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