

Alan Gubanich, PhD, Emeritus Faculty Member, University of Nevada-Reno

“Discovering Nevada’s Avian Treasures” – Despite the general perception, Nevada is much more than a desert. Nevada’s numerous high mountain ranges, rivers, streams, and desert valleys create a great diversity of habitat and birdlife. Over 460 species have been recorded in Nevada and 243 of these are confirmed breeders. Dr. Alan Gubanich will share with us a collection of photographs showcasing many of the birds found in our state, including some that may surprise out-of-state birdwatchers. Alan’s presentation will feature many northern Nevada species with perhaps a few “southerners” included. He will convince you that, despite the common misconceptions, Nevada is definitely not a wasteland.

Alan is retired after teaching biology for 35 years at the University of Nevada-Reno (UNR). After earning a Masters and Doctorate in Biological Sciences at the University of Arizona (1964-1970) he started his teaching career as Director of general biology at UNR, teaching a variety of classes. The last 15 years, Alan specialized in teaching ornithology and field ornithology. He is Vice President of the Lahontan Audubon Society (LAS), chairs their Education Committee, and co-edited, with Karen Kish, the second edition of LAS’s “A Birding Guide to Reno and Beyond”. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Great Basin Bird Observatory (GBBO) and the Great Basin Institute (GBI). As a Master Bird Bander, Alan supervised a banding station in the Sierra Nevada mountains for 11 years.