

Wimberley Birding Society meeting

May 17, 2021 10:00am via Zoom meeting

27 participants

Interesting bird sights reported from various members: Black-billed Cuckoo, Bay-breasted Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Hudsonian Godwit

Guest speaker: Betsy Cross, Topic (recorded): My Journal of Curiosity – a Photo Essay of Nesting Birds

Bird boxes, cavity nests

Questions:

Why remove the nest? The material is removed so as not to attract any predators, remove the possibility of removing mites, parasites, fecal material, etc.

Are all the boxes the same design and size? No, Eastern Bluebirds are specific in their box choice. There are different construction material available. Texas Bluebird Society has ready-made boxes for sale.

Bonnie: House Sparrows do not go into the PVC houses with 4" diameter hole.

What time of day do you visit JW site to check the bird boxes? Early in the morning, 8:30a-ish.

Comments: I have had Eastern Bluebirds using my nest boxes for the last 10 years. This year, just before the freeze, I have a photo of the male introducing one nest box to the female. But, since the freeze, I have not seen or heard them on my property or in the neighborhood. So concerning!!

Fast Facts: Hummingbirds always lay 2 eggs, 2 days apart; 1-3 broods/season, eggs size of "Tic-Toc"; incubate 12-16 days; hatchlings are about ¼ inch long; nesting period is 21 days, nestlings are fed every 20 minutes.

What was your video res and how many gigs of movies did you shoot? 4k, 2 cameras Cool Pix, probably more like tera-bytes not gigs....

Business Meeting:

Doray Lendacky is the Secretary

Dues are due, Treasury report: balance is \$8,958.77

Bob Currie: Patsy Glen refuge report. Work day is this Sat, May 22. They'll be cutting juniper to mitigate water run-off. Goal: create a wet land, trap and hold water from pipes. Create berm around the meadow.

David Glen – video of refuge. Trying to get back site prepared for this wetlands.

Jesse Huth – trips:

1. High Island – Apr 27 – 30. Slow warblers, good shore birds, Smith Oaks broad walk is complete and great @ Rookery. Sighted Blackpoll Warbler.
2. Upcoming: Pacific NW Oregon – new date: July 31-Aug 8. To find sea birds, owls, woodpeckers, etc. Room still available on this trip
3. International: Ecuador Aug 21 – 28. Partnership with International Birding. The trip is designed to not move a lot, staying in one spot . Lots of hummers, pittits, parrots, tanagers, etc
4. Hawaii – Oct 21-29 Hakalau Bird Sanctuary. Lots of endemic birds, very specialize birding
5. India – not sure due to current COVID conditions. Stay tuned.
6. Other trips: Co, AR, MN to be determined/planned
7. Local trips: first Tues bird walk resumes in July. Go to website for details and/or contact Jesse.

Jaci: how's website?