Greetings everyone!

First of all, we will be meeting in Room 110 of York Science Center! Now allow me to briefly recap last month. For our meeting we had the pleasure of having a very informative class on shorebird identification given to us by our very own Gil Eckrich. As we learned, identifying shorebirds is not that easy; many of them look alike but have a few key features that help us to correctly identify them. For our field trip we went to Ft. Hood where those of us who braved the windy conditions were able to see the Golden Cheeked Warbler, Black Capped Vireo, an Osprey, Red-bellied Woodpecker nest, and a Tree Swallow nest, to name a few.

During our meeting last month we discussed about doing a service project with The Cedarbrake Retreat Center. Some new acreage acquired (Cox Hollow, Miller Springs Natural Area) needs to be surveyed to qualify as wildlife management/habitat and they are asking our group to visit the grounds and conduct a bird census of the breeding birds. We have decided on Saturday 12 May as the day we will do this; so mark your calendars to represent TLAS and help out a great organization. We will talk about this more at our next meeting when Wes Burford will be there to discuss details of our field trip/survey. This breeding bird survey could very well mark the beginning of a cooperative arrangement that allows us to provide our knowledge and effort, while securing a new local birding opportunity.

As we approach the end of another great year of TLAS, it is time to start thinking about next year and where you would like to see us go on field trips! I am also looking for a new name for our newsletter. Please come to our May meeting with your suggestions for both field trips and a catchy name for our newsletter next year.

After this Month, we will be in need of a Treasurer, our current treasurer Sabrina Nicholson has decided to step down. We are also in need of someone to take charge of hospitality/snacks! I need to hear from YOU, the chapter membership, with ideas and hopefully suitable candidate(s) for the position of Chapter Treasurer and Hospitality/Snacks Chairman.

Just a reminder for those of you who are interested in buying a TLAS T-shirt, I still have some. The cost is $10 and sizes range from Medium to X-Large, all proceeds goes to the TLAS fund. The T-shirts will be available for sale until all are sold.

May, 2012
PRESENTATIONS AND FIELD TRIPS
Unless otherwise noted, the contact for programs and field trips is Gil Eckrich; Cell: 254-534-0061, Email gileckrich@att.net.

Presentations

8 May: Show and Tell – Bring your photos on flash drive, CD, or DVD to share with members.

Field Trips

5 May 2012: WARBLER WOODS!! http://warblerwoods.org/ Driving there is up to each individual (directions below); but, Crystal Hammond will be at Belton Park and Ride at 05:50 and will be leaving NLT 06:00 – for anyone wishing to convoy there. While there is NO specific time to be at Warbler Woods, we are shooting for 08:30 to present our check. For gate code, please contact Crystal Hammond or 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

Snack and Drink Sign-up

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8 May
EVERYONE BRING SOMETHING

BIRDS SEEN/BIRDS HEARD
For up-to-date reports of bird sightings, go to the TLAS website!
http://twinlakesaudubon.org/

4-29-12 TEN Warbler sp @ Warbler Woods
21 people enjoyed amazing birds today with the San Antonio Audubon group. We ended up with 10 species of warbler and many other exciting birds. Thanks to the leaders, Sandi Wheeler, Dana Green and Don Schaezler.

To visit:  http://warblerwoods.org/directions/visit

69 species

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck  3
Northern Bobwhite  3
Great Blue Heron  1
Great Egret  1
Black Vulture  25
Turkey Vulture  5
Mississippi Kite  7
Northern Harrier  1
Cooper's Hawk  1
Red-shouldered Hawk  1
Red-tailed Hawk  1
Crested Caracara  1
White-winged Dove  6
Mourning Dove  3
Inca Dove  1
Common Ground-Dove  2
Yellow-billed Cuckoo  1
Great Horned Owl  3
Chuck-will's-widow  1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird  1
Black-chinned Hummingbird  3
Ladder-backed Woodpecker  1
Brown-crested Flycatcher  1
Western Kingbird  1
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher  6
White-eyed Vireo  1
Hutton's Vireo  1
Blue Jay  1
Purple Martin  3
Barn Swallow  3
Carolina Chickadee  1
Black-crested Titmouse  3
Carolina Wren  2
Bewick's Wren  1
House Wren  1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher  1
Golden-crowned Kinglet  1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet  3

Swainson's Thrush  2
Gray Catbird  1
Northern Mockingbird  10
Ovenbird  1
Black-and-white Warbler  1
Tennessee Warbler  1
Orange-crowned Warbler  4
Nashville Warbler  11
Mourning Warbler  1
American Redstart  1
Yellow Warbler  2
Black-throated Green Warbler  2
Wilson's Warbler  1
Spotted Towhee  1
Chipping Sparrow  3
Clay-colored Sparrow  8
Lark Sparrow  2
Savannah Sparrow  2
Grasshopper Sparrow  1
White-crowned Sparrow  7
Summer Tanager  1
Northern Cardinal  17
Indigo Bunting  2
Painted Bunting  5
Dickcissel  18
Red-winged Blackbird  25
Great-tailed Grackle  3
Brown-headed Cowbird  5
House Finch  3
Lesser Goldfinch  10
House Sparrow  6
Twin Lakes Audubon Society
P.O. Box 883
Belton, TX 76513

Return Service Requested

Meetings
7:00 p.m., second Tuesday of the month in Room 118, York Science Center, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Belton (No meetings March, June, July or August).