



The Chattanooga Chat

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A Newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter
Tennessee Ornithological Society

January Meeting

Ascension Lutheran Church
720 S Germantown Rd

Thursday, January 14, 2009

5:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting

7:00 p.m. Monthly Meeting:

Program: Dr. Gary Brunvoll will present "Birding In Guyana". We had technical problem in September when Gary tried to give this talk. Those who saw his pictures on his laptop will attest this is a very good program.

Thanks

Thanks to Dennis Harris for presenting the December program, "Bird Biology - Adaptation for Flight & Survival"

January Field Trips

Blue Moon Cruise to Hiwassee Island

Saturday, January 9, 2010

Meet: 9:30 am at the Sale Creek Marina.

Trip will last from 10 am until about 1:30 pm with a BBQ lunch included. Contact Kyle Waggener at least a week before the trip with any special dietary needs. **Cost: \$20 per person.** Pay when boarding the boat.

To reserve your spot, contact Kyle Waggener (423) 693-7533 or email at kylewag@yahoo.com by January 2, 2010. Leave your name, phone number and the number of people in your party. There are 30 spots reserved for TOS members right now. If response is low, I need to ask them to reduce that number

about a week before the trip.

Hiwassee Island, located in the Hiwassee State Wildlife Refuge at the confluence of the Hiwassee and Tennessee Rivers, is the premier wintering observation site in the southeast for the magnificent Sandhill Crane. In North America the Sandhill Crane is second in height only to the Whooping Crane, also sometimes appears at Hiwassee.

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency plants corn, millet, buckwheat and winter wheat for the cranes and wintering waterfowl. This year they had to reduce the plantings by half due to budget cuts, but the cranes are still in the area in the usual numbers. The Blue Moon's Eco-Cruise is also an exceptional way to view Bald Eagles. The refuge is the wintering home of more than 20 adult and juvenile Bald Eagles. We should get a good look at Bald Eagle nests on the cruise. (Page 2 for more info)

Dues are Now Due

\$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 Lockwitz, 4525 Lake Haven Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37416. Note: all dues, donations, gifts, and bequests are tax deductible under Sec. 501 (c) (3) of the internal Revenue Code of the U.S. Please make checks payable to TOS

Blue Moon, Continued

The lower deck has an enclosed, climate controlled area for your comfort, but if you like to be outdoors on the open decks; dress in layers for the weather. You may want to bring binoculars and a camera.

Directions to Sale Creek Marina
From the South - Chattanooga, TN
Take US 27 North (Corridor J) from Chattanooga through Soddy Daisy, TN (approx. 23 miles)

Continue north 5.5 miles past the Hwy 111 turnoff to Bakewell. Turn right at the Amoco/BP station (at traffic light) onto McCallie Ferry Road. Continue on McCallie Ferry approximately 2 miles and take the left fork onto May Road.

Go 0.7 mile to a stop sign at Mayflower Road. Continue straight on May Road for 1.3 miles. Take the 2nd right after crossroad onto Lee Pike. Go 1.4 miles and take a left at the stone entrance into the Regatta Point subdivision. Turn left into the marina driveway. Parking is on the left.

Directions from Cleveland / Knoxville, Tennessee - from I-75, take exit 25 onto Highway 60 west. Stay on Highway 60 toward Dayton, TN for approx. 20 miles through Birchwood to Highway 27 (you will cross Hwy 58 and the Tennessee River).

Turn left onto Highway 27 south and go about 9 miles to Sale Creek. In Sale Creek, pass under the overhead School Zone sign.

Take the next left onto Patterson Road which becomes Mayflower Rd. Follow Patterson/Mayflower Road approximately 3-1/2 miles to the first crossroad and turn left onto May Road. Follow May Road approximately one mile and take the second right onto Lee Pike.

Follow Lee Pike approximately 1-1/2

miles. Turn left into Regatta Point subdivision and immediately turn left into the marina driveway.

From the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology

For a Tropical Bird, Violin More Resonant than Aria

A Cornell researcher used lasers to detect feathers vibrating as Club-winged Manakins courted females with "violins" made of feathers. To read the story and watch a manakin making the sound, visit <http://birdsredesign.wordpress.com>

The Bird Watching Answer Book

The Cornell Laboratory receives some 80,000 questions from the public each year. In her new book, science editor Laura Erickson shares her answers to some of the most common and intriguing questions. The book offers a delightful mix of practical advice, surprising insights, and fun facts. Purchase a signed copy from [Wild Birds Unlimited at Sapsucker Woods](#).

New FeederWatch Video

How can you take your enjoyment of bird watching one step farther? Tell us about the birds at your feeders by participating in Project FeederWatch this winter.

<http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/learnmore.html>



What Have You Seen?

Results of the Chester Frost Field Trip
9 people attended the field trip and
found 47 species.

Notable birds included Brown Headed
Nuthatch, Red Headed Woodpecker
(several adults & 1 immature in
transition colors) Bonaparte's Gull,
Bufflehead, Horned Grebe, Coopers
Hawk and 3 Bald Eagles (2 Adults and a
very white breasted immature).

Here is a full List in order seen:

Sandhill Crane

Coot

Kingfisher

Ring Billed Gull

Shoveler

Blue Heron

Bonaparte's Gull

Pied Billed Grebe

Bald Eagle

Brown Headed Nuthatch

Mallard

Bufflehead

Crow

Loon

Red Bellied Woodpecker

Cedar Waxwing

Robin

Red Winged Blackbird

Starling

Gold Finch

Flicker

Cardinal

Titmouse

Towhee

White Throated Sparrow

Double Crested Cormorant

Ruby Crowned Kinglet

Chickadee

Hermit Thrush

Carolina Wren

Horned Grebe

Yellow Rump Warbler

Downy

Brown Thrasher

Mocking Bird

Dove

Song Sparrow

Yellow Bellied Sapsucker

Red Headed Woodpecker

Eastern Blue Bird

White Breasted Nuthatch

Junco

Phoebe

Canada Goose

Coopers Hawk

House Finch

Hawk, Probably Red tail

A Species of Bird that Eats Only From Bird-feeders?

According to [the BBC](#), the European
blackcap bird's natural instinct has
historically been to migrate to Spain to
spend their winters, where they feed on
fruits and berries. The rise of bird-
feeders in the UK have changed that.

Scientists discovered that blackcaps
"follow a different 'evolutionary path' if
they spend the winter eating food put out
for them in UK gardens." For the full
story, see <http://www.treehugger.com/>

2010 Winter Meeting at Reelfoot Lake January 29-31

The 2010 winter meeting of the
Tennessee Ornithological Society will be
held at Reelfoot Lake January 29 to 31.
Our hotel will be the Reelfoot Lake Inn,
1520 Hwy 21, Tiptonville, Tn.

Reservations for the Reelfoot Lake Inn
can be made at (731) 253-6845. The fax
line is: (731) 253-6866. Their website is:
ReelfootLakeInn.com and email is:
www.reelfootlakeinn@yahoo.com.

The Inn will hold a small number of I
strongly recommend booking early. The
winter meeting is primarily a chance to
bird and there is no business meeting or
registration fee. There will be an
informal social hour, with refreshments,
7 PM Friday night at the Inn.

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.)

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Your Chattanooga Chapter, TOS
Meeting your needs
For quality birding since 1915

YOU ARE INVITED TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE CHATTANOOGA CHAPTER, TOS

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.

Chattanooga TOS Website:
www.chattanoogatos.org



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