



November 2010

President's Perspective

There is no time to be bored in Huntsville Audubon! We had a grand time on our field trip to Fall Canyon as we hiked through some beautiful terrain along the Trinity River near Midway. We had nice weather and I think all who attended can agree that we got a good bit of exercise on that excursion! Thanks to Paul for scheduling our generous guides through the canyon as well. There are quite a few activities planned as we head into cooler weather. This month we are very excited to offer a Birding Identification 101 program by Brenda Muncrief at our next meeting, followed by a chance to try out our skills with a picnic lunch and nature hike in the Kleb Wood Nature Preserve near Tomball.

Continued below

Huntsville Audubon

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

P. O. Box 6818

Huntsville, Texas 77340

Our Mission

To increase our community's awareness of the natural world and the need for its preservation, through education and the active enjoyment of birds and other wildlife.

Officers

President	Anne-Marie Prouty	295-3958
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Vice-President	Ron Boddicker	594-9838
Secretary	Deanna Boddicker	594-9838
Treasurer & Membership	Carol Reed	295-3958

Committee Chairs

Programs	Joe Smith	295-7958
Field Trips	Paul Culp	295-3404
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Newsletter	Brenda Muncrief	435-9937
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Hospitality	Joy Tinsley	293-1918
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Web Master	Brenda Muncrief	435-9937

Our Website: <http://www.huntsvilleaudubon.org/>

Programs and Events

President's Perspective (cont'd): Of course, the New Year will bring many more opportunities for fun and fellowship. Along with our monthly programs and local field trips, right around the corner is our annual Christmas Bird Count, a boat trip to see the endangered Whooping Cranes, the Backyard Bird Count, and of course spring migration at High Island. See you at the meeting! **Anne-Marie Prouty**

November Meeting: Huntsville Audubon will hold its monthly meeting on **Thursday, November 18, 2010**, at 6:30pm. Our meeting location is Fire Station No. 2 on Sam Houston Avenue. The menu for October is **Stuffed Baked Potatoes!!** The chapter will provide the main dish, and the board will bring some of the necessary extras. If you can provide a **side dish, salad or dessert**, they are always welcomed additions!

November Program: Please join us for "**Bird ID 101**" presented by Brenda Muncrief. Brenda has taught the same class for the Texas Parks and Wildlife's "Becoming an Outdoors Woman" program for several years. We will concentrate on local birds that might be found in backyards and in the Walker County area. This should be beneficial for those helping with this year's Christmas Bird Count as well as be a great introduction for beginning birders! There will be a Saturday class or classes offered in the spring, which will go into more depth regarding identification and resources.

November Field Trip: The November field trip will be to a previously "unexplored" spot near Tomball: the **Kleb Woods Nature Preserve**. Both members and non-members have recommended it to me. Since the Saturday following our regular meeting is crammed with Huntsville activities that involve several people who wish to attend this outing, I have decided to schedule it at **12:15 SUNDAY afternoon, November 21st**. We'll meet at the parking lot of the Walker County Courthouse Annex (13th St. @ University Ave.) as we did this past month, in order to consolidate into as few vehicles as possible. This Preserve is family friendly and dog (on leash) friendly, with short nature trails, picnic areas (you might want to bring a snack if you can wait until we get there to eat!), a model farm, and a Nature Center. Those of you who go to church can bring casual gear for a quick change, especially shoes. Kendra Kocab will be glad to lead a birding group and indicate best locales for that activity. Their websites can be examined by Googling Kleb Woods. **PAUL CULP**

Our annual Christmas Bird Count is scheduled for Saturday, January 1, 2011. More details soon!

WE'RE ON FACEBOOK! Look for Huntsville Audubon online at <http://www.huntsvilleaudubon.org> AND on Facebook, at **Huntsville (Texas) Audubon Society**. If you have a Facebook page, please be sure to join our group. It is another way to keep up with everything that is going on in our Chapter!

Some of our upcoming programs for the spring include: **Wildlife Photography** by Harriet Holland of Rockport; Bluebird **Conservation** by our own Dan Jones; and **Capturing Rainwater** by the Walker County Master Gardeners with a field trip to look at their rainwater capture systems. Water conservation and ways to conserve even what seems like minimal amounts are some of the *hottest conservation topics* today.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking Account Balance: \$ 1,257.96
 Memorial Fund Balance: \$ 4,141.28

(The Memorial Fund includes an amount of \$925, granted to the Chapter by Audubon Foundation of Texas for work on the bird blind. We also need to pay for our calendars, which will come out of the Checking Account.)

The Huntsville Planning and Zoning Committee continues to meet and discuss the revision of our Development Code. The **Punch List** can be viewed by going to http://www.huntsvilletx.gov/egov/docs/1287495336_668823.pdf This is a list of concerns that were raised by the public during the public-comment sessions of this process.

Our Chapter has been represented at the meetings where public comments were made part of the record. It is important to continue to attend the meetings and to email our City officials with our input regarding Code revision. The next step, as I understand it, is to form small panels consisting of P&Z members and interested citizens. I have asked to be part of the focus group that will consider the area of landscaping, green space, conservation and preservation of habitat. I encourage you to contact Rose Kader at rkader@huntsvilletx.gov to become part of these small groups and have input and influence during the rest of this process. **Brenda Muncrief**

Upcoming Events:

- Board meeting, 12/6/2010.
- Christmas Bird Count, 1/1/2011.
- Rockport Trip to see Whooping Cranes, date to be determined.
- Great Backyard Bird Count, 2/18 – 2/21/2011.
- High Island trip in April 2011.

Earth Share Texas is the source of most of the money used to fund the collaborative grants given by Audubon Foundation of Texas. Please visit their website to learn more about their wonderful organization and how they raise the money to help fund Texas Chapters' projects.



"One environment. One simple way to care for it."
<http://www.earthshare-texas.org/>

Anne Staples recommends the book, **Four Wings and a Prayer: Caught in the Mystery of the Monarch Butterfly**, by Sue Halpern. Anne says: "The book is about the Monarch Butterfly and the people who are interested in them and their research. It is an interlibrary loan book from Huntsville Public Library; however, SHSU Newton Gresham Library has a copy if one has a card there."

There is a new "**Recycle Almost Anything**" website, www.TexasTakeBack.org that is designed as a *comprehensive guide* to give you information for recycling almost anything from electronics to pharmaceuticals to household hazardous wastes, etc. There are also tips on how to reduce household plastic or paper waste.



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