PTAS members enjoy our birding trips, programs and educational classes as demonstrated by our meeting and field trip participation. Many of our members are enthusiastic birders, just read this newsletter, it is full of group and individual birding trips. We have also been busy participating in outreach programs thanks to our new publicity chair Mercy Moffett. We had an exhibit at the Dogwood Canyon grand opening and also at the October 1st Saturday event at the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center. At the 1st Saturday event a tablet game was developed and used where players tried to identify several common bird calls. The interest and response from the children was amazing and at the same time they were learning about our ecosystem. All these activities support our community and our environment in a positive way. I give thanks to our volunteers that give freely of their time and labor to make this all happen.

Many of our members also support our conservation work. This work supports local area projects that impact our natural environment with a focus on our local ecosystem, the Blackland Prairie. This includes the following:

1) Prairie restoration at the Heard museum and at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge.
2) Supplies and training for bird banding at the Heard.
3) Grants to cover expenses of field research for students at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Recently this has been on the nesting behavior of Prothonotary Warblers and Tree Swallows.
4) Native habitat gardens at the Heard and the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center.
5) Support for educational birds at the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center.

Our local dues and our share of the National Audubon dues fund PTAS program and field trip activities for our members. Also a portion of your dues supports our conservation work. However, since many of our members want to do more to support the birds and local habitat, ONCE a year we solicit donations from our members. This is an opportunity to contribute, even if the daily work pressures prevent you contributing time to our effort. The conservation work will be supervised by PTAS volunteers and 100% of the funds will be spent on the work as what small overhead we have is covered by our dues. If you can help with your fellow members, checks should be made to the Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society and mailed to our Treasurer:

Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society
c/o Georgette Guernsey
6405 Oak Hollow Lane
McKinney, TX 75070

If we all contribute something, we will be able to do even more for the local birds and ecosystem.

We are an organization that appreciates birds, wildlife, and the environment. We welcome any member of the public to come to our meetings, field trips, and conservation activities. Those who attend are the special people who care about what we do and constitute the real PTAS. For me PTAS is a fun group to serve.

Merrick Darley
Field Trip Schedule

For “2nd Saturday at the Heard” trips register with the Heard in advance, 972-562-5566

For all other field trips RSVP to Linda Ergonis at lindaergonis@yahoo.com or Tom Heath at 972-867-8646 or heathwtom@netscape.net

The trip schedule is:

Sat, Nov 12 — 2nd Saturday at the Heard
Leader: Gailon Brehm, Rodney Thomas
Time: 9:00 AM 2 hours
Meeting Place: Heard Museum Reception area
Target: Monthly survey of the birds of the Heard

Sat, Nov 19 — Collinwood Farms
Leader: Linda Ergonis
Time: 7:30 Length TBD
Meeting Place: 5400 Windhaven Rd, Plano
Target: Survey of private land prior to transformation to city park.

Sat, Dec 10 — 2nd Saturday at the Heard
Leader: Gailon Brehm, Rodney Thomas
Time: 9:00 AM 2 hours
Meeting Place: Heard Museum Reception area
Target: Monthly survey of the birds of the Heard

Sat, Dec 10 — Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA)
Leader: Ken Steigman
Time: 6:30 AM Length TBD
Meeting Place: Gate to LLELA (Be prompt — There will be no one to let stragglers in) $5.00 Entrance fee.
Target: Short-eared Owls

Sat, Jan 14 — 2nd Saturday at the Heard
Leader: Gailon Brehm, Rodney Thomas
Time: 9:00 AM 2 hours
Meeting Place: Heard Museum Reception area
Target: Monthly survey of the birds of the Heard

Sat, Jan 21 — Lake Tawakoni
Leader: Richard Kinney
Time: TBD
Meeting Place: TBD
Target: Smith’s Longspurs

Sat, Feb 11 — 2nd Saturday at the Heard
Leader: Gailon Brehm, Rodney Thomas
Time: 9:00 AM 2 hours
Meeting Place: Heard Museum Reception area
Target: Monthly survey of the birds of the Heard

Field trip schedule continued:

Sat, Feb 18 — Jennifer Maxwell’s Property
Leader: Jennifer Maxwell
Time: TBD
Meeting Place: TBD
Target: Henslow’s Sparrow and American Woodcock

Sat, Mar 10 — 2nd Saturday at the Heard
Leader: Gailon Brehm, Rodney Thomas
Time: 9:00 AM 2 hours
Meeting Place: Heard Museum Reception area
Target: Monthly survey of the birds of the Heard

Sat, Mar 24 — Heard Museum Bird Banding Station
Leader: Banding Station Members
Time: TBD
Meeting Place: TBD
Target: We will do a prairie survey and banding of birds by setting up nets in the field and bird dogging the field, pushing the birds towards the nets. This will be group participation.

Sat, April 14 — 2nd Saturday at the Heard
Leader: Gailon Brehm, Rodney Thomas
Time: 9:00 AM 2 hours
Meeting Place: Heard Museum Reception area
Target: Monthly survey of the birds of the Heard

Sat, April 14 — Oak Point Park
Leader: TBD
Time: TBD
Meeting Place: Parking lot off Los Rios
Target: In search of Migrants

Sun, April 22 — Colorado Lek trip
Leader: Mike Flieg
Time: 1 Week Trip
Meeting Place: Denver, Colorado
Target: Chestnut-Collared Longspurs, White-tailed Ptarmigan, Lesser and Greater Prairie Chickens, Greater and Gunnison Sage-Grouse, Sharp-tailed Grouse, and (Blue) Dusky Grouse

Sat, May 12 — 2nd Saturday at the Heard
Leader: Gailon Brehm, Rodney Thomas
Time: 9:00 AM 2 hours
Meeting Place: Heard Museum Reception area
Target: Monthly survey of the birds of the Heard

Sat, May 19 — TBD
Leader: TBD
Meeting Place: TBD
Target: Migrants and nesting birds
**Colorado Lek A Day Trip Filling Up**

The week long field trip to Colorado Lek A Day trip is filling up. As of press time we have only 4 spots left open with 10 people committed to going. We expect to see all 3 Rosy Finches, McCown’s and Chestnut-Collared Longspurs, White-tailed Ptarmigan, Lesser and Greater Prairie Chickens, Greater and Gunnison Sage-Grouse, Sharp-tailed Grouse, and Blue Dusky Grouse.....all of which will be dancing on their Leks. As well as many other species.

If you want to join us contact Linda Ergonis at lindaergonis@yahoo.com for details and sign up.

**Chapter Meeting Schedule**

Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society meets the fourth Tuesday of the month, September through November, and January through May at the Heard Natural Science Museum in McKinney. Meetings start at 7:00pm, there is a bird identification class downstairs for those who wish from 7:15 to 7:40. A short general business is held from 7:45 to 8:00. The main programs starts at 8:00.

**Tuesday, November 22 - 7:00 pm**

**Bird ID class:** Winter Sparrows  
**Main Program:** “Identifying the Wintering Sparrows of Texas” Dr. Wayne Meyer of Austin

**Tuesday, January 24 - 7:00 pm**

**Bird ID class:** Woodland Birds – Vireos, Wrens, Nut-hatches, Creepers, Chickadees, and Kinglets  
**Main Program:** “Texas Nature Conservancy Monitoring Activities” Richard Kostecke PhD, Assoc. Director of Conservation - Research & Planning, Texas Nature Conservancy

**Audubon Christmas Bird count**

Well, it’s about that time again! We NEED your help in our annual Christmas Bird Count, which we always do the day after Christmas. So, please put it on your calendar! This year it falls on a Monday. The more participants, the more eyes looking, and the more accurate the count.

We will meet at the Heard Natural Science Museum, McKinney, TX at 7:00am on Dec 26.

The McKinney area is divided up into 9 zones including the Heard Sanctuary. If you would like to lead one of these zones, please let Roger know.

And don’t worry if you’re not an expert birder, this is a FUN activity where you can learn identification skills!

There is a $5 registration fee to National Audubon. Lunch will be provided.

Roger Sanderson  
Count Coordinator  
rsanderson@heardmuseum.org  
972-562-5566 ext. 273

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Over 4000 pages of information.  
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Fun and Games

Rustlin’s - 3
Our field trip to Village Creek Drying Beds in Sept was a relief from the summer heat and we all enjoyed being able to get outdoors.

The number of birds was sparse because of the drought which left the drying beds with only a few puddles. In spite of the low number of birds, we had 46 species. Charley Amos, our guide, knows the area well and took us right to the 5 puddles left with birds.

Charley was most entertaining and informative as he guided us around the area. He was surprised to see as many shore birds that day as we did. We had Lesser and Greater Yellow-legs, 40 Stilt Sandpipers and many Least Sandpipers. A Redhead Duck and Wilson's Phalarope were treats for the day. The walk ended with a show put on by a Perigrine Falcon doing repeated dives into one of the drying beds.

- Linda Ergonis
PTAS Field Trip to Costa Rico is planned for 2013

Linda Ergonis has been working with P. K. Martin to arranged a three week trip to the tropical paradise of Costa Rica in January of 2013 for PTAS. You may choose to do one, two or all three weeks.

Costa Rica because of its location, neotropical climate, and wide variety of habitats, supports an enormous variety of bird species. 893 bird species have been recorded there. This is more than in all of the US and Canada, but its area is smaller than West Virginia.

The target birds will be endemics, but if you have never been to Central America, a Resplendent Quetzal is a must, not to mention Toucans and Motmots!

The itinerary is given below. Each day is rated as to difficulty with 1 the easiest. Web sites are included for you to research. Please join us on this trip of "paradise birding".

The prices for each week include all expenses and meals. Air flights to and from San Jose, Costa Rica are not included. For more information and sign up e-mail Linda Ergonis at lindaergonis@yahoo.com

Week 1 Central and Southern Pacific
Jan 19 Birding the property trails and Bijagual Road; Hotel Villa Lapas (www.villalapas.com) (1)
Jan 20 Carara National Park full day; Hotel Villa Lapas (2)
Jan 21 Boat tour in Tarcoles River; Ensenada Lodge (www.laensenada.net) (1)
Jan 22 Tour to Solimar Hacienda wetlands; Ensenada Lodge (1)
Jan 23 To northern Pacific mountains; Celeste Mountain Lodge (www.celestemountainlodge.com) (1)
Jan 24 Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge. This is a RAM-SAR site located in the northern Caribbean; Celeste Mountain Lodge (1)
Jan 25 Trails and hanging bridges of Heliconias Private Reserve and back to San Jose. Aeropuerto Hotel (www.hotelaelropuerto.co.cr) (2)
People can finish or join the group easily, and the ones who continue can take a break before going to the Caribbean. Week 1 cost: $1,050.00 per person, double occupancy. $1,302.00 per person for single occupancy.

Week 2 Central and Southern Caribbean
Jan 26 La Paz Waterfall Gardens and Virgen del Socorro; Selva Verde Lodge (www.selvaverde.com) (1-2)
Jan 27 La Selva Research Station; Selva Verde Lodge (1)
Jan 28 Braulio Carrillo; Selva Verde Lodge (3)
Jan 29 Proceeding to southern Caribbean lowland; Selva Bananito Lodge (www.selvabananito.com) (2)
Jan 30 Full day at Selva Bananito Private Reserve Selva Bananito Lodge (3)
Jan 31 Proceeding to Rancho Naturalista. Birding trails and neighboring areas. Rancho Naturalista (1)
Feb 1 Tuis River and El Silencio (Silent Mountain) Rancho Naturalista (3)
A transfer from here to San Jose is not less than $ 80 - $100. Week 2 cost: $1103.00 per person, double occupancy. $1426 person for single occupancy.

Week 3 Central Mountains and Southern Pacific
Feb 1 Birding the main road to the valley and Savegre River; Savegre Lodge (www.savegre.co.cr) (1)
Feb 2 San Gerardo trails full day; Savegre Lodge (2)
Feb 3 Birding the towers at timberline and La Geor gina for hummers; Esquinas Lodge (www.esquinaslodge.com) (2)
Feb 4 Exploring Piedras Blancas National Park and Golfito Reserve; Esquinas Lodge (3)
Feb 5 Departing to Wilson Gardens in the southern mountains; Wilson Gardens Lodge (www.threepaths.co.cr/lascruces_history.shtml) (1)
Feb 6 Birding Private Reserve trails and neighboring areas; Wilson Gardens Lodge (2)
Feb 7 Domestic flight back to San Jose from Golfito o Palmar Sur
Week 3 cost: $1,103.00 per person double occupancy. $1,276.00 per person for single occupancy.
Red Slough Field Trip

It was a frosty morning when we drove into Red Slough WMA in Oklahoma, but it soon warmed up. Fall had started to show off it's beautiful colors.

Red Slough is the place for a wide variety of avian life. We had a total of 53 species for the day. As if that weren't enough to please us, the high lights were lifers for several participants. The cold front two days prior to our trip brought in many winter residents.

It was a big day for sparrows with a grand total of 12 species! We had three Ammodramus species, Grasshopper, Le Conte's and Henslow's, with long, close, studious looks at all. The Henslow’s sparrow is an uncommon and famously inconspicuous bird as it reluctant to fly preferring to run through the prairie grasslands, its native habitat. We flushed it out when dragging a rope looking for Yellow Rails.

As we walked one field in search of a Nelson's Sharp-tailed, David Arbour, our guide, had seen the previous week we were surprised by a single Chestnut-collared Longspur. We chased him around until he finally landed and allowed us to approach close enough to examine and document him with photos. It was a first for the Red Slough WMA bringing their grand total to 312 species!

We had both Marsh and Sedge Wrens. We also saw a Sora. Another big highlight as we were driving out were two Common Ground Doves.

Many thanks to David Arbour, our guide and the manager of Red Slough. He is a most gracious host that truly loves his job and Red Slough!

Everyone on the trip agreed the three hour drive was well worth it.—Linda Ergonis
On a cool calm morning the 17 in attendance had a very slow birding walk. The migrants from the cold front must have moved on. Several White-eyed Vireos were observed and we saw a large Yellow-bellied Water Snake in what little water remained in the slough.

23 species (+1 other taxa)
Canada Goose (Branta canadensis) 8
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 1
Red-shouldered Hawk (Buteo lineatus) 2
White-winged Dove (Zenaida asiatica) 1
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 10
Ruby-throated/Black-chinned Hummingbird (Archilochus colubris/alexandri) 1
Red-headed Woodpecker (Melanerpes erythrocephalus) 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker (Melanerpes carolinus) 2
Downy Woodpecker (Picoides pubescens) 3
Eastern Phoebe (Sayornis phoebe) 2

Eastern Kingbird (Tyrannus tyrannus) 1
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (Tyrannus forficatus) 2
White-eyed Vireo (Vireo griseus) 3
Blue Jay (Cyanocitta cristata) 2
American Crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos) 1
Carolina Chickadee (Poecile carolinensis) 3
Tufted Titmouse (Baeolophus bicolor) 2
Carolina Wren (Thryothorus ludovicianus) 3
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2
Wilson's Warbler (Cardellina pusilla) 1
Northern Cardinal (Cardinalis cardinalis) 10
Indigo Bunting (Passerina cyanea) 3
Dickcissel (Spiza americana) 1
House Finch (Carpodacus mexicanus) 5

PTAS-guided bird walks are co-operatively sponsored with the Heard Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary on the second Saturday of each month, September - May. Sign-in for these walks will be at the Heard store at 9:00, rain or shine! The bird walk is free although the Heard Museum charges an admission fee for non-members of the Museum. The Heard Museum website is www.heardmuseum.org.
If you look at the thrush family in your birding field guide, you’ll see that the Bicknell’s Thrush has a very small breeding range in North America. It can be found in southeastern Quebec and the Maritimes, and portions of northern New England in the U.S. But even in this restricted range, it lives only in the very specific habitat of “sky island” alpine areas, near tree line and usually above 3,000 ft.

If you hope to see this bird in the U.S., you would have to go to the northeast during its nesting season, and you would have to go to high altitudes. This past summer, four friends and I decided to do just that – we went on an adventure with the Bicknell’s Thrush as our target! We spent a fun week birding many sites in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine. Everyone saw at least one life-bird, and three in the group saw several!

From talking to friends who had already seen the Bicknell’s, I knew that the White Mountains in New Hampshire was the easiest place to try for it. “Easy” meaning you can drive on a paved road to the preferred altitude. In Maine, you would have to hike to it. I attempted this several years ago, but a hired guide cancelled the hike due to overnight rain which slickened the steep trail, making it unsafe.

This time, I did research on the internet and learned of the Great Glen Trails Outdoor Center, south of Gorham, NH, which conducts tours for the Bicknell’s. The tour begins at the center at 5:15am, but since the sun is up and shining long before that, the early rise wasn’t difficult. For a fee, we were driven in large vans about halfway up Mount Washington to a pullout along the steep mountainside.

We were still unloading from the vans when we heard a Bicknell’s calling – a call we had studied before-
OK, so we had seen the Bicknell’s, but it was hardly a satisfactory look. Our guide led us on a walk uphill on the road, hoping for a closer look of the same or a different bird. She played the bird’s call several times from a tape, but got no response. However, we did get a serious response on our walk from evil, wretched Black Flies!! We all knew of them, but previous trips to the northeast were never during their “hatch times”, roughly Mother’s Day thru Father’s Day. These tiny creatures have a painless bite, but they draw blood. And where they bite, you are left with swollen areas that itch nonstop and take days to heal. There were swarms of them, and swatting your hands merely parted the dark cloud momentarily. We paid dearly for our thrush adventure with fly bites, but it was worth it!

After returning downhill to the parked vans at the pull-out, one of the men on the tour played his tape of the bird’s call, and a Bicknell’s flew in to within 20 feet of us. It called loudly several times and gave everyone long, fantastic looks. Now we can happily say that we’ve really seen the bird!

The White Mountains of New Hampshire are lovely and there are many small towns, covered bridges, waterfalls, parks and wildlife preserves to visit. Finding Bicknell’s Thrush requires a long trip from Texas and, of course, there is no guarantee the bird will call or show itself, but the tour we took averages a high success rate. Karen Carbiener and I are PTAS members and will be more than happy to share trip and tour information, tips and suggestions. Maybe next June you’ll be ready for your own Bicknell’s Thrush adventure!

Jerri Kerr

Our group celebrating seeing the Bicknell’s Thrush, some of us wearing mosquito-netting hats for protection against Black Flies. Ann Hoover, Terry Ferguson, Karen Carbiener, Gail Morris, Jerri Kerr
This June, Paula and I spent three days birding/vacationing in Southern California after a business meeting I had north of San Diego. We had selected some target birds to add to the life list and tried not to bird too hard otherwise. Paula has had more of her share of the “boot camp” style of focused birding on other trips.

After leaving the resort in Carlsbad, CA, we drove to a spot near Huntington Beach. Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve is a tidal wetlands. Our first stop that day, however, was breakfast in a cute little restaurant in a beach city. Bolsa Chica did indeed yield good looks at Elegant Terns, the target bird, along with western-race Snowy Plovers and quite a few other nice birds. Paula got some good photos. Next stop was Malibu Beach, which yielded more Elegant Terns along with lots of surfers, one guy wiping out quite spectacularly!

The next day we drove the hills north of Santa Barbara, finding the Yellow-billed Magpie in the cottonwoods along a golf course, just as expected, and the Oak Titmouse in the Live Oaks at a county park, as expected. After that, of course, lunch and sightseeing, followed by dinner at the wharf in Santa Barbara.

We wanted to see the Island Scrub-Jay plus we love day cruises for pelagic birding and aquatic mammals along with the spectacular views from the boat. Therefore, we signed up for the boat to a really uninhabited, unimproved part of Santa Cruz Island. Much of this and the other islands in Santa Barbara Channel are part of the Channel Islands National Park. The park headquarters is actually on the mainland; so not much has disturbed this land. Crossing over the 20 miles of open ocean on our way to the island, we saw thousands of Common Dolphins and – tah dah! – Xantus’s Murret, another lifer. The captain explained that this is pronounced “zantoosus”, by the way. On the island we definitely saw and heard quite a few of the jays and enjoyed a great hike.

All in all, this was a really great trip. We enjoyed ourselves, saw some great birds, and left a couple of target birds to come back for!

Gailon Brehm
On the afternoon of October 5th Merrick Darley, Gailon Brehm, Rodney Thomas and I motored north to the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge. We were meeting with Kathy Whaley, the Refuge’s Director, for a tour of the Hagerman and specifically for a look at the upland properties that were slated to be restored as native prairie. Accompanied by Jack Chiles who has maintained a continuous record of birding at Hagerman for 22 years we were taken about by Kathy in one of the Refuge’s vans.

Over the last several decades grassland birds have been the most rapidly declining species in North America. Our PTAS directors had elected last year to support the grassland restoration efforts at Hagerman with a $1,000 grant to purchase native grass seeds. We are renewing the grant this year along with another $1,000 grant obtained from the state Audubon Society through Merrick’s exertion. These three grants should afford enough seed to plant 15-30 acres once the drought ends and conditions are favorable for planting.

We were impressed by the amount of land set aside for restoration and by the work being done in preparation. In addition to pastures that will be restored, Ms. Whaley and her relatively small staff are making impressive progress in clearing large cedar brake areas. The plan is to eventually create a substantial increase in habitat for grassland birds in our North Central Texas community.

Native plant restoration is a most challenging undertaking but it’s gratifying to see the work underway at Hagerman and I think every PTAS member can take pride in being part of the effort.

Bill Woodfin
A birder’s day begins early, gathering the necessary gear and heading out for a time of observation and, hopefully, discovery. Early each weekday morning, hundreds of elementary students share in this experience because their school is home to a unique ecological resource: a school garden. Brimming with native plants, water features, and delectable insect populations these gardens provide essential habitat for birds and other wildlife while also providing a prime learning environment for eager young minds.

One local non-profit, REAL School Gardens, is working to make outdoor learning opportunities available to thousands of North Texas students on a daily basis at their elementary school campuses. REAL School Gardens partners with high-poverty elementary schools to create learning gardens that spark imaginations, connect children to nature, and engage students across all subjects. Their unique program includes the initial garden design and installation utilizing a community-driven process and continues with targeted, standards-based training for teachers at each school.

School gardens serve as living laboratories that reinforce, extend, and bring to life what children are learning indoors—as well as many essential lessons which no traditional classroom experience can provide. Wielding the tools of a scientist – journals, hand lenses, binoculars, and, of course, the five senses – students engage in problem-solving, critical-thinking, and real-world applications for concepts ranging from measurement to erosion control.

Through the simple activity of birding, students have extended their learning across all subject areas. Birds serve as an inspiring subject for purposeful writing tasks and art projects. In their wildlife observations, students employ scientific inquiry to improve their understanding of the ecosystem in their schoolyard and apply mathematical concepts to assess wildlife behavior, by charting bird sightings, for instance.

Sunflowers, herbs, lush shrubbery and a bird feeder grace the garden at Ronald McNair Elementary in Dallas.
Science fair projects regularly revolve around birding questions such as preferences for different types of seed and the optimal location of a bird feeder. In learning about local and native bird populations, history and social studies lessons can be extended to help students solidify their sense of place and grasp a broader ecological context. Many children today do not recognize connections between their own lives and basic natural systems such as the water cycle or food chains. However, as students learn to nurture and respect a patch of green space on their school campus, they begin to apply these behaviors in their neighborhood, at the local park, and beyond.

In addition to nectar-bearing flowers and berry-bearing bushes, school gardens are growing young minds and cultivating relationships. At one REAL School Gardens partner school, investigations in the outdoor classroom and the nearby neighborhood led students to identify not only bird species but two neighbors who shared their passion: a master naturalist and a falconer. Upon learning more about these curious young birders and the outdoor classroom that prompted their expedition, the falconer declared that the school garden was an “oasis in an urban environment,” providing much-needed shelter, sustenance, and interactions among animal and human inhabitants alike.

To learn more about REAL School Gardens, visit their website at www.realschoolgardens.org.

Sarah Darley

The book sale and raffle held last year at the November PTAS meeting was such a success, the Board is offering another sale. Our members were encouraged to donate gently-used bird and nature related books and magazines. Some of the donated items were so well cared for they appeared brand new. We even had original artwork, jewelry and note cards donated - a raffle was held for these special items.

We then had fun "shopping" the tableful of great choices -- with the money spent being a donation to help fund the projects the chapter supports. Here is a chance for you to treat yourself or someone else to fascinating stories, reference books and identification guides - and just in time to perhaps be holiday gifts!

As before, the books will not be marked with a price. Members will be asked to donate what they can -- knowing that all donations will support PTAS projects. Funding area bird-related efforts is one of the main missions of our chapter, and the book sale will be a way for members to aid in this support.

If you have any gently used bird or nature related books and magazines you would like to donate to this fund-raising effort, please bring them to the November 22 meeting. If you've read the ones you got at the previous sale, bring them back and pass them on!

Last year, our member's donations and generosity were far beyond our expectations - both in the quantity of items donated and the amount "spent" for them. THANK YOU to everyone who participated. We look forward to another great success with the book sale this year!

Jerri Kerr
Note: If you would like to receive email notifications when the newsletters are available, or to update your email address, please contact Merrick Darley at hmdarley@prairieandtimbers.org.

PRAIRIE & TIMBERS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Officers, Chairpersons and Board Members

President: Merrick Darley* .................. 972-422-5355
Vice President: Carolyn Oldham* 972-517-8987
Secretary: Betty Parker ..................... 972-618-1130
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Programs: Carolyn Oldham* ............. 972-517-8987
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Board Member: Sara Shaffer ............ 972-881-0645

Membership Application

I would like to be a member of Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society (PTAS), knowing that my annual membership dues will be used to support local bird-related projects and habitats. Enclosed is my check for $12 (includes all family members at a single address) made out to: PTAS. PTAS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; your membership fee and any donations made to PTAS are tax deductible.

I would also like to support the National Audubon Society, where my annual membership dues will be used nationally and globally. Enclosed is my check for the special new-member introductory price of $20, made out to: National Audubon Society

Name ______________________________________
Address ______________________________________
City __________________________ State ____________
Zip ______________
Phone ______________
Email ________________________________

How did you hear about Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society?
From a member of PTAS
From the PTAS website
Other (please specify) ___________________________

Mail to: Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society
c/o Georgette Guernsey, 6405 Oak Hollow Lane
McKinney, TX 75070

Audubon code: 7XCH  PTAS Chapter Code: W15

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SEND US YOUR UPDATED E-MAIL ADDRESS

Email is the most efficient way for us to let you know about events, meetings and last minute changes. We send only 1 or 2 emails per month, and we do not share our mailing list with anyone. If you are not on our email distribution list, or if your email address has changed recently, please contact Merrick Darley at hmdarley@prairieandtimbers.org

Rustlin’s - 14