



THE CHIRP

NEWSLETTER OF THE TWIN LAKES AUDUBON SOCIETY

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October 2015



Bird Photos by Sabrina Nicholson



Greetings everyone!

I hope you have all had a good month both in your birding, and your overall lives.

Many of us in the TLAS have enjoyed participating in the statewide birding communication available through “texbirds”. For those of us who picture ourselves as intermediates, this can be very helpful in directing us toward birds and bird phenomena that we might not otherwise have seen. Many beginners and experts also enjoy greatly this communication.

What if we could have a similar interactive communication between ourselves in TLAS relative to bird sightings, phenomena, etc. within Bell and its immediate surrounding counties? I think we can.

A possible way to do this might be through Facebook. Many of you either are already on Facebook, or someone in your immediate family is. Simply go to the TLAS page, <https://www.facebook.com/Twin-Lakes-Audubon-Society-247380531971644/timeline/>, and see what is going on, look at some photos, and report any sightings you have made. Also, if you really do not wish to use facebook, you can email Gil and he can post your pic, sighting, or question.

See you all on 13 October,

Sandy Lowry, TLAS President

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 Oct – Gil Eckrich will give a presentation on Birding in Southeastern Arizona.

10 Nov – Randy Pinkston will give presentation on birding in the Davis Mountains – This promises to be an interesting presentation; and, who knows, might prove to be incentive for a TLAS field trip

08 Dec – Preparation for Christmas Bird Count (CBC), including identification tips for difficult species.

12 Jan – Our own Sandy Lowry will dazzle us with just a few of the many great stories and photos of the Lowry's trip to Alaska

09 Feb – Dr. Rich Kostecke will talk on the mission of The Nature Conservancy in Texas and the places it protects. Rich had served as TLAS chapter president from 2005 to 2007, and we look forward to hearing from him!

10 Mar – **NO Meeting**

07 Apr - TBD

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



FIELD TRIPS

10 Oct – TLAS will again have an informational booth at the 2015 Central Texas Nature Fest of the Central Texas Master Naturalist Chapter, from 11a. to 5pm at the City of Temple Bend of the River Park on I-35. Plan on helping out with our booth or just being there! **Wear your TLAS T-Shirts**

17 Oct – Berry Springs Park, <http://parks.wilco.org/Home/Parks/BerrySpringsParkandPreserve/tabid/2466/>. We will meet at 08:00, at the first parking area on the left upon entering the park (see map at the provided link).

14 Nov – East Bell County, meet at 08:00 at Belton Park & Ride. We will look for specialty species of the agricultural areas in hopes of longspurs, Mountain Plovers, and water-related birds at Lake Rogers. This was certainly one of the most successful field trips in 2014.

19 Dec – Christmas Bird Count!!!! Details to be discussed at 9 Dec TLAS monthly meeting

27 Nov – Fall Birding Even at Mother Neff State Park, sponsored by the Mother Neff State Park Association. TLAS would be important participants for this event. More info as available.

16 Jan – Inks Lake Fish Hatchery, Inks Lake State Park, Lake Buchanan parks

13 Feb – West Range of Fort Hood, joint field trip with Central Texas Audubon (Waco). Previous field trips in winter to this area have yielded Mountain Bluebirds, flocks of longspurs, and many other species.

Mar – Potential field trip to Port Aransas to see Whooping Cranes. Would be a two night trip, including half day on boat. Will also be looking for early spring migrants, especially warblers.

16 Apr – TBD. Trip to see Upper Texas Coast spring migration is one possibility. Trip to Big Bend. Local ranch on Clear Creek is also available.

14 May – Bald Eagle Nest, or local ranch on Clear Creek if chapter travels to UTC in April.

Snack and Drink Sign-up

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SNACK</u>	<u>SNACK</u>	<u>DRINKS & ICE</u>	<u>PAPER GOODS</u>
13 Oct	Available	Available	Available	Available
10 Nov	Available	Available	Available	Available
08 Dec	EVERYONE BRING SOMETHING			
12 Jan	Available	Available	Available	Available
09 Feb	Available	Available	Dan	
March	NO MEETING DUE TO SPRING BREAK			
12 Apr	Available	Available	Available	Available
10 May	EVERYONE BRING SOMETHING			



Fall migrants like this Nashville Warbler are passing through our area, and winter visitors like this Ruby-crowned Kinglet are arriving





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).

