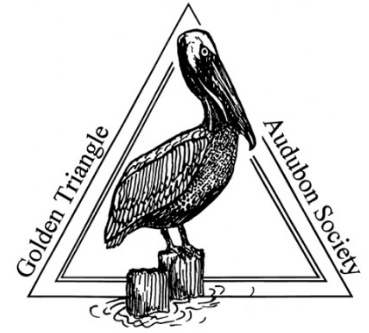


# The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 32 No 4

April 2026

**Membership Meeting**  
**Thursday April 16, 2026 7:00 p.m.**  
**Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont**

**A Charisma of Owls**  
**Lynn Barber**

Do owls fascinate you? Do you wonder what makes an owl an owl.—why they're so different from other birds, why they appear in myths and stories around the world, and why they're often seen as wiser? *A Charisma of Owls* explores these questions through detailed information and paintings of all North American owls, with an overview of owls worldwide.

Author and birder Lynn Barber shares her own experiences of searching for owls across the U.S., along with tips to help you find owls yourself. This book is for anyone curious about these charismatic birds and eager to learn more about their lives, habitats and cultural significance.

Lynn E. Barber is a lifelong birder. She was born in Wisconsin where she now lives with her husband after living in Oregon, North Carolina, Texas, South Dakota and Alaska. Her birding adventures include doing birding big years across the US and Canada (2008), and in Texas (2005), South Dakota (2011), Alaska (2016) and Wisconsin (2022). She has a BA (Zoology) and MS and PhD (microbiology) degrees from UW Madison and was a microbiology professor at Oregon State University and North Carolina State University. In 1985 she received a JD degree from Duke University Law School and worked as a patent attorney until retiring on 2021. She has published four books about birds and her birding adventures, which include some of her bird paintings and photographs.

Lynn is offering to bring some of her books with her. She has written several books. If you want to purchase them before she leaves Wisconsin, she can sign them ahead of time. Here is the link if you are interested. She will have some extra books also.

<http://lynnbarberblog.com/>

We plan to have the doors open at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

## *The Brown Pelican*

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Issue number 327

Golden Triangle  
Audubon Society

Web Site for more information  
[www.goldentriangleaudubon.org](http://www.goldentriangleaudubon.org)

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## Calendar of Events

*Important Note: Field Trip notices published here are subject to last minute changes. Changes will always be posted on the web site at [www.goldentriangleaudubon.org](http://www.goldentriangleaudubon.org).*

**Thursday April 16, 2026**  
**Membership Meeting.** Details on p1.

### Directions to Tyrrell Park

#### From the South

Go "north" on US69/96/287 around the south side of Beaumont. Take Highway 124 west (left) towards Fannett

At the first light, turn left onto Tyrrell Park Road and go about 3/4 mile.

Turn left into the park through the arch. The Garden Center is on the left. For Cattail Marsh, continue ahead and proceed about two-thirds of the way round the main loop and into the well-marked Cattail Marsh parking area.

#### From IH10

Exit at Walden Road on the west side of Beaumont and turn south (right) on Walden Road. At the light at Highway 124, go straight ahead on Tyrrell Park Road and then as above.

## Golden Triangle Audubon Facebook

Join us on Facebook! There is a Golden Triangle Audubon group on Facebook, moderated by Jana Whittle and John Mariani. Our aim is to provide a space for people around the Golden Triangle to share pictures, sightings, and other information about birds, other nature, and local birding sites and habitats. All levels of pictures are welcome, especially of less common birds. If you are looking for help with identification, please include the location and date of the picture, as both are important in narrowing the possibilities. Send your contribution through a Facebook message or an email to [gtaudubon@aol.com](mailto:gtaudubon@aol.com).

**Saturday April 18, 2026. Field trip to Sabine Woods.**

This trip will look for Neotropical migrants at the height of spring migration. We will assemble at Sabine Woods at 7:30 a.m. In most years, the

GTAS group has divided into two or more parties to keep the number of birders with each leader as small as possible. (You should be able to find a group if you are unable to be there quite that early, but there are likely to be other organized groups in the Woods.)

We have portable toilets available at the entrance during spring migration, but even with an increased number, there may not be as much capacity on April weekends as would be ideal!

This trip involves relatively easy walking on the trails at Sabine Woods to look for migrant songbirds, although another option is to sit at one of the six water features (three of them new) and wait for the birds to come to you. The trails may be muddy and slippery if it has rained in the prior day or two. Armadillos and feral pigs have been very active, so there will be holes to avoid! There is a \$10 sanctuary pass donation at Sabine Woods for those who are **not** members of Golden Triangle Audubon or TOS.

**Saturday May 9 2026. Spring Migration Count.** On International Migratory Bird Day, we undertake an all-Jefferson-County Bird Count. We have been doing these counts since 1995. The second Saturday in May is now designated International (or World) Migratory Bird Day and also by eBird/Cornell Lab of Ornithology as Global Big Day. However, most birders likely consider that that date at the very end of spring migration through the Texas coast, and that most of the birds are much further north. However, radar monitoring of bird movements indicates that there are still large numbers of birds passing across the Texas coast well into May, although the weather events – north winds and rain showers -- that



EarthShare of Texas represents Audubon Foundation of Texas and the National Audubon Society in payroll contribution programs in workplaces throughout Texas. For more information about how you can support Audubon Foundation of Texas and the National Audubon Society at your workplace, call 1-800-GREENTX, or visit [www.earthshare-texas.org](http://www.earthshare-texas.org)

cause birds to descent into the first trees or significant bushes that they see on crossing the shoreline are much less common in early May. So, in occasional years, our migration count records a good variety of migrants while in other years we end up focusing on the breeding species of our area.

The count attempts to cover as much of Jefferson County as is reasonably possible. We will welcome birders at the inter-mediate level and higher, especially if you are able to count in the early morning from dawn through about 11:00 a.m. You do not need to commit to the whole day. If you have special access to any areas within the county, we would appreciate your help! We can assign that area to you, and if necessary, can arrange for someone to help you. Contact John Whittle (gtaudubon@aol.com or 409-722-4193) for further details or offers to help.

We will try to cover as much of Jefferson County as we can

**Thursday May 21, 2026. Membership Meeting.** Your favorite bird pictures. Full details in next month's issue.

**Saturday, May 23, 2026 Field Trip to Hardin County. Date tentative.** This is a great opportunity to see the breeding songbirds of the southern part of the Big Thicket. We will focus on the area north of Silsbee to look for the breeding birds of the area. This is typically a half-day trip. We plan to look for the nesting species of the area – Pine, Swainson's, Hooded, Kentucky, Prairie, Prothonotary, and Pine Warblers, Yellow-breasted Chat, White-eyed, Red-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireo, Indigo and Painted Bunting, Gray Catbird, Summer Tanager, Acadian Flycatcher, Brown-headed Nuthatch and others. We will likely not find all the listed species, but most years we find a good selection of them. Swainson's Warbler is a particular target of this trip, and we have often been rewarded with excellent views of this normally very secretive species on this field trip. This area is also one of the easiest places to find breeding Prairie Warblers, typically in plantations of about 20-foot-tall young pines. Usually, we bird Gore Store Road west as far as Beech Creek, Firetower Road, and Matigwa Road, but we will probably check some new roads where pines are reaching the desired stages.

## Sabine Woods Workday Saturday 14 March 2026

We thank all those who worked on the Work Day: Jonathan Breaux, Sarah Cook, Howard Davis, Ashley Fuselier, Claudia Gilson, Paul Hromadka, Greg Jackson, Denise and Gary Kelley, Steve Mayes, Frank Ohrt, Greg Reynolds, Gina Rico, Sherrie Roden, Steve Russell, Dania Sanchez, Charles and Stephen Shelton, Christine Sliva, Harlan Stewart, Jana Whittle, Araceli Zamora and anyone we may have accidentally omitted. We are particularly grateful to those who came for the first time to a Work Day, and we hope to see you again on future Work Days when your schedules permit.

With more than 20 workers we got a lot accomplished. We installed a "fence" of attractive yellow chain along the trail out to the east to dissuade errant visitors from continuing to trample the vegetation while trying to take an unauthorized short cut from that trail into Rose Ann's drip. The sides of the trails were manicured, and most, probably not all, the armadillo and rabbit holes in those trails were dealt with. Litter that accumulates along the sides of Highway 87 was removed.

A start was made on eradicating some "wavy leaf basketgrass," an inconspicuous exotic that threatens to become another invasive that we have to deal with. Native to Eurasia, specifically Southern Europe through Southern Asia, the species was accidentally introduced into the United States in 1996 in Maryland and Virginia. This species spreads quickly and is becoming extremely invasive in forested natural areas in the Mid-Atlantic region especially across numerous counties in Maryland and Virginia. It forms a dense ground cover of small leaf weeds that crowds out the native ground cover. It produces numerous small sticky seeds from July to November. It recovers from freezes in the mid-Atlantic, so it not likely to be killed by freezes in Southeast Texas, especially in areas near the shoreline where freezes are less severe

Numerous other minor and clean-up items were completed. The paths through the open areas of grass will soon be mowed in preparation for the upcoming migration season.

Subsequent to the Work Day, we have mowed trails in the grass areas near the trees to facilitate birding along the edges of the tree line

Work Days at Sabine Woods have a tradition of producing one or two "good" birds. On this occasion a fluffy white Great Horned Owl chick was perched, as they are want to do, on the lower branch of a large oak tree in the western part of the Woods, carefully surveying the observers with one eye open and the other closed. On departing the Woods, one of the first migrant Scissor-tailed Flycatchers was perched on the fence of the oil installation just a mile and a quarter to the east. A little further down, at the barbeque stand, a perched adult Bald Eagle was seen by a few, but it did not stay long.

The Woods are now in excellent shape as the spring migration season approaches. All birders who visit the Woods will surely enjoy the Sanctuary, and on their and TOS's behalf, we thank you for all your efforts on Saturday.

*John A. Whittle, Manager, Sabine Woods*

## GTAS Membership Dues

To simplify our record keeping, all memberships now run from January through December. Membership dues are \$20 per year. We are now accepting 2025 dues. You may pay at any membership meeting (checks preferred) or use the subscription/membership blank on the back page. For new members joining National Audubon Society on line and selecting our Chapter code (W25), we receive a rebate of the entire first year's national dues, and no Chapter dues are expected for that first year. As a reminder, dues are voluntary for National Audubon Society (NAS) members living in the Chapter's official territory, which is defined by zip codes, but covers all of Jefferson, Orange and Hardin Counties and one or two zip codes adjacent to these counties. We do also welcome NAS members in other nearby counties although their membership in NAS does not bring them to our attention.

Although almost all of our activities are open to the general public, we appreciate those who formally join the Society. In addition to the costs incurred in producing the print edition of our Newsletter, the *Brown Pelican*, the dues are needed to cover the general expenses incurred in running the organization. Use of the Garden Center for our meeting now incurs a charge

We would very much encourage

you to receive the *Brown Pelican* electronically as this saves paper, printing ever-increasing postage costs, and volunteer time. To start that, simply send an email to [gtaudubon@aol.com](mailto:gtaudubon@aol.com) from the address you want us to use. The newsletter is sent electronically as a PDF file. In recent months, it has been taking six days from the date of mailing for the copies sent by US mail to reach addresses in the Golden Triangle. We often take advantage of the lack of significant space constraints to add supplemental information in the pdf version of the *Brown Pelican*.

## The Great Texas Birding Classic

The 30th Annual Great Texas Birding Classic will take place from April 15 to May 15, 2026, featuring various birdwatching tournament categories for all skill levels. This is the biggest, longest birdwatching tournament in the U.S. The event promotes birdwatching while documenting species across the state of Texas. There is a tournament category for everyone, from the beginner to the competitive birdwatcher! This year GTAS members will be competing

in the Big Sit category, consisting of one or more participants. Teams select a 50-ft diameter circle from which to bird. Birds must be seen or heard by a team member from WITHIN the circle. The length of time competing is within a 24-hour period (midnight to midnight). There are nine regions to compete in. GTAS members will be competing in the Upper Texas Coast Region at Sabine Woods. A date will be determined a few days in advance based on the weather.

I would like to thank our sponsor, Visit Port Arthur Texas!

*Christine Sliva*

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From the National Audubon Web site ([www.audubon.org/Science](http://www.audubon.org/Science))

## Migratory Bird Initiative

*Using the best available migration science to protect birds and the places they need across their full annual life cycles.*

The mission of the Migratory Bird Initiative is to secure the future of migratory birds in the Western Hemisphere by reducing direct threats and protecting key places across the Americas in coordination with science, conservation and policy partners.

The Initiative brings together the latest spatial information on species distributions and movements across their annual cycles to identify priority areas for 458 species of migratory birds that regularly occur in the United States and Canada. We will use this information to define where and how to focus Audubon's conservation investments in order to protect, restore and manage key habitat and also mitigate threats along full migratory pathways for these species.

Audubon expects to achieve these goals by 1) consolidating and elevating the best-available migration science, filling research gaps and identifying real-time threats throughout annual cycle; 2) strengthening connections and cooperation among key stakeholders such as government agencies, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions and the Audubon network, and 3) informing policy advocacy at the local, state and federal level to drive science-based conservation.

Migratory birds face threats during all stages of the annual cycle, and these threats are accelerating. Fortunately, scientific data, particularly during migration, are accumulating; however, we need to act swiftly and collectively to protect birds and the places they need before the opportunities to do so disappear. Partnerships will be central to the success of the Migratory Bird Initiative, and Audubon looks forward to building and strengthening relationships with other key research and conservation organizations.

Audubon's Migratory Bird Initiative will bring together the latest research on species distributions and movements across the full annual cycle for hundreds of bird species that winter and/or breed in the Americas. The comprehensive scope – geographic, methodological and taxonomic – and scientific rigor of the Initiative will guide the development of strategic, science-based conservation and policy investments for

migratory birds.

We will use this information to craft compelling stories and visualizations that bring the phenomenon of migration to life and promote a deeper understanding of its role in maintaining healthy bird populations, capitalizing on Audubon's one-of-a-kind story-telling. Through an online exploration tool made publicly accessible to people across the hemisphere, we will bring awareness to the threats birds encounter and the places where they are most vulnerable. We will assess place-based conservation needs and fill critical information gaps. And most importantly, we will leverage our grassroots conservation and policy power by linking people to actions that result in durable protection for birds and the places they need, today and tomorrow.

Every last bit of information on these species will help Audubon and its partners develop strong science-based solutions for protecting birds, so please keep participating in your Christmas Bird Counts and submitting eBird checklists—these are key sources of occurrence data for this Initiative.

Partnerships across the Western Hemisphere will be central to our success, because protecting migratory birds is too big of a problem for any of us to tackle alone. Thankfully, scientific institutions as well as thousands of researchers across the Americas are collecting and analyzing data on migratory birds that form the foundation of effective conservation and policy. Conservation organizations are using this knowledge to develop and implement effective on-the-ground solutions. Audubon's role is to harness the best of what is out there from these accomplished institutions and create an engine that drives conservation actions at home and internationally.

Of course, we are also working with teams across the Audubon network. We look forward to working with state offices, centers and chapters to achieve conservation victories that we all can build upon. Most importantly, we will engage people in the joy and stories of migration to inspire them to take their own actions to protect the places that matter most across the Americas.

## Field Trip to Bolivar Flats – 21 March 2026

*Steve Mayes*

A beautiful early spring day saw a half dozen or so birders from the Golden Triangle Audubon Society arrive at Bolivar Flats for the annual spring pilgrimage. The Houston Audubon's Bolivar Flats sanctuary is truly one of the birding gems of Texas and certainly the best shorebird spot in the state. Many rare birds have been spotted at Bolivar Flats but the true beauty of this spot is the number of birds that can be seen just about any day of the year. Sandpipers, plovers, gulls, terns and many other birds are easy to spot here and that is the reason that the March field trip is traditionally held at Bolivar Flats. And with perfect sunny but cool weather, a great day of birding is guaranteed!

Shorebirds are the stars of the show at Bolivar Flats and this refuge did not disappoint. Many Sanderlings worked the waterline while a single Long-billed Curlew probed the wet sand nearby. Dunlin with their shorter, curved bills were common near the water while still in winter plumage while a few colorful Ruddy Turnstones were spotted a bit away from the water. Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs are easy to sort out when they stand side by side in a wet area of the flats for all to see. Noisy Willets could not be missed while quieter Short-billed Dowitchers were also located. Least Sandpipers with their yellow legs were quite cooperative and could be compared with the many Western Sandpipers nearby some of which were molting into breeding plumage. Marbled Godwits were easy to see on the day but unfortunately, no American Oystercatchers were seen on the flats on this trip.

Plovers are always a good proportion of the shorebird contingent at Bolivar Flats. Large Black-bellied Plovers were easily seen though they are perhaps better called by the name they are known in some areas, the Grey Plover as they were all still in their duller non-breeding plumage. The smaller plovers were also easily found on this day. Piping Plovers are an endangered species but a significant portion of the world population winters at Bolivar Flats as they were all over the beach. Many were huddled in and around the lines of sargassum washed up on the flats. Though many Piping Plovers have been color-banded on their nesting grounds and these birds are often spotted at the flats, none were seen on this trip. Snowy Plovers were located as well though they were not nearly as common as the Piping Plovers. It was easy to point out the dull legs, longer bill and different markings and facial "expression" that separates them from Piping Plovers. It took a little while but eventually a few Semipalmated Plovers were also seen by the group. Similar to Piping Plovers but with a much darker mantle color they were generally spotted in the wetter, darker sand near the water. Unlike their cousins that mostly winter at Bolivar Flats, Wilson's Plovers breed here and are just starting to arrive. A bit larger than the other small plovers with a large bill, a few of these birds were seen on the day and also heard as they called while setting up territories.

No discussion of shorebirds at Bolivar Flats is complete without talking about American Avocets. These large shorebirds winter in the thousands on the flats as form one of the great birding spectacles on the upper Texas Coast. The Avocets were getting into their breeding finery and their rusty orange plumage combined with periwinkle blue legs and that

odd upturned bill make a truly spectacular looking bird. And when you see 2000 (probably more) all together in one group, that makes the day for any field trip. Throw in a few of their close cousins, the Black-necked Stilt, feeding near the jetty and it makes the day even better.

But shorebirds are not the only birds common on Bolivar Flats. Red-breasted Mergansers swam and dove just offshore while Laughing Gulls and Royal Terns were everywhere. A single adult Lesser Black-backed Gull was a nice treat and Least Terns were beginning to arrive on the flats. A few winter plumaged Black Terns were also present along with huge Caspian Terns and plenty of Forster's and Common Terns as well. Some hunting though the flocks also produced Sandwich Terns. At least one Osprey was flying around and eventually settled for a rest on the beach while a ghostly male Northern Harrier cruised low over the nearby marsh. Reddish Egrets are always a species to look for at Bolivar Flats. They were found on this trip but did not provide much close viewing. Savannah Sparrows foraged on the beach near the grassy areas while huge Brown Pelicans dove in the surf. A couple of Horned Larks are always a good way to finish off a visit to Bolivar. Not easily found in most areas of the upper Texas coast, the species is reliable at this sanctuary and were seen on the trip.

But Bolivar Flats was not the only stop on the day. After leaving the flats and a lunch stop, some of the group went on to the Houston Audubon's Smith Oaks sanctuary in High Island. This was not a day for lots of landbird migrants but there is always a lot to see at Smith Oaks in the spring. The rookery at Smith Oaks is worth a field trip all by itself as it provides closeup views of nesting Neotropic Cormorants, Great Egrets and Roseate Spoonbills among others. A look around the rookery produced Tricolored Heron, Snowy Egret and a few Anhinga as well. Turkey and Black Vultures wheeled overhead along with a more distant Red-tailed Hawk. The woods were not without warblers though as there were still wintering Yellow-rumped Warblers around along with the resident Northern Cardinals and Carolina Wrens. Common Gallinules worked the marshy areas around the rookery while Common Grackles called from the trees. A Great Kiskadee was vocalizing from nearby. This bird has apparently been present for some time but, on this day, was only heard and not seen.

Wrapping up the day watching the rookery at Smith Oaks is tradition for the March field trip. But more than tradition, it is just a great way to end a birding day! With perfect weather to be outside (definitely not always the case in Southeast Texas!) and lots of birds seen first at the flats and then at the rookery, it is hard to ask for more from a field trip. That is why the Golden Triangle Audubon Society will likely be back again next March to do it all over again!

The following species were noted by the trip leaders:

Blue-winged Teal (3); Red-breasted Merganser (35); Brown Pelican (20); Anhinga (4); Double-crested Cormorant (1); Neotropic Cormorant (60); Great Blue Heron (1); Great Egret (50); Snowy Egret (25); Little Blue Heron (1); Tricolored Heron; (2); Reddish Egret (2); White Ibis (3); Roseate Spoon-bill (3); Turkey Vulture (15); Black Vulture (8); Northern Harrier (1); Osprey (1); Red-tailed Hawk (1); Common Gallinule (5); Black-bellied Plover  
*(continued on page 7)*

## Bird Sightings –March 2026

For this column, we review, looking for rare and very rare species, all credible eBird and other records reported to us from nearby Texas counties – Angelina, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, San Augustine and Tyler. We also review records for Chambers, Galveston, Harris and Liberty Counties in Texas, and Calcasieu and Cameron Parishes in Louisiana.

The format of the listing is Species – Date – County-and brief location information if available – (number) – Observer(s). If more precise location information is needed, it can often be obtained by using the bird species map feature to find the sighting in eBird, opening the checklist, and using the map function to display the location as precisely as the observer provided.

**Commentary:** Birds are included in this column if they meet one of three criteria: they are rare or very rare at any time of year in the counties we cover (listed above) or they are migrants that are more than two weeks “early” or more than two weeks “late” based on the “*Birder’s Checklist of the Upper Texas Coast*” published in 2008 by the Houston Outdoor Nature Club. We recognize that this checklist was published 18 years ago now, but it is the only checklist that we know of that covers on a consistent basis based on sightings most of the populous counties that we include. There are some counties that we cover for which we have essentially no guidance. These include the counties from Orange and Hardin north to Newton, Tyler, Jasper, San Augustine and Sabine. Regrettably, these counties, the heart

of the Big Thicket, are seriously under-birded. We know that most Golden Triangle birders are reluctant to go to bird anywhere except at the well-known coastal “migrant traps” in April, but the rest of the year offers good birding in the Big Thicket. The breeding birds are in evidence in May and June and from September or October onwards through at least February, there are wintering species, many of which no longer come as far south in winter than formerly. Montgomery and Liberty Counties, are more or less “orphan” counties, also very lightly birded. Because of their proximity to the Golden Triangle, we do cover Cameron and Calcasieu Parishes in Louisiana, which are extensively birded, increasingly so in the last couple of years.

This month’s reports are very illustrative of what we try to do in this column. Many of the birds reported are rare at any time of year in our area, but in some cases may well be harbingers of expanding ranges of the species involved. Others are migrants that are so early, it seems possible that they overwintered this year. Some are probably indicative of a change in migration timing. We are deliberately slow to cease including sightings that *prima facie* qualify under the criteria listed above, but are apparently being sighted increasingly, as a service to birders who are not used to seeing these species in our area.

We will pick out two species for further comment that may be becoming firmly established as wintering species: Allen’s Hummingbird and Western Tanager. This is not the first winter they have been seen in our area in numbers. . .

### Local Counties March 2026

Black-chin Hummingbird	Mar 24	HAI-Lumberton (1) Timothy Frederick
	Mar 29	ANG-Huntington (1) Luke Riley
Purple Gallinule	Mar 2-10	JEF-TP (1) mult obs
Limpkin	Mar 8	HAI-King Fisher Lane (1) Johnny Johnson
Least Tern	Mar 14	JEF-Sea Rim SP (5) Sara Griffith
Black Tern	Mar 15	JEF-Sea Rim SP (1) John Mariani
Wood Stork	Mar 17	ANG-Sam Rayburn Ewing Park (1) Suzanne Walker
Least Bittern	Mar 18	JEF-TP (1) Tim Lenz
<b>Swallow-tailed Kite</b>		
	Mar 13	HAI-Big Thicket Kirby Trail (1) Mile Crossover
	Mar 15	TYL-Magnolia Ridge Park (1) Martha Lee
	Mar 17	JAS-Martin Dies SP (3) Dawson Fehr
	Mar 30	JEF-Nederland (1) SM
Vermilion Flycatcher	Mar 7-8	ANG-VFW Pond (1) Luke Riley, Gary Hunter
Cliff Swallow	Mar 8	SAA-Sam Rayburn Res/TX` 147 (2) David Wolf
	Mar 12	ANG-Ellen Trout Park (20) Ryan Middlebrook
Yellow-headed Blackbird	Mar 19	JEF Hwy 87 just N of Sabine Pass (3) Deb and lee Wallace
Baltimore Oriole	Mar 13	JEF-SW (1) Laurel Yoder, Maud Walsh
Painted Bunting	Mar 1-30	JEF-Nederland (1) Harlan Stewart, continuing

### Nearby Counties March 2026

Cinnamon Teal	Mar 4-8	CAM-Cameron Prairie NWR (1) Jeff Oaks, Phoebe and Caleb Gordon
	Mar 3-4	GAL-8-mile rd (1) Keith Alderman, Richard Liebler
	Mar 28	GAL-8-mile Rd (1) Jay Sisemore, Brooke Ross
Black Scoter	Mar 28-29	CAM-Willow Is (1) Paul Conver
Least Grebe	Mar 29	CHA-J Nungaray NWR Entrance Rd (2) Chuck Davis
Western Grebe	Mar 6-30	GAL-Texas City Dike(1) mult obs
Common Ground Dove	Mar 1-7	HAS-Bear Creek Park (1) continuing
	Mar 28	GAL-HI Smith Oaks (1) WE
Groove-billed Ani	Mar 20	GAL-Bolivar Flats-Retillon Rd (1) WE
Lesser Nighthawk	Mar 3,18	GAL-HI Smith Oaks (1) Spencer Poling, Robert Buckert, mult obs
Eastern Whip-poor Will	Mar 29-30	HAS-Addicks Reservoir N of Clay Rd (1) Drew Dickert
	March 29	HAS-Mitchell Nature Pres. (1) nthony Colicci
<b>Allen’s Hummingbird</b>		
	Mar 7	HAS-Copperfield Villages area (1) mult obs continuing
	Mar1-8	HAS Oceania Court-Green Trails Village (1) continuing
	Mar 4-26+	HAS-Russ Pitman Park (1) mult obs continuing
	Mar 7-12	GAL-League City, Meadow Creek Cir (1) Brian Berry, Bob Friedrichs
Purple Gallinule	Mar 18	GAL-Cameron Prairie NWR (1) Garold Powell
	Mar 20-29	HAS-Exploration Green (1) mult obs

	Mar 22	GAL-HI Smith Oaks (1) Alexandra F.
Limpkin	Mar 12-17	GAL-Magnolia Ridge Basin (2) Judith Rowen, Tyler Cutshaw
	Mar 30	GAL-Hall's Bayou Ranch (5) Richard Liebler
Red Knot	Mar 29	HAS-El Franco Lee Park (1) Tony Frank
Baird's Sandpiper	Mar 16	HAS-Weelley Community Center Park (1) Kevin Ramirez
California Gull	Mar 16	GAL-Apfel Park/East Beach (1) Robert Buckert
Glaucous Gull	Mar 7	CAM-Broussard Beach/Willow Is (1) Paul Conover
	Mar 3	CAM-Broussard Beach (1) Michael Musumeche, Cheryl Huner
Great Black-backed Gull	Mar 7	GAL-Beach nr San Luis Pass (1) David Hillner
Least Tern	Mar 4	GAL-Texas City Dike (6) Debbie Repasz
Red-throated Loon	Mar 5-30	GAL-Texas City Dike (1) mult obs
Magnificent Frigatebird	Mar 7	GAL-Bolivar Flats (1) Mary Goldsby
	Mar 10	GAL-2 mi NE of San Luis Pass (1) Chris McMullin
Least Bittern	Mar 8	CAM-Hwy 82 east of Oak Grove (1) Phoebe and Caleb Gordon
Glossy Ibis	Mar 14	Bay Area Blvd Retention Pond (1) Richard Rulander, Andrew Hamlett
Swallow-tailed Kite	Mar 2	CHA-Cotton Lake Rd (1) Paul Fagala
	Mar 4	HAS-Challenger 7 Memorial Park (1) Canace Annen
	Mar 9	CAL-nr Sam Houston Jones SP (1) Gordon Griggs
Harris's Hawk	Mar 1-5	CAM-Maes Beach (1) mult obs
Broad-winged Hawk	Mar 4-5	CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Charlotte Chehotsky, Jason Mims
	Mar 12	HAS-Sylvan Beach Park (2) mut obs
	Mar 13	HAS-Exploration Green Ph 2 (1) Richard Houck
Swainson's Hawk	Mar 12	HAS-Sylvan Beach Park (1) mult obs
	Mar 13	CHA-J Nungaray NWR Entrance Rd (1) T J Senters
Golden-fronted. W'pecker	Mar 5	CHA-J J Mayes Trace (1) Christi Schultheis
Burrowing Owl	Mar 15-29	GAL-Harborside Dr (1) mult obs
Short-eared Owl	Mar 8	CAM-Rutherford Beach (1) Phoebe and Caleb Gordon
Western Flycatcher	Mar 1-5	CAM-Hwy 82 east of Grand Chenier (1) mult obs
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Mar 9-10	HAS-El Franco Lee Park (10 mult obs
	Mar 30	CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Cheryl Huner, Lawrence Datnoff
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	Mar 2	CAM-Willow Is (1) mult obs
Great Kiskadee	Mar 7	CHA-J Nungaray NWR Willows (1) John Mariani, Kevin Ramirez

	Mar 29	CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Cyndi Simon, James Smithers
Cliff Swallow	Mar 8	CAM-Willow Is (1) Paul Conover
	Mar 7	CHA-J Nungaray NWR VIS John Mariani
	Mar 7	CHA-J Nungaray NWR Skillern Tract (1) Kevin Ramirez
Swainson's Thrush	Mar 20-21	GAL- HI Smith oaks (1) Kellie Tuitt
	Mar 25	GAL-HI S E Gast (1) Stephen Kallus
	Mar 30	GAL-HI Smith Oaks (1) Brian Anderson
Yellow-breasted Chat	Mat 5	CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Charlotte Chehotsky

#### Western Meadowlark

	Mar 3-4	CAM-Recreation Lane (10 Charlotte Chehotsky, Beth Kramer, David Booth
	Mar 7	CAM-Rutherford Beach Rd (1) Paul Conover
	Mar 24	HAI-Weekley Park (1) Margaret Farese
	Mar 26	HAI-J P Landing Park (2) Drew Dickert
Ovenbird	Mar 8,27	HAS-Edith Moore Sanct. (1) Monica Ramirez, Juston Sandt
Louisiana Waterthrush	Mar 4-6	HAS-Houston Arboretum (1) mult obs
Nashville Warbler	Mar 8	HAS-Edith Moore Sanct (1) Monica Ramirez
Tropical Parula	Mar 5-7	HAS- Kluge/Longwood Retention Basin (1) Mult obs
Northern Yellow Warbler	Mar 25	HAS-Mercer Botanic Gdns (1) Russell McGregor, Jeff Manker
Prairie Warbler	Mar 7	CAM-Primeaux Rd (1) Paul <b>Conover</b>

#### Western Tanager

	Mar 1-11	GAL- Clear Creek Village (1) continuing
	Mar 2	HAS-Mary Ann Francklow Park (1) Rick Robey
	Mar 4	HAS-Addicks Reservoir S Levee (1) Kevin Ramirez
	Mar 13-19	GAL-Lafitte's Cove (1) Amber Zelmer, mult obs

#### Pyrrhuloxia

	Mar 7,16	CAL-Trosclair Rd west of Creole (1) continuing
	Mar 3, 16-18	GAL-Lafitte's Cove (1) Paul Kammermeier, Amber Zelmer
	Mar 8	HAS-Archbishop Fiorenza Park (1) Walter Alimanderinger
Scarlet Tanager	Mar 30	CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Matt Coon, Andrew From
Black-headed Grosbeak	Mar 4-8	HAS-Russ Pittman Park (1) mult obs
	Mar 5	HAS-Provident Oaks Lane (1) Stacey Berg
Dickcissel	Mar 8	HAS-Cypress Lakes area (1) Rohit and Melissa Agarwal

**Abbreviations used:** ANG – Angelina County;; CAL – Calcasieu Parish, LA; CAM – Cameron Parish, LA; CHA – Chambers County; GAL – Galveston County; HAI – Hardin County; HAS – Harris County; HI – High Island; JAS – Jasper County; JAW – John Whittle; JEF – Jefferson County; LIB – Liberty County; NEW – Newton County; ORA – Orange County; PI – Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; SAA – San Augustine County. SAB – Sabine County; SM – Steve Mayes, SRSP - Sea Rim State Park; SW – Sabine Woods; TP – Tyrrell Park including Cattail Marsh; TYL – Tyler County; WE – Wyatt Egelhoff; WJC – West Jefferson County.

## Field Trip *(continued from page 5)*

(25); Snowy Plover (8); Wilson's Plover (3); Piping Plover (50); Semipalmated Plover (5); Black-necked Stilt (5); American Avocet (2000); Greater Yellowlegs (1); Lesser Yellowlegs (2); Willet (30); Long-billed Curlew (2); Marbled Godwit (10); Ruddy Turnstone (2); Western Sandpiper (100); Least Sandpiper (30); Sanderling (100); "Peep" sp. (100); Dunlin (50); Short-billed Dowitcher (15); Dowitcher sp. (25); Laughing Gull (100); Ring-billed Gull (10); Herring Gull (8); Lesser Black-backed Gull (1); Caspian Tern (5); Royal Tern (75); Sandwich Tern (10); Common Tern (10); Forster's Tern

(50); Least Tern (5); Black Tern (5); Black Skimmer (250); Rock Pigeon (10); White-winged Dove (5); Mourning Dove (10); Belted Kingfisher (1); American Kestrel (5); Great Kiskadee (1); Loggerhead Shrike (2); Horned Lark (2); Carolina Wren (1); Sedge Wren (2); Hermit Thrush (1); Northern Mockingbird (5); European Starling (10); Yellow-rumped Warbler (5); Savannah Sparrow (5); Northern Cardinal (5); Common Grackle (5); Great-tailed Grackle (10); Great-tailed/Boat-tailed Grackle (35); Red-winged Blackbird (50); Eastern Meadowlark (5). 71 species. *Steve Mayes*

Golden Triangle Audubon Society  
P. O. Box 1292  
Nederland, Texas 77627-1292

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### RARE BIRD ALERTS

Unfortunately, almost all the local and regional telephone Rare Bird Alerts have been discontinued in favor of various forms of Internet distribution.

The Texas-wide Rare Bird Alert, maintained by Houston Audubon Society, is available on their web-site at <http://www.houstonaudubon.org/> Email alerts are also available for a fee.

Many rare bird sightings in Texas are posted on Facebook Texbirds or on the TEXBIRDS listserv. Archives of the listserv are at [www.freelists.org/archive/texbirds](http://www.freelists.org/archive/texbirds). It is not necessary to subscribe to view the archives, which include all recent postings.

Detailed information/maps on birding sites in Texas is available on the Web at <http://www.texasbirds.org/birdingLocations.php>. This leads you to the maps of the various eBird hotspots. You can also subscribe (free) on eBird for email alerts for all rare birds reported in a specific county.