



THE CHIRP

NEWSLETTER OF THE TWIN LAKES AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOL 11 ISSUE 4

twinlakesaudubon.org

December 2016

Greetings everyone!

Yours truly was very fortunate to just get back to civilization from a four-day trip into the Big Bend Park primarily for hiking. We got out just as the weather was changing. The birding highlight worth sharing was the sighting of a majestic Peregrine Falcon soaring over the Rio Grande at about 1800 ft above the river. My hiking partner and I were on the trail at the top of the Mariscal Mt Rim trail and the Peregrine was only about 100 ft out over the sheer drop straight down to the river. It was just drop-dead beautiful!

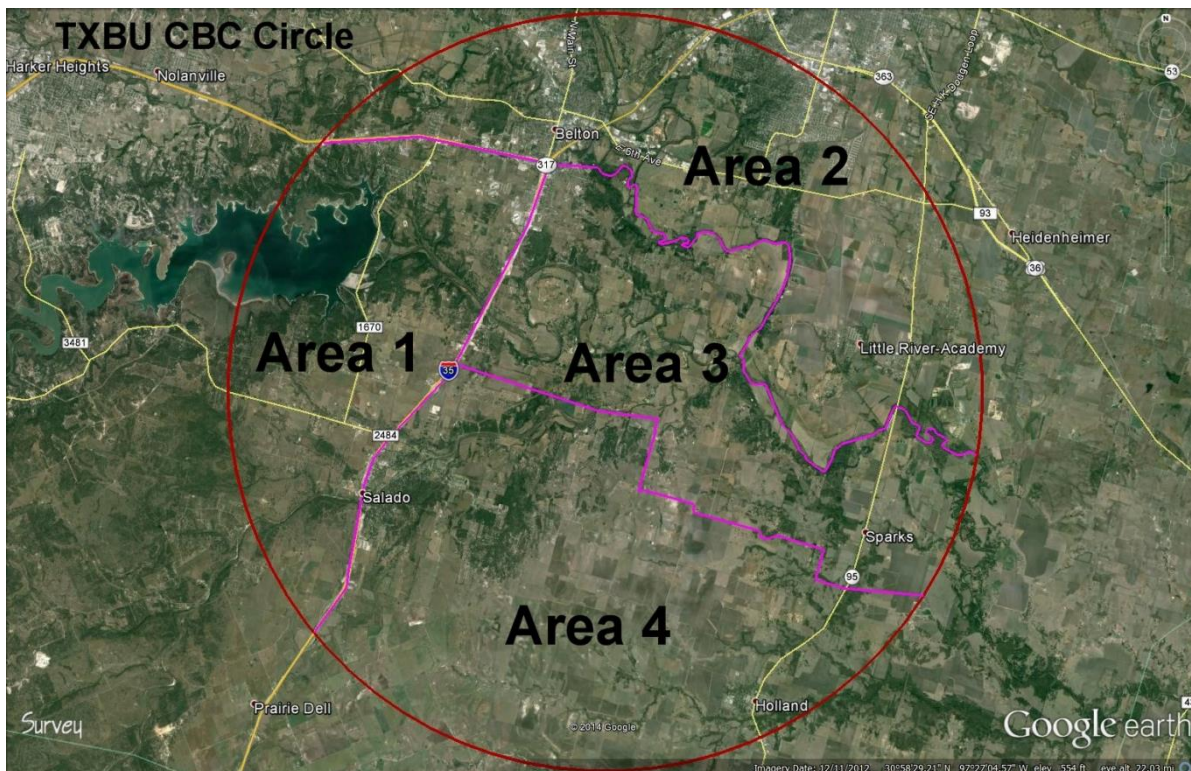
On review of the range map in Sibley's guide, I am reminded that they winter along the Mid-Atlantic area, south thru Florida, and along the Gulf Coast, and then up along the US-Mexico border up to the Big Bend area. Reviewing the info on I-Bird, we see that they dive at 175 mph! Actually, I had heard that they do this and had been timed at 200 mph. Anyway, marvelous birds.

Let's all get revved up for our own CBC. It's a great experience.

Sandy Lowry, Pres

Christmas Bird Count!

Join us in this year's CBC. We will discuss the 17 Dec count of the TXBU circle at this month's meeting on the 13th.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Unless otherwise noted, the contact for programs and field trips is Gil Eckrich; Cell: 254-534-0061,
Email is: gil.eckrich@att.net



PRESENTATIONS

13 Dec – Preparation for Christmas Bird Count. Important to be there and sign up for which quadrant you'd like to participate in. Remember, you do NOT have to be an “expert” birder, eyes and ears count!

10 Jan – Bill Reiner, biologist for the City of Austin will give presentation on Golden-cheeked Warbler status and research in the Austin area.

14 Feb – Dr. Cathleen Early, UMHB professor, will talk on teaching ornithology and leading field trips for UMHB students – informative, hilarious, and a don't miss!

March – No Meeting

11 Apr - TBA

09 May - Picture Show and Tell, Everyone bring pictures to share!



FIELD TRIPS

15 Dec: Fort Hood CBC, first time for the installation.

17 Dec: Christmas Bird Count (CBC)!!!!

31 Dec – The East Waco Christmas Bird Count – anyone interested in participating, please contact Annette Jones plawaco@aol.com

14 Jan: Las Tres Hermanes, on FM 2268, between Salado and Armstrong Road. Great place and great birds!

18 Feb: TBD

18/25 Mar: Sam Houston National Forest - Red-cockaded Woodpecker and other East Texas specialties

15 Apr: Messer Ranch! This is always a TLAS favorite and should not be missed.

13 May: Warbler Woods. !! <http://warblerwoods.org/> Driving there is up to each individual (directions below). While there is NO specific time to be at Warbler Woods, we are shooting for 08. For gate code, be at the 9 May TLAS meeting, or contact [Gil Eckrich](#). **WEAR YOUR TLAS T-SHIRT!!!**

From Killeen/Belton

Take IH 35 towards San Antonio
 Exit # 178(FM 1103)
 Turn left on FM 1103
 Turn right on Old Wiederstein Rd
 Go past school and look for large green mailbox on left
 19349 Old Wiederstein Rd, Cibolo

[Google Maps Link](#)

AUGUST: West Texas! Places include Big Bend, Davis Mountains, or even the Guadalupe Mtns. **Still looking for more TLAS member input on this one!**

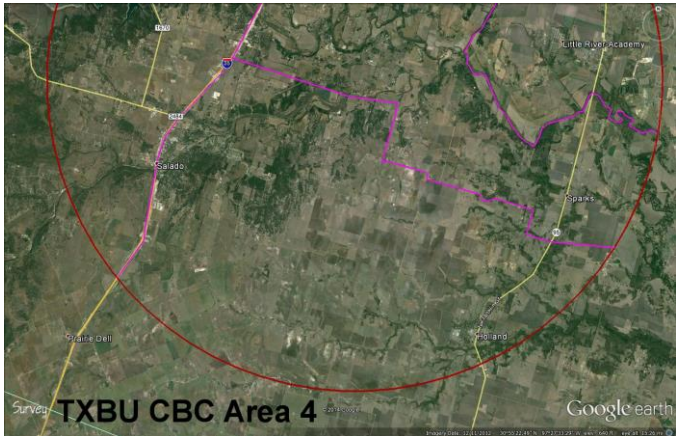
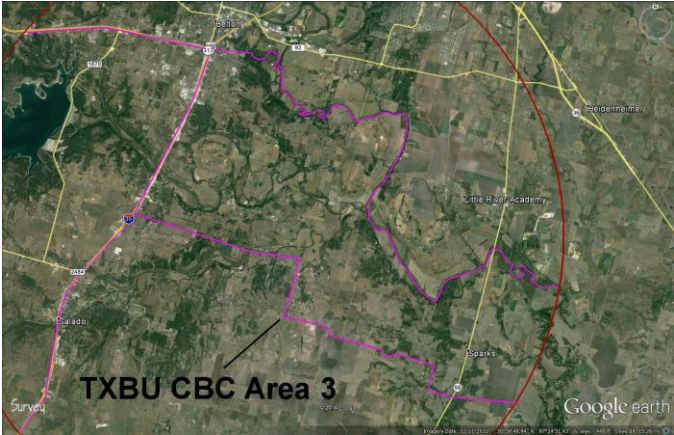
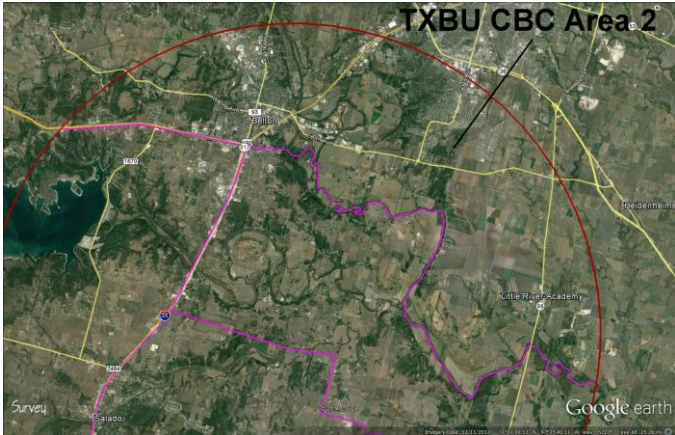
Snack and Drink Sign-up

<u>DATE</u>	SNACK	SNACK	DRINKS & ICE	PAPER GOODS
13 Dec	EVERYONE BRING SOMETHING			
10 Jan	Carol Farek	Liz Cowan	Available	Available
14 Feb	Carol Farek	Available	Elaine Horton	Available
March	NO MEETING DUE TO SPRING BREAK			
11 Apr	Available	Available	Marilyn Miller	Available
10 May	EVERYONE BRING SOMETHING			

Photos from November 2016 Field Trip to Berry Springs



TXBU Christmas Bird Count Circle Quadrants



Images from 2015 CBC





Twin Lakes Audubon Society

P.O. Box 883

Belton, TX 76513

Return Service Requested

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

All members will receive THE CHIRP electronically instead of in printed form. If a member does not have access to a computer, please contact Cathy Cantu @254-541-3689 and we will gladly send you a printed copy.

As each issue goes to press, you will receive an email with a PDF of the new issue attached. The PDF is also available at our website: www.twinlakesaudubon.org

Meetings

7:00 p.m., second Tuesday of the month in Room 117, York Science Center, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Belton (No meetings March, June, July or August).

