

Gillespie Creek Journal

"Snowbirds" of at least two species are on the move these days. While I have settled into my Sun City, Arizona residence along with other northern widows and golfers, birds daily continue their flight southward. Some just rest to bulk up here in the Valley of the Sun. Others are looking to stay awhile. Hunting is pretty good at a place called Pond #6 located just west of State Farm Stadium in Glendale. I visited there on Wednesday for several hours experiencing struggles for survival as well as the beauty of creation.



Snowy Egret

Photo by Buddy Walker

High Flight by John Gillespie Magee, Jr.

Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
 And danced the skies on laughter-silvered
 wings;
 Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling
 mirth
 Of sun-split clouds,-and done a hundred things
 You have not dreamed of-wheeled and soared
 and swung
 High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
 I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
 My eager craft through footless halls of air...
 Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
 I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy
 grace
 Where never lark nor even eagle flew-
 And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
 The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
 Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.



Harrier

Photo by Buddy Walker

Who is Buddy Walker? As you see he is an amazing photographer. A patient man who has refined his skill through hours of standing, adjusting his hand held camera to catch his photo prey at their most beautiful moments. With awe I thank him for sharing his photos and friendship.

Gillespie Creek, Wisconsin, received its first snowfall of the season last Sunday. The moisture is most welcome. Continued cloudy skies have become a challenge in our area where my son depends on sunny days to recharge his off-grid electrical system.

Visit gillespiecreek.com for archived newsletters.



Gillespie Creek Gardens, and Greenhouse
 Photo by Robb Appel