



# THE CHIRP

NEWSLETTER OF THE TWIN LAKES AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOL 10 ISSUE 1

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

January 2015



## President's Notes

### Happy New Year!!

I hope everyone enjoyed your Holiday Season. December was full of birding activities. Judging by the photos on the TLAS web site and Facebook, the field trip to Chalk Ridge Falls Park on December 13 was a good day birding. Thanks to Sabrina and Elaine for the photos. Thanks to all who took part in Christmas Bird Count on December 20 and thanks to Eric for photos taken during the CBC. View these photos on the TLAS website.

At the January 13 TLAS meeting, Tom Robbins will report on the results of the CBC. Melissa Brown will give a presentation on the Baggett Country photo ranch. The field trip on January 17 will be to the Baggett Country photo ranch.

A big thanks to Andrea Hankins who has volunteered to serve as the Secretary for the chapter. We will make it official at the TLAS meeting on January 13.

One of the items we'll be discussing at the TLAS meeting on January 13, Room 117, York Science Building, UMHB is this proposed banner to be displayed at meetings and public outreach functions. I look forward to birding with you in 2015.



**TWIN LAKES  
AUDUBON SOCIETY**

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

*Bert Pope*

## 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](mailto:gil.eckrich@att.net)



### PRESENTATIONS

**13 Jan** – Melissa Brown will give presentation on the Baggett Country photo ranch, the destination for our January field trip.

**10 Feb** – John Macy, Natural Resource Specialist at Fort Hood, will talk about the status of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker and conservation measures being used for the species. This presentation will mesh nicely with the proposed field trip to Sam Houston National Forest to see this species.

**10 Mar** – **NO Meeting**

**07 Apr** - TBD

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



### FIELD TRIPS

**17 Jan** – Baggett Country, meet at 08:30 at intersection of FM 116 and FM 1783, SW of Gatesville. Check out the webpage for this interesting nature photography ranch <http://baggettcountry.com/>. Although this is a private photo ranch, the owners have graciously invited TLAS to see and enjoy their ranch. Directions: Coming from Killeen, drive west to Cove, just as you approach Cove, turn on HWY 9, continue on HWY 9 until intersection with FM 116, go North towards Gatesville, watch for [intersection](#) with FM 1783 on left side, before you reach Gatesville.

**28 Feb** – **CHANGE!!** The tree with the Bald Eagle nest near Llano was blown over this past fall, no new nest known. **BUT**, we have a great trip planned – Janie Howell, a friend of Cathy Schoop, has graciously invited us for soup and sandwiches at her home on Lake Buchanan! So, we will bird Inks Lake Fish Hatchery, then a couple of parks on Lake Buchanan, and then lunch at 207 Apache Trail, Burnet (on the lake, see [map](#)).

**21 Mar** – Potential field trip to Sam Houston National Forest to see Red-cockaded Woodpecker, and potentially 5 other woodpecker species, along with local specialties such as Brown-headed Nuthatch.

**25 Apr** – Messer Ranch, always a popular and productive field trip!

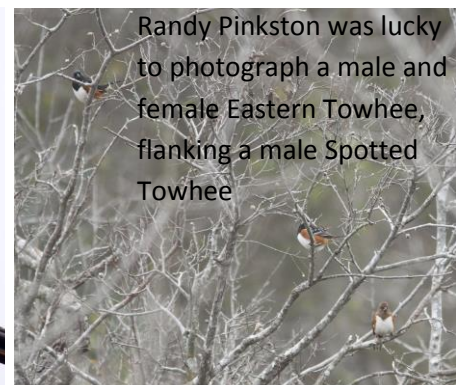
**16 May** – Sandy and Sue Lawry have again invited us to their ranch at Osage. This promises to be a most enjoyable field trip with many locally breeding species.

## Snack and Drink Sign-up

DATE	SNACK	SNACK	DRINKS & ICE	PAPER GOODS
13 Jan	Kathy C	Golda	Sue Lowry	Cathy S
10 Feb	Liz	Sabrina	Dan	
March	NO MEETING DUE TO SPRING BREAK			
14 Apr	Gaylene	Bert	Marilyn	Mary Ann Everett
12 May	EVERYONE BRING SOMETHING			



As our president noted, we had a successful Christmas Bird Count, while enjoying good weather. We counted 113 species on count day, and an additional two species during Count Week. Tom Robbins will provide details of the attached results at the January meeting.



## 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).



**Bird Spp. Observed on Bell County CBC  
December 20, 2014**

Wood Duck  
White-breasted Nuthatch  
Gadwall  
Amer. Wigeon  
Mallard  
N. Shoveler  
Amer. Green-winged Teal  
Canvasback  
Redhead  
Ring-necked Duck  
Lesser Scaup  
Bufflehead  
Hooded Merganser  
Ruddy Duck  
Common Loon  
Pied-billed Grebe  
Eared Grebe  
Neotropic Cormorant  
Double-crested Cormorant  
Great Blue Heron  
Great Egret  
Black Vulture  
Turkey Vulture  
Bald Eagle  
Northern Harrier  
Sharp-shinned Hawk  
Cooper's Hawk  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Red-tailed Hawk  
Crested Caracara  
Amer. Kestrel  
Merlin  
Amer. Coot  
Killdeer  
Greater Yellowlegs  
Least Sandpiper  
Wilson's Snipe  
Bonaparte's Gull  
Ring-billed Gull  
Forster's Tern  
Rock Pigeon  
Eur. Collared-Dove  
White-winged Dove  
Mourning Dove  
Inca Dove  
Greater Roadrunner  
Black-crested Titmouse  
Great Horned Owl  
Belted Kingfisher  
Red-bellied Woodpecker  
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker  
Ladder-backed Woodpecker  
Downy Woodpecker  
Pileated Woodpecker  
N. (Yellow-shafted) Flicker  
N. (Red-shafted) Flicker  
E. Phoebe  
Loggerhead Shrike  
Blue-headed Vireo  
Blue Jay  
W. Scrub-Jay  
Am. Crow  
Carolina Chickadee

Black-crested Titmouse  
Bl.-crested X Tufted Titmouse (Hybrid)  
Brown Creeper  
Rock Wren  
Canyon Wren  
Carolina Wren  
Bewick's Wren  
House Wren  
Winter Wren  
Golden-crowned Kinglet  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet  
E. Bluebird  
Hermit Thrush  
Amer. Robin  
N. Mockingbird

Brown Thrasher  
Eur. Starling  
Amer. Pipit  
Cedar Waxwing  
Orange-crowned Warbler  
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler  
Pine Warbler  
Common Yellowthroat  
Spotted Towhee  
E. Towhee  
Chipping Sparrow  
Field Sparrow  
Vesper Sparrow  
Lark Sparrow  
Savannah Sparrow  
Le Conte's Sparrow  
Fox Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Lincoln's Sparrow  
Swamp Sparrow  
White-throated Sparrow  
Harris' Sparrow  
White-crowned Sparrow  
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco  
N. Cardinal  
Red-winged Blackbird  
E. Meadowlark  
W. Meadowlark  
meadowlark, sp.  
Brewer's Blackbird

Great-tailed Grackle  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
House Finch  
Lesser Goldfinch  
Amer. Goldfinch  
House Sparrow

Also for Count Week:  
Sandhill Crane  
Greater White-fronted Goose

**Total 113 spp. + 2 spp. for Count Week**