

2012: Results from 16th Annual Birding Classic

2012 marked an informal year between the first 15 years of the Great Texas Birding Classic which was held only on the coast (in partnership with the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory from 2004-2011) and the 17th annual event in 2013 when TPWD expanded the event to a statewide Birding Classic.

The 16th Annual Birding Classic in 2012 was very informal with flexibility in the dates, checklist submission, etc. Thanks to the 17 teams that took part in the 16th Annual Great Texas Birding Classic making it a success while TPWD staff and a great planning team were spending time planning for the newly expanded 2013 event! And kudos to the teams who donated money to habitat conservation projects in the spirit of the conservation fundraising aspect of the Birding Classic. Well done!

Team Totals

Adult Sectional Tournament

Upper Coast

1. The Grey Feathers

Patricia Bowen, Shirley Smith, Carol Scherer, and Jo Ann Andrews
Date: April 20th
Number of species: 172

2. Texas A&M University at Galveston

Susan Knock, Lurissa Noack, Katie St. Clair, Courtney Lee
Date: May 9th
Number of species: 168

3. Wild About Birds

Stennie Meadours, Patsy Gillham, Joyce Byrd, Deana Calkins, Linda Boswell, and Becky TBA
Date: April 24th
Conservation Fundraising donation: State Park Fund
Number of species: 104

4. NOCA

Matthew Abernathy, Sheena Abernathy
Date: April 13th, 14th, or 21st
Number of species: 56

Central Coast

1. Seaside Sparrows

Susan Decker, Eamon Decker, Anja Thomsen, Judy Edwards, Jasper Edwards
Date: April 14th
Number of species: 83

Duncan Dowitchers

Randy Duncan, Beth Duncan
Date: April 14th
Number of species: no total submitted

Energy Saver

1. The Whooping Craniacs

Lalise Mason, Greg Mason, Jamie Schubert,
Woody Woodrow, Jeff Dallarosa

Date: April 21st

Conservation Fundraising donation: SCENIC
GALVESTON, Inc. - preserve habitat
management fund

Number of species: 154 species/45.3 miles = 3.4
species/mile



Adult Weeklong Tournament

1. The GenOn Energy Environmental Partners

sponsored by GenOn Energy

Bill Baker (Tom Roberts and Andy Deitrich unable to compete due to family/work emergencies
at the last minute - hope they can re-join in 2013!)

Dates: April 16-20

Conservation Fundraising donation: avian conservation projects at the Gulf Coast Bird
Observatory

Number of species: 315

Gliders Tournament

1. Eagle Eyes

John Hale, Jason Oehring, Miranda Jones, and John Philip Jones

Area birded: Upper Coast

Date: April 19th

Number of species: 145

Big Sit! Tournament

1. Port Aransas Spoonbills

Sponsored by Port Aransas Chamber of
Commerce/Tourist Bureau

Tony Amos, Joan Holt, Scott Holt, Bobby
Sherwood, and Ann Bracher-Vaughan

Location of Circle: Leonabelle Turnbull
Birding Center (Central Coast)

Date: April 29th

Conservation Fundraising donation to the
City of Port Aransas Parks & Recreation
Department – Conservation efforts at local
birding sites

Number of species: 76

2. Galveston Bay Foundation

Bob Stokes, Courtney Smith, Matthew
Abernathy, Charlene Bohanon, Emily
Demmeck, Rani Henderson, Scott Jones,
Julie Mintzer, Sharon Roark, Matt Singer,
Philip Smith, Justine Townsend, Erika
Watson, Lee Anne Wilde, Bill Baker, Breck
Sacra, and Scott Alford

Location of Circle: HL&P Cooling Pond
(Upper Texas Coast)

Date: April 24th

Number of species: 68

Roughwings Tournament

1. The Curlew Cousins

sponsored by Deep South Marine
Victoria Baker, Ryan Baker, and Lauren Copeland
Area birded: Upper Coast
Date: April 21st
Conservation Fundraising donation: Thanks to numerous generous sponsors, the Curlew Cousins Roughwings team collected \$2,200 for the Dickinson Bay Island II Project. The kids presented these funds to Bob Stokes, President of the Galveston Bay Foundation.
Number of species: 129

2. Awesome Ospreys

Ian Brewer, Kyler Friebele, Britney Goodwin, Brian Rabroker, and Carissa Taylor
Team mentors: Robert Edwards, Martha McLeod, and Bron Rorex
Area birded: Central Coast
Date: April 21st
Number of species: 104

3. Uncommon Terns

Hank Brennan, Kyle Jones, Charlotte Ramsden, Eric Anderson, Traver Truax
Team mentor: Joan Holt
Area birded: Central Coast
Date: April 28th
Number of species: 102

4. Fabulous Flycatchers

Alexis Grogan, Jonathan Knostman, Abby Saegert, and Zoe Sundberg
Team mentors: Robert Edwards, Martha McLeod, and Bron Rorex
Area birded: Central Coast
Date: April 14th
Number of species: 75

5. Wonderful Warblers

Jacob Brake, Jae Clark, and Lucas Rice
Team mentors: Robert Edwards, Martha McLeod, and Bron Rorex
Area birded: Central Coast
Date: March 31st
Number of species: 73

6. Houston Audubon Accipiters

Caleb Drew, Maggie Schweiss (third team member unable to compete at the last minute - hope they can join us in 2013!)
Team mentor: Stennie Meadours
Area birded: Upper Coast
Date: April 21st
Conservation Fundraising: donation to Houston Audubon Education
Number of species: 61