.

Thanks so much and best of luck with your book project and everything else!

Sincerely,

Kim Straus

Director of Development

AUDUBON NEW MEXICO
Randall Davey Audubon Center

About the Randall Davey Roundtable

The Randall Davey Roundtable was the brainchild of ANM board member Leslie Barclay, who felt we needed a "friends" group of high-end donors that would gather several times each year to hear speakers on topics of environmental concern. The series was first announced in the Spring of 1999 as part of the Center's first capital campaign. An additional motivation was the desire to use the historic Randall Davey house for something other than just a house museum. By getting donors into the house for intimate dinners, they might be more willing to help us with restoration efforts. Membership in the Roundtable is usually about 32 to 36 people – most new members come to us through referrals of other members.

In addition to the four Roundtable dinners held each year, members are invited on exclusive trips to places in New Mexico not generally available to the public. Past trips have been to Ted Turner's Vermejo Park Ranch and to the Valles Caldera National Preserve before its opening to the public.

Past Roundtable dinner speakers have included: author William deBuys (former chair of the Valles Caldera Preserve Board of Trustees); Roger Kennedy, former Director of the U.S. Park Service; Joanna Prukopp, Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources; Gary Nabhan, director of the Center for Sustainable Environments, Northern Arizona University (among other pursuits); anthropologist Susan Brown McGreevy on the use of native plants by Native American basketmakers; Congressman Tom Udall; birder and butterfly extraordinaire Kenn Kaufman; historian, ethnomusician and Edward Abbey's close friend Jack Loeffler; Audubon president John Flicker, chimpanzee researcher Jane Goodall, and current Audubon board chair Carol Browner (administrator of the EPA in the Clinton administration). Many local biologists have presented topics ranging from impacts of bark beetles, drought and fire on our forests to the re-introduction of the Aplomado Falcon to the loss of annual flooding cycles on the Rio Grande.

The Roundtable has been a most successful means of garnering major donor support and members.