



Monthly Meeting September 9, 2019
Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet St, Houston, TX

6:30 pm Learning Corner: Nothing scheduled; look for an update by email

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

7:15 pm [Program](#): Birds of Papua, New Guinea by Lisa and Li Li

[Field Trip](#): Christmas Mountains, August 29 – September 2.

[Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary Fundraiser](#)
[Upcoming Texas Birding Events \(link to web page\)](#)
[Hart Beat: Our Purple Martin Colony \(link to web page\)](#)



Birds of Papua, New Guinea (July 18 – Aug 10, 2018)

By Lisa and Li Li

After years of dreaming and over a year preparation, we finally made the trip to Papua and West Papua of Indonesia, on the western side of New Guinea, the second largest island in the world. We spent total of 24 days on four locations, northern lowland (Sentani, Nimbokrang), central highland (Wamena, Snow Mountain), the Birds Head (Arfak Mountain, Manokwari) and Raja Ampat (Waigeo Island, Sorong). It was a physically demanding trip but a very rewarding experience. We saw 221 species of birds for the trip, including 17 out of 23 species of Bird of Paradise in the range.

[↑top↑](#)

Christmas Mountains Field Trip: Thurs Aug 29 - Mon Sept 2 (Labor Day).

Drive out Thurs, Aug 29, and drive back on Mon, Sept 2. Birding on Fri-Sat-Sun.

This is a great opportunity to see many interesting Trans-Pecos species such as Scaled Quail, Common Poorwill, Elf Owl, Western Wood-Pewee, Cordilleran Flycatcher, Western Tanager, Pyrrhuloxia, Varied Bunting, many sparrows, and numerous other birds.

We are planning to visit Carolyn Ohl's **Christmas Mountains Oasis** to see incredible Fall hummingbirds (Lucifer, Ruby-throated, Black-chinned, Anna's, Costa's, Broad-tailed, Rufous, Allen's, Calliope). <https://cmoasis.blogspot.com/>

We will take side trips on trails in the Christmas Mountains and nearby **Elephant Butte WMA** (the public road closes after Sat Aug 31) and we can visit the **Chisos Mountains in Big Bend National Park** on Sunday.

Optional hike up the Pinnacles Trail to try for Colima Warbler! <https://ebird.org/species/colwar/US-TX-043>

Potential dinner at the Chisos Mountains Lodge on Sunday evening.

Plans are to stay at **Terlingua Ranch Lodge**, which offers four-plex cottages with decks, a pool, and the **Bad Rabbit Cafe**, which serves B-L-D Mon-Sat; B-L on Sun (2 queen beds, \$74-99) You can reserve a room at 432-371-3146. We have four rooms reserved for OG on Thurs-Sun nights, but more rooms may be available. <https://terlinguaranch.com> Additional housing available in nearby Study Butte-Terlingua. If that books up, you can go a bit further and stay in Lajitas, or about an hour to the north, in Alpine.

It is about 640 miles from Houston to CMO. Regular vehicles can get to the lodge (paved road off 118, then 3-miles of a well-maintained gravel road), but AWD and 4WD vehicles will fare best on the rougher road to the nearby CM Oasis. Should be easy to carpool from the Ranch.

Call or text Nina Rach for information and schedule: 281-433-0651, email: Nina.Rach@yahoo.com.

Updates are being posted at OG's FaceBook Event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/476595256447813/>

[↑top↑](#)

Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary (LTNS) Fundraiser for Entrance Road Repairs

Sue and Mike Zuchowski will have a table with native American Beautyberry bushes that have come from their lot that borders the LTNS. Please bring funds to donate (\$10? per bush), with all proceeds going to the repair of our entrance road to the sanctuary.

Ornithology Group Officers

Chair: Nina Rach | 281-433-0651 | Nina.Rach@yahoo.com

Vice Chair (Programs): Volunteer needed

Secretary | Jean Greenhalgh | JeanBrit01@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Harlan Evans | 713-797-6468 | harlanj42@sbcglobal.net

Clearing House: David Sarkozi | 713-412-4409 | david@sarkozi.net

Swifts: Pam Smolen | pjasmolen@att.net

Membership: Michael Honel | 713-432-1985 | michaelhonel@sbcglobal.net

Field Trips: Volunteer needed

Spoonbill Editor: Larry Dybala | 713-923-4040 | larrydybala@gmail.com

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

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

[↑top↑](#)