



Bird Calls

Newsletter of the Bastrop County Audubon Society

October 2002

THE PURPLE MARTIN

A Presentation by Author
Robin Doughty

Tuesday October 15
7:30 PM

One of the surest harbingers of spring is the return of the Purple Martins to their Central Texas homes. Scores of people enjoy the aerial acrobatics, feisty behavior and the dawn choruses of these delightful and unusual neighbors. Unusual because the Purple Martin is a wild bird that thrives around human habitations. From the first Native Americans who hung gourds for martins, to John James Audubon who admired the martin as “a privileged pilgrim,” to present day enthusiasts, Purple Martins have captured the hearts and imaginations of Americans.

Robin Doughty is coauthor of *The Purple Martin* (with Rob Fergus, Executive Director of Travis Audubon) and is Professor of Geography at the University of Texas at Austin. He has had a lifelong interest in and dedication to wildlife conservation, having written books on both rare and popular species, including the whooping crane, mockingbird and armadillo. He is interested in how and why people respond to birds and how birds benefit from human attention and protection.

Robin Doughty's books will be available for sale at the meeting courtesy of Naturally Curious. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the BCAS Education Fund.

The October chapter meeting will be held the third Tuesday of the month on the 15th at 7:30 PM in the Cecil Long Community Room of the First National Bank of Bastrop. The civic room is next to the bank on Main Street. Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments after the program. The Learners' Corner begins at 7 PM.



The Martins, lithograph © M. Crisp 2002

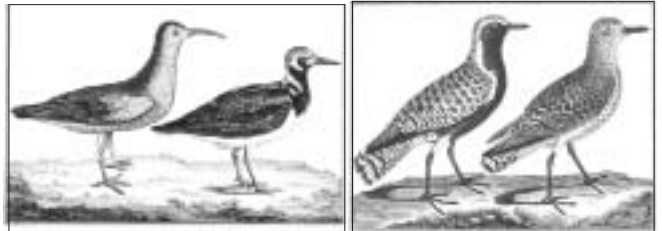
BCAS CALENDAR OF EVENTS



OOPS! The Corrected 2002-2003 NEW OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President	Bill Montgomery	281-5667
Vice-President	Mary Ellen Branan	303-2734
Secretary	Dotty Pledge	916-8313
Treasurer	Alan Jaeger	581-7451
Membership	Priscilla Jarvis	281-2762
Newsletter	Margie Crisp	281-5667
Programs	Mary Beth Gradziel	601-2381
Conservation	Marcia Hermann	247-4269
Education	Jim & Mary Anne Casey	237-2731
Field Trips	Loretta Hennard	321-3818
Hospitality	Dorothy Wells	303-2372
Special Events	Linda Presto-Lenoch	303-0944
Web site	Alan Jaeger	
State Audubon Delegate	Joan Russell	321-2718
State Audubon Alternate	Alan Jaeger	
Directors		
	Barbara Carson, McDade	
	Gary Grief, Bastrop	
	Maggie Lambert, Elgin	
Science Committee		
	Carla Carter, Smithville	
	Megan Lowrey, Smithville	
	David Mitchell, Bastrop	
	David Musgrave, McDade	
	Lee Stone, Bastrop	
	Stan Wellso, Bastrop	

Email addresses are available on the BCAS website



Bird Calls is published 6 or more times a year by Bastrop County Audubon Society. It is edited and produced by Margie Crisp, Maggie Lambert & Priscilla Jarvis. Contributors for this issue include Linda Presto-Lenoch, Maggie Lambert, Mary Ellen Branan. Deadline for next issue: November 1 PO Box 656, Elgin, TX 78621 Margie (512) 281-5667 or Maggie (512) 321- 2569 e-mail: Tiliqua2@earthlink.net



OCTOBER 2002

October 13, 4 PM—Board Meeting, Alan & Vera Jaeger's home, 117 Kaelepulu Dr., Bastrop (581-7451)
 October 15—Chapter meeting. Robin Doughty, The Purple Martin.
 Saturday October 19, BCAS Field Trip to Palmetto State Park
 Saturday, October 26, Elgin Hogeye Festival
 October 26-29, 18th Annual Land Trust Alliance Rally, Austin. Contact Pines & Prairies Land Trust for more info: Tom Dureka 360-3045 or Carrie Knox 830-839-4628

NOVEMBER 2002

November 17, 4 PM—Board Meeting, Lorretta Hennard's home, 129 Oak Shadows, Bastrop (321-3818)
 November 19— Chapter Meeting Carrie Knox and Marcia Hermann, Land Trusts & Land Trust Rally

DECEMBER 2002

Solstice Party! Time and place TBA. Don't miss the best party of the year.

JANUARY 2003

January 19—Board Meeting, Jim & Mary Anne Casey's in Smithville (237-2731)
 January 21— Chapter Meeting Lee Stone, Native Grasses & Texas Prairies

2003 PROGRAMS TO COME

BCAS Science Committee member David Musgrave will present his much-anticipated program on the dynamics of bird flight from an engineer's point of view and the March program will be about Aquatic Fauna.

Check our website often for updates!
www.bastropcountyaudubon.org



A Request for Assistance:

Brush Freeman is collecting historic data on the birds of Bastrop, Fayette, Gonzales, Lee and eastern Caldwell Co. to include in an annotated checklist and history of birding in the aforementioned areas. He has done extensive research for this region and has discovered many obscure items of interest which he has incorporated into this project. He is requesting any records of rare or significant finds made in these counties that may have not been presented in previous publications (newspapers, books, dairies, personal accounts etc.) that Bastrop Audubon members may be aware of. He is especially interested in any records or reports that exist from the 1800's through the 1950's no matter how brief or incomplete as well as notable finds members may have made since that time to the present for inclusion. Any citations or reports would be much appreciated and acknowledged and once the draft is complete and/or published, copies will be provided to BCAS.

Brush Freeman
120 N. Redbud Trail
Elgin, Texas 78621
Brush@onr.com
512-303-0046



FUNDRAISING NEWS

PARTY! PARTY!

Saturday October 12, 10 am
Barbara Carson's home in McDade

The grapevine wreath decorating party will be held Saturday October 12 at 10 AM at Barbara Carson's home in McDade. Bring a sack lunch & cool stuff to decorate the wreaths. Linda Presto-Lenoch, Special Events Chairperson suggests:

Dried flowers	Glue gun
Pinecones	Pliers
Pods or Seeds	Floral Wire
Acorns	Any other tools
Ribbon	that might help
Other interesting stuff	

No bird feathers or nests please.

For more info call Linda at 303-0944.

For directions call Barbara Carson 273-2840

ELGIN HOGEGYE FESTIVAL

Come spend an hour or two with friends at our booth at the Elgin Hogey Festival, Saturday October 26th. If you'd like to help sell our fund-raising goodies and talk to folks about BCAS and what a cool fun group we are, give Linda a call (or email) or sign-up at the October meeting.

NATIONAL AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Introductory membership \$20

Includes membership in National, a subscription to Audubon magazine, membership in Bastrop County Audubon Society, a subscription to BCAS's newsletter, Bird Calls, and invitations to all BCAS programs, events, and field trips.

Membership renewal \$35

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Please make checks payable to :

Send to: National Audubon Society
Bastrop County Audubon W17
Alan Jaeger, Treasurer
117 Kaelepulu Dr
Bastrop 78602

Friend of Bastrop County Audubon \$20

Includes membership in Bastrop County Audubon Society, a subscription to BCAS's newsletter, Bird Calls, and invitations to all BCAS programs, events, and field trips.

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Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

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Bastrop 78602

FIELD TRIPS

PALMETTO STATE PARK FIELD TRIP Saturday October 19th

We will meet at 7 AM in the parking lot of the Bastrop HEB behind Jalisco's Restaurant. Plan to carpool and/or caravan down together (drive time is less than 1 hour).

Bring a sack lunch, binoculars, insect repellent, water, drinks, a hat, and field guides.

Please call Lorretta Hennard at 321-3818 if you are planning to go!

www.BastropCountyAudubon.org

BCAS EMAIL LIST

BCAS would like to notify you of updates to our Web site. We would also like to share information about birds, birding and other nature-related topics that we receive. To subscribe go to our web site and follow the links.



Bastrop County Audubon Society
c/o Jarvis
783 Lower Elgin Rd.
Elgin, TX 78621

Return Service Requested

THE LEARNERS' CORNER

(singing)

"We've got the blues!"

Experts Linda Lench and Barbara Carson will share their knowledge about central Texas' beloved blue birds and the intelligent and beneficial blue jay.

Just maybe Linda will convince her performing jay to join the proceedings. The

Learners' Corner meets at

7:00 PM before the general meeting.



OCTOBER REFRESHMENTS:

**Megan Lowery &
Margarita Cretini**