



## **LEGACYLINE NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2018**

The diminutive *Inca Dove*, familiar to birders visiting the Southwestern USA, was first described to science by *Rene Primevere Lesson* in 1847 and named to honor of the native peoples of central Mexico - the *Incas*. All well and good as an intention, but he missed the mark by an entire continent where *terra firma* of the Inca's lay in South America. *Lesson's* description applied binomial nomenclature (*Chamaepelia inca*) forever securing *inca* within the *scientific name*. However the English name *Inca Dove* is no longer tenable, rather it is time to recognize the name '*Aztec*' as was *Lesson's* original intention, or '*Pima*', '*Mayo*', or '*Apache*'... all indigenous peoples whose histories intertwine with this species. More broadly '*Mexican*' is surely an appropriate geographic name-choice. A 2011 proposal before the American Ornithological Union Check-list Committee failed to rectify the misnomer based on the '*familiarity*' of US birders, and English name '*stability*'. One '*NO*' voter wrote: "*Even if Inca Dove morally offended me, somehow changing it to Aztec Dove, yet another pre-Colombian empire that has only a tenuous relationship with the bird, seems like a not very useful English name.*" Did *Rene Lesson* paint native peoples with the same broad brush? One wonders how the nearly 130 million Mexican's, many of *Aztec*, *Pima*, *Mayo*, & *Apache* decent, find '*familiarity & stability*' in being lumped with the indigenous peoples of South America. *Rene Lesson's* legacy cries '*foul*' against an entrenched stability holding rigid in the face of a learned truth.

### **NEWLY REDESIGNED WEB SITE**

Charlie Kahle labored with Legacy throughout the past two months with the final result being a staggeringly beautiful new web site; an effective tool for sharing our programs, and for clearly communicating to us your interests.

<https://legacy-tours.com>

## **INSTAGRAM**

Susan has propelled Legacy Tours firmly into the 21st century with regular *Instagram* posts. We can be found at: ***legacytourbirdingworldwide***  
The posts can be accessed by 'clicking' on the *camera icon* on the banner that runs across the top of the Legacy Tours web page: <https://legacy-tours.com>  
Choose '***follow***' to begin receiving regular *picture updates* of our travels.

## **EL TRIUNFO BIOSPHERE RESEVE, CHIAPAS MEXICO**

There are three reasons to visit El Triunfo: [1] *the pristine nature of the cloud forest*. It has no comparison in Mexico, nor likely anywhere in North America. There are *no human-made sounds* to fill the air – it is that remote and untouched; [2] *birds are more easily seen here than anywhere else*. The *Horned Guan* is topmost among these all-stars but other likely species include *Resplendent Quetzal*, *Fulvous Owl*, *Highland Guan*, and *Wine-throated Hummingbird*; and [3] the tour cost directly *benefits the reserve conservation funding, and the buffer-zone communities*.

The 10-day program is accessed exclusively by biosphere reserve permit... our window is **FEB 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. We have two unexpected 'openings' for this upcoming February... contact us ***now*** for trip details and a bird-list. *We understand this trip is only six weeks away allowing only short-term planners to take advantage, but it seems 'a shame' to have two spaces come available at the last minute only to end up going unused...* so if possible embrace this opportunity!

## **YEAR LIST (2018 Summary)**

It has been nearly thirteen months since surgeons successfully performed a quintuple bi-pass on my heart. I am, as Susan says; "a classic car with a rebuilt engine." Health, fitness, and gratitude are characteristic words to describe this past year... a momentous year indeed! As for the birds, who could have guessed it... *1,805 species* of year-birds seen with 'lifers' recorded in eleven different countries, including two island endemics in Mexico - *Socorro Wren* and *Socorro Mockingbird*... and now 2019 knocks at the door!

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