



# THE CHIRP

NEWSLETTER OF THE TWIN LAKES AUDUBON SOCIETY

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[twinlakesaudubon.org](http://twinlakesaudubon.org)

October 2017

## *Greetings everyone!*

eBird is a big part of what got me interested in birding. Being able to find rarities and birds I need to complete my county list got me out chasing birds and connected me to local birders. I encourage everyone to go to [eBird.org](http://eBird.org) and sign up today. Go to the "Explore Data" tab and then "Explore Region". Type in Bell County, or any other county, and see recent sightings.

This is a great place to scout out the birds you need or want to see. You can also set up alerts to tell you if a rare bird in a region has been reported or set up alerts for birds that you need for your regional list. Often the people out birding and finding the really rare stuff see uncommon birds or even common birds that you need for your life list. Setting up alerts like this can help you quickly pick up birds that have been eluding you.

Another aspect of eBird is that it lets you keep your life list online. If you are competitive, you can compare against others for number of species or share photos or recordings you took while birding.

eBird is only as useful as the data that is collected by individual birders like ourselves. That means try as hard as you can to report birds every time you go birding! I am guilty of not wanting to hassle with it, but it helps people find birds and collects data for Cornell to study bird populations.

Happy eBirding,  
*Nic Webster*  
TLAS President



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## PRESENTATIONS

**10 Oct Sep – Texas Big Year!** David Sarkozi will talk about his quest to break the record for most birds seen in Texas in ONE year. <https://davidsbigyear.blogspot.com/2017/08/well-rain-exploded-with-mighty-crash.html>

**14 Nov – Birds of NW Ecuador** Gil Eckrich will try to dazzle TLAS with images from one of the very best birding areas on the planet!



**12 Dec – Preparation for CBC** – Discussion of TXBU Christmas Bird Count circle, including quadrants, likely birds to be seen, which species need documentation, etc

**09 Jan – TBA**



**13 Feb – Wildlife Rehabilitation** – Federally and state certified Wildlife rehabilitator Pam Diekert (shown releasing 8 Chimney Swifts) will give a most valuable presentation on a topic that interests birders

**10 Apr – TBA**

**15 May - Picture Show and Tell**, Everyone bring pictures to share! Please bring your pictures in digital format, either on a jump drive, or a CD/DVD. This has become a favorite event, and contributors are asked to limit themselves to no more than 10 images, unless otherwise coordinated in advance.



## FIELD TRIPS

**14 Oct: Lake Rogers & Surrounding Area.** Meet at 8 AM at Lake Rogers



**18 Nov: SE Bell County & Granger Lake Area**

**16 Dec: Christmas Bird Count!**

**20 Jan: West Range Fort Hood** – Afternoon into evening field trip, culminating (hopefully) in seeing owls

**17 Feb: TBD** – Please consider a 3 day, 2 night, field trip to Lower Rio Grande Valley; feed-back desired. Right now it looks as though this will be the field trip destination for that month.

**14 Apr: TBD**

**12 May: TBD**

## Snack and Drink Sign-up

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SNACK</u>	<u>SNACK</u>	<u>DRINKS &amp; ICE</u>	<u>PAPER GOODS</u>
<b>0 Oct</b>	<b>SOMEONE BRING SOMETHING</b>			



## 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](http://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).

