



**Monthly Meeting November 6, 2017**  
**Bayland Community Center**  
**6400 Bissonnet St, Houston, TX**

6:30 pm Learning Corner: Birding in Oregon - Where, When, and What by Glen Lindeman

7:00 pm [Ornithology Group](#) (OG) Business Meeting

7:30 pm [Program](#): Remote Birding in Colombia: Search for the Rarest Hummingbird in the World! By Stephan Lorenz

[Field Trips](#): Texas City Dikes and Settling Ponds, November 4, 8 am, led by Allan Hardee; El Franco Lee Park, December 2, 8 am, led by Larry Dybala

[Letter from the Chair](#) | [Field Trip Report: Sabine Woods](#) | [Field Trip Report: Cullinan Park](#) | [Minutes of October Meeting](#) | [Good News for US Pelagic Birders](#) | [Upcoming Texas Birding Events](#) (link to web page) ([also listed in this issue](#))

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**Remote Birding in Colombia: Search for the Rarest Hummingbird in the World!**

**By Stephan Lorenz**

The Blue-bearded Helmetcrest was discovered in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta as early as 1880 and was recorded for the last time in 1946 before disappearing for nearly 70 years. The species was lumped with three other distinct subspecies known as Bearded Helmetcrest, but has now been split with Blue-bearded, Green-bearded, and Buffy helmetcrests all being endemic to Colombia, plus the White-bearded Helmetcrest which is endemic to Venezuela. The rare Blue-bearded Helmetcrest was feared to be extinct since several searches between 1999 and 2011 failed to locate any birds. Fortunately, it was rediscovered by ornithologists working for Proaves in March 2015 at high elevations in a remote section of the sierra.

Stephan Lorenz will present photos and stories of adventure from his 6-day trek into the remote Santa Marta Mountains of northern Colombia to search for the world's rarest hummingbird.

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## **Field Trips:**

### **Texas City Dikes and Settling Ponds, November 4, 8 am**

#### **Led by Allan Hardee**

Allan Hardee from Marathon Refinery will lead the walk. Meet at dike parking lot by 8 am. We will be carpooling in a total of 4 cars. Everyone will have a window including leader and trip coordinator, Michelle Romydy. There are 14 spaces available for this trip. Please contact Michelle Romydy to sign up at [veryvirgo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:veryvirgo@sbcglobal.net) or (979) 943-1598. Bring a walkie talkie if you have one.

### **El Franco Lee Park and Pearland Retention Ponds, December 2, 8 am**

#### **Led by Larry Dybala**

The group will meet at 8 am at the Gazebo in El Franco Lee Park. From the Beltway 8 feeder past Monroe/Pearland Parkway heading toward Beamer, turn right on Hall Road. Turn right at the gate leading into the park. Turn right at the road heading away from the El Franco Lee Community Center (9500 Hall Road). At the end of the road is the parking lot for the Gazebo.

El Franco Lee now has an improved trail that encircles its wetland pond. There are two 2-storey birding towers and a birding blind. We will hike this loop trail focusing on the wetlands to the left and woodlands to the right. After that we will head toward Pearland, stopping at two retention ponds on the way to the retention pond near to the recycle center. We will end the walk at the Pearland Eagle's nest if they are nesting this year. For further information or if you get lost, contact Larry at [larrydybala@gmail.com](mailto:larrydybala@gmail.com) or 832-651-3241.

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## **Letter from the Chair**

Our three winter warblers: Orange-crowned, Yellow-rumped, and Pine, have started arriving! Take advantage of the nice weather and go out and explore for birds. If you're not already using eBird and/or iNaturalist to share your sightings, think about trying some "Citizen Science."

A big THANK YOU to Joann Raine for arranging several seasons of OG programs. Thanks to her, we've had very good speakers and I appreciate the effort she has put into getting interesting and varied topics for our monthly meetings. She is ready to pass along all her contacts and useful tips to the next person who can serve as our Program Chair. Who would like to step up to fill her shoes? If you enjoy OG activities and want to help promote the study of birds, please consider taking a role so that we can continue to offer quality programs.

I'd like to welcome Teresa Connell as our new field trip coordinator. She has already put together a variety of field trip opportunities and will be adding more. Seek her out and have a good conversation!

\*\*\* Let us all try to carpool on field trips! It will be more enjoyable and keep the group together. It's also less noisy and reduces our parking requirements.\*\*\*

Please take advantage of the updated Texas Birding activities list for guided opportunities to bird all over Texas! If you hear of additional events or note any mistakes, please contact me and I will amend the list. It is always available online, or I can send it to you on request.

## **Advance notice!**

We will not be able to hold our January 8 monthly meeting at Bayland Community Center. Let me know if you have suggestions for an alternate location for that month.

Coming up in January (14-17) is the Texas Ornithological Society (TOS) Winter Meeting, to be co-hosted by East Texas Pineywoods Audubon in Nacogdoches, TX. The TOS Spring meeting will be held May 3-6 in the Alpine area.

Best wishes to all for your late fall birding,

*Nina Rach, NRach@AutreVie.com*

## **Upcoming OG Speakers:**

- ▶ Nov 6 - Learning Corner: Jean Greenhalgh & Glenn Lindemann, "Birding in the NW USA;" Program by Stephan Lorenz: Remote Birding in Colombia: Search for the Rarest Hummingbird in the World! (Blue-bearded Helmetcrest)
- ▶ Dec 4 – Photos, or John Berner's 9/11 program
- ▶ Jan 8 - David Sarkozi, Texas Big Year
- ▶ Feb 5 - Fred Collins and Bob Honig presenting a retrospective focusing on "Good Birding Trips," a guide for bird finding within striking distance of Houston put out by OG in the late 1960s, and how things have changed since then.
- ▶ Mar 5 – TBA
- ▶ Apr 2 – Steve Mayes

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## **Field Trip Report: Sabine Woods, September 28, 2017**

**By Nina Rach**

The OG visited Sabine Woods Bird Sanctuary in Jefferson County on Thursday, 28 Sept. The 27-acre sanctuary was established by the Texas Ornithological Society (TOS;

www.texasbirds.org), but is largely maintained by members of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society (GTAS; www.goldentriangleaudubon.org). The sanctuary comprises a mixed forest with large oaks along a Chenier ridge, 4.1 miles west of Sabine Pass on the north side of Highway 87.

We met trip leader John Haynes at the gate at 8:00am (after a 112-mile drive), and were later joined by John Whittle (GTAS Secretary).

It was sunny and 79 degrees, with a very light breeze, and the infamous mosquitoes and flies were much fewer than anticipated. J. Haynes and J. Whittle pointed out some interesting parasitic Ichneumon wasps with extremely long ovipositors laying eggs inside a tree.

Fall songbird migration was underway, and a few wintering birds had also arrived. We saw 38 identifiable bird species and 2 toss-ups: Glossy/White-faced Ibis and Alder/Willow Flycatcher.

### **Bird list:**

Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, Green Heron, White Ibis, Glossy/White-faced Ibis (flyover), Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, White-winged Dove, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Downy Woodpecker, Western Wood-Pewee, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Alder/Willow ("Trail's") Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Great Crested Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Northern Mockingbird, Northern Waterthrush, Black-and-White Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Canada Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle. Additional details and photos on eBird Checklist S39440136.

After nearly four hours in the woods, we enjoyed lunch at the food truck in Sabine Pass (only open on weekdays). As this trip came together at the last minute, we had four OG members participate (me, Teresa Connell, Janet Neath, and Bill Wright). We think more folks would have made the trip if there had been more advance notice, although there's a possibility that members eschew weekday trips. Please let Teresa or me know if you have a strong preference for weekday vs. weekend field trips. Traffic and crowding are often better on weekdays in many parks and natural areas. More info on Sabine Woods and nearby Sea Rim State Park:

[http://www.visitportarthurtx.com/birding\\_book.pdf](http://www.visitportarthurtx.com/birding_book.pdf) .

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## **Field Trip Report: Cullinan Park, Sugar Land, October 7, led by Mark Scheuerman**

**By Teresa Connell**

We had a great turnout on a warm October day. Our group of fourteen was eager to find birds, learn the secret zones of the park, and take photos. We saw more than 35 species of birds and the



exotics really pleased the group --Orange-cheeked Waxbill and Scaly-breasted Munia gave us great views. We had at least three Couch's Kingbirds actively entertaining us. Eastern Phoebe was first of the season and we celebrated as we stretched as far as our binoculars could see identifying tiny birds on a wire. House Finch possibly? Ron Weeks gallantly went further to seek them out and discovered that they were House Sparrows. He's such a good sport! When it wasn't so birdy in spots, we enjoyed the scenery and learned from Mark about the flora and fauna. For instance, look up horse apples <http://www.americanforests.org/magazine/article/trees-that-miss-the-mammoths/>. What a wealth of information we received from his deep local knowledge!



We covered 3.1 miles ( nearly 10,000 steps ) during the half-day trip, and it was a perfect combination of friendship, birds, history, exercise, scenic beauty, and chasing elusive...House Sparrows.

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## **Minutes of October 2, 2017 Meeting**

**By Jean Greenhalgh**

The August meeting of OG was held on October 2nd, 2017 at the Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, at 6:30 pm. 20 people attended.

The meeting started with a general discussion on how attendees had weathered Hurricane Harvey and the general condition of the many birding areas within the Upper Texas Coast region. The speaker for the evening also reported on the coastal birding destinations of the Central and Lower Texas Coast regions.

Nina Rach, OG President, then reported that Teresa Connell (teresacconnell@live.com) has volunteered to be the Field Trip Coordinator. She organized a field trip in September to Sabine Woods, where the most unlikely bird of the day was a Western Wood Pewee, and on October 7<sup>th</sup> to Cullinan Park in Sugar Land led by Mark Scheuerman. Volunteers are still wanted for the positions of President and Vice President/ Program Organizer. Please contact Nina if you are interested in any of the positions or would like further details at [nrach@autrevie.com](mailto:nrach@autrevie.com)

Future Field Trips will be listed on the OG website <http://www.ornithologygroup.com/>

Treasurer Harlan Evans reported that OG has a balance of approximately \$9200.

Birds of note seen recently by attendees included a white-winged parakeet at 34<sup>th</sup> and Ella Blvd, which is probably an escaped caged bird.

The main program was a presentation on **Beach Nesting Bird Conservation** given by Kristen Vale, the Texas Coastal Program Coordinator for the American Bird Conservancy's Gulf Coastal Program (ABCGCP). There are two ABC staff covering Florida to Texas. Various organizations partner with the ABC to carry out the work. Those in Texas include the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP) based in Corpus Christi, Galveston Island Park Board of Trustees, Houston Audubon Society, Gulf Coast Bird Observatory (GCBO), City of Freeport, Lower Colorado River Authority, Mustang Island SP, Matagorda Bay Nature Park and Anahuac NWR.

The original funding for the ABC's Program came from the money paid out by BP after the Gulf oil spill disaster.

Although not a bird which breeds on the Gulf coast, ABCGCP also monitors and protects Piping Plovers. 50% of the world Piping Plover population winters on the Gulf Coast, mostly northern great plains breeders. They are subject to disturbance and are declining.

The four breeding species which are the subject of the Program are – Snowy and Wilson's Plovers, Least Tern and Black Skimmer. All are declining.

**Snowy and Wilson's Plovers, Least Tern** nest in similar areas and face similar problems. Their nests are rudimentary, often just a depression the sand and the eggs and chicks are very camouflaged. Least Terns nest at the high tide line, and are subject to inundation during storms. If a nest is lost they will make further nesting attempts. In 2017 there were no Least Terns fledglings at East Beach on Galveston Island due to inundation, but there were 11 on Bolivar. Snowy Plovers nest in more open areas, including parking lots at East Beach.

**Black Skimmers** usually nest on barrier islands. CBBEP monitors them. However, there are 400 breeding pairs at an old parking lot within the Dow Chemical Plant complex at Lake Jackson, which are monitored and protected by Dow and GCBO. Those elsewhere on the coast are not doing as well. The threats and issues for Skimmers include nest site inundation, habitat loss due to erosion, boat wake on the Intracoastal Waterway and human disturbance. Skimmers have a low tolerance to disturbance, eggs are killed within 10 minutes when the birds are not on the nest, due to high temperatures during the breeding season. Baby birds left too long unattended also die from sun exposure.

Geolocators placed on five Skimmers in April 2017 in Matagorda County show that two went to Chandeleur Islands, LA, one to Honduras, one to Acapulco and one down to the Rio Grande before returning to Bayside.

The Program carries out Protection, Monitoring and Outreach.

They **monitor** how many eggs are laid, the number of babies and the number of fledged birds.

**Protection** includes signs, fencing and baling wire between the signs, to stop people driving in nesting areas. However, the most effective protection, especially in easily accessible and high used areas, is outreach.

**Outreach** and education varies along the coast and is carried out by partner organizations. In some places volunteers have a scope on the beach to show the nests and birds to visitors. The outreach at East Beach, Galveston was described in more detail as an example of what is being done. This started in 2014. There are parking lots for 7,000 vehicles at East Beach. A small area is fenced off for breeding birds but the whole area is monitored. The nesting areas are not cleared of debris, both human and natural as some birds nest in the rickrack. Some birds nest in parking areas and cones are put by the nests. Moving the precocial baby birds sometimes doesn't work as they run back to where they were in the parking lot. Bird stewards, Park police and lifeguards talk to people and move them from nesting areas.

The website for more information is [helpgulfbirds.org](http://helpgulfbirds.org) which takes you to <https://abcbirds.org/program/gulf-coast-birds/> Kristen' email is [kvale@abcbirds.org](mailto:kvale@abcbirds.org).

## **Hurricane Harvey damage**

Kirsten then reported on the **coastal damage** from Harvey. In some areas the waves brought in sand and dumped it on vegetation. This is a natural beach renewal and can be beneficial.

Bryan Beach – Brought sand in and dumped it on vegetation.

Port Aransas – Charlies Pasture, (Pt Aransas Nature Preserve) Boardwalks washed away. The access road was washed out. Entrance road used as collecting area for downed trees and brush.

Aransas NWR – 12.5-foot storm surge. Tour route open. Observation tower destroyed. Visitor center closed until further notice. The impact on Whooping Cranes is not yet known. They should be arriving in the last couple of weeks of October and early November.

Gulf rookery islands from Rockport to Mexico – These are monitored and managed by CBBEP. 70 islands were submerged; 650 trees lost; 119 signs lost; 14 nest platforms destroyed and 13 heavily damaged. 10 years of work was gone in hours. A video of Harvey's effects and restoration costs is at <http://www.cbbep.org/>

## Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge

Post Harvey update, October 12<sup>th</sup>. About one third of the refuge was flooded, less than in the flooding of 2016. This led to both predators and prey relocating to higher ground, where it was more difficult for the chickens to hide. The waters have since receded. The annual release of new birds was interrupted, for the first time, but is now back on track with birds released over the past couple of weeks, with 50 more birds due to be released later this month. The most accurate count of birds is taken in the Spring when birds are on the leks. The monthly first Saturday van trips are continuing. For details of how to sign up on the website.

[www.fws.gov/refuge/attwater\\_prairie\\_chicken/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/attwater_prairie_chicken/)

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## Good News for US Pelagic Birders

By Nina Rach

The advent of Transderm Scop patches made pelagic birding trips a lot more comfortable for birders subject to motion-sickness nausea in high sea states. The medicated patch looks like a small round band-aid and slowly releases medication over a 72 hour period, absorbed into the body through the skin. It's generally worn behind the ear, and applied the night before a pelagic trip if seas are forecast to be rough.

According to Drug Store News, the scopalamine patch had U.S. sales of approximately \$158 million for the 12 months ended May 2017. It has been offered for sale by four companies in the US market: Baxter Laboratories (2003), Novartis (2007), Physicians Total Care Inc. (2007), and Sandoz (2016).

Scopalamine is a small molecule, a tropane alkaloid found in Solanaceae (nightshades), especially *Datura metel* L. and *Scopola/Scopolia carniolica* L.

*Datura metel* is a perennial shrub to 3ft with upright, white trumpet-shaped flowers, first described by the botanist Carl Linnaeus (hence the L. designation following the Latin binomial name) in 1753, and attributed to Asia and Africa.

*Scopolia carniolica* (aka European Scopolia or henbane bell) has hanging tubular, maroon flowers and was first described by Linnaeus, named in honor of the Italian physician and



naturalist Giovanni Antonio Scopoli (1723-1788) as *Hyoscyamus scopolia* in 1767. Dutch scientist Nikolaus Joseph von Jacquin (1727-1817) reclassified it to the genus *Scopolia*. [As an aside, an excellent source for the history of botanical names is the International Plant Names Index, [ipni.org](http://ipni.org).]

The FDA approved a generic equivalent on 30 Jan 2015, but news only came this summer that the generic would be available in the US. On 31 July 2017, New York-based Perrigo Co. plc and its co-development partner Aveva Drug Delivery Systems Inc., an Apotex company, announced the launch of an AB-rated generic scopolamine 1.5mg transdermal system patch. "AB" means that a study was submitted that demonstrated bioequivalence with the previously approved scopolamine transdermal patch. The generic patches will still require a prescription, but the cost should be lower.

Or you can drink ginger ale, or eat candied ginger or ginger snaps.

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## **Texas Birding Events (updated 20 Oct 2017)**

**Please send corrections/additions to Nina Rach, [NRach@AutreVie.com](mailto:NRach@AutreVie.com)**

**Available online: [www.ornithologygroup.org/Events/](http://www.ornithologygroup.org/Events/)**

Texas State Park closures: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/park-information/park-alert-status>

### **OCTOBER 2017**

2 Oct – Mon - Houston Ornithology Group Monthly Meeting, Bayland Community Center, Kristen Vale, American Bird Conservancy, [kvale@abcbirds.org](mailto:kvale@abcbirds.org)

4 Oct – Wed – Kleb Woods Nature Sanctuary – Nature Bio Blitz! Photography event, 7am-5pm. Weekly bird walk 8:30-11:30am.

4 Oct – Wed – Lunch with the Birds walk at Nature Discovery Center/Russ Pitman Park, 7112 Newcastle, Bellaire (Houston), led by Mary Ann Beauchemin, 12 noon-1:15pm. Remaining fall dates: Oct 11, 18, 25, Nov 1.

7 Oct – Sat – Houston Ornithology Group field trip to Cullinan Park, Sugar Land, 8am, led by Mark Scheuerman.

Contact Teresa Connell, [teresaconnell@live.com](mailto:teresaconnell@live.com), 505-280-7443

7 Oct – Sat – Free West Galveston field trip with Jim Stevenson, 8:00-11:30am. RSVP required by 6pm on Friday, [galornsoc@earthlink.net](mailto:galornsoc@earthlink.net)

7 Oct – Sat – Beginners' Bird Walk at Laguna Gloria, Austin (Travis Audubon), 7:30am with George Kerr, [ykp@kerrlink.com](mailto:ykp@kerrlink.com)

7 Oct – Sat – Resler Canyon Guided Hike, Wakeem/Teschner Nature Preserve, El Paso, 9:00-10:30am, led by Scott Cutler. Info: [janae@FronteraLandAlliance.org](mailto:janae@FronteraLandAlliance.org)

7 Oct – Sat – Fort Worth Audubon's 4<sup>th</sup> Ted's Big Sit at Lake Waxahachie, Ellis County. 817 908-6897, [drozdovekie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drozdovekie@sbcglobal.net)

7 Oct – Sat – Big Sit at Lake Casa Blanca State Park, Area E by the rock house/barn, 7:00am.  
<https://www.meetup.com/montemucholaredo/>

7 Oct – Sat – Big Sit (17-ft diameter circle) at Canyon Lake, Comal County, 5am to dark, with DD Currie and Dell Little

7 Oct – Sat – Big Sit at Galveston Island State Park, Bay Side first observation tower. Gate will open for birders to join at 5am. Contact Kyle O'Haver.

8 Oct – Sun – Annual Big Sit at Commons Ford Park, Austin (Travis Audubon), 6am-5pm. Contact Shelia Hargis at [shelia.hargis@gmail.com](mailto:shelia.hargis@gmail.com) or 512-294-0272, or Deb Wallace at [apeld@austin.rr.com](mailto:apeld@austin.rr.com) or 512-937-7572.

8 Oct – Sun – Big Sit at Benbrook Lake, North Holiday day use area, Fort Worth Audubon

8 Oct – Sun – Thunder Canyon Guided Hike, El Paso, 9:00-10:30am, led by Scott Cutler. More info: [janae@FronteraLandAlliance.org](mailto:janae@FronteraLandAlliance.org)

9 Oct – Mon – Hermann Park Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 7:30am. Coordinated by Jim Winn.

10 Oct – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

11 Oct – Wed – Lunch with the Birds walk at Nature Discovery Center/Russ Pitman Park, 7112 Newcastle, Bellaire (Houston), led by Mary Ann Beauchemin, 12 noon-1:15pm. Remaining fall dates: Oct 18, 25, Nov 1.

11 Oct – Wed – Williamson Audubon field trip to Chalk Ridge Falls Park at Stillhouse Hollow, led by Daniel Hodges & Jim Hailey, 8:00am. [www.meetup.com/WilliamsonAudubonGroup](http://www.meetup.com/WilliamsonAudubonGroup)

11 Oct – Wed – Fort Worth Audubon field trip – Birding at the Village Creek Drying Beds (VCDB), Arlington, led by Jim Sipiora, 7:15-11:00am.

14 Oct – Sat – Open Day at Davis Mountains Preserve (Nature Conservancy), 8am-4pm.

14 Oct – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: [sdyst@asunnytexas.com](mailto:sdyst@asunnytexas.com)

14 Oct – Sat – Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo Ostler (tostler@houstonarboretum.org) & Kelsey Low [houstonarboretum.org/events/saturday-bird-walk/](http://houstonarboretum.org/events/saturday-bird-walk/)

14 Oct – Sat - Armand Bayou Nature Center Bird Survey, 7-11am (10:15 tally). Led by Andrew Hamlett, [bachwblr@yahoo.com](mailto:bachwblr@yahoo.com)

14 Oct – Sat – Free West Galveston field trip with Jim Stevenson, 8:00-11:30am. RSVP required by 6pm on Friday, [galornsoc@earthlink.net](mailto:galornsoc@earthlink.net)

14 Oct – Sat – Hornsby Bend monthly bird count, Austin, 7:00-11:30am. Contact Eric Carpenter at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com)

14 Oct – Sat – San Antonio Audubon Beginners' Bird Walk, 7:30am. Meet Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) at the Jack Judson Nature Trails, Olmos Park, Alamo Heights.

14 Oct – Sat – Fort Worth Audubon field trip, beginning birding in Foster Park, led by Jean Ferguson, 8:30-10:30am. Trail Lake Drive at South Dr., just 1 mile north of I-20.

14 Oct – Sat – Heard Museum monthly bird walk, 8:00-9:30am, McKinney, TX

14 Oct – Sat – High Island Work Day (Houston Audubon), 8:30-noon.  
<https://houstonaudubon.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/coastal.html>

14 Oct – Sat – GCBO's Brew on the Bayou, beer-tasting fundraiser – 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration 4-8pm, tix \$25

15 Oct – Sun – San Antonio Audubon field trip to Crescent Bend Nature Park, meet leader Sandi Wheeler ([wheels5683@gmail.com](mailto:wheels5683@gmail.com)) in parking lot, 7:30am.

15 Oct – Sun – Fort Worth Audubon field trip to Fort Worth Nature Center, 8:15am, led by FWAS President Michael Francis, , [take5birder@charter.net](mailto:take5birder@charter.net), 817-965-7284.  
[www.fwnaturecenter.org](http://www.fwnaturecenter.org)

17 Oct – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

17 Oct – Tues – Bastrop County Audubon meeting, 7:00pm, speaker Dr. Byron Stone, "Sparrowman's Twenty-Sparrow Day, at First National Bank of Bastrop second floor meeting room. Dinner before meeting at Bastrop's Mediterranean Grill, at 5:00; RSVP [ssimon1221@yahoo.com](mailto:ssimon1221@yahoo.com)

18 Oct – Wed – Lunch with the Birds walk at Nature Discovery Center/Russ Pitman Park, 7112 Newcastle, Bellaire (Houston), led by Mary Ann Beauchemin, 12 noon-1:15pm. Remaining fall dates: Oct 25, Nov 1.

18 Oct – Wed – Houston Conservation Gala (Nature Conservancy), Houston Polo Club, 6:30-10pm

19 Oct – Thurs – Thurs – Baytown Nature Center Bird Survey, 8am. Led by David Hanson.

19 Oct – Thurs – Huntsville Audubon Monthly meeting.

19 Oct – Thurs – Wimberley Birding society field trip to **Milton Reimers Ranch Park** on the Pedernales River, SW Travis County. Meet at Chapel in the Hills at 7:15am for 45-min carpool. Lunch at Rolling in Thyme and Dough, Dripping Springs. More info: Janene Winn at 512-914-5584. <http://wimbirds.org/17-reimersranch.html>

19 Oct – Thurs – Golden Triangle Audubon Membership Meeting, 7pm, “**Birds of Ecuador**,” by Jana & John Whittle. Possibly held somewhere other than Tyrrell Park Nature Center, Beaumont.

19 Oct – Thurs – Galveston Audubon Group meeting, 7pm in the Wortham Auditorium at the Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St., Galveston 77550. Jim Stevenson, “**Breeding and Winter Plumages – Part 2. Birds of Alaska**”

**20 Oct – Fri – Fort Worth Audubon field trip**, Kelly Park, 4195 W. Arkansas Lane, Arlington, 8:30am, led by Chuck Baskin, [chuckbaskin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chuckbaskin@sbcglobal.net)

**20-22 Oct – Texas Master Naturalists’ 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**, Omni Corpus Christi. <https://txmn.org/2017-annual-meeting/>

**21 Oct – Sat – Fort Worth Audubon meeting**, 10am, “One More Warbler: A Life with Birds” by Victor Emanuel

**21 Oct – Sat - Golden Triangle Audubon field trip to Sabine Woods**, led by Steve Mayes. Meet at 7:30am.

**21 Oct – Sat – Bird walk at Sheldon Lake State Park**. Meet at 8:00am. Contact Hannah Buschert, [Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov)

**21 Oct – Sat – Willow Waterhole Bird Survey**, Houston, 8-10am. Led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

**21 Oct – Sat – Woodland Park Bird Survey**, Houston, 7:30-9:30am. Led by Jason Bonilla.

**21 Oct – Sat – Hogg Bird Sanctuary Bird Survey (Houston Audubon)**, 1 Westcott St. Led by Cin-Ty Lee

**21 Oct – Sat – Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO Headquarters, Lake Jackson**, with Robert & Kay Lookingbill, 8am-12pm.

**21 Oct – Sat – Free West Galveston field trip with Jim Stevenson**, 8:00-11:30am. RSVP required by 6pm on Friday, [galornsoc@earthlink.net](mailto:galornsoc@earthlink.net)

21 Oct – Sat – Galveston Audubon Group field trip to Galveston's West End, 8:30am-1:30pm. Late lunch at Nate's, a local West End restaurant.

22 Oct – Sun – Prairie and Timbers Audubon field trip to Red Slough NWR, Oklahoma, 7:30 am, led by David Arbour. RSVP to lindaegonis@yahoo.com

22 Oct – Sun – Fort Worth Audubon field trip to Clear Fork Trinity River, (Trinity Bird Count, Area 18), 8:00-1:00am. RSVP to Tom Haase at 817-229-4987 or tom.haase@sbcglobal.net

24 Oct – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

24 Oct – Tues – Prairie and Timbers Audubon Meeting, Heard Museum, McKinney, **6:50pm** Bird ID Class: Specimens: Winter Sparrows, **7:30pm** Program – “PTAS birders – Trip to Africa” presented by Linda & Joe Ergonis, Paula & Gailon Brehm.

25 Oct – Wed – Archbishop Fiorenza Park Phase 2 Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), between Eldridge & Hwy 6, 7:30am

25 Oct – Wed – Lunch with the Birds walk at Nature Discovery Center/Russ Pitman Park, 7112 Newcastle, Bellaire (Houston), led by Mary Ann Beauchemin, 12 noon-1:15pm. Remaining fall date: Nov 1.

26 Oct – Thurs – San Antonio Audubon field trip to Haggard Ranch, South Bexar County. Meet Metha Haggard (210-622-3886) at 8:00am.

26 Oct – Thurs – Williamson Audubon field trip to Champion Park at Brushy Creek, led by Ray and Ginny Steelman, 8:00am. Sign up opens Oct. 12: [www.meetup.com/WilliamsonAudubonGroup](http://www.meetup.com/WilliamsonAudubonGroup)

27 Oct – Fri – Nature Discovery Center, Bellaire (Houston), **Creatures & Cocktails Night Hike – Adult only** (21 & up) Owl prowls along with other nocturnal critters and adult drinks. Led by Eric Duran, 7:00pm, \$15/ person. Must register ahead: <https://naturediscoverycenter.org/activities/creatures-cocktails/>

28 Oct – Sat – Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, San Antonio – Beginner Bird Walk, 8-10am. \$8.00/non-members

28 Oct – Sat – San Antonio Audubon field trip to Choke Canyon State Park. About 75 miles south of San Antonio via FM 37. Meet leader Mike Creese (210/479-5552) at the entrance parking lot of the Calliham Unit at 8:00am.

28 Oct – Sat – Houston Audubon Soc. Member field trip to Matagorda County Birding Nature Center (MCBNC), 34 acres on the Colorado River in Bay City.



28 Oct – Sat – Houston Arboretum trip to Lafitte's Cove, 7:30am-1:00pm, led by Kelsey Low; \$55/\$40.

<https://houstonarboretum.org/events/field-trip-laffites-cove-fall-2017/>

28 Oct – Sat – Free West Galveston field trip with Jim Stevenson, 8:00-11:30am. RSVP required by 6pm on Friday, [galornsoc@earthlink.net](mailto:galornsoc@earthlink.net)

29 Oct – Sun – Audubon Texas Estuarine Resource Network, **Annual TERN Celebration** – at From the HeArt Gallery, 511 23rd Street, Galveston 77550, 2-5pm. More info: Kari Howard, [KHoward@audubon.org](mailto:KHoward@audubon.org)

30 Oct – Mon - Houston Audubon Senior Bus Trip (50+) to Quintana Neotropical Bird Sanctuary & Quintana Beach County Park, departing from Memorial City Mall.  
<https://houstonaudubon.org/birding/field-trips-travel/senior-bus-trips.html>

31 Oct – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

31 Oct – Tues – San Antonio Audubon field trip to Medina River Natural Area. Meet leader Helen Rejzek ([hmr78253@gmail.com](mailto:hmr78253@gmail.com)) in the main parking lot of the Natural Area, 8:00am.

## NOVEMBER 2017

3 Nov – Fri – **Owl Prowl** at Edith L. Moore Nature Sanctuary, W. Houston. Pre-registration required, \$12 adult, \$8 children, 7-9pm. <https://houstonaudubon.org/programs/all-age-groups/owl-prowls-edith-moore.html>

4 Nov – Sat – **Owl Prowl** at Sims Bayou Urban Nature Center, SE Houston. Pre-registration required, \$10 adult, \$6 children, 7-9pm. <https://houstonaudubon.org/programs/all-age-groups/owl-prowls-sims.html>

6 Nov – Mon - Houston Ornithology Group Monthly Meeting, Bayland Community Center. 6:30pm Learning Corner by Jean Greenhalgh & Glenn Lindemann, "Birding in the Northwest US." 7:15pm program by Stephan Lorenz, "Remote Birding in Colombia: Search for the Rarest Hummingbird in the World!"

7 Nov – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

8 Nov – Wed – Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival begins, field trips!

9 Nov – Thurs – RGVBF speakers, Harlingen: 2:00pm - Caleb Arellano (UTRGV) & Simon Kiacz (TA&M), "Red-crowned Parrots in the Rio Grande Valley," 6:15pm - Nathan Pieplow (Colorado), "Bird Sounds Decoded"

9 Nov – Thurs - Houston Audubon Speaker Event, Jennifer Ackerman, “The Genius of Birds,” social 7:00pm, presentation 7:30pm

9 Nov – Thurs – Fort Worth Audubon meeting, program: “Hummingbirds of Ecuador and Colombia,” by [Bob and Vickie Moore](#)

10 Nov – Fri – RGVBF speaker, Harlingen, 6:15pm - Noah Strycker, “Birding without Borders: An Epic World”

11 Nov – Sat - RGVBF speaker, Harlingen, 2:00pm – Nancy McAllister (Maryland), “Mom’s Big Year”

11 Nov – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: [sdyost@asunnytexas.com](mailto:sdyost@asunnytexas.com)

11 Nov – Sat – San Antonio Audubon Society Beginners’ Bird Walk, 7:30am. Meet Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) at the Jack Judson Nature Trails, Olmos Park, Alamo Heights.

11 Nov – Sat – Heard Museum monthly bird walk, 8:00-9:30am, McKinney, TX

11 Nov – Sat – Hornsby Bend monthly bird count, Austin, 7:00-11:30am. Contact Eric Carpenter at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com)

11 Nov – Sat - Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo Ostler ([tostler@houstonarboretum.org](mailto:tostler@houstonarboretum.org)) & Kelsey Low  
<https://houstonarboretum.org/events/saturday-bird-walk/>

11 Nov – Sat – Field trip to Camp Mabry (Travis Audubon), west Austin, 7:30-10:30am. Led by Dennis Palafox, limited to 10.

11 Nov – Sat – Introduction to the Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, El Paso, 9:00-10:00am, 2-mile walk. Meet at Riverside Canal Bridge. Info: John Sproul, 915-7478663 or [jsproul@utep.edu](mailto:jsproul@utep.edu)

11 Nov – Sat – High Island Work Day (Houston Audubon), 8:30-noon.  
<https://houstonaudubon.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/coastal.html>

13 Nov – Mon – Hermann Park Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 7:30am. Coordinated by Jim Winn.

13-17 Nov – Mon-Fri – Field trip leaving from Harlingen, Northern Mexico Medley, From the Mountains to the Desert, visiting the states of Coahuila and Nuevo Leon, with René Valdés, Roy Rodriguez, and Mary Gustafson. Post-RGVBF trip, *Operated by GO WITH JO TOURS – (956) 423-1446*.

13-17 Nov – Mon-Fri – VENT tour to Rockport: *A Bonanza of Wintering Birds*, led by Michael O'Brien and Louise Zemaitis (Cape May, NJ); \$1495.

<http://www.ventbird.com/birding-tour/2017/11/13/rockport-texas-a-bonanza-of-wintering-birds>

14 Nov – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

16 Nov – Thurs – Baytown Nature Center Bird Survey, 8am. Led by David Hanson.

16 Nov – Thurs - Huntsville Audubon monthly meeting.

18 Nov – Sat – Prairie and Timbers Audubon field trip to Fort Worth sites: Winscott Plover Road, Holiday Park, Pecan Valley Park, 8:00 am, led by Gail Morris. RSVP to Jerri Kerr [jerri.kerr@verizon.net](mailto:jerri.kerr@verizon.net)

18 Nov – Sat – Willow Waterhole Bird Survey, Houston, 8-10am. Led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

18 Nov – Sat – Woodland Park Bird Survey, Houston, 7:30-9:30am. Led by Jason Bonilla.

18 Nov – Sat – Hogg Bird Sanctuary Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 1 Westcott St. Led by Cin-Ty Lee

18 Nov – Sat – Bird walk at Sheldon Lake State Park. Meet at 8:00am. Contact Hannah Buschert, [Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov)

18 Nov – Sat – Houston Audubon Soc. Member field trip to Gulf Coast Bird Observatory (bird banding), Quintana Neotropical Bird Observatory, and Quintana Beach County Park.

18 Nov – Sat – Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO Headquarters, Lake Jackson, with Robert & Kay Lookingbill, 8am-12pm.

18 Nov – Sat - Golden Triangle Audubon Annual Meeting & Potluck Dinner. Bring favorite bird photos.

19 Nov – Sun – Birds of the Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, led by John Sproul, 3:00-5:00pm. Info: 915-747-8663 or [jsproul@utep.edu](mailto:jsproul@utep.edu)

20 Nov – Mon – El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon meeting, Program by Lois Balin, “Burrowing Owls of the Rio Bosque Wetlands Park.” 7:00pm, Centennial Museum at UTEP, 500 W. University Ave

21 Nov – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

22 Nov – Wed – Archbishop Fiorenza Park Phase 2 Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), between Eldridge & Hwy 6, 7:30am

25 Nov – Sat – Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, San Antonio – Beginner Bird Walk, 8-10am.  
\$8.00/non-members

25 Nov – Sat – Audubon Dallas bird walk at Spring Creek Forest, 8:00-9:30am, led by Reba Collins, 1787 Holford Road, Garland

28 Nov – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

28 Nov – Tues – Prairie and Timbers Audubon Meeting, Heard Museum, McKinney, **6:50pm**  
Bird ID Class: Specimens: Woodland Birds – Vireos, Wrens, Nuthatches, Creepers, Chickadees, and Kinglets.

## DECEMBER 2017

1 Dec – Fri – “Introduction to Raptors,” first of four sessions of Beginning Birder Series at Edinburg Scenic Wetlands, 2:00-3:00pm, fee. Info: 956-381-9922.

1 Dec – Fri – **Owl Prowl** at Edith L. Moore Nature Sanctuary, Houston. Reservations required, \$12 adult, \$8 children, 7-9pm. <https://houstonaudubon.org/programs/all-age-groups/owl-prowls-edith-moore.html>

4 Dec – Mon - Houston Ornithology Group Monthly Meeting, Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston 77074. 6:30-8:45pm.

5 Dec – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

6 Dec – Wed – Monthly Winter Bird Walk at Nature Discovery Center/Russ Pitman Park, 7112 Newcastle, Bellaire (Houston), noon to 1:15pm, led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

8 Dec – Fri – “Introduction to Sparrows,” second of four sessions of Beginning Birder Series at Edinburg Scenic Wetlands, 2:00-3:00pm, fee. Info: 956-381-9922.

8-10 Dec – Open Weekend at Davis Mountains Preserve (Nature Conservancy), 8am Fri to 4pm Sun

9 Dec – Sat – San Antonio Audubon Beginners’ Bird Walk, 7:30am. Meet Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) at the Jack Judson Nature Trails, Olmos Park, Alamo Heights.

9 Dec – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: sdyost@asunnytexas.com

9 Dec – Sat – Heard Museum monthly bird walk, 8:00-9:30am, McKinney, TX

9 Dec – Sat – High Island Work Day (Houston Audubon), 8:30-noon.

<https://houstonaudubon.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/coastal.html>

11 Dec – Mon – Hermann Park Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 7:30am. Coordinated by Jim Winn.

12 Dec – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

14 Dec – Thurs – Fort Worth Audubon meeting, Program: “Optics for Birding,” by Jim Jones

15 Dec – Fri – “Introduction to Shorebirds,” third of four sessions of Beginning Birder Series at Edinburg Scenic Wetlands, 2:00-3:00pm, fee. Info: 956-381-9922.

16 Dec – Sat – Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo

Ostler ([tostler@houstonarboretum.org](mailto:tostler@houstonarboretum.org)).

<https://houstonarboretum.org/events/saturday-bird-walk/>

16 Dec – Sat – Houston Arboretum Winter Birdwatching Workshop, instructor Kelsey Low, 8:00am-11:00am; \$30/\$45.

<https://houstonarboretum.org/events/winter-birdwatching-workshop/>

16 Dec – Sat – Bird walk at Sheldon Lake State Park. Meet at 8:00am. Contact Hannah Buschert, [Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov)

16 Dec – Sat – Willow Waterhole Bird Survey, Houston, 8-10am. Led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

16 Dec – Sat – Woodland Park Bird Survey, Houston, 7:30-9:30am. Led by Jason Bonilla.

16 Dec – Sat – Hogg Bird Sanctuary Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 1 Westcott St. Led by Cin-Ty Lee

16 Dec – Sat – Hornsby Bend monthly bird count, Austin, 7:00-11:30am. Contact Eric Carpenter at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com)

16 Dec – Sat – Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO Headquarters, Lake Jackson, with Robert & Kay Lookingbill, 8am-12pm.

19 Dec – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

22 Dec – Fri – “Introduction to Warblers,” last of four sessions of Beginning Birder Series at Edinburg Scenic Wetlands, 2:00-3:00pm, fee. Info: 956-381-9922.



23 Dec – Sat – Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, San Antonio – Beginner Bird Walk, 8-10am.  
\$8.00/non-members

26 Dec – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

27 Dec – Wed – Archbishop Fiorenza Park Phase 2 Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), between Eldridge & Hwy 6, 7:30am

**Texas Christmas Bird Counts**, 14 Dec 2017 to 5 Jan 2018,  
<https://houstonaudubon.org/birding/christmas-bird-counts/>

14 Dec – Thurs - Guadalupe River Delta - McFaddin Family Ranches (TXGF) CBC

14 Dec – Thurs - La Sal Vieja (TXLS) CBC, compiler JD Cortez, jorgedcortez@yahoo.com

16 Dec – Sat - College Station (TXCS) CBC, compiler, Betty Vermeire,  
bavermeire@suddenlink.net (cell 979-324-6654)

16 Dec – Sat - Bell County (TXBU) CBC, compiler Tom Robbins, thos.robbs@sbcglobal.net

16 Dec – Sat - Crawford (Western Waco) (TXCR) CBC, compiler, Annette Jones,  
plawaco@aol.com

16 Dec – Sat - Lubbock County (TXLU) CBC, compiler Anthony 'Fat Tony' Hewetson,  
fattonybirds@gmail.com, (806) 252-1213

17 Dec – Sun – Muleshoe NWR (TXMU) CBC, compiler Anthony 'Fat Tony' Hewetson,  
fattonybirds@gmail.com, (806) 252-1213

17 Dec – Sun - San Antonio (TXST) CBC, compiler Dahn Windhorn, naturenut7@hotmail.com

18 Dec – Mon – Matagorda County- Mad Island Marsh (TXMM) CBC

19 Dec – Tues – Galveston (TXGA) CBC

19 Dec – Tues – Second Powderhorn Ranch CBC, compiler Daniel Walker,  
daniel.walker@tpwd.texas.gov

19 Dec – Tues - Westcave Preserve (TXWP) CBC, includes Hamilton Pool, Reimers Ranch, Shield Ranch, part of Balcones Canyonlands, Pedernales River, Colorado River, Lake Travis; compiler Jane Jones, jjonestexas@gmail.com

20 Dec – Wed - Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR (TXAP) CBC

21 Dec – Thurs – Bolivar Peninsula (TXBP) CBC

26 Dec – Tues - McKinney (TXMC) CBC, Heard Museum & Sanctuary, Compiler Roger Sanderson, rsanderson@TexasDiscoveryGardens.org, 972-333-5671.

27 Dec – Wed – Jackson & Calhoun Counties (TX--) CBC, compiler Bob Friedrichs, bird.fried@gmail.com

28 Dec – Thurs – Trinity River (TX--)CBC, compiler Stuart Marcus, stuart\_marcus@fws.gov, 936/336-9786

28 Dec – Thurs – Rockport (TXRO) CBC, compiler Claudia Dorn, catbirddorn@yahoo.com

28 Dec – Thurs - Kerrville (TXKV) CBC, compiler Richard Redmond, ewigeon64@Hughes.net, tel 830-460-1243.

30 Dec – Sat – Kingsville (TXKI) CBC, Co-Compilers: Jim Sinclair, sinclairjim@yahoo.com and Barbara Rapstein, barbraps@rocketmail.com

30 Dec – Sat - Harlingen (TXHG) CBC, Compiler Norma Friedrich, acaskiskadee@yahoo.com, 361-676-6416.

30 Dec – Sat - Waco (TXWA) CBC, contact Annette Jones, plawaco@aol.com

30 Dec – Sat - White River Lake (TXWR) CBC, compiler Anthony 'Fat Tony' Hewetson, fattonybirds@gmail.com, tel (806) 252-1213

Mid-Dec – Johnson Bayou CBC

Mid-Dec – Turkey Creek CBC

Mid-Dec – Beech Creek CBC

Late Dec – Sea Rim CBC

## **JANUARY 2018**

1 Jan – Mon - Bastrop-Buescher State Park (TXBB) CBC, www.bastropcbc.com. Email Shelia Hargis at bastropxcbc@gmail.com with questions or to register.

1 Jan – Mon – Orange County CBC

2 Jan – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

2 Jan – Tues - Burnet County (TXBN) CBC, compiler Sammye Childers at sammyenmike@yahoo.com

2 Jan – Tues – Buffalo Bayou CBC???

3 Jan – Wed – Edinburg Scenic Wetlands (EWBC) Big Day, Birds! 8-11am – survey, then learn to use iNaturalist and eBird to submit information.

5 Jan – Tues - Anzalduas-Bentsen (TXAZ) CBC, Compiler Roy Rodriguez, Roy.Rodriguez@tpwd.texas.gov, 956-584-9156.

5 Jan – Fri – 16<sup>th</sup> Annual National Bird Day. <http://www.nationalbirdday.com/> and <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/bird-day/>

8 Jan – Mon – Hermann Park Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 7:30am. Coordinated by Jim Winn.

8 Jan – Mon - **Houston Ornithology Group Monthly Meeting**, Bayland Community Center, David Sarkozi, “My Texas Big Year(s),” <http://davidsbigyear.blogspot.com/>

9 Jan – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

10 Jan – Wed – Monthly Winter Bird Walk at Nature Discovery Center/Russ Pitman Park, 7112 Newcastle, Bellaire (Houston), noon to 1:15pm, led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

11 Jan – Thurs – Fort Worth Audubon meeting. Program: “Birding in Mexico,” by [Brock Huffman](#)

11 Jan – Thurs - Houston Audubon Speaker Event, Victor Emanuel, “My Memoir: One More Warbler,” social 7:00pm, presentation 7:30pm, <https://utpress.utexas.edu/books/victor-emanuel-one-more-warbler>



11-14 – Thurs-Sun - Texas Ornithological Society (TOS) Winter Meeting, hosted by Piney Woods Audubon, Nacogdoches area

13-19 Jan (Sat-Fri) – Field Guides Birding Tour, “South Texas Rarities,” led by Chris Benesh; \$2175. <http://fieldguides.com/bird-tours/texas-rarities>

13 Jan – Sat – San Antonio Audubon Beginners’ Bird Walk, 7:30am. Meet Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) at the Jack Judson Nature Trails, Olmos Park, Alamo Heights.

13 Jan – Sat – Heard Museum monthly bird walk, 8:00-9:30am, McKinney, TX

13 Jan – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: [sdyst@asunnytexas.com](mailto:sdyst@asunnytexas.com)

13 Jan – Sat – High Island Work Day (Houston Audubon), 8:30-noon. <https://houstonaudubon.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/coastal.html>

13 Jan – Sat – Hornsby Bend monthly bird count, Austin, 7:00-11:30am. Contact Eric Carpenter at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com)

13 Jan – Sat – Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo Ostler ([tostler@houstonarboretum.org](mailto:tostler@houstonarboretum.org)) & Kelsey Low. <https://houstonarboretum.org/events/saturday-bird-walk/>

16 Jan – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

18 Jan – Thurs – Baytown Nature Center Bird Survey, 8am. Led by David Hanson.

18 Jan – Thurs – Huntsville Audubon monthly meeting.

20 Jan – Sat – Audubon Dallas sunrise field trip to Southside Water Treatment Plant. Limited to 15 people. RSVP to Bob Stone by December 29, [rgstone@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgstone@sbcglobal.net), 214-287-9940

20 Jan – Sat – Bird walk at Sheldon Lake State Park. Meet at 8:00am. Contact Hannah Buschert, [Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov)

20 Jan – Sat – Willow Waterhole Bird Survey, Houston, 8-10am. Led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

20 Jan – Sat – Woodland Park Bird Survey, Houston, 7:30-9:30am. Led by Jason Bonilla.

20 Jan – Sat – Hogg Bird Sanctuary Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 1 Westcott St. Led by Cin-Ty Lee.

20 Jan – Sat – Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO Headquarters, Lake Jackson, with Robert & Kay Lookingbill, 8am-12pm.

20 Jan – Sat – **Owl Prowl** at Sims Bayou Urban Nature Center, SE Houston. Pre-registration required, \$10 adult, \$6 children, 7-9pm. <https://houstonaudubon.org/programs/all-age-groups/owl-prowls-sims.html>

23 Jan – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

24 Jan – Wed – Archbishop Fiorenza Park Phase 2 Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), between Eldridge & Hwy 6, 7:30am

26-29 Jan – Fri-Mon – Williamson Audubon weekend trip to Lower Rio Grande Valley. Details TBA. [www.meetup.com/WilliamsonAudubonGroup](http://www.meetup.com/WilliamsonAudubonGroup)

27 Jan – Sat – Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, San Antonio – Beginner Bird Walk, 8-10am. \$8.00/non-members

30 Jan – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

## FEBRUARY 2018



2 Feb – Fri – **Owl Prowl** at Edith L. Moore Nature Sanctuary, Houston. Reservations required, \$12 adult, \$8 children, 7-9pm. <https://houstonaudubon.org/programs/all-age-groups/owl-prowls-edith-moore.html>

5 Feb – Mon - **Houston Ornithology Group Monthly Meeting**, Bayland Community Center, Fred Collins and Bob Honig, presenting a retrospective focusing on "Good Birding Trips," a guide for bird finding within striking distance of Houston put out by OG in the late 1960s, and how things have changed since then.

6 Feb – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

6-11 Feb – Tues-Sun – VENT – Ornithology 101 in South Texas: A Learn-About-Birds Workshop led by Denver Holt and TBA, starting in McAllen; \$2095. <http://www.ventbird.com/birding-tour/2018/02/06/ornithology-101-in-south-texas-a-learn-about-birds-workshop>

7 Feb – Wed – Monthly Winter Bird Walk at Nature Discovery Center/Russ Pitman Park, 7112 Newcastle, Bellaire (Houston), noon to 1:15pm, led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

7-10 Feb (Wed-Sat) – 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Laredo Birding Festival (LBF). Guest speaker Dr. Drew Lanahan. Bird the Border! [www.laredobirdingfestival.org](http://www.laredobirdingfestival.org)

8 Feb – Thurs – Fort Worth Audubon meeting. Program: "Purple Martins," by [Shelia Hargis](#)

10-17 Feb (Sat-Sat) – WINGS Birding Tour to the Rio Grande Valley, led by Jake Mohlmann; \$2350. Whooping Crane extension to Mon, 19 Feb; \$690. <http://wingsbirds.com/tours/texas-rio-grande-valley/>

10 Feb – Sat – Heard Museum monthly bird walk, 8:00-9:30am, McKinney, TX

10 Feb – Sat – San Antonio Audubon Beginners' Bird Walk, 7:30am. Meet Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) at the Jack Judson Nature Trails, Olmos Park, Alamo Heights.

10 Feb – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: [sdyst@asunnytexas.com](mailto:sdyst@asunnytexas.com)

10 Feb – Sat – Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo Ostler ([tostler@houstonarboretum.org](mailto:tostler@houstonarboretum.org)) & Kelsey Low. <https://houstonarboretum.org/events/saturday-bird-walk/>

10 Feb – Sat – Hornsby Bend monthly bird count, Austin, 7:00-11:30am. Contact Eric Carpenter at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com)

10 Feb – Sat – High Island Work Day (Houston Audubon), 8:30-noon.

<https://houstonaudubon.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/coastal.html>

10 Feb – Sat – **Owl Prowl** at Sims Bayou Urban Nature Center, SE Houston. Pre-registration required, \$10 adult, \$6 children, 7-9pm. <https://houstonaudubon.org/programs/all-age-groups/owl-prowls-sims.html>

10 Feb – Sat – LBF 2018 Keynote speaker Dr. J. Drew Lanham, "*Watching Birds with the Right Brain--Confessions of a Lapsed Lister*" La Posada Hotel - Tesoro Room, Laredo, 7:00pm, \$30 dinner.

11-17 Feb – Sun-Sat – VENT – Winter Rio Grande Valley birding tour, led by Erik Bruhnke, begins in McAllen; \$2195.

<http://www.ventbird.com/birding-tour/2018/02/11/winter-rio-grande-valley>

12 Feb – Mon – Hermann Park Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 7:30am. Coordinated by Jim Winn.

13 Feb – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

13-21 Feb (Tues-Wed) – Eagle-Eye Tours (BC, Canada) South Texas Birding tour starting in Corpus Christi, ending in McAllen, led by Skye Haas (Michigan); US\$2350. <http://www.eagle-eye.com/South-Texas-Birding-Tour>

15 Feb – Thurs – Baytown Nature Center Bird Survey, 8am. Led by David Hanson.

15 Feb – Thurs – Huntsville Audubon monthly meeting.

16-19 Feb – **Great Backyard Bird Count** (GBBC). <http://gbbc.birdcount.org>

17 Feb – Sat – Bird walk at Sheldon Lake State Park. Meet at 8:00am. Contact Hannah Buschert, [Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov)

17 Feb – Sat – Willow Waterhole Bird Survey, Houston, 8-10am. Led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

17 Feb – Sat – Woodland Park Bird Survey, Houston, 7:30-9:30am. Led by Jason Bonilla.

17 Feb – Sat – Hogg Bird Sanctuary Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 1 Westcott St. Led by Cin-Ty Lee.

17 Feb – Sat – Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO Headquarters, Lake Jackson, with Robert & Kay Lookingbill, 8am-12pm.

17 Feb – Sat – North Jetty Cleanup (Houston Audubon Work Day), 9am-noon.  
<https://houstonaudubon.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/coastal.html>

20 Feb – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

22-25 Feb – **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Whooping Crane Festival**, Port Aransas.  
<http://www.whoopingcranefestival.org/>

**24 Feb – Sat – Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, San Antonio – Beginner Bird Walk**, 8-10am.  
\$8.00/non-members

27 Feb – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

28 Feb – Wed – Archbishop Fiorenza Park Phase 2 Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), between Eldridge & Hwy 6, 7:30am

## MARCH 2018

**3 March – Sat – Owl Prowl at Sims Bayou Urban Nature Center, SE Houston.** Pre-registration required, \$10 adult, \$6 children, 7-9pm. <https://houstonaudubon.org/programs/all-age-groups/owl-prowls-sims.html>

5 March – Mon - Houston Ornithology Group Monthly Meeting, Bayland Community Center, Houston

6 March – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

8 March – Thurs - Houston Audubon Speaker Event, Matt Fendley, “Purple Martins,” social 7:00pm, presentation 7:30pm

9 March – Fri – **Owl Prowl** at Edith L. Moore Nature Sanctuary, Houston. Reservations required, \$12 adult, \$8 children, 7-9pm. <https://houstonaudubon.org/programs/all-age-groups/owl-prowls-edith-moore.html>

**10-18 March (Sat-Sun) – Field Guides Birding Tour, “Spring in South Texas,”** led by Chris Benesh; \$3175. <http://fieldguides.com/bird-tours/texas-valley>

**10 March – Sat – Heard Museum monthly bird walk**, 8:00-9:30am, McKinney, TX

**10 March – Sat – San Antonio Audubon Beginners’ Bird Walk**, 7:30am. Meet Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) at the Jack Judson Nature Trails, Olmos Park, Alamo Heights.

10 March – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: [sdyost@asunnytexas.com](mailto:sdyost@asunnytexas.com)

10 March – Sat – Hornsby Bend monthly bird count, Austin, 7:00-11:30am. Contact Eric Carpenter at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com)

10 March – Sat – Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo Ostler ([tostler@houstonarboretum.org](mailto:tostler@houstonarboretum.org)) & Kelsey Low.  
<https://houstonarboretum.org/events/saturday-bird-walk/>

12 March – Mon – Hermann Park Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 7:30am. Coordinated by Jim Winn.

13 March – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

15 March – Thurs – Baytown Nature Center Bird Survey, 8am. Led by David Hanson.

15 March – Thurs – Huntsville Audubon Monthly meeting.

16-18 March – Open Weekend at Davis Mountains Preserve (Nature Conservancy), open 8am Fri to 4pm Sun.

\*Not TX\* 16-18 March – Wings Over Water Birding Festival, Blaine, Washington – speakers, field trips in WA and BC, pelagic trips. 20 min from Bellingham, 45 min from Vancouver, 2.5 hrs from SeaTac. [www.Wingsoverwaterbirdingfestival.com](http://www.Wingsoverwaterbirdingfestival.com)

17 March – Sat – Willow Waterhole Bird Survey, Houston, 8-10am. Led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

17 March – Sat – Woodland Park Bird Survey, Houston, 7:30-9:30am. Led by Jason Bonilla.

17 March – Sat – Hogg Bird Sanctuary Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 1 Westcott St. Led by Cin-Ty Lee.

17 March – Sat – Bird walk at Sheldon Lake State Park. Meet at 8:00am. Contact Hannah Buschert, [Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov)

17 March – Sat - Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO Headquarters, Lake Jackson, with Robert & Kay Lookingbill, 8am-12pm.

17 March - Sat – Bolivar Flats Beach Cleanup after Hurricane Harvey (Houston Audubon Work Day), 8-11am. <https://houstonaudubon.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/coastal.html>

20 March – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

24 March – Sat – Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, San Antonio – Beginner Bird Walk, 8-10am. \$8.00/non-members

24 March – Sat – Open Day, Independence Creek Preserve (Nature Conservancy), 9am-6pm.  
<https://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/texas/events/independence-creek-preserve-open-days.xml>

27 March – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

28 March – Wed – Archbishop Fiorenza Park Phase 2 Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), between Eldridge & Hwy 6, 7:30am

## **APRIL 2018**

2 April – Mon - Houston Ornithology Group Monthly Meeting, Bayland Community Center, Steve Mayes, TBA

3 April – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

2-11 April – Mon-Wed – VENT – Spring in South Texas Birding Tour, led by Barry Zimmer (El Paso) & Erik Bruhnke, starting in Corpus Christi, ending in Laredo; \$3295.  
<http://www.ventbird.com/birding-tour/2018/04/02/spring-in-south-texas>

### **7 April – Sat –**

9 April – Mon – Hermann Park Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 7:30am. Coordinated by Jim Winn.

10 April – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

11-15 Apr (Wed-Sun) – VENT – Spring in South Texas: Hill Country Extension, led by Barry Zimmer and Erik Bruhnke, Depart Laredo, ends in San Antonio; \$1595.  
<http://www.ventbird.com/birding-tour/2018/04/11/spring-in-south-texas-hill-country-extension>

14-20 April (Sat – Fri) – Field Guides Birding Tour, Texas Coast Migration Spectacle, led by John Coons; \$2190. <http://www.fieldguides.com/bird-tours/texas-coast>

### **14 April – Sat – Open Day at Davis Mountains Preserve (Nature Conservancy), 8am-4pm**

14 April – Sat – San Antonio Audubon Beginners' Bird Walk, 7:30am. Meet Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) at the Jack Judson Nature Trails, Olmos Park, Alamo Heights.

14 April – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: [sdyost@asunnytexas.com](mailto:sdyost@asunnytexas.com)



14 April – Sat – Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo Ostler (tostler@houstonarboretum.org) & Kelsey Low.

<https://houstonarboretum.org/events/saturday-bird-walk/>

14 April – Sat – Heard Museum monthly bird walk, 8:00-9:30am, McKinney, TX

14 April – Sat – Hornsby Bend monthly bird count, Austin, 7:00-11:30am. Contact Eric Carpenter at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com)

15-22 April – Safari field trip E with Gene Blacklock, Navahonian Region Study – north of El Paso, New Mexico (class April 2).

[http://www.stxbot.org/gene\\_blacklocks\\_birding\\_courses\\_stxbot\\_2017.html](http://www.stxbot.org/gene_blacklocks_birding_courses_stxbot_2017.html)

17 April – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: [mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com](mailto:mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com) or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

19 April – Thurs – Baytown Nature Center Bird Survey, 8am. Led by David Hanson.

19 April – Thurs – Huntsville Audubon monthly meeting.

19-22 April – The Birdiest Festival in America, South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, Corpus Christi. [www.stxbot.org](http://www.stxbot.org)

19-22 April – Galveston Feather Fest. [www.galvestonfeatherfest.com/](http://www.galvestonfeatherfest.com/)

19-25 April – Thurs-Wed – VENT – High Island Migration field trip, led by Erik Bruhnke; \$2195.

<http://www.ventbird.com/birding-tour/2018/04/19/high-island-migration>

20 April – Sat – Audubon Dallas sunrise field trip to Southside Water Treatment Plant. Limited to 15 people. RSVP to Bob Stone by March 27, [rgstone@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgstone@sbcglobal.net), 214-287-9940

20-22 April – Open Weekend, Independence Creek Preserve (Nature Conservancy), 3pm Fri to noon Sun.

[www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/texas/events/independence-creek-preserve-open-days.xml](http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/texas/events/independence-creek-preserve-open-days.xml)

20-22 April (Fri-Sun) – Fort Worth Audubon weekend trip to Lower Rio Grande Valley, led by Charley Amos, [gimbloom@gmail.com](mailto:gimbloom@gmail.com)

21-27 April (Sat – Fri) – Field Guides Birding Tour, Texas Coast Migration Spectacle, led by John Coons; \$2190. <http://www.fieldguides.com/bird-tours/texas-coast>

21-30 April (Sat-Mon) – Field Guides Birding Tour to Texas's Big Bend & Hill Country, led by Chris Benesh & Cory Gregory; \$3275.

<http://fieldguides.com/bird-tours/texas-big-bend>

21 April – Sat – Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo Ostler (tostler@houstonarboretum.org) & Kelsey Low.

21 April – Sat – Willow Waterhole Bird Survey, Houston, 7-9am. Led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

21 April – Sat – Woodland Park Bird Survey, Houston, 7:30-9:30am. Led by Jason Bonilla.

21 April – Sat – Hogg Bird Sanctuary Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 1 Westcott St. Led by Cin-Ty Lee.

21 April – Sat – Bird walk at Sheldon Lake State Park. Meet at 8:00am. Contact Hannah Buschert, Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov

21 April – Sat - Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO Headquarters, Lake Jackson, with Robert & Kay Lookingbill, 8am-12pm.

22-28 April - Sun-Sat – Paradise Birding Tour to South Texas Lower Rio Grande, with Stephen Shunk, \$2480/\$2780.  
<http://www.paradisebirding.com/birding-tours-Rio-Grande-Texas.html>

22-29 April – Sun-Sun – VENT – Bolivar Beach House: Migration on the Upper Texas Coast, led by Michael O'Brien & Louise Zemaitis; \$2695.  
<http://www.ventbird.com/birding-tour/2018/04/22/bolivar-beach-house>

23 April to 3 May – Mon-Thurs - VENT – Big Bend National Park & the Texas Hill Country tour, led by Barry Zimmer & Kevin Zimmer, departs from San Antonio, ends in El Paso; \$3395.  
<http://www.ventbird.com/birding-tour/2018/04/23/big-bend-national-park-the-texas-hill-country>

24 April – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

25 April – Wed – **World Penguin Day**.  
<http://southeastee.org/net/calendar/details.aspx?s=125340.0.0.22&c=5993060>

25 April – Wed – Archbishop Fiorenza Park Phase 2 Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), between Eldridge & Hwy 6, 7:30am

28 April – Sat – Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, San Antonio – Beginner Bird Walk, 8-10am. \$8.00/non-members

Late April – Balcones Songbird Festival, Lago Vista - <https://www.friendsofbalcones.org/festival>  
Cancelled for 2018: Wings Over the Hills Festival, Fredericksburg. <http://wingsoverthehills.org/>

## MAY 2018

1 May – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

3-6 May – Thurs-Sun - Texas Ornithological Society (TOS) Spring Meeting, Alpine area

7 May – Mon - Houston Ornithology Group Monthly Meeting, Bayland Community Center, Houston

8 May – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

12-13 May – Sat-Sun – International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD). [www.birdday.org](http://www.birdday.org)

12 May – Sat – Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo Ostler ([tostler@houstonarboretum.org](mailto:tostler@houstonarboretum.org)) & Kelsey Low.

<https://houstonarboretum.org/events/saturday-bird-walk/>

12 May – Sat – San Antonio Audubon Beginners' Bird Walk, 7:30am. Meet Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) at the Jack Judson Nature Trails, Olmos Park, Alamo Heights.

12 May – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: [sdyst@asunnytexas.com](mailto:sdyst@asunnytexas.com)

12 May – Sat – Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, Migratory Bird Fest, 9:00am-2:00pm. <http://mitchelllake.audubon.org/events/migratory-bird-day>

12 May – Sat – Heard Museum monthly bird walk, 8:00-9:30am, McKinney, TX

12 May – Sat – Hornsby Bend monthly bird count, Austin, 7:00-11:30am. Contact Eric Carpenter at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com)

14 May – Mon – Hermann Park Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 7:30am. Coordinated by Jim Winn.

15 May – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

16 May – Wed -

17 May – Thurs – Baytown Nature Center Bird Survey, 8am. Led by David Hanson.

17 May – Thurs – Huntsville Audubon monthly meeting.

19 May – Sat – Open Day at Davis Mountains Preserve (Nature Conservancy), 8am-4pm

19 May – Sat – Houston Arboretum Bird Survey, 8-10am. Led by Theo Ostler (tostler@houstonarboretum.org) & Kelsey Low.

19 May – Sat – Bird walk at Sheldon Lake State Park. Meet at 8:00am. Contact Hannah Buschert, Hannah.Buschert@tpwd.texas.gov

19 May – Sat – Willow Waterhole Bird Survey, Houston, 7-9am. Led by Mary Ann Beauchemin.

19 May – Sat – Woodland Park Bird Survey, Houston, 7:30-9:30am. Led by Jason Bonilla.

19 May – Sat – Hogg Bird Sanctuary Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), 1 Westcott St. Led by Cin-Ty Lee.

19 May – Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO Headquarters, Lake Jackson, with Robert & Kay Lookingbill, 8am-12pm.

22 May – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

23 May – Wed – Archbishop Fiorenza Park Phase 2 Bird Survey (Houston Audubon), between Eldridge & Hwy 6, 7:30am

26 May – Sat – Open Day, Independence Creek Preserve (Nature Conservancy), 9am-6pm. [www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/texas/events/independence-creek-preserve-open-days.xml](http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/texas/events/independence-creek-preserve-open-days.xml)

29 May – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

## June 2018

5 Jun – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

9 June – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: sdyost@asunnytexas.com

## July 2018

3 July – Tues – Tues morning bird walk, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center, Hidalgo, 8:30am. Contact: mbarrera@cityofedinburg.com or EWBC at 956-381-9922.

14 July – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: [sdyst@asunnytexas.com](mailto:sdyst@asunnytexas.com)

## August 2018

6 Aug – Mon – OG monthly meeting, Bayland Community Center, Houston

11 Aug – Sat – Second Saturday Bird Walk, Lewisville, Denton Co., Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area, (LLELA), 7:30am, \$5 vehicle entrance. LLELA bird guides: Sue Yost & Keith Lockhart. Info: [sdyst@asunnytexas.com](mailto:sdyst@asunnytexas.com)

17 Aug – Sat – Audubon Dallas sunrise field trip to Southside Water Treatment Plant. Limited to 15 people. RSVP to Bob Stone by July 26, [rgstone@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgstone@sbcglobal.net), 214-287-9940

Late August - **Davis Mountains Hummingbird Celebration**, Hotel Limpia, Fort Davis. The "Hummingbird Capitol of Texas" will host 3 days of lectures, viewings, field trips and discussion on the hummingbirds found throughout the Davis Mountains.

<https://festivalnet.com/69269/Fort-Davis-Texas/Festivals/Davis-Mountain-Hummingbird-Festival>

## September 2018

10 Sept – Mon - OG monthly meeting, Bayland Community Center, Houston

24-27 Sept – **9th International Parrot Convention**, Tenerife, Spain.

<http://www.wildparrotsupclose.com/9th-international-parrot-convention-2018.html>

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**For full list, visit: <http://ornithologygroup.org/Events/>**

### Links:

**Houston Audubon** – [www.houstonaudubon.org](http://www.houstonaudubon.org)

**Galveston County Audubon** – [www.houstonaudubon.org/birding/field-trips-travel/galveston-group.html](http://www.houstonaudubon.org/birding/field-trips-travel/galveston-group.html)

**Golden Triangle Audubon** (Beaumont) - [www.goldentriangleaudubon.org](http://www.goldentriangleaudubon.org)

**Huntsville Audubon** - [www.huntsvilleaudubon.org](http://www.huntsvilleaudubon.org)

**Travis Audubon (Austin)** - [www.travisaudubon.org/field-trips-list](http://www.travisaudubon.org/field-trips-list)

**Bastrop Audubon** - [www.bastropcountyaudubon.org](http://www.bastropcountyaudubon.org)

**Coastal Bend Audubon** (Corpus Christi) - [www.coastalbendaudubon.org](http://www.coastalbendaudubon.org)

**Central Texas Audubon** (Waco area, McLennan County) - [www.centexaudubon.org](http://www.centexaudubon.org)

**San Antonio Audubon** - [www.saaudubon.org](http://www.saaudubon.org)

**Monte Mucho Audubon Society (MMAS)** - uses Meetup.com for trips

**Williamson Audubon Group** (Georgetown) - [www.meetup.com/WilliamsonAudubonGroup/](http://www.meetup.com/WilliamsonAudubonGroup/)

**Prairie and Timbers Audubon** (McKinney) – [www.prairieandtimbers.org](http://www.prairieandtimbers.org)

**Audubon Dallas** – [www.audubondallas.org](http://www.audubondallas.org)

**Fort Worth Audubon** - [www.fwas.org](http://www.fwas.org)

**El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon** - [www.trans-pecos-audubon.com](http://www.trans-pecos-audubon.com)

**Celebration of our Mountains (West Texas)** - <http://www.celebmtns.org>

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## About the Ornithology Group

**Chair:** Nina Rach | 281-433-0651 | [NRach@autrevie.com](mailto:NRach@autrevie.com)

**Vice Chair (Programs):** | JoAnn Raine | [RaineJoann@gmail.com](mailto:RaineJoann@gmail.com)

**Secretary** | Jean Greenhalgh | [JeanBrit01@yahoo.com](mailto:JeanBrit01@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:** Harlan Evans | 713-797-6468 | [harlanj42@sbcglobal.net](mailto:harlanj42@sbcglobal.net)

**Library and Swifts:** Pam Smolen | [pjsmolen@att.net](mailto:pjsmolen@att.net)

**Membership:** Michael Honel | 713-432-1985 | [michaelhonor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:michaelhonor@sbcglobal.net)

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**Spoonbill Outgoing Editor:** Vicki Sims: [oncspoon@gmail.com](mailto:oncspoon@gmail.com)

**OG website:** <http://www.ornithologygroup.org/>

**ONC website:** <http://www.outdoornatureclub.org/>

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