

# *BirdCalls*



*Bastrop County Audubon Society  
BCAS Mission; To promote the  
conservation, restoration, and enjoyment of natural  
resources and habitats for birds and other wildlife.*

## **President's Perch**

*Happy new year, everyone! I trust that all of you had a joyous holiday season. Reflecting on this past year, I was struck by the fast-growing number of interconnected organizations in Bastrop County. Someone mentioned that we have a vast web of overlapping interests and goals. I agree.*



One of the most common interests that kept coming up was the desire to expand, preserve and connect Bastrop's open spaces for all to enjoy and benefit from. This came up in meetings involving commercial developments, tourism, sports, businesses, parks, trails, roads, infrastructure, education, real estate, neighborhood associations, and many more. Everyone seemed to agree that Bastrop's natural diversity and green spaces were one of the major assets we have to offer and that we need to protect it.

Many of you undoubtedly belong to many of these organizations. Thank you for the work you do to keep these organizations educated to the multiple benefits of our open spaces. Because of you there have been many creative methods utilized to keep the ball rolling in the right direction. I encourage all of you to seek out these organizations and attend their meetings, visit their sites, and support them as you can. You have a lot more to offer than you think. Share your enthusiasm and love for the natural world

around us. It is contagious and up lifting. And more often than not, just being present provides the best results.

Thank you for listening,

Luke Thompson

President

P.S. Remember to **pay dues** at [https:// www.bastropcountyaudubon.org/join-renew-donate](https://www.bastropcountyaudubon.org/join-renew-donate)

**January 2, 2024 Meeting at 7:00** ( Cookie social 6:30 )at Bastrop Public Library 1100 Church Street, Bastrop. Come enjoy company of other birders and learn.

***Laszlo Perlaky will be the speaker for the program.  
Naturalperl Fine Art Photography***



*Enjoy Laszlo and his wife Lexi, more than 300 color images, selected from their 2023 90 days, 130 thousand miles photography trip to State Parks, National Parks, and National Monuments,*

*Provincial Parks from Texas through British Columbia, Yukon and Northwest Territory to the Arctic Ocean then through Alaska back home to Bastrop, TX. All of their images were taken with great respect for Nature, through their artist's eye. This presentation is not*

*about birds, but about their love of Nature and the beauty of the Lend.* <http://www.naturalperlart.com>

<p>Dr. Laszlo Perlaky is a retired research scientist and photographic artist, educator. His wife Alexandra (Lexi) Nemeth is a retired histotech and photographic artist. They won several prestigious awards, and published and exhibited their work at art festivals, and group and solo exhibitions. Laszlo is a photography instructor at Houston Center for Photography and Houston Photography Study Group, and an elected Board member at the Lost Pines Art Center and at the Bastrop</p>		
---	--	--

### **Bird City Bastrop Field Trips**

All times are 8:30am to 10:00am. Watch for our directional birdwatching signs to the location. Binoculars are provided.

Little Hike – Friday, Jan 12, 2024, at McKinney Roughs Highway 71 Trailhead, also known as the Zip Line location at 1760 SH 71 W. We saw Bald Eagles last year. Maybe they’ll be there again this year.

Little Sit – Saturday, January 27, 2024, from 8:30am to 10:00am at The Circle D Lakes Park at 926 FM 1441 to the right of the Fire Station.

### **Bird City Bastrop Field Trips**

Bird City Bastrop offers 2 field trips per month open to the public at different locations in and around Bastrop. Our Little Hikes are the 2nd Friday, and our Little Sits are the 4th Saturday. All field trips are led by experienced birders from Bastrop County Audubon eager to help you identify and understand birds. Loaner binoculars are available with instructions on their proper use.

# Bird City Bastrop 2024 Monthly Events



**BIRD  
CITY  
TEXAS  
BASTROP**

**BASTROP  
COUNTY  
AUDUBON  
SOCIETY**



**BIRD  
LOVER WEEKEND  
MAY 3-4, 2024**

*Follow us on Facebook  
for event details & news:  
Bird City Bastrop Texas*

## LITTLE HIKES (2nd Fridays 8:30-10:00am)

**January 12** - LCRA McKinney Roughs (\$5 entry) - Hwy 71 Trailhead

**February 9** - Lake Bastrop Northshore (\$5 entry) - Buzzard Trail

**March 8** - Bastrop State Park (\$5 entry) - Tree Army Trails

**April 12** - Colorado River Refuge - Cottonwood Kings Trail

**May 10** - Colorado River Refuge - Dragonfly Trail

**June 14** - Bob Bryant Park - Hiking Trail

**July 12** - Cedar Creek Park - Hiking Trail

**August 9** - Buescher State Park (\$5 entry) - Overlook

**September 13** - Fisherman's Park - June Pape Riverwalk

**October 11** - Pecan Park Subdivision - Dorothy Skarnulis Nature Trail

**November 8** - Colorado River Refuge - Cliffhanger Trail

**December 13** - Hunters Crossing Park

## LITTLE SITS (4th Saturdays 8:30-10:00am)

**January 27** - Circle D Lakes

**February 24** - Lake Bastrop Southshore (\$5 entry) - Bird Blind

**March 23** - Bastrop State Park (\$5 entry) - Copper Creek Campground

**April 27** - Bastrop County Nature Park - Outdoor Classroom

**May 25** - Cedar Creek Park - Butterfly Garden

**June 22** - Bob Bryant Park - Bird Blind

**July 27** - Minerva Delgado Park

**August 24** - Vernon L. Richards Riverbend Park

**September 28** - Fisherman's Park - Boat Ramp Area

**October 26** - Kerr Community Park

**November 23** - Fairview Cemetery

## Membership Dues

It's that time of year again. Membership dues expire on December

31st. Please submit your payments online at:



[https:// www.bastropcountyaudubon.org/join-renew-donate](https://www.bastropcountyaudubon.org/join-renew-donate).

Your dues support everything we do in and around Bastrop all year to instill in others a love for the great outdoors. Please be generous with your contribution and consider a higher-level membership if you are able.

**Conservation Minute-** each of us can make a difference in the environment by eating more vegetables and less meat . Producing food for livestock requires almost 20 percent of the world’s fresh water. Meat production significantly contributes to the release of greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide which cause climate change and warming.



**New Year challenge!!** Birds are so beautiful! Can you name these birds! Test yourself....



