

WINNERS REPORT



John P. O'Neill - 2006

2007
Great Texas Birding Classic
APRIL 15-22



Mission Statement

To increase appreciation, understanding and conservation of birds along the Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail through education, recreation, nature tourism and conservation fundraising.

For More Information

For more information about how your business or community can be involved in this year's event, please contact the Birding Classic staff:

(979) 480-0999

www.gcbo.org

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/gtbc/

Tournament Coordinator

Carol Jones

cjones@gcbo.org

Cover Artwork

Cover artwork by John O'Neill

The original, signed artwork will be available for sale on the on-line auction leading up to and during the week of the Birding Classic to raise money for habitat conservation on the Texas coast.



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**PROUD
PARTNER**

Thank You!

The Birding Classic staff would like to extend a warm “thank-you” to all participants, our host community and our sponsors for making the 11th Annual Great Texas Birding Classic such a great success! Thank you for your support of our effort to conserve coastal habitat and wildlife along the Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail.

- We had the financial support of eight Texas coastal communities.
- We had 61 additional sponsors, including corporations, small businesses, artists, foundations and individuals.
- 247 people participated in the competition.
- A total of 49 teams from 15 states, the District of Columbia and Canada competed in all categories.
- We had 16 youth teams participate, 11 Big Sit! teams and 3 teams in the Outta-Sight Song Birder Tournament for blind and visually impaired birders.
- The combined species total seen or heard by all teams during the Birding Classic this year was 349! To see which birds were seen by the winning teams, go to www.gcbo.org/html/GTBCResults.doc
- Over the past 11 years, winning teams have donated \$578,000 to avian habitat conservation along the Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail! This is a significant accomplishment—one that cannot be celebrated enough. With the creation and continuation of this event, the birds have been helped.



Mission Statement

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appreciation,
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Texas Coastal Birding
Trail through
education,
recreation, nature
tourism and
conservation
fundraising.*

Thanks to the Port Aransas
Chamber of Commerce/Visitors
Bureau for hosting our Awards
Lunch on Sunday, April 22!

The top three Weeklong Tournament teams were eligible to win individual prizes, and the top sponsored teams competing the entire week earned the right to designate which conservation projects received \$20,000, \$10,000 and \$10,000.

2007 GTBC Conservation Grant Grand Prize Winners

Environmental Partners

Reliant Energy

Bill Baker
Tom Roberts
Greg Mason
Lalise Mason

Awarded \$20,000 in conservation money.

The winning team received the First Place prize of framed 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic and tripods donated by Swarovski Optik, NA. They selected the winning \$20,000 conservation project (listed on page 5).

Number of species: 320



Second Place

ConocoPhillips Cranes

ConocoPhillips

Tony Frank
Lynn Barber
Debra Corpora

Awarded \$10,000 in conservation money.
Individual prizes for Second Place were copies of the book, *All Things Reconsidered: My Birding Adventures* donated by Houghton Mifflin. The team selected a \$10,000 conservation project.

Number of species: 303

Ode to Tony

BY LYNN BARBER

I think that I shall never see,
A leader like our own Tony.
Though he was stuck with women who
Had never seen a Classic through,
He cheerfully whistled and tooted and pished,
In spite of the birds we'd certainly missed.
We listened for owls and for other night beings.
We heard lots of sparrows without ever seeing.
We breathed in the sewage and waded through peeps.
We drove through the dark without any sleep.
We gloried in orioles and rallied with rails.
We pored over warblers along countless trails.
But of all of the bird memories I have of the Classic,
The best are the Hermit, and the duck with a mask.

THANK YOU TONY FROM BOTH OF US!!



Third Place

Bushnell Butcherbirds

Bushnell Outdoor Products

David Womer
David Dendler
Rex Miller

Awarded \$10,000 in conservation money.

Individual prizes for Third Place were copies of the book, *The Golden-cheeked Warbler*, donated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The team selected a \$10,000 conservation project.

Number of species: 291



4. Carolina Coots

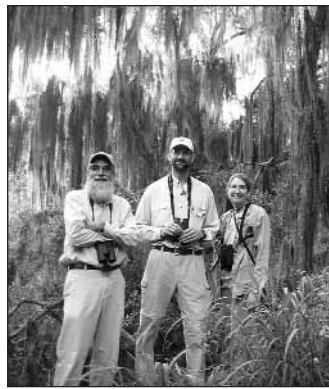
Independent

Robin Carter

Dennis Forsythe

Number of species: 272

We were very excited to have this veteran birding team join the Classic this year and also sorry that one team member was unable to come due to family health issues. Our thoughts were with Wayne and his family.



5. Los Primos

Independent

Woody Woodrow

Frank Fichtel

Connie Hoke

Number of species: 223

A great first-time effort!

Los Primos

2007 Conservation Grant Grand Prize Money

The real winners of the Great Texas Birding Classic are the birds and the habitat that supports them. Through increased awareness of birding and nature tourism, we hope to bring to light the importance of habitat conservation. This awareness, along with the money donated directly to habitat conservation projects each year, will preserve and protect important coastal habitat for many years to come.

The top three places in the Weeklong Tournament won the privilege of awarding \$40,000 to the habitat conservation projects of their choice. The following projects were recipients of the Weeklong Conservation Grant Grand Prizes.

\$20,000 – Donated by Environmental Partners/Reliant Energy:

Columbia Bottomlands – submitted by the Houston Audubon Society

The Columbia Bottomlands Austin Woods Conservation project is 10 years old and has conserved over 14,000 acres of prime habitat. Funds will cover acquisition costs for the purchase of more key tracts and will be matched with funds from other grants, donations and funds made available by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission. Costs covered will include appraisals, surveys and land consulting fees to develop proposals and offers to secure additional critical avian habitat of the highest priority.

\$10,000 – Donated by the ConocoPhillips Cranes/ConocoPhillips:

Goose Island Walkway to Wetland Wildlife – submitted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

This project entails constructing an 85-foot-long boardwalk over a salt marsh to provide public access to the western half of Goose Island State Park. The walkway will be constructed with wood and recycled plastic materials by TPWD staff and volunteers. The completed walkway will facilitate interpretive programs regarding a 24-acre marsh restoration project with its benefits to fish and wildlife, including birds. Avian area searches using established protocols will be instituted, and data will be entered into GCBO's eBird Web site.

\$10,000 – Donated by the Butcherbirds/Bushnell:

Texas City Prairie Preserve – submitted by The Nature Conservancy

This property was donated to The Nature Conservancy as a step to save the critically endangered Attwater's Prairie-Chicken from extinction. The objective is to reduce, and eventually eliminate, deep-rooted sedge on the property. It is a non-native plant of primary concern for prairie management. Deep-rooted sedge out-competes the native grasses and forbs of the already-rare Texas coastal prairie. Funds will be used to purchase herbicide and backpack sprayer, to pay for labor to spray apply the herbicide to identified patches of land, and to follow-up with winter time prescribed burns.

ADULTS – Lower Coast Only

1. Swarovski Roadside Hawks

Swarovski Optik N.A., Ltd

Clay Taylor, Joel Simon, Vicki Simon, Dane Ferrell

Number of species: 191

Prizes: First Place prize of framed 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic and Thayer Birding software (donated by Thayer Birding Software). The team will also get to pick the Lower Coast project for a \$10,000 conservation grant.



Swarovski Roadside Hawks



AEP Texas Pauraques

2. AEP Texas Pauraques

AEP Texas

Cecilia Riley, Lynne Aldrich, Tim Brush, Peter Gottschling

Number of species: 176

Prizes: *Mammals of Texas* (books donated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)

ADULTS – Central Coast Only

1. Zeiss LSU Tiger-Herons

Carl Zeiss Sports Optics

Richard Gibbons, Phred Benham, Devin Bosler, Justin Bosler

Number of species: 218

Prizes: First Place prize of framed 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic and *All Things Reconsidered: My Birding Adventures* (books donated by Houghton Mifflin). The team will also get to pick the Central Coast project for a \$10,000 conservation grant.



Zeiss LSU Tiger-Herons



Nikon WildBirders

2. Nikon WildBirders

Nikon & WildBird magazine

Cameron Cox, Ken Behrens, Pete Hosner, France DeWaugh

Number of species: 216

Prizes: *All Things Reconsidered: My Birding Adventures* (books donated by Houghton Mifflin)

3. King Ranch Pajareros

King Ranch

Tom Langschied, Oscar Cortez, Jim Sinclair, Brian Williams

Number of species: 190

Prizes: *Hummingbirds of North America*

(books donated by Houghton Mifflin)

4. Aplomado Falcons

Independent

Ray Allen, Jay Pruett

Number of species: 150

5. Three Brazosport Buzzards & A Phalarope

Brazosport Convention & Visitors Council & NBID Associates

Gardner Campbell, Sandi Elsik, Dr. Ray Jordon, Warren Pruess

Number of species: 134



King Ranch Pajareros

ADULTS – Upper Coast Only

1. Pineywoods Peregrines

Independent

Ron Gutberlet, Stephan Lorenz, Will Russell, Peter Barnes

Number of species: 209

Prizes: First place prize of framed 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic and certificates for birding trips on the MV Skimmer (donated by Rockport Adventures, Capt. Tommy Moore)



TAMUG Xtreme Birding Team

2. TAMUG Xtreme Birding Team

AEP Texas

Susan Knock, David Lindsey, Greggo Seward,

Emily Watson, Orion Weldon

Number of species: 184

Prizes: *All Things Reconsidered: My Birding Adventures* (books donated by Houghton Mifflin). The team will also get to pick the Upper Coast project for a \$10,000 conservation grant.

3. Woody's Golondrinas

Independent

Woody Woodrow, Jeff Dallarosa, Frank Fichtel,

Connie Hoke, Curt Harweth

Number of species: 142

Prizes: *Bats of Texas* (books donated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)

4. Grey Feathers

Independent

Patricia Bowen, Shirley Smith, Carol Scherer

Number of species: 138

5. Necked Jaybirds

Independent

Linda Pechacek, Ted Cleveland, Terry Baldwin

Number of species: 134

6. UT Tyler Dunk-A-Doos

Independent

Jessica Coleman, Dan Dawson, Elizabeth Farley

Number of species: 129

Sectional Conservation Grant Grand Prizes

Sectional Conservation Grants of \$10,000 each were awarded by the winning team of each section of the coast to the habitat conservation project of their choice. This guarantees that at least one project will be funded in each section of the coast every year! The following projects were recipients of the Sectional Conservation Prizes.

LOWER TEXAS COAST \$10,000 – Donated by the Swarovski Roadside Hawks

Sabal Palm Audubon Center: Restoration and Enhancements – submitted by Audubon Texas

This is a habitat restoration project to enlarge part of the resaca in order to have more surface water for waterfowl and other wildlife. Additionally, it will fund repairs to wildlife-viewing features at the center, including the wetland bridge and viewing blind over the resaca and the palapa in the butterfly garden, as well as the addition of a second viewing blind.

CENTRAL TEXAS COAST \$10,000 – Donated by the Zeiss LSU Tiger-Herons

Packery Channel Sanctuary Habitat Restoration – submitted by Audubon Outdoor Club of Corpus Christi, Inc.

This project involves native habitat restoration to this unique barrier island, including the following: installation of semi-porous bottom material for marsh to aid in water retention, purchase and planting of trees native to area, and removal and control of cattails and Brazilian Pepper trees from the existing marsh. It will also fund extension of the boardwalk and installation of educational interpretive signage.

UPPER TEXAS COAST \$10,000 – Donated by the TAMUG Xtreme Birding Team

Horseshoe Marsh Prairie Restoration – submitted by Houston Audubon Society

Houston Audubon's Horseshoe Marsh Bird Sanctuary contains approximately 500 acres of coastal prairie habitat, and approximately 400 acres of the sanctuary are degraded by exotic Chinese tallow trees. Birding Classic funds will be used to purchase herbicide to remove the tallow trees.



ABA / Leica Tropicbirds

Gliders Teams (14- to 18-year-olds)

The youth tournaments continue to attract new birders every year! A special “thank-you” goes out to all of the mentors, teachers, parents and sponsors for taking the time to help guide these young people into the field and educate them about birds and conservation along the Texas coast.

1. ABA / Leica Tropicbirds (lower coast)

Leica Camera – Sports Optics & American Birding Association

Ethan Kistler, Andy Bankert,

Jesse Pakkala, Saraiya Ruano

Chaperones: Jeff and Liz Gordon

Number of species: 212

Prizes: Nike gym bags (donated by Academy Sports and Outdoors), *All Things Reconsidered: My Birding Adventures* (books donated by Houghton Mifflin) and First Place prize of 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic.

2. TAS Towhees (upper coast)

Travis Audubon Society

Additionally supported by Silicon Labs,

Field Guides, Inc., Bee Caves Pediatrics,

VENT, Figment Ranch, Dr. Karina Marr

Jesse Huth, Lindy Arbuckle, Katrina Troppy,

Austin Walker, Christian Walker

Chaperones: Jaci Kroupa, Mike Troppy

Number of species: 160

Prizes: MyPod chairs (donated by Academy Sports and Outdoors) and *All Things Reconsidered: My Birding Adventures* (books donated by Houghton Mifflin) and Second Place prize of 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic.

3. Houston Audubon Hawks (upper coast)

Independent

Luke Downey, Patrick Bryan,

Justice Haynes

Chaperones: Wayne Bartholomew,

Joy Hester

Number of species: 139

Prizes: LED flashlights (donated by Academy Sports and Outdoors) and *All Things Reconsidered: My Birding Adventures* (books donated by Houghton Mifflin) and Third Place prize of 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic.

Roughwings (8- to 13-year-olds)

For the first time, many of the Central Coast youth teams voted on the conservation project they would fund if they were getting to choose. The Packery Channel restoration project received the most votes.

1. Houston Audubon Accipiters (upper coast)

Houston Audubon Society

John Bryan, Cooper Raterink, Elissa Mroski

Chaperone: Stennie Meadours

Number of species: 131

Prizes: Pentax 8 x 25 binoculars (donated by Pentax), lens cloths (donated Academy Sports and Outdoors) and the First place prize of 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic.

2. The Laughing Gals (central coast)

Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Bureau

Kelsey Abel, Kelsey Bigalow, Lily Cartwright

Chaperone: Joan Holt

Number of species: 112

Prizes: Nikon 8x25 binoculars (donated by Nikon), lens cloths (donated Academy Sports and Outdoors) and the Second Place prize of 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic.

The Laughing Gals



Ravishing Raptors



3. Ravishing Raptors (central coast)

Independent

Mary Ellen Flood, Megan Hardegree, Hannah Grismer

Chaperone: John Flood

Number of Species: 94

Prizes: Pentax 8 x 25 binoculars (donated by Pentax), lens cloths (donated Academy Sports and Outdoors) and the Third Place prize of 11th Annual special art for the 2007 Classic.

4. Red Hot Cardinals (central coast)

Independent

Jaran Cadena, Samuel Lathrop,

Kyle Guerra, Yanni Driver

Chaperones: Sophie Driver, Tracy Little

Number of species: 87

5. Super Spoonbills (central coast)

Independent

Tommy Stevenson, Brianna Wright,

Devan Murray, Marian Smith

Chaperone: Julie Findley

Number of species: 71



Super Spoonbills

6. Tropical Toucans (central coast)

Independent

Breanna Barrera, Sarah Starlin, Erin Kuffel, Grecia Corrada

Chaperones: Ron Kuffel, Bowden Starlin

Number of species: 70

7. Sharp Shins (upper coast)

The Dow Chemical Company

Jacob Truetken, Jeremy Simon, Elijah Simon

Chaperones: Karisa Truetken, Dana Simon, Tom Taroni

Number of species: 68



Sharp Shins



Mighty Moorhens

8. Edinburg Eagle Eyes (lower coast)

Independent

Teresa Sova, David Tovar,

Lauren Brouth, Katherine Brouth

Chaperones: Assalia Belmares, Diana Sova

Number of species: 67

9. Mighty Moorhens (central coast)

Independent

Chase Hagedorn, Christopher Wright, Tori Bradley,

Morgan Milligan, Courtney McNatt

Chaperone: Carolyn Grosse

Number of species: 66

10. Extreme Eagles (central coast)

Independent

Miguel Rivera, Noah van Mierlo, Evan Buhidar, Brian McCutchon

Chaperones: Augustin Rivera, Peter van Mierlo, Valarie Buhidar

Number of species: 64

11. Flying Blue Jays (central coast)

Independent

Shaella Yeager, Mary Kate Williams, Emily Fischer

Chaperones: Cheryl Yeager, Karen Williams

Number of species: 61

12. Rockin' Ravens (central coast)

Independent

Ana Maria Sustaeta, Madeleine McCutchon, Shannon Kensey

Chaperones: Jacqueline Lewis, Angel Sustaeta,

Sandra McCutchon

Number of species: 61

13. Happy Hummers (central coast)

Independent

Camille Sico, Jacklyn Cromwell, Belize Ellison

Chaperones: Barbara Sico, Scott Ellison

Number of species: 60



Happy Hummers

Big Sit!

The Big Sit! Tournament continued to be a popular event. Teams came out in all sections of the coast identifying birds within their 17-foot circle. As part of the Big Sit! Tournament, the \$3,000 Lone Star Bird Award was created. The Lone Star Bird Award is chosen by randomly drawing the name of a bird that can be seen along the entire Texas coast. Any Big Sit! team that sees this bird then goes into a drawing to determine the winner of the Lone Star Bird Award (This year's Lone Star Bird was the Baltimore Oriole). This team then picks which habitat project will receive \$3,000. Individual prizes are also given in this tournament category.

1. Nikon WildBirders

Nikon and WildBird Magazine

Cameron Cox, Ken Behrens, France DeWaugh, Pete Hosner, Bill Reddinger

Location: South Padre Island Convention Center

Number of species: 124

Prizes: *All Things Reconsidered: My Birding Adventures* (books donated by Houghton Mifflin)

WINNER: LONE STAR BIRD AWARD

2. Rolling Turnstones

Eagle Optics

Marci Fuller, Terry Fuller, Jan Wyrick, Danny Hoehne, Susan Hoehne, Scarlet Colley, Sean Smith, Bill Clark, Mark Conway, Tony Bennett

Location: South Padre Island Convention Center

Number of species: 123

Prizes: *All Things Reconsidered: My Birding Adventures* (books donated by Houghton Mifflin)

3. Port Aransas Spoonbills

Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Bureau

Scott Holt, Ann Vaughan, Joan Holt, Becky Corder, Bobby Sherwood, Georgia Neblett, Francis Stokes, Tony Amos, Chris Tubbs

Location: Leonabelle Turnbull Birding Center Observation Tower

Number of species: 118

Prizes: Best-1 Hummer Feeders (donated by Best-1)



Rolling Turnstones



BASF Bitterns

4. McRee Ford Birders

McRee Ford

Bill Baker, Dennis Myers, Cammy Myers, Lauri Baker, Tom Roberts, Breck Sacra, Brad Adams, Phyllis Adams, Lou Klejbuk, Larry George

Location: Cedar Bayou Cooling Pond

Number of species: 116

Prizes: Spot 'n' Jot Birders field log card sets (donated by Spot 'n' Jot)

5. BASF Bitterns (TIE)

BASF

Cecilia Riley, Mike Gray, John Arvin, Jan Cato, Jack Cato, Kay Lookingbill, Robert Lookingbill, Bill Eley

Location: San Bernard Wildlife Refuge

Number of Species: 101

5. Corpus Christi Sanderlings (TIE)

Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau

Bob Creglow, Jo Creglow, Leah Pummel,

Mel Cooksey, Larry Jordon, Jimmy Swartz

Location: Packery Channel – Corpus Christi

Number of species: 101

6. Brazosport Birders (TIE)

Freeport LNG

Charlie Brower, Olivia Brower, Tom Taroni,

Jim Renfro, Gardner Campbell, Gary Brooks,

Zane Lee, Jennifer Wilson, Denis James

Location: Quintana Sanctuary

Number of species: 86

6. Swarovski Roadside Hawks (TIE)

Swarovski Optik N.A.

Joel Simon, Vicki Simon

Location: Clay's Spot – South Padre Island

Number of species: 86



Brazosport Birders

7. Weslaco Red Crowns

Independent

Martin Hagne, Mark Turner, Sandy Turner, Harold Burgess,

Mary Bate, Dan Jones, Mary Gustafson, Karen Holleschau,

Bob DeWenter, Pat DeWenter

Location: Frontera Audubon – Weslaco

Number of species: 73



Matagorda Bay Birders

8. Matagorda Bay Birders

Lower Colorado River Authority

Jennifer Buratti, Carrie Wright, Matt Batterton,

Dennis Palafox, Karen McBride, Francine

Sanders, Betsy Terrel, Rhonda Westbrook,

James Buratti

Location: Matagorda Bay Nature Park

Number of species: 71

9. Stewart Peepers

Stewart Title Company – Port Aransas

Nancy Teller, Diane Albright, Carolyn Grosse,

Warren Pulich, Julie Finley, Phyllis Sims

Location: Paradise Pond – Port Aransas

Number of species: 61

Lone Star Bird Award

\$3,000 – Donated by the Nikon WildBirders

Coastal Sanctuary Understory Diversification – submitted by Houston Audubon Society

The understory in Boy Scout Woods, Smith Oaks, Eubanks Woods, SE Gast Red Bay Sanctuary and Dos Vacas Muertas is made up of predominately invasive plants. The goal is to diversify the habitat, providing better food sources for resident, overwintering and migrating birds. This will be achieved by removing invasives and replanting with native species.

Outta-Sight Song Birder Tournament

For the fourth year, the Great Texas Birding Classic held the Outta-Sight Song Birder Tournament for blind and visually impaired birders. Teams of three to five people participated (a maximum of one blindfolded sighted person was allowed per team), and bird species counted were identified by sound only.

Thank-you to the Valley teams who helped continue this tournament.

1. Blind Hawks

Independent

Gladie Cruz, Salvador Villa, Joshua Valdoz, Flavio

Blindfolded: Tim Whitehouse

Number of Species: 41

3. Caracaras: Face to Face with Nature

Independent

Jessica Garza, Leo Ramirez, Gonzalo Garcia

Blindfolded: Mel Pineda

Number of Species: 29

2. The Tweety Birds

Independent

Jessie Garza, Raul Garza, Andrew

Blindfolded: Roy Rodriguez

Number of Species: 37



Mark Your Calendars!

We could not do this event every year without the continued support of our corporate and community sponsors, prize donors and all of the participants who come down to the Texas coast each year to compete on behalf of coastal habitat conservation. We hope you are able to continue making room in your schedule for this event in the years to come.

2008 – Twelfth Annual Great Texas Birding Classic

Sunday, April 27 – Sunday, May 4

For information on the Great Texas Birding Classic 2007, contact Tournament Coordinator Carol Jones:

In Lake Jackson: (979) 480-0999

By mail: The Great Texas Birding Classic, Gulf Coast Bird Observatory,
103 West Highway 332, Lake Jackson, TX 77566

Email: cjones@gcbo.org

Check us out on the Web at: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/gtbc and www.gcbo.org/gtbc.html

We hope you will choose to be a part of next year's event!

Classic

BY LYNN BARBER

C is for Crazy running around
L is for Listing all birds to be found.
A's for Attention we paid to each chip.
S is for Stamina to last the whole trip.
S is also for Swift and Speed.
I's the Invisible birds that we need.
C is also for Coastal and Chasing. Just to think back
on it gets my heart racing.



Thank You, 2007 Sponsors!

Whooping Crane

\$50,000 and over

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service –
Texas Coastal Program

Roseate Spoonbill

\$7,000 to under \$12,500

ConocoPhillips
Reliant Energy
Gulf Coast Bird Observatory
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Black Skimmer

\$4,000 to under \$7,000

AEP Texas
Swarovski Optik N.A., Ltd.

Belted Kingfisher

\$1,000 to under \$4,000

BASF
Brazosport Convention and Visitors Council
Chaparral Energy
Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau
Damuth Foundation
The Dow Chemical Co.
Eagle Optics
Freeport LNG
McAllen Chamber of Commerce
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NBID Associates
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Rockport-Fulton Area Chamber of Commerce
Bill and Ruthann Geer

Under \$1,000 and In-Kind Donations

Houghton Mifflin Company
Pentax
Rockport Adventures
Texas State Parks

Academy Sports and Outdoors	John P. O'Neill – artist
Bass Pro Shops	Juanita Gibson – artist
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Bird Watcher's Digest	Nikon
Birder's World	Owlshack
Brunton	PMMI Printing
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Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology	Rootin' Ridge Toymakers
Driftwood Wildlife Association	Spot 'n' Jot Birders Log
Galveston Island Convention and Visitors Bureau	Thayer Birding Software
Houston Wilderness	Watchable Wildlife
Edward Farmer – Jarrett Juno Ranch Partners and Members	What-a-burger
Jack and Jan Cato	WildBird
	Wild Lines, Maren Phillips – artist

Team Sponsorship

* part of sponsorship package

AEP Texas *	Houston Audubon Society
American Birding Association and Leica Sports Optics	Dr. Karina Marr
BASF *	King Ranch
Bee Caves Pediatrics	LCRA
Brazosport Convention & Visitors Council *	NBID Associates *
Bushnell	Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce/ Tourist Bureau *
Carl Zeiss Sports Optics	Reliant Energy *
ConocoPhillips *	Silicon Labs
Corpus Christi Convention & Visitors Bureau *	Stewart Title Company – Port Aransas
The Dow Chemical Co. *	Swarovski Optik *
Eagle Optics *	Travis Audubon Society
Field Guides Inc.	VENT – Victor Emanuel Nature Tours
Figment Ranch	WildBird and Nikon Sports Optics
Freeport LNG *	

Thank You!

The Great Texas Birding Classic is co-hosted by the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory and the Wildlife Division of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. We would like to extend our gratitude to the following people for making this year's event fly!

GULF COAST BIRD OBSERVATORY:

Cecilia Riley – Executive Director
Carol Jones – GTBC Tournament Coordinator
Karen McBride – Office Manager
Bill Eley – Web site assistance

Additional GCBO Volunteers:

- Sherry Collins
- Mickey Dufilho
- Michael Gray
- Davie McCaskill
- Diane Richmond
- Jerry Eppner
- Monica Krancervic
- Barbara Burkhart
- Michael Johns

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT:

Shelly Plante – Nature Tourism Coordinator
Pat Morton – Conservation Outreach Program Leader
Cliff Shackelford – Texas Partners in Flight Coordinator
Matt Wagner – Director, Wildlife Diversity Program
Mike Berger – Director, Wildlife Division

OFFICIAL ARTIST FOR 2007:

John P. O'Neill

JUDGES:

Cliff Shackelford – TPWD, Texas Partners in Flight
Noreen Damude – Natural history writer and biologist
Bob Barth – Ornithologist and retired professor

ADDITIONAL BEHIND THE SCENES HELP:

Bryan Plante, Kim Morris, Jennifer Buratti, Debra Williams
Sign-in table: Karen McBride, Pat Morton

Thanks to all of our community partners for helping coordinate the Awards Lunch: Ann Vaughan, Kim Morris

Special thanks to the following for opening their gates to Classic competitors:

Coastal NWRs	Coastal WMAs
Jasper Fish Hatchery	Texas City Prairie Preserve

Private homes of our birding friends throughout the Texas coast

Thanks to all the people at TPWD who helped make this year a success:

Randy Brudnicki	Charles Lohrmann	Frank Robinson
Tom Harvey	Robert Macias	Lydia Saldaña
Chris Hunt	Cecilia Nasti	Jim Stone
Mark Klym	Tim Peterson	

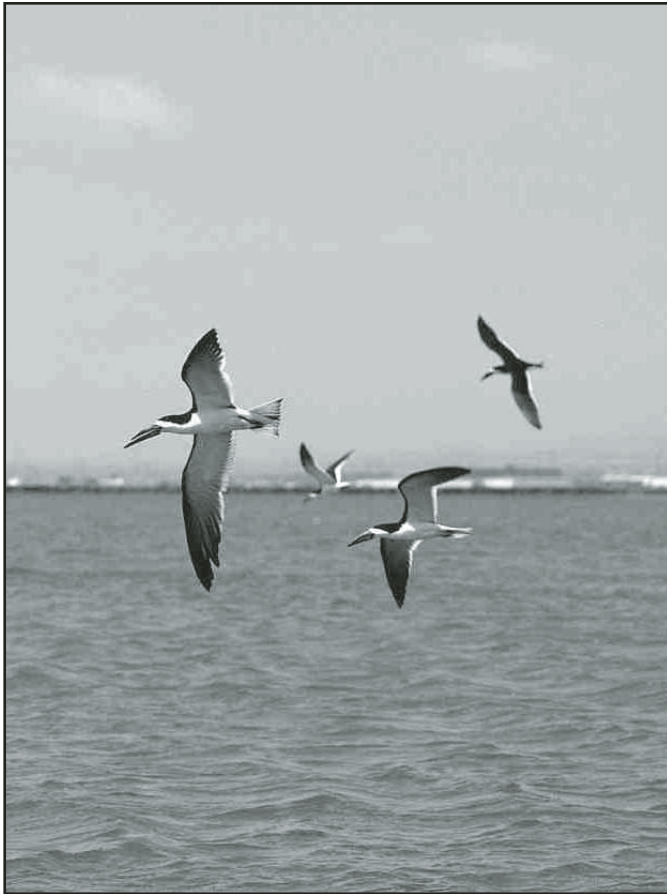


Birding Classic staff and judges



ConocoPhillips

Proud to be a sponsor of the
GREAT TEXAS BIRDING CLASSIC
and to partner with our friends at Gulf Coast Bird Observatory
in enhancing avian habitat across this great state.



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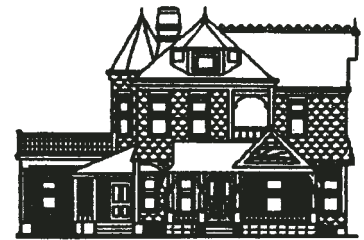
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We would like to extend our gratitude to the following people for help in making this year's event fly!

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