



The Chattanooga Chat

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A Newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter
Tennessee Ornithological Society

Meeting

Ascension Lutheran Church
720 S Germantown Rd

Thursday, January 13, 2011

5:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting

7:00 p.m. Monthly Meeting:

Program: Melinda Welton from Nashville (a state TOS board member) will do the January 13 program. Her program will be about Sandhill Cranes including some of their natural history. Our local TWRA commissioner William Brown plans to attend the meeting and speak. We can exchange our thoughts about crane hunting and other things concerning TWRA.

Refreshments: Stacy Stone will provide refreshments after the meeting.

Thanks to: Jack Leather for presenting our December program.

Field Trips

Look for information on field trips in an upcoming message.

Cranes

Check out the following link to a nice editorial on Sandhill Crane hunting in Tennessee by outdoor columnist Richard Simms. The editorial includes links where you can comment to TWRA on the hunting proposal and leave your response.

http://www.chattanoogan.com/articles/article_190009.asp

Dear all

Anne Paine of the Tennessean is writing another story on Sandhill Cranes. This information is in the management Plan for the Eastern Population of Sandhill Cranes posted on the TOS website:

www.tnbirds.org/ConsPolCom/ProposedCraneHunt.html

Melinda Welton

TOS Conservation Policy Committee

What Have You Seen

Ross's Gull

8 birders from Chattanooga have seen the Ross's gull including Ron Rogers, Tommie Rogers, Dan Jacobson, Kathy Jacobson, Kevin Calhoun, John Henderson, Jan Chadwell and Jonnie Sue Lyons.
Tommie Rogers

December 3

The ICF intern has been working both sides of the river to triangulate the whooper's location. The whooper with the radio is a young bird that she helped to raise. Last Monday, about an hour after my son and I met her, she had lost the signal and was quite concerned about the youngster. The whooper has both an active radio and a satellite transmitter.

Bill Holt, Chattanooga, TN

December 4

We saw a total of 31 species. Attending students included: Cole Brewer, Sam Hartley, Ben Lowrance, Jessica Lorange, Tony Sanchez and Seth Dunzweiler. Chattanooga TOS birders included: Bill Bass, Lois Bean, Katherine Boyles, Danny Gaddy, Starr Klein, and David Stone.

Later in the day Danny Gaddy and the students met Doug Geren at the Hiwassee refuge where they saw 2 Whooping Cranes as well as Sandhill Cranes.

Birds seen at The Honors Course included:
Great Blue Herron

Turkey Vulture
 Red-tailed Hawk
 Killdeer
 Morning Dove
 Red-bellied Woodpecker
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
 Downy Woodpecker
 Northern Flicker
 Blue Jay
 American Crow
 Carolina Chickadee
 Tufted Titmouse
 White-breasted Nuthatch
 Brown-headed Nuthatch
 Carolina Wren
 Ruby-crowed Kinglet
 Eastern Bluebird
 American Robin
 Northern Mockingbird
 Pine Warbler
 Eastern Towhee
 Chipping Sparrow
 Field Sparrow
 Song Sparrow
 Dark-eyed Junco
 Northern Cardinal
 Red-winged Blackbird
 Purple Finch
 House Finch
 American Goldfinch
 - David Stone

November 29
 Fort Mountain State Park, Georgia
 Sunday afternoon, November 28, 2010,
 about 2 PM, we saw 150 or more Sandhill
 Cranes flying low beside the mountain,
 heading west.
 David Patterson, Ooltewah

November 30
 David Stone, CTOS President, was good
 enough to give me a tour of the
 marvelous Honor's Golf Course, in
 Ooltewah at the northeast end of
 Chattanooga. I'm no golf fan, but I'd have to
 say that this "green" bird-friendly course
 could make a convert of me. We visited and
 birded by golf cart (a fine, birding vehicle!),

and saw an impressive 33 species between
 3:30 and 5pm!

3 Mallard
 1 Pied-billed Grebe
 1 Great Blue Heron
 1 Sharp-shinned Hawk
 2 Red-tailed Hawk
 40 Sandhill Crane (fly over)
 15 Mourning Dove
 1 Belted Kingfisher
 2 Red-bellied Woodpecker
 4 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
 3 Downy Woodpecker
 2 Northern Flicker
 5 Blue Jay
 5 Carolina Chickadee
 3 Tufted Titmouse
 4 White-breasted Nuthatch
 3 Carolina Wren
 2 Golden-crowned Kinglet
 10 Eastern Bluebird
 20 American Robin
 3 Northern Mockingbird
 40 Cedar Waxwing
 5 Yellow-rumped Warbler
 2 Pine Warbler
 15 Chipping Sparrow
 5 Field Sparrow
 3 Song Sparrow
 10 White-throated Sparrow
 5 Dark-eyed Junco
 5 Northern Cardinal
 5 Red-winged Blackbird
 45 Common Grackle
 5 American Goldfinch
 Melinda Welton, Franklin

Nov 27
 19 Snow Geese
 3 Ross' Geese
 1 Common Loon
 230 Canada Geese
 1 Mute Swan
 22 Gadwall
 48 Widgeon
 20 Mallard
 4 N. Shoveler
 3 N. Pintail
 11 Green-wing Teal
 125 Ring-necked Duck

10 Bufflehead
 20 Hooded Merganser
 1 Ruddy Duck
 12 Pied-billed Grebe
 14 Double crested. Cormorant
 61 Great Blue Heron
 1 Great Egret
 5 Black Vulture
 8 Turkey Vulture
 6 Bald Eagle
 2 N. Harrier
 3 Red-tailed Hawk
 320 American Coot
 4000 Sandhill Crane
 1 Whooping Crane
 23 Killdeer
 1 Wilson's Snipe
 135 Ringed-billed Gull
 2 Bonaparte's Gull
 50 Rock Pigeon
 1 Mourning Dove
 3 Kingfisher
 1 Red-bellied Woodpecker
 2 E. Phoebe
 1 Blue Jay
 300 Am. Crow
 2 Carolina Chickadee
 2 Carolina Wren
 1 Golden-crowned Kinglet
 18 E. Bluebird
 1 Yellow-rumped Warbler
 1 E. Towhee
 4 White-throated Sparrow
 1 Song Sparrow
 1 Vesper Sparrow
 2 N. Cardinal
 1 E. Meadowlark
 35 Red-winged Blackbird
 2 Purple Finch
 Melinda Welton & John Noel
 Franklin, TN

At Nickajack on Wed. Nov 10
 10 Horned Grebes
 8 Canvasback Ducks
 Lesser Scaup
 Ring-necked Ducks, Fish Crows
 Today at SG Marsh: Common Yellowthroat
 and immature White-crowned Sparrow
 Tommie Rogers

15 December 2010

Meigs County, TN

While radio tracking Sandhill Cranes at
 Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge, I saw 3
 Whooping Cranes. All three cranes were
 visible from the viewing area. There were
 also ~6,000 Sandhill Cranes on the refuge,
 although only ~2,000 are visible from the
 viewing area. I also saw my first Northern
 Harrier of the season, and there were several
 Wilson's Snipe along the edge of the river.
 There were ~200 Mallards huddled on the
 ice at the viewing area, and at one point an
 adult Bald Eagle made several passes at
 them, presumably to get some to separate
 from the group for easier pickings. I did not
 see any other ducks or geese out there (last
 week I saw Hooded Mergansers, Green-
 winged Teal, and a few Gadwall).
 David Aborn, Chattanooga, TN

December 12

Backyard Fox Sparrow yesterday, December
 13, expected every time it snows, which is
 rarely.

David Patterson, Ooltewah

December 11

First Pine Siskins of the year, later in the day
 we had one Rusty Blackbird for the first
 time in several years We have had Purple
 Finches from early on and have about a
 dozen today, Fox Sparrow also from early
 and Hermit Thrush and now scores of Gold
 Finches with other regulars and Yellow-
 rumps and Pine Warblers coming to our
 water places.

J. N. Howard,

Fiery Gizzard Cove, Marion County,

December 13

A single Canvasback was in the Camp
 Jordan Park Pond in East Ridge with the
 winter resident Ring-necked Ducks, etc.
 Tim Jeffers, East Ridge

December 30, Amnicola Marsh

7 Hooded Mergansers

Ray Zimmerman

Join and Support TOS

\$28 – Individual \$32 - Family
\$15 - Student \$40 - Sustaining
\$460 – Life member (Life members must pay
additional \$10 local chapter dues each year.)

Send checks to Cathy Lockets, P.O. Box 2003
Collegedale, TN 37315. (423) 653-1640 Note:
all dues, donations, gifts, and bequests are tax
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www.chattanoogatos.org

YOU ARE INVITED TO BECOME
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Membership in TOS is:

The Chattanooga Chat, monthly newsletter
The Tennessee Warbler, statewide newsletter
The Migrant, quarterly journal
Meetings, Field Trips and Special Events
Conservation and Educational Projects
Increasing knowledge and enjoyment of our
natural world

To Our New Members

A warm welcome to “The Wonderful World
of Birds”... Join in the fun... Come to all of
our events and bring your friend(s) if you
wish.