



October 2010

President's Perspective

I was browsing the Houston Chronicle this morning and in the *Zest* section was an interesting review for a new book titled "The Texas Legacy Project: Stories of Courage and Conservation," edited by David Todd and David Weisman. This book is a compilation of stories told by Texans who have been compelled to do great deeds of conservation (e.g. protecting wildlife, lands, water and air) in their local communities around the state. I, for one, think this would be a great book to have around the house for hope and inspiration. Huntsville Audubon is interested in local conservation too and would like to have input on development in our growing community. (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

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Vice-President	Ron Boddicker	594-9838
Secretary	Deanna Boddicker	594-9838
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Committee Chairs

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Field Trips	Paul Culp	295-3404
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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, continued: We are looking for a few members to attend the City of Huntsville's Planning and Zoning Commission meetings as a first step. Future meeting dates are: Oct. 21 at 5:30, Nov 4 at Noon, and Nov. 18 at 5:30. Please contact a board member or myself if you are able to attend. See you at the meeting!
Anne-Marie Prouty

October Meeting: Huntsville Audubon will hold its monthly meeting on **Thursday, October 21, 2010** at 6:30pm. Our meeting location is Fire Station No. 2 on Sam Houston Avenue. The menu for October is **Lasagna!** 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!

October Program: Please join us for a very interesting program by **Ashley Bogrand** as she shares with us her research with local birds in a talk entitled "**Urban Predators and Songbird Conservation.**" Ashley received her undergraduate degree from West Texas A&M University (located in Canyon, TX) in Wildlife Biology last December and is currently working with Dr. Diane Neudorf at Sam Houston State University getting her Masters degree in Biology.

In November, Brenda Muncrief will present a program entitled "Bird ID 101," in preparation for The Christmas Bird Count!

October Field Trip: The October field trip is to **Fall Canyon in Madison County.** Some of you will have been there on earlier trips when it was called Wakefield Canyon (after the family that had long owned the property) or even Luther Canyon (after the old squatter whose humble abode was near the rim of the canyon). By any name it is an amazing geological feature for this part of Texas.

This excursion is more strenuous than most, involving a steep descent into the canyon and some rock jumping to prevent getting wet feet; however, on one of the earlier hikes the 80-something Grace Longino Cox was able to enjoy the experience without pursuing the Creek all the way to the Trinity River. Be sure to wear stout shoes or hiking boots, and a walking stick will be handy. The field trip will be the Saturday following our monthly meeting, October 23rd.

We'll meet in the parking lot of the Walker County Annex (13th St. @ University Ave.) at 9:00. Let's hope the weather will be as good as it has been lately! **PAUL CULP**

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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.

Fair on the Square Report: October 2nd brought another beautiful day for Fair on the Square. Huntsville Audubon once again had a booth selling t-shirts, bird houses, calendars, and field guides. Sales for the day exceeded \$500, thanks to the help of Ron and Deanna Boddicker, Pauline Blackard, Lea Cornelius, Pat and Bob Ernst, Diane, Ken, and Ellie Neudorf-Hartness, Tom Stafford, Anne-Marie Prouty, Jon Muncrief, and Carol Reed. Thanks again to Art and Alice Hughes for the use of their canopy.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking Account Balance: \$ 427.59

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. The checking balance does not include the deposit for Fair on the Square receipts.)

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS: In addition to September marking the beginning of our Audubon season, it is also Chapter dues renewal time! Huntsville Audubon, with the approval of National Audubon Society, offers chapter-only memberships in addition to National memberships.

A number of years ago, National Audubon changed the way they calculated the share that local chapters received from national dues. As a result, local chapters received less than they once did and many faced financial difficulties. At the request of many chapters and members, National Audubon began allowing chapters to offer chapter-only memberships, in which the entire amount of the dues is retained at the local level for local programs and projects.

While Huntsville Audubon is pleased to offer both Local and National memberships to interested members, we do not advocate one over the other. It is entirely up to the preference of the member and both have their value. National Audubon Society is a dedicated wildlife organization with an impressive history of conservation advocacy, certainly deserving of support. Membership in National Audubon entitles members to all the rights and privileges of both local and chapter membership, including the award winning Audubon magazine and Huntsville Audubon's "The Raven" newsletter.

However, some members prefer that their donation dollars remain in their own community. Huntsville Audubon Chapter dues are \$20 a year, renewable in September of each year and the entire amount remains with our local chapter. Chapter members will receive "The Raven" newsletter.

Huntsville Audubon charter member **Roy Kveton** continues to improve, recovering from his recent illness. Roy is recuperating at Ella Smither Geriatric Center and enjoys visitors. Stop by and see Roy if you have an opportunity.

Victor Czaja is recovering nicely from his stroke! In fact, he turned 80 on the 17th, and there was a great party at The Whistler Bed & Breakfast. Victor is doing very, very well, even being allowed to drive some. Happy Birthday, Victor, and may you continue your successful therapies!

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/>



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