

A Dose of Desert Joy: a burrowing owl we can really relate to ▶ Inbox x

**Kathleen Kennedy**

to me ▾



Dear Pamela,

This past week we celebrated the summer solstice. The monsoons seem to be well on their way with chances of thunderstorms in the forecast almost every day this next week. The anticipation this time of year is always exciting as we keep our eyes on the skies, watching possible monsoon clouds build and accumulate throughout the day. Will today be the day the first big storm produces a torrent of rain, filling up our rain basins and the desert washes with rushing water? Or maybe tomorrow? Before we know it, the desert will be bursting with new growth and all the shades of green you can imagine. What a transformation lies ahead.

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If you take any photos out on your adventures and would like to share them, please send them my way. We've shared new photos in every one of these emails for over two years now and would love to continue showcasing new images and photographers. Email me anytime at [Kathleen.Kennedy@sonorandesert.org](mailto:Kathleen.Kennedy@sonorandesert.org) and we'll include your photo(s) in one of our next editions of *A Dose of Desert Joy*. **Thank you!**



Michael Shipman captured this western screech owlet in his yard recently. We love the contrast of this new, fluffy owl with all the lush, green vegetation. Thank you Michael!



Lisa Mainz captured this Northern Cardinal pair. Thank you Lisa!

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"Happiness is in the quiet, ordinary things. A table, a chair, a book with a paper-knife stuck between the pages. And the petal falling from the rose, and the light flickering as we sit silent."

-Virginia Woolf



Anyone else relate to the expression on this burrowing owl's face, captured by Eddie Moreno with the Arizona Game and Fish Department? We've been feeling like this for the past two+ years...



What a gorgeous sunrise captured by Patty Estes. Thank you Patty!

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"Remember, remember, this is now, and now, and now.  
Live it, feel it, cling to it. I want to become acutely aware  
of all I've taken for granted."

-Sylvia Plath

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Helen Mellen ran across this sleepy rattlesnake, well camouflaged among the sticks and ocotillo branches in her yard this past spring. Thank you Helen!



## CORRECTIONS!

We made a few ID errors in recent emails. This bird to the left is a **northern mockingbird**. Thanks again to Rodger Bivens for this photo.



This bird is a **male vermilion flycatcher**, photographed in the Sopori area south of Tucson. Thank you to the Arizona Land and Water Trust for your partnership in monitoring and maintaining this wildlife camera project area.

## The latest wildlife camera photos!

Our fleet of wildlife cameras watches over Sonoran Desert wildlife and gathers needed data as they move and live within important wildlife linkages. **We couldn't ensure their freedom to roam without the hard working Desert Monitors and Desert Identifiers that are so instrumental to this program!**

The photos below were taken by our ARROW, BANDIT DOS, and LUCY wildlife cameras. Big thanks to the volunteers that monitor and maintain these cameras in the Tucson Mountains!







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LUCY

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*We are grateful for the opportunity to live and work on traditionally  
Native lands, including those belonging to the  
O'odham, Tohono O'odham, and Pascua Yaqui.*

**Our Contact Information**

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