Greetings everyone!

First freeze of the season expected! While some folks in Central Texas may not like the onset of winter, the arrival of cold weather also means the arrival of the ducks and sparrows. The agricultural land on the east side of 35 in Bell County are great places to be on the lookout for large groups of geese. Unusual hawks are also sometimes a treat in these fields as well as longspurs, pipits and mountain plovers. One such raptor, a White-tailed Hawk was seen and photographed in SE Bell County already! So, get out and see what you might find; and, please pass the information to your fellow TLAS birders.

At the October TLAS meeting members voted to authorize a $1,000 donation to Carolyn Ohl’s Christmas Mountains Oasis. She was most grateful for our contribution and stated: “Birders are the BEST!” Perhaps we should schedule a field trip to Big Bend and the Christmas Mountains Oasis in the coming year?

A hearty thank you to the 9 TLAS members who participated in the successful trash pickup at Fort Hood's Cantonment B Pond. They collected 124 pounds of trash and recyclable and over 400 yards of monofilament fishing line!
13 Nov – Update on use of Geo Locators on Golden-cheeked Warblers. John Macey will present an update of the ongoing study of the migratory movements of Golden-cheeked Warblers by using geo-locators. This promises to be a most interesting presentation, shedding light on the wanderings of this still Endangered Species.

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

08 Jan – TBA

12 Feb – Delisting of the Black-capped Vireo – Dr. David Cimprich, who has been studying the Black-capped Vireo on Fort Hood for many years, will discuss the recent delisting of the species

09 Apr – TBA

14 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

17 Nov: Hornsby Bend: The impending cold front will likely make our field trip a great one! We will meet at 09:00 (yes, you read correctly – 9am!) in the parking area at the Administrative Offices & Center (see map)

15 Dec: Christmas Bird Count! Start asking friends who live in our CBC circle if they have any unusual birds hanging around (Hummers!)

19 Jan: West Range Fort Hood – Last year this always popular field trip had to be cancelled due to government shutdown; so, we will try again!

16 Feb: Berry Springs – It’s been some time since TLAS did a field trip to this birdy location.

13 Apr: Miller Springs Park.

11 May: Warbler Woods! Probably best time of year to visit this amazing bird sanctuary! If lucky, we will see MacGillivray’s and Golden-winged Warblers, among many other species. Note that this field trip is BEFORE our 14 May meeting; but, this is the premiere weekend to be there!

**Snack and Drink Sign-up**

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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 Kathy 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).