



THE CHIRP

NEWSLETTER OF THE TWIN LAKES AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOL 10 ISSUE 13

twinlakesaudubon.org

November 2015



Greetings everyone!

It is with great sadness that I must inform you of the passing of Doris Rechenhth, at age of 102. Carol Ann Wadley's mother died Sunday, 1 November. Her obituary can be seen at this [link](#). Doris was one of the founding members of our chapter, and she enjoyed being at the September chapter meeting. Her last 'away' field trip was in February 2008 to see the Whooping Cranes out of Rockport, at the youthful age of only 95! Services will be 1 p.m., this Saturday, 7 November, at the Western Hills Church of Christ in Temple.



This month, again, I wish someone would seriously consider stepping forward and serving as Vice-president of our TLAS. The major requirement is simply a sincere interest in helping our small organization continue providing birding opportunities and some contribution to our Bell County community. We have not had an expert birder in this position in the last five years, so that is clearly not an essential. We are fortunate in having several experts in the TLAS, and they have all served previously. (Anyone considering him/herself an expert who has not served can solve our problem by stepping forward.) Bert Pope, Gil Eckrich, and I would all be glad to help and/or fill in when needed. Think about it.

At last month's meeting the suggestion was made to link TLAS members through a medium such as Yahoo Groups to quickly, and privately, disseminate bird sightings and other items such as photos through social media. We are eager to hear details of a proposal to be presented by Mike Hankins at the meeting. Also, and still an open topic, is TLAS stepping up to do, or at least support, some community project(s). May Ann Everett will present some ideas how to benefit the Miller Springs Natural Area, right in our own 'backyard'

See you all on 10 November!,

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

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

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.

27 Nov – Fall Birders Day at Mother Neff State Park, sponsored by the Mother Neff State Park Association. TLAS would be important participants for this event.

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



Save the Date...

Fall Birders Day
Mother Neff State Park
Friday, November 27th
National Day of Listening

Join Master Naturalists Gil Eckrich and Kathy Cantu on a bird watching walk through Mother Neff State Park. Avid birder or beginner, grab your binoculars and enjoy the Fall as we celebrate National Day of Listening exploring the Fall Birds of Central Texas.

  

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>	SNACK	SNACK	DRINKS & ICE	PAPER GOODS
13 Oct	Cathy S.	Margaret D	The Lowrys	Cathy S
10 Nov	Andrea H	Available	The Everetts	Elaine H
08 Dec	EVERYONE BRING SOMETHING			
12 Jan	Golda	Available	Marilyn M	Available
09 Feb	Liz C	Kathy C	Elaine H	Elaine H
March	NO MEETING DUE TO SPRING BREAK			
12 Apr	Available	Gaylene	Marilyn M	Available
10 May	EVERYONE BRING SOMETHING			



Randy Pinkston photographed this Bell County first ever juvenile White-tailed Hawk and this flock of Mountain Plovers. Sabrina Nicholson captured this Burrowing Owl shaking rain drops off its wings.



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).

