



THE ROADRUNNER

Central Texas Audubon Society

November 2011
Issue 264

President/Janet Wallace 366-6280
j.wallace@grandecom.net
Vice President/Annette Jones
772-1622 plawaco@aol.com
Treasurer/Gail Cupit 776-2838
gcupit@grandecom.net
Rec. Secretary/Bill Ravenscroft
772-7637 wj635@hotmail.com
Corr. Sec. /Harriet Shearer
772- 9597;
shearerh@aol.com
Newsletter/Anna Dunbar 744-
7638;
annadunbar56@yahoo.com
Field Trips/Programs by
committee
Education/Jane Derrick 753-6920
pjderrick@aol.com
Membership/Bryan Stone 776-
3385; brston73@hotmail.com
Social/inactive
State Rep/Conservation/
Nada Wareham 799-7170
nadawaco@yahoo.com
Check List/Rare Bird
Reports/Frank Bumgardner
836-4183
fbumgardner@hotmail.com

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2011-2012 Project Feeder Watch, Nov. 12
- ◆ CTAS Monthly Meeting with hawk presentation, Nov. 15
- ◆ Waco Downtown Farmer's Market, Nov. 19
- ◆ Western McLennan County CBC, Dec. 17

President's Message

Hope you are enjoying this cooler weather. I've enjoyed watching the migrant geese, hawks and vultures over the last week. They were headed for warmer climates.

I enjoyed a weekend at Mo Ranch in Hunt, Texas at the state Master Naturalist meeting. I spent a day with Mark Klym learning about hummingbirds and getting my Hummingbird Watch information for next year. I will have some of the pamphlets at our next meeting for anyone wanting to participate. I learned about some new plants that are drought tolerant to put in my beds to attract them next Spring. I think they are gone for a while-haven't had any at my feeders for the past week to ten days.

If you didn't go see THE BIG YEAR, you missed a fun movie about Birders. Be sure you see it when it comes out on DVD. I want to watch it again to see some of the birds I missed.

Our next meeting on the 15th will be a treat. We have the raptor keeper from the Cameron Park Zoo coming-hopefully she'll be able to bring a hawk with her. Anna will have all the particulars in the meetings section. Please tell your friends-we'd like to have a good crowd.

See you on the 15th,
Janet

Dear Members

Maryann Coody, zoo keeper at the Cameron Park zoo, will present a talk entitled "**Raptors of Central Texas and Modern Falconry**" at the November 15 meeting of the Central Texas Audubon Society. The meeting will be held at 7:30 PM at the Carleen Bright Arboretum, located in Woodway north of HWY 84 at the intersection of Bosque and Estates Drive. All those interested in birding in Central Texas are invited. Come early and get acquainted! For more information visit <http://www.centexaudubon.org/>

Are you interested in watching birds in your backyard helping scientists at the same time? Consider participating in Cornell University's Project FeederWatch. Join thousands of feeder watchers across the continent counting birds at their feeders. It's as easy as 1) putting up feeders, 2) counting birds that visit and 3) sending the data to scientists.

From Jim Edwards, October 21, 2011:
Leucistic Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) observed at Woodway Park, McLennan County, Texas.



Above, from Bill Ravenscroft, October, 2011: Nashville warblers observed at his property on east side of Lake Waco, McLennan County, Texas.

Learn more about birds and bird feeding and to sign up, visit the FeederWatch web site <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw>

Learn from a board member how to receive your expanded newsletter via e-mail and save a tree (and postage)!!

Friendly reminder:
Earth Share's Mission
To engage individuals and organizations in creating a healthy and sustainable environment.
www.earthshare.org/index.html

Central Texas Audubon Society
1308 Circlewood
Waco, Texas 76712

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE PAID
WACO, TX
PERMIT NO 856

Address Service Requested



E-mail:

contactus@centexaudubon.org

**NATIONAL AUDUBON
SOCIETY**

**CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION**

YES I'd like to join! Please enroll me as a member of National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send Audubon magazine and my membership card to the address below. My check for **\$20, the introductory fee**, is enclosed

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Send this application and check to:

National Audubon Society

Chapter Membership Data Center

P.O. Box 52520 Boulder, CO
80322-1001

Include chapter code of **W06**
Renewal is \$35. Seniors 62 &
older and students are \$15.

SIGHTINGS

Ann Gordon: Last seen:
Baltimore Oriole F 10/16/11
Nashville Warbler 10/23/11
Hummingbird species 10/19/11
Indigo Bunting F 10/9/11
Wilson's Warbler 10/8/11
Black-throated Green Warbler 10/27/11
Warbling Vireo 10/3/11
First seen returning migrants or winter residents:
Yellow-breasted Chat 10/6/11
Flicker 10/14/11
Gray Catbird 10/15/11
Pine Siskin 10/15/11
Lincoln Sparrow 10/15/11
Chipping Sparrow 10/18/11
Ruby-crowned Kinglet 10/18/11
Yellow-rumped Warbler 10/18/11
Orange-crowned Warbler 10/19/11
Dark-eyed Junco 10/19/11
White-crowned Sparrow 10/21/11
Blue-headed Vireo 10/24/11
Hermit Thrush 10/27/11

From Ann Gordon's Bird Sanctuary
See Ann's photos at
<http://annmgordon.com> or the CTAS Yahoo
Group site.

Bill Ravenscroft: October has provided some interesting sightings where I live on the east side of Lake Waco. The Nashville Warblers which I reported last month were present in larger numbers than I have seen here before. In prior years I would be lucky to see one or two. I saw twelve at one time in the bird bath but could only manage to photograph seven at one time! They left about the end of the third week in October. At the beginning of October many Orange-crowned Warblers arrived, also a House Wren, Gray Catbird, Northern Flickers (yellow shafted) and in mid-October numerous Yellow-rumped Warblers and Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, all of which are still here.

Bill Ravenscroft, cont: A first year Northern Parula was photographed October 1st getting water and a more mature bird was photographed two weeks later. I also photographed a Brown Thrasher around then.
In mid-October a small flock of Clay-colored Sparrows was seen near the Overlook on University Parks Drive and about fifty Black-bellied Whistling Ducks on a small pond. The last of the Hummingbirds left my yard around 17th October, substantially later than in the last several years according to my records.
Also around mid-October Monarch butterfly numbers increased substantially feeding on our Gregg's mistflowers. The Monarchs and the Monarch mimics left with a cold front around 26/27th October, which is also later than in recent years.
Toward the end of October, Lincoln's Sparrows and the first 'snow birds', Dark-eyed Juncos, were photographed here.

Frank Bumgardner: Jeanette and I have a number of Chipping, White-crowned, Clay-colored and Lincoln Sparrows, along with a pair of Spotted Towhees, a young male Indigo Bunting, and both Yellow-shafted and Red-shafted Flickers. Our last hummingbird left on the 28th. We also had the 1st Least Grebe in Bosque County along with John Muldrow on the 12th of October.

Janet Wallace: I wanted to report that Bill saw a bald eagle fly over our neighborhood on Monday afternoon. He has seen the vultures and hawks migrating in the past month as well as we both saw a large flock of cranes Sunday afternoon. My hummingbirds seem to have left for now.