Greetings everyone!

First of all, let me briefly give you a recap from last month. At our meeting we had a very informative presentation given by Dr. David Cimprich on Black-Capped Vireos. He explained where young Black-Capped Vireos go once they leave the nest and he showed us detailed data from years of study with plenty of explanations, stories and photos. For our field trip we went to Miller Springs Natural Area where we were led by Eric Runfeldt on an extended hike throughout the park, including a male Common Yellowthroat that stole the show.

Last month I proposed having T-shirts printed up with our logo on the back. After a brief description of what the T-shirts would look like, there was a great interest in getting this done. So, this month I will propose that we discuss the possibility of also using T-shirts as a fundraiser, meaning we will bulk purchase 40 T-shirts at $7.50 each and then charge a couple extra dollars for members to purchase them. I will explain more at our meeting on how I plan to do this.

This month for our guest speaker, we look forward to hearing from Rebecca Peak. She will be talking about the work she does in Central America for the Section 6 wintering grounds Golden-cheeked Warbler (GCWA) mist-netting project. This should prove to be an interesting presentation an I invite everyone to come hear what she has to say. Our November Field trip will be to Hornsby Bend near Austin. More info to follow on that.

We are still in dire need for someone to fill the vacancy of chapter vice president for the next two years. I need someone to please step up and take the opportunity to serve the chapter; the President can’t do it alone. I need to hear from YOU, the chapter membership, with ideas and hopefully suitable candidate(s) for the position of chapter vice president. If you would like to volunteer you can email me at chammond_74@yahoo.com or you can let me know at our next meeting. I need to hear from someone soon regarding this vacancy.
PRESENTATIONS AND FIELD TRIPS

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

Presentations

8 November: Becky Peak, Fort Hood Biologist, on Central American project dealing with wintering grounds for the endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler.

13 December: Preparation for Christmas Bird Count (CBC)

10 January 2012: Open

14 February 2012: Susan and Schaezler will make a presentation on “Warbler Woods”. Take a look at their website http://warblerwoods.org/. Our April Field Trip will be to that great birding spot.

March: NO MEETING

10 April: TBA

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

Field Trips

12 November: Hornsby Bend, Austin to see a virtual plethora of waterfowl, interesting shorebirds, waders, and many more species. We will meet at the Belton Park & Ride at 0800, 12 November. Learn more about this great birding spot at http://www.hornsbybend.org/

17 December: Christmas Bird Count

14 January 2012: TBA, perhaps field trip to Fort Hood’s West Range for sparrows, pipits, horned larks, and owls

18 February 2012: Llano Eagle Nest and Inks Lake Fish Hatchery

March: TBA, perhaps a trip to Pinneywoods to see Red-cockaded Woodpecker and other local specialties.

April: Field trip to Warbler Woods, Schertz, Texas

May 2012: TBA
Snack and Drink Sign-up

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<td>8 November</td>
<td>Carol Ann Wadley</td>
<td>13 December</td>
<td>Golda Roberts</td>
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<td>10 January</td>
<td>Andrea Hankins, I. Meier</td>
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<td>14 February</td>
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<td>10 April</td>
<td>Margaret Donohoe</td>
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**BIRDS SEEN/BIRDS HEARD**
For up-to-date reports of bird sightings, go to the TLAS website!

http://twinlakesaudubon.org/

Gil Eckrich and Crystal Hammond observed some nice birds the morning of November 1st on Fort Hood. On the eastern, Bell County, side, they saw: Greater White-fronted Goose 7, Blue-winged Teal 3, Green-winged Teal 37, Ring-necked Duck 3, Pied-billed Grebe 21, Double-crested Cormorant 3, Great Blue Heron 7, Great Egret 3, Turkey Vulture 17, Osprey 1, Northern Harrier 1, Sharp-shinned Hawk 1, Cooper's Hawk 1, Red-shouldered Hawk 1, Red-tailed Hawk 1, American Kestrel 5, Merlin 1, Killdeer 27, Spotted Sandpiper 2, Greater Yellowlegs 4, Long-billed Dowitcher 2, American Woodcock 3, Mourning Dove 40, Northern Flicker 2, Eastern Phoebe 5, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 2, American Crow 7, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1, Eastern Bluebird 2, Northern Mockingbird 4, Chipping Sparrow 30, Field Sparrow 9, Vesper Sparrow 15, Savannah Sparrow 10, and Northern Cardinal 5. On the western range (Coryell County) they added 3 Lark Buntings to their species list.

Also on 1 November, at Union Grove Wildlife Management Area, Randy Pinkston succeeded in flushing a Burrowing Owl that Jim Giocomo had reported while approaching the lakeshore at the end of the crumbling paved lane. It flew from the little cubby-holes between the pavement edge and dry lakebed, circled widely and landed on bare dusty ground back to the north, watching him closely and bobbing up and down like it was impatient for him to leave and let it return to shelter. This was his first Bell County Burrowing Owl in about five years. Shorebirds observed that same day by Randy at Union Grove WMA:
Killdeer...(too many)
Black-bellied Plover...(6)
Am. Golden-Plover...(1)
Greater Yellowlegs...(6-8)
Least Sandpiper...(50+)
Long-billed Dowitcher...(4)
Twin Lakes Audubon Society
P.O. Box 883
Belton, TX 76513

Return Service Requested

OFFICERS/CHAIRS

President: Crystal Hammond
Tel: 254 833 2224
Vice President: Vacant
Secretary: Cathy Shoop
Treasurer: Sabrina Nicholson
Membership: Carol Ann Wadley
Newsletter: Gil Eckrich
gil.eckrich@att.net
Hospitality: Shirley Beyer
Finance: Sandy Lowry
Directors: Liz Cowan
Randy Pinkston
Carol Ann Wadley
Chapter Reps: Joye & Corky Johnson

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).