

**Tuesday, September 7th      7:00am to early afternoon      Super Tuesday! at Milton Reimers Ranch Led By Terry Banks**

Spend a morning in the Hill Country exploring this diverse location in western Travis County with Terry Banks. Target birds will be residents of the Edwards Plateau and fall migrants. Participants will meet at a central location and carpool and will have the option of lunching at an area restaurant. Entrance fee at this County Park is \$10.00 per car and free for those lucky cars containing a Senior. Limited to 12 people. Please contact Terry Banks at [55bluebirds@att.net](mailto:55bluebirds@att.net) to register.

**Saturday, September 11th      7:00am and 4:00pm      Monthly Bird Count at Hornsby Bend**

Sponsored monthly by the Hornsby Bend Bird Conservatory. All levels of birders are welcome and no registration is required. Contact **Eric Carpenter** at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com) for more information.

**Saturday, September 11th      7:30am      Beginner's Bird Walk at Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Led by Virginia Rose and Shirley LaVergne**

The Beginner's Bird Walk for September will be led by Virginia Rose and Shirley LaVergne at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. TAS is also lucky to have Travis Gallo of the Wildflower Center as a guest leader for this trip which is limited to 15 participants so please register with Virginia Rose at [virginia.rose@att.net](mailto:virginia.rose@att.net). Meet at the cistern near the front of the Wildflower Center (inside the gates) at 7:30am. The walk will conclude at approximately 10:30am. This field trip will take place on wheelchair accessible trails. More information on the center is available at <http://www.wildflower.org/>.

**Saturday, September 11th      6:30 – 8:15pm      Jonestown Chimney Swift Roost Led by Kathy McCormack**

Join Kathy McCormack for dinner at the True Grits restaurant on FM 1431 in Jonestown from 6:30 – 7:30 PM and then walk across the street to watch thousands of Chimney Swifts swirl into their roost in an old cistern at sunset (picture the Congress Street Bridge bat emergence in reverse). This is one of the national "A Swift Night Out" weekends (see [www.chimneyswifts.org](http://www.chimneyswifts.org) for details) and we will be submitting our count data from this field trip. The viewing area for the Chimney Swift roost is wheelchair accessible. No reservation is required, but contact Kathy McCormack ([VEFL21@yahoo.com](mailto:VEFL21@yahoo.com) or (c) 698-9880) if you have any questions.

**Tuesday, September 14th      8:00am to 10:00am      Two-hour Tuesday! at Champion Park, led by Dan Callaway**

Visit this relatively new park in Williamson County located along the beautiful Brushy Creek Regional Trail. It is fall migration time, so who knows what will show up. From the intersection of MOPAC and Parmer Lane, take Parmer Lane west for approximately 8 miles. At Brushy Creek Road turn right and go approximately 1.1 mile to the Champion Park entrance at 3830 Brushy Creek Road. No registration required.

**Saturday, September 18th      7:30am to noon      Monthly Bird Walk at Hornsby Bend with George Kerr and Stu Wilson**

Join field trip leaders George Kerr and Stu Wilson at Austin's premier birding site. For more information go to [www.hornsbybend.org](http://www.hornsbybend.org). All levels of birders are welcome and no registration is required.

**Sunday, September 19th      7:00 am - 12:00 pm      Bird Survey at Baker Sanctuary with the TAS Conservation and Sanctuary Committees**

**NEW!** The Conservation Committee, in collaboration with the Sanctuary Committee, is planning regular bird surveys at Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary near Cedar Park. To help kick off the "Make Your Birding Count" initiative, the committees are inviting experienced and novice birders to come to Baker Sanctuary to enjoy a morning of birding while performing an area count of all of the birds. The participants will split up into 4 groups to provide coverage of the entire sanctuary; all species and numbers of individuals will be counted. The results of the survey will be entered into Cornell University's eBird database for the sanctuary. Specific details of the survey will be discussed on site. We'll have our countdown at 11:30 at the Jackie Arnold Education Center, and participants are welcome to bring their lunch and to picnic together afterwards. This is a great opportunity to see what bird surveys are like and to get to know our sanctuaries. Future surveys at Baker Sanctuary will also include transect surveys and point counts, so watch for those. Registration required by emailing Shelia Hargis at [shargis@austin.rr.com](mailto:shargis@austin.rr.com)

**Tuesday, September 21st      8:00am to 10:00am      Tuesday Mystery Bird Walk!, led by Ken Zaslow**

Are you feeling lucky? Let's explore a south Austin park looking for resident birds and possible late migrants. The location will be sent to registrants a few days before the trip. Limited to 14 people. Contact Ken Zaslow at [khz@att.net](mailto:khz@att.net) to register.

**September 24-26      Hazel Bazemore Hawk Watch with Jeff Patterson and Noreen Baker**

One of nature's "don't miss" spectacles is the huge "kettles" of raptors heading south on fall days in south Texas. The peak time period for this event is late September when single days of over one hundred

thousand raptors may occur. Jeff Patterson and Noreen Baker will lead a field trip to Hazel Bazemore County Park in Corpus Christi during the Celebration of Flight weekend of the Hawk Watch and Birding Festival. More information on the festival can be found at <http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=856980>. In addition to watching for hawks during the afternoon, mornings will be spent at several of the local birding locations in the area such as, Oso Bay, Polliwog Pond, Blucher Park and others.

The trip will depart Austin at 3:00pm on Friday September 24<sup>th</sup> from a South Austin location and will return by approximately 3:00pm on Sunday September 26<sup>th</sup>. Car-pooling will be required and all riders will share gas costs. The Best Western Hotel in Corpus at 902 Navigation Blvd. will be the target hotel with participants making their own reservations (approximately \$60/night). To maximize birding time, quick breakfasts and picnic lunches will be encouraged and dinners will be at a local restaurant. There will be a **fee for participants** (to cover a portion of leader expenses and provide a small donation to TAS) which does not include lodging, food or gasoline. Participants must be willing to share rides to keep the caravan length to a minimum. The trip is limited to 15 participants so please register with Jeff Patterson at [jepbird2@austin.rr.com](mailto:jepbird2@austin.rr.com) or by calling 512-487-2755.

**Sunday, September 26th      6:20 am - 1:00 pm      Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, Co-sponsored by TAS and Friends of Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge Led by Deb and Lee Wallace**

Led by Deb and Lee Wallace, our fall quarterly field trip to the Refuge will take participants to Doeskin Ranch, one of the publicly-accessible tracts of the refuge. This field trip will cover lowland riparian habitat to hilltop meadows habitat and everything in-between. If you have never been to the Refuge, this will be an excellent introduction to an area of the Refuge that you can visit on your own at any time. Participants will meet at The Container Store at US 183 and Capital of Texas Hwy at 6:20 am and then carpool to Doeskin Ranch from there. The Friends of Balcones Canyonlands NWR will have lunch available for you to purchase afterwards for a donation of \$10 at the Flying X Ranch where participants can enjoy a recap of the field trip. We expect to be driving back to the Container Store no later than 1:00pm. Registration required by emailing Laurie Foss at [lauriefoss@flywayadventures.com](mailto:lauriefoss@flywayadventures.com)

**Tuesday, September 28th 7:00am to early afternoon   Super Tuesday! in San Marcos, led by Deb and Lee Wallace**

Take a trip south to San Marcos to visit the grounds at Aquarena Springs and walk the boardwalk around the wetlands. We will also visit nearby lesser known birding hotspots in Hays County. Participants will carpool from a location in South Austin. Bring a bag lunch for a picnic at one of the parks along the San Marcos River. Limited to 12 people. Contact Ken Zaslow at [khz@att.net](mailto:khz@att.net) to register.

**Saturday October 2nd 8:00 am 10:00  
Led by Virginia Rose and Shirley LaVergne**

**Beginner's Bird Walk at Richard Moya Park**

October's Beginner's Bird Walk will take place at Richard Moya Park south of Bergstrom Airport at 10001 Burleson Rd. To get to the park, travel south from the intersection of Hwy 71 and Hwy 183 approximately 2 miles and turn left (east) on Burleson Road. Then travel 1.2 miles to the blinking light at General Aviation Avenue and turn right (south) into the park. Meet near the first parking area. This field trip will take place on wheelchair accessible trails. For more information on the park see [http://www.co.travis.tx.us/tnr/parks/richard\\_moya.asp](http://www.co.travis.tx.us/tnr/parks/richard_moya.asp) No registration is necessary for this field trip, but for further information you may contact Virginia Rose at [virginia.rose@att.net](mailto:virginia.rose@att.net).

**Tuesday, October 5th 6:00am to early afternoon Super Tuesday! at Inks Lake State Park, led by Terry Banks**

Explore 1200 acres of woodlands, wildflowers, and pink granite outcroppings in this beautiful location on the Colorado River in Burnet County. Participants will meet at a central location and carpool, with the option to have lunch at an area restaurant. Entrance fee at this State Park is \$5.00 per person, or free for those in a car with a Texas State Parks Pass. Limited to 12 people so please contact Terry Banks at [55bluebirds@att.net](mailto:55bluebirds@att.net) to register.

**Saturday, October 9th 7:00am and 4:00pm Monthly Bird Count at Hornsby Bend**

Sponsored monthly by the Hornsby Bend Bird Conservatory. All levels of birders are welcome and no registration is required. Contact **Eric Carpenter** at [ecarpe@gmail.com](mailto:ecarpe@gmail.com) for more information.

**Tuesday, Oct. 12th 8:00am to 10:00am Tuesday Mystery Bird Walk!, led by Ken Zaslow**

Are you feeling lucky? Let's explore a park in eastern Travis County to look for resident birds and possible early-winter migrants. The location will be sent to registrants a few days before the trip. Limited to 14 people so please register with Ken Zaslow at [khz@att.net](mailto:khz@att.net).

**Saturday, October 16th 7:30am to noon Monthly Bird Walk at Hornsby Bend**

Join two of TAS's field trip leaders at Austin's premier birding site. For more information go to [www.hornsbybend.org](http://www.hornsbybend.org). All levels of birders are welcome and no registration is required.

**Sunday, October 17th 6:30am – 1:00pm Lake Buchanan Area Led by Jeff Patterson and Judith Bailey**

Jeff Patterson and Judith Bailey will lead this ½ day trip to bird Canyon of the Eagles Park, Cedar Point Recreation Area and other Lake Buchanan area stops. Meet at the Half-priced Books Store at the northwest corner of Hwy 183 and Anderson Mill Road in north Austin at 6:30 am to car pool. Contact

Jeff Patterson at 512-487-2755 or [jepbird2@austin.rr.com](mailto:jepbird2@austin.rr.com) to register for this trip. We will plan to be back in Austin at about 2:00pm after a picnic lunch, so bring your lunch.

**Tuesday, October 19th 9:00am to 11:00am Two-hour Tuesday! Butterflies in Sunset Valley, led by Stan VanSandt**

Meet at the Sunset Valley City Hall located at 3205 Jones Road at 9:00am. We will look at birds, of course, but at this time of year butterfly populations should be at a peak. With luck we can expect to see a nice variety of butterfly species and good numbers of individuals. No registration required.

**Saturday, October 23rd 7:30-11:00am Smith Memorial Trail & Bull Creek**

Stu Wilson will lead birders on a short hike along the Smith Memorial Trail and Bull Creek. The 1.5-mile public educational hike-and-bike trail runs through the 60 acre Bull Creek land management unit located near the intersection of Loop 360 and Spicewood Springs Road. This short hike will conclude at about 11:00am. No registration required. Meet at the gravel parking area for the Irving and Hazeline Smith Memorial Trail in northwest Austin off Loop 360 at 7:30am. This is found by turning north onto "Old" Spicewood Springs Rd from Loop 360, and then making a quick right on the "shortcut road." Note that "Old" Spicewood Springs Rd only goes north, i.e. out, from Loop 360 while Spicewood Springs Rd is the one with the big hill. "Old" Spicewood Springs Rd is about 0.3 miles west of Spicewood Springs Rd along Loop 360, while Spicewood Springs Rd is about a mile west of the Loop 360/Hwy 183 intersection. Remember, the correct meeting place is "outside," not "inside," the 360 Loop- we're not meeting at the paved parking area with the restrooms.

**Tuesday, Oct. 26th 7:00am to 11:00am Super Tuesday! at Cedar Breaks Park, led by Dan Callaway**

Spend a crisp Fall morning exploring the south shore of Lake Georgetown in Williamson County. Winter migrants should be arriving, so brush up on your sparrows and waterfowl. Participants will meet at a central location and carpool with the option to have lunch at an area restaurant. Limited to 14 people so please register with Ken Zaslow at [khz@att.net](mailto:khz@att.net).

**NEW! Saturday and Sunday, October 30th 8:00 am - October 31st, 12:00 pm Travis Audubon Members-only Field Trip and/or Family Camp-out at the CL Browning Ranch in Johnson City With Laurie Foss and Shelia Hargis**

The privately owned 977-acre CL Browning Ranch is located in Blanco County in the Texas Hill Country, sixty miles north of San Antonio and forty-eight miles west of Austin. A clear spring-fed creek runs through the property and feeds the lush landscape that we will enjoy this weekend. Laurie Foss, Shelia Hargis and Scott Gardner (ranch manager) will lead this field trip and camping experience. The fun is only available to Travis Audubon members, so if you are not a Travis Audubon member, it's not too late to join! New members are especially welcome.

There are three options for Travis Audubon members to participate in this weekend's adventure. One is to attend the Saturday morning field trip which will begin at 8:00am and finish at 11:00am. Another option is to arrive around 1:00 pm or so and camp for the night. Campers will have the opportunity to participate in fields trips around the ranch Saturday afternoon, Saturday night (owling anyone?) and Sunday morning. We'll break camp around noon on Sunday. Leaders will be on hand to identify the birds, plants and critters of the ranch. Bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner Saturday night. There is a swimming hole and plenty of Hill Country land to explore on foot or mountain bike. Cost to camp is \$20 per family to cover the cost of the porta-potty and water. The third option is to arrive for the Saturday 8:00 am field trip and stay until the camping is complete on Sunday. Registration for the field trip and the camping is required by emailing Laurie Foss at [lauriefoss@flywayadventures.com](mailto:lauriefoss@flywayadventures.com). Please address questions to Laurie via email also.

### **SAVE THE DATES!!**

Please mark your calendars for these important winter birding events. Participating in Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) is another way to make your birding "count". All Austin area birders are welcome and encouraged to participate in:

The **Westcave Preserve CBC** will occur for Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. The Westcave website is <http://www.westcave.org/>

The **Austin CBC** is scheduled for Saturday, December 18th. Details at [www.austincbc.com](http://www.austincbc.com)

The **Balcones Canyonlands NWR CBC** will be Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Details at [www.balconescbc.com](http://www.balconescbc.com)

Also keep your eyes open for the **Granger CBC** with the date still to be determined.