

February 21, 2002

The *Brown Pelican*



The Newsletter of the Coastal Bend Audubon Society

HELP JOURNEY NORTH TRACK AMERICAN ROBIN AND BARN SWALLOW MIGRATION!

Journey North, a non-profit educational project that engages school children in the study of global migrations, would like your help in tracking Robin and Barn Swallow migration. Journey North students report sightings of many migrating animals to their web site. Your sighting data will greatly increase the amount of available data that they have available for their migration studies. Upon sighting robins in your area, please contact Journey North via telephone with the location and date of your sighting or report directly to Journey North via the internet.

Journey North would like you to report the following data:

- American Robin (first SEEN)
- American Robin (first HEARD singing)
- American Robin (waves of migration SEEN)
- American Robin (OTHER observations)

How to Report to Journey North via the web:

- 1) Go to the Journey North Web site: <http://www.learner.org/jnorth/>
- 2) Press the owl icon entitled "Report Your

Sightings"

3) Fill out the "Field Notes" form. Provide the information about your sighting as instructed on the "Field Notes" form.

4) Confirm that your sighting was received. After you submit your data, go back to make sure it was properly received. To do this, click on the owl button again. You'll see instructions in the right-hand column "How to Go to Sightings database." Follow the steps as instructed.

In addition to Robins and Barn Swallows, Journey North tracks other species such as Common Loon, Oriole, and Red Wing Blackbirds.

The Journey North web site is not just for kids. It is beautiful, exceptionally informative, and lots of fun—even for grown ups! Visit it as soon as you can! Thanks for your help!

Journey North is a free online educational service, supported by the Annenberg/CPB. The Project uses media and communications to improve math and science education for the nation's 44 million school children.

SPECIAL CBAS PROGRAM AND BOOK SIGNING

New Release - THE LAGUNA MADRE OF TEXAS AND TAMAULIPAS

The March 5th CBAS meeting (7:00 pm, Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History, 1900 N. Chaparral) is going to be a truly special event!! Be sure to attend, and bring a friend or two. Our featured speaker March 5th will be Dr. John W. (Wes) Tunnell, Jr. **Dr. Tunnell, author of the recently published book, *The Laguna Madre of Texas and Tamaulipas*, has generously agreed hold a special book signing at the CBAS March 5th meeting!** As an added bonus, Dr. Tunnell will also give us a short update on the progress of the (see page 2)



Dr. John W. (Wes) Tunnell, Jr.

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This Month's Speaker:
Dr. John W. Tunnell, Jr.

Subject:
The Laguna Madre of Texas and Tamaulipas

Location:
Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History
1900 N. Chaparral

Time:
1st Tuesday of the month 6:45 pm

All members and the general public are invited!

"Aggressive drilling campaign" Planned for Padre Island

A petroleum exploration company owned by Barbara Canales-Black, a Democrat running for the open Senate District 20 seat has won the right to drill for natural gas on Padre Island National Seashore.

Corpus Christi-based BNP Petroleum Corporation says it will mount an "aggressive drilling campaign" over the next few years, having secured exclusive oil and gas lease options covering 36,000 acres of the 113-mile barrier island.

Drilling on the first well, located on island uplands at Yarrowborough Pass, will begin within the next three weeks. Barbara Canales-Black is a majority owner of BNP and her husband, Paul Black, is the corporation's president. (See Drilling page 4)

Canales-Black's main opponent in the March 12 Democratic primary is McAllen lawmaker Juan Hinojosa. Environmentalists and political opponents of Canales-Black say they fear the recently won permit will open the floodgates to further exploration and exploitation of the National Seashore.

"We are very concerned that the drilling permit was awarded with hardly any public input," said Pat Suter, chairwoman of the Coastal Bend Sierra Club. "We also have major concerns about oversight of the drilling. We know very little about this company or the role Barbara Canales-Black played with her connections."

Diana Martinez, a former Nueces County Democratic Party chairwoman who is also running for the Senate District 20 seat, said environmentalists had legitimate questions to ask. "The National Seashore and the coastal region are our most precious resource. We need to know whether the land will be protected and how many other oil and gas exploration companies will now follow suit," said Martinez.

Book Signing (continued from page 1)

Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies. So, come early to get a good seat and learn something new about this unique and significant South Texas ecosystem. Copies of Dr. Tunnell's book, *The Laguna Madre of Texas and Tamaulipas*, will be available for purchase before and after the CBAS meeting (thank you Islander Bookstore!). The Lotus Cup Restaurant has agreed to provide "earth-friendly" refreshments, including shae grown coffee and organic hors d'oeuvres.

Dr. Tunnell is the Associate Director for the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, a Harte Research Scientist, Director of the Center for Coastal Studies and a Professor of Biology at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Padre Island has been relatively unexplored since 1965 when the federal government acquired approximately 65 percent of Padre Island.

BNP says it has oil and gas leases covering approximately 63,000 acres, of which 36,000 acres cover the island. It says it is engaged in a four-phase exploration project, with more drilling set to take place further south along the island, stretching almost as far as Port Mansfield. It expects to drill six to eight wells in 2002 at an average cost of \$2.5 million a well. The company obtained drilling rights from the National Park Service and most of the mineral rights came from a private estate.

Historically, about 1.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas has been produced from fields within BNP's Padre Island project area. At today's prices, that represents \$3.4 billion in revenues. BNP won't say how much gas it hopes to drill.

The Coastal Bend Sierra Club will meet Tuesday, February 19 to endorse local races. If you have comments, please make your voice heard.

International Migratory Bird Day 2002

International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) is an event that focuses attention on one of the most important and spectacular events in the life of a migratory bird – its journey between summer and winter homes.

IMBD was created to stimulate birders to take action to help conserve birds and their habitats. Celebrating bird migrations is your opportunity to introduce other people to the wonder of birds and to help ensure that birds will always be a part of our future. Today, IMBD is celebrated in Canada, the US, Mexico, and Central America through bird festivals and bird walks, education programs, and other activities.

We invite you to join in this important celebration. **Let's organize a CBAS special event. If you have ideas or suggestions we would love to hear them.** Please come to a meeting and express your ideas or pick up the phone and call a board member (numbers are on page 8). We will have the new IMBD catalog which is full of interesting bird related items, available at the next CBAS meeting. You will find educational materials, posters, T-shirts, and other fun items to share with friends, visitors, students, and club members, and items that help to promote migratory bird conservation.

For your own **FREE** catalog you may call (703) 358-2318 or e-mail IMBD@fws.gov. In addition, IMBD also has a great web site where you can learn more about IMBD, get ideas for our celebration, and place orders.

Catastrophic Mortality at the Monarch Overwintering Sites in Mexico

Dr. O. R. Taylor, Director, Monarch Watch, excerpts reprinted from <http://www.monarchwatch.org>

A massive moisture-bearing weather system moved into central Mexico late on 11 January 2002, followed by clearing skies and overnight lows in the mid to low 20's on the mornings of 14-16 January. What followed was unprecedented mortality at the monarch overwintering sites. A report (Brower, *et al.*, in prep; released for publication on 12 February 2002) of the deaths of tens of millions of monarchs at the two largest monarch overwintering sites in Mexico, once again confirms the long held view that it is the overwintering sites that hold the key to the continuation of the monarch migration in eastern North America.

Each fall hundreds of millions of monarchs migrate from Canada and the eastern United States to overwinter in Oyamel fir forests high in the Transvolcanic Mountains west of Mexico City. The forests provide substantial protection for the monarchs and the temperature and moisture changes within the forest are modest compared to the changes which occur in cleared areas adjacent to the colonies. Degradation of the forests at the colony sites is likely to break down this protection leading to higher mortality and greater vulnerability of the clustered butterflies to the occasional snow or freezing rain. It is clear that monarchs require relatively intact forests to successfully overwinter. The challenge is to maintain the integrity of these forests when the economic conditions are such that the local landowners view the trees as a source of income.

Catastrophic mortality at the overwintering sites occurs from time to time. The most recent monarch die-off was due to a weather pattern of unusual scope and severity. On Friday, January 11th, a massive rain and snow-bearing weather system moved into central Mexico. Following the snowfall, the skies cleared and the overnight lows for the next three nights

were in the 20s. By Monday morning, large numbers of butterflies were on the ground in piles described as 10-15 cm deep. By Wednesday the 16th, half of the El Rosario colony was on the ground - with the majority of the butterflies appearing to be dead or dying - and many still falling from the trees. The Sierra Chincua colony seemed to fare better, and by the 16th many butterflies were climbing back up on the vegetation and were flying. The colony at El Rosario, being at the edge of a large deforested area, may have had greater exposure to freezing temperatures than the colony at Chincua which was located in a tall stand of Oyamel fir trees on a more protected slope.

It will take some time to fully assess the mortality and long term impact of the January freeze. The monarch mortality at Sierra Chincua was estimated to be 74% and that at El Rosario approximately 81%. At this writing (6 Feb) it appears that the area occupied by living butterflies at both sites combined is approximately 1.29 hectares. This is the lowest number of butterflies ever recorded at these sites for January. These low numbers and the rates of mortality are unprecedented in the known history of the monarch overwintering sites. Although 60-70% of the total monarch population typically overwinters on these two mountains each year, it is critical to assess the 30-40% of the population overwintering at the remaining colonies.

At this point, the number and condition of the remaining butterflies is the most important issue. It is this remnant of the population that must survive the rest of the winter, and the return migration, to recolonize the summer breeding habitat in the United States and Canada. Beginning in late February, the survivors will move north with the females laying eggs on newly emerging milkweed plants as they migrate through



Flower and leaves of the milkweed plant which Monarch caterpillars need for food.

the southern states and into the Midwest.

Monarchs have demonstrated a remarkable capacity to rebound. Last year the number of returning females was at an all time low (4-5 million). Yet, due to excellent spring conditions in Texas and favorable conditions in the summer breeding area, the fall population in 2001 exceeded 200 million butterflies. Unfortunately, it appears that the conditions (i.e., soil moisture, predators, etc.) in Texas and the Midwest will not be as favorable this coming breeding season. It is important to monitor the numbers and survival of the remaining butterflies. If the population is as low or lower than that of last spring, it could take the monarchs more than one season to rebound from the freeze of 2002.

Editors Notes:

Milkweed plants are beautiful and grow well in our area. **Free** seed and plants are available by calling 885-6245. Free plants, courtesy of Mr. Johnny French, will also be available at the Annual Coastal Bend Bays Foundation **Earth Day Bay Day Celebration** which will be held April 20, 2002 at Hazel Bazemore County Park. See pg. 7 for more information.

Monarch Watch is an educational outreach program at the University of Kansas. Please visit their exceptional web site at <http://www.monarchwatch.org>

Golden Eagle - vs - Crested Caracara !

By Tom Langschied

I recently came across an article that states that the Crested Caracara is the national bird of Mexico. This is false. I find this situation extremely unfortunate and yet amazing how such a fallacy has become so widespread. This fallacy pervades books, magazines, newspaper articles, and the internet.

I believe this needs to be rectified, in our quest to be as factual as possible, and especially out of respect to our neighbors to the south, as I am sure we would not like people saying our national bird was the Osprey, though certainly a respectable bird in its own right.

First, if one examines a color version of the Mexican flag or coat of arms, the bird depicted is uniformly brown throughout. This is not true of a Crested Caracara,



The emblem on the flag of *The Mexican Republic* showing a Golden Eagle perched upon a cactus and eating a snake.

though young birds do indeed have large portions of brown, it is still quite obvious that a young caracara is not uniformly brown throughout.

Second, if one examines the leg of the bird depicted on the flag or coat of arms, it is feathered to the foot.

I have never encountered an adult or immature Crested Caracara in the U.S., Mexico, or Venezuela that has feathering going down to the foot, nor illustrated as such in any field guide.

So what is the National bird of Mexico? The Golden Eagle of course! Additional interesting information strongly supporting my assertion was forwarded to me from a birding colleague and is as follows:

First, here's a direct quote from the Museo de las Aves de Mexico (<http://siti.simplenet.com/musave.dir/>). "Aquila chrysaetos/Golden Eagle/águila real : The Aztecs built Tenochtitlán in the site where they found a Golden Eagle eating a snake, atop a cactus tree. This image is the symbol of México and the majestic bird its national symbol, not the crested caracara, as some believe."

The Golden Eagle on the Mexico coat of arms is described at: <http://fotw.vexillum.com/flags/mx.html>. From <http://www.mexico-info.com/aboutmex.htm>, here's a description of the Golden Eagle: "One of the most famous icons of Mexico is a royal golden eagle fighting with a rattlesnake on top of a nopal cactus. According to the legend, the Aztecs were look-

The Aztecs built Tenochtitlán in the site where they found a Golden Eagle eating a snake atop a cactus.

ing for this particular place and, after several years of wandering through Mexico, they found it on Lake Tenochtitlan in 1325, on the same spot where Mexico City now stands. The eagle and snake symbol proved so powerful that it became Mexico's coat of arms, it has been used on every coin minted in Mexico since 1821, and it is the official seal of the President and of every branch of government."

Please pass this tidbit of knowledge on to someone whom may be unenlightened regarding this issue. I would personally like to see the propagation of this fallacy stamped out as soon as possible.

MARCH IS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE MONTH!

TWO DRAWINGS WILL BE HELD FOR FREE ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIPS!!

If you are not already a member of Coastal Bend Audubon Society, come to the March 5th meeting and enter your name for a chance to win a FREE ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP to Audubon. The drawing will be held on March 5th, at the meeting.

That's right, not only do we have a fantastic program and book signing scheduled for the March 5th meeting, but we're also having two drawings for a one year free membership to Audubon. Membership includes a subscription to the National Audubon Society magazine, as well as to the local chapter newsletter, *The Brown Pelican*.

Are you already a member of Audubon? Well, bring a friend (or two or three) to the March 5th meeting and give them a chance to win a FREE ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP to Audubon. Every member who brings a non-member guest to the meeting will be eligible to enter a separate drawing for a FREE ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP to Audubon.

LOTS of New Ideas at the CBAS Strategic Planning Meeting

The following is a condensed overview of the strategic planning meeting held January 10, 2002. We reviewed past accomplishments, discussed revision of our by-laws, developed chapter Vision and Mission statements, planned long-term (five year) and short term (one year) goals, and scheduled activities to accomplish our goals. We'll have copies of the Strategic Planning and Action plan document and by-laws available soon. Many thanks to all who participated.

Vision Statement: *We envision a culture of conservation in which the shared appreciation and stewardship of nature enriches the lives of each of us.*

Mission Statement: *The mission of the CBAS is to promote the appreciation, conservation and restoration of ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife, through education, participation, stewardship and advocacy.*

Identifying CBAS direction for the next five years (Long-term Goals) Key Strategic Direction – It was agreed that Chapter planning and efforts should be focused on a few priority program areas for the time being. The chapter

would like to do well in priority areas rather than spread ourselves too thin.

Long term goals:

- Increase the number of children that we reach through existing programs (Audubon Adventures)
- Increase types of educational programs, such as Junior Audubon, and birding classes
- Increase and diversify programs and other outreach
- Maintain and improve the CBAS North Bay Sanctuary
- Develop membership to include more active and participating members
- Take a more active role as a chapter in birding events, specifically the Christmas Bird Count
- Increase habitat conservation and preservation efforts
- Develop partnership and communication with other conservation organizations, including, but not limited to Audubon Outdoor Club, The Nature Conservancy, Friends of Connie Haegar, Audubon Texas, Sierra Club
- Increase and develop CBAS events offered to membership and public
- Develop electronic communications

Audubon Texas Board of Directors Meeting

The Audubon Texas Board of Directors meeting was held in Corpus Christi on February 9, 2002. A reception was held on Friday night before the meeting to welcome Jesse Grantham to his new position as Director of Conservation. The meeting presentations included an introduction to the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program by Ray Allen, and program presentations on grant opportunities, planned giving, conservation initiatives, IBAs, budget and financial items, the Audubon Nature Centers (including the Blucher Nature Center here in Corpus Christi) and activity updates on other state and chapter projects and programs.

Grant opportunities discussed at the meeting included the Texas Parks & Wildlife *Horned Lizard License Plate Program* which generates revenues to fund projects designated to protect Texas non-game species habitat through enhancement, interpretation, and applied research. Eligible project proposals are due in April and need to have a positive impact, should be highly visible, short-term, and approximately \$10000 -\$25000.

Other grant and funding opportunities discussed at the meeting were the Audubon Foundation of Texas/Audubon Council of Texas (AFT/ACT) grants for chapter development (yes, we're going to try to apply) and the chapter share of Earth Share funds (our chapter received

a \$338 check for contributions from this area). The AFT/ACT is developing a standard process for determining chapter share percentages, with about 50% of our share being earned simply by including the Earth Share logo on our newsletters.

What is Earth Share? Earth Share of Texas is an umbrella organization of 70 local, state, national and international nonprofit environmental groups. Employees all across Texas can support Earth Share of Texas and its participating organizations through their payroll deduction plan or contributions which can be made directly to Earth Share of Texas. The Audubon Foundation of Texas/Audubon Council of Texas is an Earth Share partner, and can be specifically designated to receive your contributions.



Jesse Grantham. Yes, it's true, Jesse Grantham has accepted the Director of Conservation for Audubon Texas position and he has chosen to set up office right here in Corpus Christi. His office will be in the Blucher Nature Center. Welcome back Jesse! Jesse has also agreed to give the CBAS May 7, 2002 meeting program, so be sure to attend.

North Bay Sanctuary Work Day FUN and PRODUCTIVE !

The CBAS North Bay Sanctuary work day, held February 9^h, was a lot of fun. Several people met in the morning to trim brush and dug up excess prickly pear cacti. The weather was a bit breezy but nicely warm for February. Alberto Rodriguez, Kendal Keyes, and Jim and Jeanne O'Leary trimmed mesquite branches along trail 4 back about 2 feet to allow for spring and summer growth and still accommodate walkers. The cuttings were thrown back into the brush.



Jeanne O'Leary trimming mesquite branches near the Irene DeWeese observation tower.

John Whitley and Cline Stelzig worked on controlling the overgrowth of prickly pear around the observation tower. They dug up many plants that are now piled up near the tower

and need to be burned. As soon as we get a spring rain and the dry conditions are alleviated,

we will need about 4 volunteers to burn the debris and tend the fire. The afternoon was devoted to lunch and birding. The wind picked up early, about 10:00am and was blowing 20-25 mph by noon.



John A. Whitley and Cline Stelzig digging up some of the many Prickly-pear cacti growing around the observation tower.

On the Copano Ranch pond we saw several cormorants, an Eared grebe, and several unidentified ducks. A large flock of unidentified geese flew low over the sanctuary pond and near the tower and trail 4 we saw a Blue-gray gnatcatcher and several cardinals. We wrapped up the work around 1:30pm. The work is easy, you do what you feel like doing, and with friends it's even easier! Everyone had a nice time - so consider helping with the burn or joining us for the next field day. We will be planning one again very soon. Suggested days are March 23 or April 6, 2002. Let us know (885-6209) before March 15th which day is best for you.

What's Up Around Texas

March 2-3 & 16-17, 2002, Trail Walks, Franklin Mountains SP, Guided tours of Guided tours of the West Cottonwood Springs and Schaefer Shuffle trails. 9-11a.m.; fees \$3 per person; reservations available but not required. (915) 566-6441.

March 13-14, 2002, Identification, Culture, & Natural History of South Texas - Shrubs and Trees field workshop. Rockport, Friends of Connie Hagar; Cost: \$25. email / call: 361-729-6887 or 361-790-9353.

March 17 2002, Bird Identification Tours, Hueco Tanks SHS, Observe some of the over 200 species of birds which visit the park. Your guide is Bob Johnson, volunteer bird expert of the Trans-Pecos Audubon Society. 8-10 a.m.; reservations available but not required. (915) 857-1135.

March 21, 2002, Wetland Use & Preservation (Jay Tarkington), Aransas Bird & Nature Club at St. Peters Episcopal Church; 7:00pm, Contact Herb Wisch 790-5937 or Peggy Holt 729-4650.

April 6, 2002, Spring Wildflowers of Texas Corpus Christi Botanical Gardens, Gene Blacklock, CBBEP. Discussions will cover wildflower identification, culture and natural history. Contact Cynthia Womack at 361 729-6887 or e-mail her at kstrl@interconnect.net

April 20, 2002, Spring Garden Festival and Plant Sale, Corpus Christi Botanical Gardens. Plants, orchid auction, vendors, seminars, garden tours, and much more! Contact Corpus Christi Botanical Gardens 361-852-2100.

April 20, 2002, 4th Annual Earth Day - Bay Day, Hazel Bazemore County Park, Corpus Christi. Free event includes kayaking in the Nueces River, rock wall climbing, birding and plant walks, composting demonstration, merchandise, food, and drink vendors, local musicians, and much more. 11:00a.m.; Contact Teresa Carrillo (361) 882-3439. Hosted by the Coastal Bend Bays Foundation.

Nature Notes — Texas Central Coast

- Golden-winged Warbler, Jan. 19, 2002, Sighted mid-morning just before a front came in. It was flitting about near one of our drip bird baths with some Chipping Sparrows and a Kinglet. It was here for several minutes mostly flitting among the oleander bush, but finally landed on the ground by the bird bath. This was an unusual sighting for this time of year; however, the yellow wing patch, yellow cap, and black throat were all very distinctive.

-Peggy Holt

- Great Crested Flycatcher at Old Salt Lake Road, Jan. 29, 2002
- Couch's Kingbird at Moore's Pond, Jan. 30, 2002
- Black Phoebe still present at Pollywog Pond, Jan. 31, 2002
- Cinnamon Teal/Blue-Winged Teal hybrid, male, at Port Aransas Birding Center, Jan. 31, 2002
- Yellow-breasted Chat at Dobie Ranch, Feb 2, 2002
- Great Black-backed Gull still being seen (mid Feb.) in Rockport (north Water Street area & along the ICW)

-Bron Rorex

Please report any interesting sightings to Gene Blacklock via phone (361) 882-7232 or e-mail geneb@cbbep.org for inclusion in these notes.

Notes From North Bay Sanctuary

By Bill Schmidt

2-9-02

Our first work day at the sanctuary was a terrific success. I met with six chapter friends, Jim and Jeanne O'Leary, John A. Whitley, Cline Stelzig, Alberto Rodriguez, and Kendal Keyes, at the appointed time, 9:30am. A whole bunch of mesquite branches close to the main roads were clipped off. Good sized areas of Prickly-pear cacti near our Irene DeWeese tower likewise were cleared.

2-10-02

I returned a little past 10:00am to pick up tools. Driving to our pond afterwards, I noticed that trimming alongside the pond road should be the next project. The only bird activity was a hawk (unidentified) about 500 feet northeast of our pond.

I suggest either March 23 or April 6, 2002, both Saturdays, for the next work day. **There should be plenty of wildflowers for all to enjoy by that time!**

CBAS Meeting Notes

February 5, 2002

CBAS Vice President Gene Blacklock introduced Mark Woodin, an ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey Texas Gulf Coast Field Station (TGCFS) at Texas A & M Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC), who presented a terrific slide show on the Burrowing Owl wintering in South Texas. Mark became involved with the Canadian Burrowing Owl conservation and ecology, about three years ago, to study the habits of the owls after they arrive in South Texas.

Although the owls are declining in Canada and eastern United States, they fare relatively well here in South Texas. Arriving in mid October, and leaving mid February to mid March, the owls make their homes in prairie dog burrows and man made culverts. They feed on grasshoppers, mice other small animals and insects.

The study is funded by grants from various ecology foundations. The TGCFS uses public outreach to educate landowners and the general public on conserving the habitat of the owls. Graduate students from TAMU-CC gather information on where the owls are wintering and what they are feeding on. To determine what they are eating the students gather regurgitated pellets from the owls, dissect them, and analyze the contents.

Announcements:

- John is making progress on our web page and hopes to have it completed soon.
- We will have planning meetings in areas of interest to build up support.
- Richard announced 18 new memberships derived from the Christmas Gift program.
- March 30th the Coastal Bend Audubon will man a booth, at Turner's Landscaping, to instructing how to attract wild birds and butterflies to your garden.
- Hans Sutter Park has a feral cat overpopulation problem and is looking for humane ways to control it. Please contact any CBAS Board member if you have suggestions or would like to help.

HELP organize local Earth Day Event

Ever wondered how big events are organized? Interested in learning? It can be challenging and rewarding and a skill worth learning! The Coastal Bend Bays Foundation (CBBF) organizes and hosts the annual regional Earth Day - Bay Day celebration. The event is intended to raise funds for local education and to raise awareness about the importance of our precious natural resources. Earth Day - Bay Day 2002 will be celebrated on April 20 along the banks of the Nueces River at Hazel Bazemore County Park. The CBBF is looking for volunteers to help organize the event. If you would like to help, please contact the CBBF at (361) 882-3439

The Newsletter of the Coastal Bend Audubon Society

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Corpus Christi, Texas 78469

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Email: blacklock@aol.com

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Permit No. 1080
Corpus Christi, TX

Regular meetings:
1st Tuesday of the month at 6:45 pm at the
Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History



The Brown Pelican

Coastal Bend Audubon Society Board of Directors

PRESIDENT:

Terri Nicolau
(361) 939-9964

VICE PRESIDENT:

Gene Blacklock
(361) 882-7232

SECRETARY:

Carolyn Goodloe
(361) 850-8668

TREASURER:

Bill Schmidt
(361) 776-7039

DIRECTORS:

Audrey Humphries
(361) 852-6418

Cynthia Womack
(361) 729-6887

Kendal Keyes
(361) 885-6245

Bron Rorex
(361) 790-9353

The Coastal Bend Audubon Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of birds and bird habitat and to education in the Coastal Bend. The organization is supported by contributions from local memberships and from the national Audubon Society.

We are actively seeking new members.

We can help steer the course of growth and change in our community if we work together towards education. Please contact us at (361) 885-6209 about getting involved!

This newsletter is compiled/written and published monthly. Articles of interest are gathered from various sources and compiled by the editor, volunteers, and/or contributing authors. All contributions and contributions/comments are welcomed.

I would like to become a member of to the National Audubon Society,
Coastal Bend Chapter W-13.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

If you are already a member and would like to make a tax deductible contribution, please circle the category you would like your contribution applied to:

1. general fund - to be used as needed
2. education activities
3. sanctuary maintenance

The membership dues schedule is as follows:

Student/Senior	\$15
Introductory/1 year	\$20
2 year	\$30
Basic	\$35
Lifetime Individual	\$1000
Lifetime Dual	\$1500

Your membership entitles you to the National Audubon Magazine, local chapter membership, and other benefits. To join the National Audubon Society, Coastal Bend Chapter, please send this completed form and your check, payable to "National Audubon Society Chapter W-13" to Coastal Bend Audubon Society, P.O. Box 4793, Corpus Christi, TX 78469.