

# The Roadrunner

May, 2015

AMERICAN AVOCET AT THE WACO TREATMENT PONDS BY  
FRANK BUMGARDNER IN APRIL, 2015.



In Harris Creek, Swainson's Thrush and Ruby-throated Hummingbird (male) by Ann Gordon in April, 2015 at her puddle.





Black-throated Green Warbler (to the left) by Ann Gordon and White Ibis (molting, below) by Joe Yelderman, April, 2015. Warbler at puddle in Harris Creek; Ibis at Brazos Bend State Park.





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## Central Texas Audubon Society

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### Upcoming Events

5/19 – CTAS meeting @ 6:30  
PM (program starts at 7 PM).  
We will have a program by  
Cindy Fronk from Balcones  
Canyonlands National Wildlife  
Refuge near Marble Falls. She  
will discuss the refuge and its  
wildlife, including an  
abundance of birds.

There will be a potluck supper;  
please bring a dish to share.

## President's Message

Happy May to everyone,  
The rains continue, the wildflowers have  
been beautiful and the birds have been  
chirping happily. Hope you have had an  
opportunity to get outside and enjoy this  
wonderful Spring we are having. I went  
to a family reunion in East Texas last  
weekend and the wildflowers, trees and  
grasses were outstanding.

The meeting this month is our annual  
potluck and election of officers. We, also,  
have a program on the Balcones Wildlife  
Preserve by Cindy Fronk. Jane and Paul  
Derrick are back for a visit and Jane  
asked to share pictures from the Sand  
Hill Crane Festival in Kearney, NE, GCBO  
in Lake Jackson, Galveston Island State  
Park, Bolivar Flatts, High Island and Jones  
Forest. Jane always has great photos- we  
will be happy to have her for a visit.

So come early, bring a dish and enjoy a  
good evening. We had such a great  
turnout last month- hope everyone  
returns. See you out and about.

Janet

**Our next meeting is on Tuesday, May 19 at the Carleen Bright Arboretum at 6:30 PM-program begins at 7:00 PM. The evening's program will be Cindy Fronk from Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge near Marble Falls. Cindy is an Environmental Education Specialist with the National Wildlife Service. *The Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge is home to an incredible variety of wildlife species that depend on the diversity of habitat conserved and protected on the refuge including the Black-capped vireo and the Golden-cheeked Warbler. All who are interested are invited to attend. Please be sure and plan to be there!***

Friendly reminder:  
**Earth Share's Mission**

To engage individuals and organizations in creating a healthy and sustainable environment

[www.earthshare.org/index.html](http://www.earthshare.org/index.html)

**NOTICE!!** We want to encourage EVERYONE to receive our expanded  
Newsletter via e-mail and save a tree (as well as the cost of printing and postage)!! By  
receiving the newsletter electronically you will also see more photos and more information!  
Contact Anna at [dunbaranna56@gmail.com](mailto:dunbaranna56@gmail.com) to receive future newsletters via e-mail!

From Frank Bumgardner, April, 2015:  
Black-necked Stilt at the Waco treatment  
ponds.



From Ann Gordon: Nashville Warbler at her  
puddle in Harris Creek, April, 2015.



Yellow-Headed Blackbird @ Rosenfeld's Dairy by Frank Bumgardner.



E-mail:

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**NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**

**CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

YES I'd like to join! Please enroll me as a member of National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send Audubon magazine and my membership card to the address below. My check for \$20, the introductory fee, is enclosed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send this application and check to:

**National Audubon Society**

P. O. Box 422250  
Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250

Include chapter code of **W06 7XCH**

*Renewal is \$35. Seniors 62 & older and students are \$15.*

**SIGHTINGS**

**Ann Gordon:** Migrants have been pretty sparse here in my bird sanctuary so far. On 4/2/15 and 4/3/15, I have visits from a Nashville Warbler. On 4/8/15, a Black-throated Green Warbler showed up at the waterfall. I continue to have hummingbirds, mostly Ruby-throated males and females. I am not seeing any male Black-chinned Hummingbirds now. I did not see any more migrants until 4/28/15. So far it has been disappointing. From 4/11/15 up to today, 4/28/15, I have been having some trouble with my waterfall. Without the sound of water the birds are not coming down. I have water flowing intermittently, but the problem has not been solved yet. I birds I posted above had water in the falls when they came down. Water and the sound of water in particular is very important.

During most of April, I continued to have visits from Harris's Sparrows, White-throated Sparrows, and White-crowned Sparrows. On 4/14/15, I had about 6 Goldfinches and several Pine Siskins.

**Nancy and Fred Gehlbach:** On April 20 we had Chuck Will's widows singing in the ravine early in the morning--5:45 am. Have heard them in another part of the ravine system on April 25. Swainsons thrushes have been around for at least a week singing their beautiful flute like song. Have had Blue gray gnatcatchers on our morning street walks since the 20th. April 24, the first Mississippi Kite appeared on the dead branches at the top of a tree in the island in our cul de sac and has been there daily--always a favorite perch spot. On the 27th a second kite speared and a little "flirting" and they both flew away. On the 24th there were 4 or 5 yellow breasted chats calling in our front yard about 4 pm. Two Black throated Green warblers on our walk as well as a yellow warbler. Yellow warblers on Saturday the 25th feeding on insects on pecan catkins on our walk on Ivy Ann. Screech owl has been singing for about 2 weeks in front of our house in the ravine but to the west of the owl box--must have found a natural cavity!

**Joe C. Yelderman Jr. aka-"Sewer Pond Joe":** This week's birds on my routes in McLennan county: Baltimore Orioles, Blue Grosbeaks, Eastern and Western Kingbirds, Dickcissels, Tennessee and Nashville warblers, Mississippi Kites, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Roadrunner, White-crowned Sparrows, and at the Sewer ponds - Wilson's Phalaropes; Least, Semi-palmated, Baird's, Spotted, Pectoral, and Solitary sandpipers; Last week I saw Cinnamon Teal; Peregrine Falcon; Yellow-headed Blackbirds. I love Spring!

**Harriet Shearer:** Bird sounds are beginning to pick up on Elysian Lane. The Coopers Hawk couple is back nesting down at the end of the lane. The cardinals have settled down in pairs. The Cedar Waxwings are still dining on the berries (ligustrum, nanndina etc). The titmice are daily visitors at the feeders. The hummingbird feeder is up but no birds yet. Dr. Gehlbach is no longer checking the owl boxes so I do not know if owls are in the box. I am ready...so send on the birds!!!

Photo by Joe Yelderman of Yellow-headed Blackbirds at Rosenfeld's Dairy in April, 2015.

