



The Chattanooga Chat

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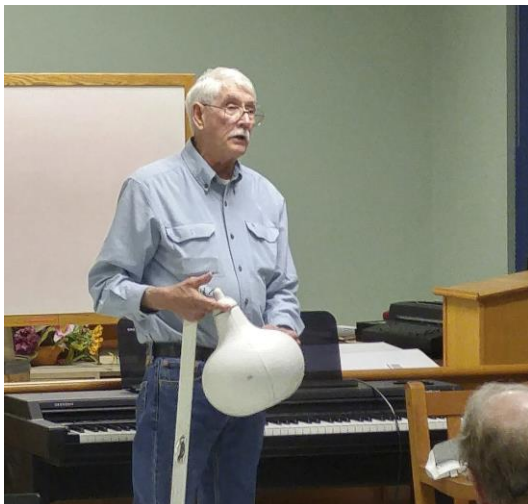
May, 2016: Vol. 40, No 7
A Newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter
Tennessee Ornithological Society

May Meeting

Ascension Lutheran Church
720 S Germantown Rd
Thursday, May 10, 2016
5:30 p.m. Executive Board
7:00 p.m. Monthly Meeting
Program: Susan Hollyday from Nashville will bring her collection of posters. It was displayed at the 100 year state TOS meeting last year and it got rave reviews. I feel sure this will be worth your time.

At this time no one has signed up for refreshments. If interested email David at rockyturf@epbfi.com.

Thanks to David Stone and Harry Paulk for presenting our April program.



Harry Paulk giving his presentation at the April meeting - photo by Gary Lanham.



Osprey with Lunch
Photo by Hugh Barger

Field Trips

May 6th at 7AM
Bird Banding at the Banding Lab
Meet at the old Food Lion parking lot in Lookout Valley. Please bring lunch and water. Long pants and close toed shoes are recommended. If you are interested in joining please text Lizzie Diener at 423.779.4154 or email her at lizziediener@gmail.com.

May 6th at 8 AM
Chickamauga Dam
Leader: Harold Birch
Meet at the lot below the dam.

May 7 at 7:30 AM
Migration Count
Contact & Compiler: Kevin Calhoon
423-785-4070, kac@tnaqua.org. Our local TOS has participated in every Migration Day Count since its inception in 1992. We acquire valuable data and information on trends from these Counts.

May 14

We may have a field trip at Reflection Riding. Watch for details.

News Item

Some of you might be interested in knowing that the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission has voted to expand the length of the Sandhill Crane hunting season to 55 days, and to shift the dates of the season. For the past 3 years, the season has started on Thanksgiving Day and ended on New Year's Day. This coming year, the season will start on December 3rd and end on January 29th, with a 3-day suspension of hunting, January 13-15, for the Hiwassee Crane Festival. The Commission kept the number of permits to be issued and bag limits the same (400 permits, with each permit holder being allowed to take 3 cranes). The hunting zone is also the same (basically all of SE Tennessee), but next year there may be consideration of expanding the hunting zone to be statewide.
David Aborn



Common Yellowthroat
Photo by Hugh Barger

Editors Corner

The Chattanooga Audubon Society invites you to enjoy the fifth annual Little Owl Festival.

Saturday, May 14, 2016

11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Audubon Acres, 900 Sanctuary Road

\$7.00 per person or \$15.00 per carload

See craft exhibits and shop for unique items created by our arts and crafts vendors. Food vendors will have a variety of items available for purchase.

View entries in the Student Poster Contest. We have extended the deadline. Entries accepted at Audubon Acres through May 7.

Michael D. Gray returns as Master of Ceremonies and Stage Producer.



Hooded Warbler banded at Cash House and photographed by Gary Lanham

Notes from the Field

April 22

A pair of Common Mergansers were present on the Hiwassee River in Polk County from March 25th through at least April 16th, 2016.

Ruben Stoll, Centerville TN

April 20

New birds appeared here today - Scarlet Tanager, White-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, and Northern Parula Warbler. There was a flycatcher, but I really did not get its call.

J. N. Howard, Fiery Gizzard Cove

April 20, 2016

I am still waiting on my first migrant capture at Greenway Farm, but I did see

two more FOS migrants; Blue-winged Warbler and Great-crested Flycatcher.
David Aborn

April 20

In our yard today we saw an Indigo Bunting and a Red-eyed Vireo, the first of their kind for us this year.
J. N. Howard, Marion County

April 19

As of five o'clock this afternoon the American Bittern, first found on April 13th, is still present at mile marker 0.8 on the Brainerd Levee.
Bruce Dralle

April 19, 2016

I saw my first Yellow Warbler of the spring on the UTC campus this morning.
David Aborn

April 16

For the first time in about two years, a hairy woodpecker has visited my property at Birchwood in Hamilton County. Each day since April 12 this male has spent much of each day drumming on sycamore trees. Just before dark this evening I heard and then saw three first-of-season chimney swifts flying over my home.
Charles Murray

April 11-15, 2016

Windy conditions made for very slow banding Monday (1 cardinal) and Wednesday (1 cardinal, 1 thrasher), but yesterday was better; White-throated Sparrow = 6, Northern Cardinal = 1, Eastern Towhee = 1. I also recaptured a chickadee I banded in 2010. Since it was an adult when I first captured it, that bird is at least 7 years old. The longevity record for Carolina Chickadee is 11.5 years, so this bird may approach a record.

Even though I am still waiting for my first migrant capture of the spring, there were definitely more migrants around

yesterday, including my first House Wrens, Black-throated-green Warbler, and Red-eyed Vireo. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers are abundant, there are several White-eyed Vireos, and a Prairie warbler.

David Aborn
Chattanooga, TN

April 14

Today we had a Rose-breasted Grosbeak on our feeder and Yellow-throated Vireo and Black-throated Green Warbler in the trees along with Blue/Grey Gnatcatcher and Yellow-throated Warbler already here. The wonderful migration time is beginning.
J. N. Howard, Marion County.

April 13

Last evening, we had a whip-poor-will calling in woods behind our house outside of Ringgold Georgia!
Danny Gaddy

April 13

We saw a Yellow-throated Warbler in our yard today. Happy to see the migration begin.
J. N. Howard, Marion County

April 12

This morning, an American Bittern was feeding at the Brainerd Levee between mile markers 0.8 and 1.0, between the Beaver Lodge and the Beaver Dam.
Bruce Dralle

April 12

They will become common, but just to know the migration is on its way, we saw our first Blue/Grey Gnatcatcher. We have also seen some sharply colored male Yellow-rumped Warblers.
J. N. Howard, Marion County

April 12

American Avocets are now present at W. R. Grace ponds.
Hugh Barger

April 9

I was surprised this afternoon to find three young Killdeer at Standifer Gap Marsh. I would have thought Killdeer would just be starting nests, not already have young running around.

David Spicer

April 2

The Chattanooga Chapter of TOS had an outing at Reflection Riding from 0745 to 1200 on 2 APR 2016, covering approximately 3 miles. Participants included Starr Klein, Harold Birch, Hugh Barger, Robert Bethel, Katherine Boyles, Lois Bean, David McGuff, and Pixie and Gary Lanham. 35.007x-85.367, Hamilton, Tennessee.

48 species were seen:

Canada Goose X
Wood Duck X
Mallard X
Wild Turkey X
Great Blue Heron X
Black Vulture X
Turkey Vulture X
Red-shouldered Hawk X
Mourning Dove X
Red-bellied Woodpecker X
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker X
Downy Woodpecker X
Hairy Woodpecker X
Northern Flicker X
Pileated Woodpecker X
Eastern Phoebe X
White-eyed Vireo X
Blue Jay X
American Crow X
Northern Rough-winged Swallow X
Tree Swallow X
Carolina Chickadee X
Tufted Titmouse X
White-breasted Nuthatch X
Carolina Wren X
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher X
Ruby-crowned Kinglet X

Eastern Bluebird X
American Robin X
Brown Thrasher X
Northern Mockingbird X
European Starling X
Louisiana Waterthrush 1
Black-and-white Warbler 1
Common Yellowthroat 1 Continuing
COYE heard and confirmed by multiple
observers in field where gravel path first
begins to run alongside Lookout Creek.
Palm Warbler 1
Pine Warbler X
Yellow-rumped Warbler X
Yellow-throated Warbler 2
Chipping Sparrow X
White-throated Sparrow X
Song Sparrow X
Eastern Towhee X
Northern Cardinal X
Eastern Meadowlark 1
Brown-headed Cowbird 1
House Finch X
American Goldfinch X
Pixie and Gary Lanham

Join TOS

Membership dues:

\$28- individual \$32- Family
\$15- student \$40- sustaining
\$460- Life (Life members must pay
\$10 local chapter dues each year.)

Send checks payable to "TOS" to:

Gary Lanham, TOS Treasurer
21 Cool Springs Road
Signal Mountain, TN 37377
chattanooga@outlook.com

If you are a new member, please include your address, phone number, and an email address for Chat delivery and bird walk information.

All dues, donations, gifts, and bequests are tax deductible under Sec. 501 (c)(3), the Internal Revenue Code.