A Note
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Travis Audubon Members and Friends,

The summer has certainly already brought some excitement! Weird weather, lots and lots of programming, and hot, hot, hot birding are in full swing.

Thank you to everyone who participated in and donated to Birdathon this year – our fundraising-birders raised $31,000, truly making this a year to remember.

Speaking of hot birding, two recent highlights stand out: with the help of excellent field trip leaders Dennis Palafox and Judith Bailey, we hosted a VIP birding trip to Pam and Jeff Autrey’s place near Johnson City. The Central Texas heat didn’t stop the show-off Painted Buntings, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, and Olive-sided Flycatcher. Then at the Purple Martin colony visit at Laura Joseph’s house, we had close-up views of Purple Martins at all stages of life: hatchlings, nestlings, fledglings, juveniles, and adults. On both days, I got to see the fruits of community-through-birding in full force.

We’re excited to grow again this summer by welcoming a new staff member, our new Development Manager Kelsey McKenna, and ramp up for the Purple Martin parties in July—keep an eye out for our banners and for the roost location! We’ll see you in the parking lot…

Nicole

Nicole Netherton
Executive Director
People
AT TRAVIS AUDUBON

**Staff**

Executive Director
Nicole Netherton

Land Manager and Educator
Chris Murray

Education and Program Coordinator
Caley Zuzula

Operations Coordinator
Judith Allen

Design Director & Website Producer
Nora Chovanec

**Committees**

**Advocacy**
Christy Esmahan
Clif Ladd

**Baker Team**
Chris Murray

**Blair Woods Management**
Mark Wilson

**Commons Ford**
Shelia Hargis
Ellen Fitness

**Chaetura Canyon Management**
Paul Kyle
Georgean Kyle
Mark Wilson

**Adult Education**
Byron Stone
Cheryl McGrath

**Field Trip**
Dennis Palafox
Eric Stager

**Hornsby Bend**
Jane Tillman
Cindy Sperry

**Outreach/Member Meetings**
Virginia Rose
Mary Kay Sexton

**Youth**

**Board of Directors**

President
Eric Stager

President-Elect
Karen Bartoletti

Treasurer
Carol Ray

Secretary
Sharon Richardson

Directors
Christy Esmahan
Suzanne Kho
Clif Ladd
Julia Marsden
Lino Mendiola
Dennis Palafox
Virginia Rose
Jo Wilson
Mark Wilson

**Advisory Council**

J. David Bamberger
Valarie Bristol
Frances Cerbins
Victor Emanuel
Sam Fason
Bryan Hale
Karen Huber
Mary Kelly
Susan Rieff
Andrew Sansom
Carter Smith
# Upcoming Events

**WITH TRAVIS AUDUBON**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>29 JUN, 19</strong></td>
<td>Ecological Literacy Volunteer Day at Hornsby Bend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>29 JUN, 19</strong></td>
<td>2210 S FM 973, Austin, TX 78725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>06 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Beginner’s Bird Walk at Hornsby Bend River Trail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Field Trips, Sanctuary Events Morning Canyon Crawl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Field Trips Hornsby Bend Monthly Bird Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Sanctuary Events Swift Watch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Field Trips, Sanctuary Events Commons Ford Prairie Bird Walk with Shelia Hargis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Birds of Central Texas at Pioneer Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>10621 Pioneer Farms Drive, Austin TX, 78702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Ruffled Feathers Book Club Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>3710 Cedar St, Austin, TX 78705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Field Trips, Sanctuary Events Commons Ford Bird Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Field Trips Hornsby Bend Monthly Bird Walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Sanctuary Events Baker Sanctuary Restoration Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>12219 Lime Creek Rd, Leander, TX 78641, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>27 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>Ecological Literacy Volunteer Day at Hornsby Bend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>27 JUL, 19</strong></td>
<td>2210 S FM 973, Austin, TX 78725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10 AUG, 19</strong></td>
<td>Field Trips, Sanctuary Events Morning Canyon Crawl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10 AUG, 19</strong></td>
<td>Field Trips Hornsby Bend Monthly Bird Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10 AUG, 19</strong></td>
<td>Sanctuary Events Swift Watch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>17 AUG, 19</strong></td>
<td>Field Trips Hornsby Bend Monthly Bird Walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>17 AUG, 19</strong></td>
<td>Sanctuary Events Blair Woods Restoration Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>17 AUG, 19</strong></td>
<td>5401 E Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Austin, TX 78721, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>18 AUG, 19</strong></td>
<td>Field Trips, Sanctuary Events Commons Ford Prairie Bird Walk with Shelia Hargis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>31 AUG, 19</strong></td>
<td>Ecological Literacy Volunteer Day at Hornsby Bend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>31 AUG, 19</strong></td>
<td>2210 S FM 973, Austin, TX 78725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Updates
FROM THE SIGNAL SMOKE BLOG

Confronting the “R”

POSTED ON MAY 2, 2019
By: Christy Esmahan, Travis Audubon Master Birder

If you are as obsessed with listing on eBird as I am, it is agonizing when you enter a sighting and find a red dot and an “R” next to your bird’s name. Your fingers tremble slightly, and you wonder if you have the energy for this. That happened to me not once, but five times over the last few days.

That “R” stands for “rare” and it means you’re reporting a bird that has never/rarely been seen in that area. The scientists at Cornell rightly set this up to warn you to double-check your entry.

My first “R” came at the Hazel Bazemore Park with a Lincoln’s Sparrow that I mis-identified as a Song Sparrow. Mel, the local eBird guardian, was patient with me and examined my photos, pointing out that Lincoln’s can have breast spots.

I wasn’t lucky enough to get a photo for any of the other cases, either because I didn’t have my camera, or I wasn’t fast enough.

At Sunset Park I saw white stripes on a bright blue wing. Cerulean Warbler, I thought, shifting to get a better view. But the bird was skittish. A rich cinnamon/rust colored upper chest and a flash of a white belly. Eastern Bluebird? I pished and its blue head with the wrong, too-big beak popped out, then it flew away, immediately followed by another bird which was clearly an Indigo Bunting. Could it be? But, they’re not found in this part of Texas! I hesitated several hours, thoroughly researching the bird before I confronted the “R” with Lazuli Bunting.

The next morning, I saw a Couch’s Kingbird and was about to enter it in eBird when the bird began singing, very stuttery and fast. Tropical Kingbird! This “R” was easier as I knew the call well and soon ran into another local birder who corroborated my sighting.

At a park in Beeville, a Bobwhite called loudly. Also another “R”, but we managed to get a sound recording, and eventually, a brief look at the quails as they darted through the tall grass.

Finally, stopping in Seguin we heard a Tropical Parula (TRPA) calling loudly. I know that call, having heard and studied it. Our bird was bright yellow from its chin to the end of its belly, with no chest band, a dark head, back and wings! But for this “R” I really wanted a picture. Try as I might, though, it was impossible. It was high up in the tree, darting from branch to branch and the automatic focus on my camera frustratingly homed in on the closer leaves. We tried to get a recording of its call, but with the loud waterfall, nothing could be heard. I agonized about whether to report it, but finally, my husband convinced me that it was the right thing to do. It’s been a disruptive year for TRPAs, with one recent sighting in Austin. The beauty of eBird—and confronting the “R”—is sharing (and sharing in) unexpected findings.

Visit Doeskin Ranch

POSTED ON MAY 17, 2019
By: Christina Oliver, Travis Audubon Volunteer

There’s a place in central Texas that will transport you to another world—a quieter world—where birds chirp flirtatiously, bees buzz busily, and brooks babble sweet lullabies; where all you see for miles are prairies painted in greens and golds, and in the springtime, fields dancing with brilliant Bluebonnets and blazing Indian Blanket. This magical otherworld, with
hills that gradually roll and dip into a distant phantom sea, is called Doeskin Ranch and is located within Balcones Canyonlands National Refuge in Marble Falls, TX—approximately one hour from Austin.

The refuge was established in 1991 for the purpose of preserving habitat for endangered species, and as of 2019 it spans about 27,500 acres. It is recognized as an internationally important Bird Area, harboring 245 bird species for part or all of the year, including two endangered species: the black-capped vireo and the golden-cheeked warbler.

In 2005, Doeskin Ranch was designated as a national recreation trail, which treats the public to an impressive display of flora and fauna. You’ll see bright-colored wildflowers and shimmering grasses, prickly pear cacti gardens, and vibrant flowering shrubs. You may encounter deer, coyote, beavers, foxes, feral pigs, and bobcats. And thousands of monarchs pass through the area during their spring and fall migrations.

A few things to note about the trail:

- **Rimrock Trail**: 2 mile loop takes you up to the top of the plateau where you will find spectacular panoramic views—moderate
- **Indiangrass Trail**: 1.5 mile loop at the top of the plateau and follows alongside beautiful sun-kissed prairies dotted with wildflowers in spring—moderate
- **Shin Oak Trail**: .5 mile loop alongside a small pond—moderate

All the loops are conveniently connected. If you’d like to do a long stretch of connected loops, you can start along Rimrock, veer right onto Shin Oak, and continue up to Indiangrass. This approximately 2-hour hike includes a rocky, rigorous, and steep climb up to the plateau, shady overlooks with benches to rest along the way, two creek crossings, and commanding views of Texas hill country.

Prickly Pear Cactus Photo Credit: Christina Oliver

Now that Springtime is here, there is no better time to visit and enjoy the area’s stunning wildflowers and maybe even catch a glimpse of an elusive and rare songbird.

Remember, always stay on the trails to help protect and preserve the area’s habitat. Happy Trails!

**Birdathon 2019 Results**

**POSTED ON MAY 20, 2019**

This weekend, over 30 Birdathon participants met at Threadgill’s to celebrate a fantastic fundraiser. Together, we raised $31,000 to benefit Travis Audubon in our mission of inspiring conservation through birding.

The winners for each competing category was announced:

- **Most Species Seen** (Half Day): Master Birders (68 species)
Most Species Seen (Full Day): Gone Pishing (138 Species)
Rarest Bird: Fork-tailed Flycatcher seen by Master Birders
Top Fundraiser: Gone Pishing ($8,665)
Best Story: Dennis Palafox, with his great story of going on a goose chase for Whooping Cranes

Thank you to everyone who helped make this Birdathon so memorable!

Chalupas and Chimney Swifts 2019

POSTED ON MAY 24, 2019
By: Georgean and Paul Kyle, Sanctuary Stewards

We were nervously watching the weather all week right up to the day before Chalupas and Chimney Swifts – intense thunderstorms were forecast. On Friday, it appeared that the storms were going to go north of Chaetura Canyon, so we emailed our guests that Saturday night was still a “go.”

Saturday morning, the forecast and future radar had changed – putting a heavy storm right over the Canyon at 6:00 PM when our guests would be arriving. But it was too late to reschedule. We battened down the hatches: lowered the rain panels, set up tables under the covered portion of the deck and inside the residence, and hoped for the best. After all, we could still have a nice dinner and watch the swifts on the video feed even if the rains did come.

At 4:00 we had a brief downpour of .18”. However, by the time everyone began to arrive, the skies had cleared and the hot, humid temperature had moderated. After the shower, we had also moved all of the dining facilities back out onto the deck and opened the rain panels. It turned out to be a glorious evening.

More than two dozen participants enjoyed beverages and appetizers on the deck and then wandered the upper trails by the water features, down to the Windows on Nature, to the vegetable garden and back. The dinner of enchiladas, tamales, guacamole and others delights was served at 7:30 followed by a short presentation about the history of Chaetura Canyon.

The Chimney Swifts made their appearance about 8:30 and put on their typically impressive aerial display. Several of the guests counted the swifts as they entered the roost in the North Tower, and the average count tallied 68 individual swifts.

Once the last swift had entered the roost, the guests were treated to the video “Twig and Timber” – a year in the life of two Chimney Swifts and the youngsters they reared at the Canyon. This was followed by an encore presentation of Abe Moore’s “Swift Saviors” – a short Texas Parks and Wildlife video about our work with the swifts over the past 30+ years.

Just as the evening was wrapping up, Mother Nature’s light show began with a full moon rising over the Canyon (someone dubbed it the “Swift Moon”) as well as a plethora of fireflies sparkling and dancing in the vegetation below the deck.

We want to express our thanks to everyone who participated. It was a successful fundraiser and thoroughly enjoyable event.

Meet James Giroux, 1st Place Winner of the 2019 Birdathon Photography Contest

POSTED ON JUNE 3, 2019
By: Caley Zuzula, Travis Audubon’s Program and Education Coordinator

As soon as I opened the email with James Giroux’s submissions to this year’s photography contest, I knew at least one of his photos would place. His crisp, bright, impactful photos are visually stunning – despite photography being his hobby rather than his profession, his skills do not give that away. I sat down with James to learn more about his interest in birds and photography.

Did you get interested in birds or photography first, and how did you make your way to the other?
“I started birding first, but I had an interest a long time ago in photography, and it was a natural thing to want to take pictures of these
Where did you take the photos that you submitted to the contest?
“The beach ones were done at Sea Rim State Park. The [Yellow-billed Cuckoo photo] was at Sabine Woods.”

What camera did you use to take these photos?
“A Canon 80D with a 500 mm lens.”

What is the most exciting bird you have ever photographed?
“A Siberian Rubythroat. This was at St. Paul Island in Alaska, and it’s one of those birds that really lives over on the other side of the Bering Sea in Russia, but they stray over to Alaska and those islands. We went there in 2015 for 7 days and we were a little disappointed because we were expecting to see 2 or 3 rare birds. It was on our last day, we were waiting for the airplane to come and we were not doing much. And I said, I’m just going to go out, and I was looking around in this trash pile and all of a sudden I see the bird. I saw the back of it, and I knew, this is something, and it turned around and it had this ruby throat. I had done some studying, and I thought, I think that’s a Siberian Rubythroat. I went to tell the two people I was with, I said open the book, let me see the Siberian Rubythroat. I said yeah, that’s it, there’s one out there. So we all went out there. We spotted it, and then we called the guides that were on the island, and two groups came out. It was very exciting.”

What is a bird you would really like to photograph in the future that you haven’t yet?
“One of my nemesis birds– I hear it every day in my yard. It’s a Lesser Goldfinch. I have a website and I have about 363 photos, and I don’t have Lesser Goldfinch. They are in my neighborhood, I hear them 12 months out of the year, they’re all over the place. I have a sock feeder, and a few years ago, I guess I always thought that’s an easy bird to photograph, I’ll get it, but now for whatever reason they won’t come to my sock feeder in my backyard.”

Do you have one particular photo that you’ve taken that is your favorite?
“Probably so, it’s a Great Egret photo taken at High Island. It was about 5 PM, maybe 6 PM. It was getting dark and it was very overcast; a storm was coming so it was pretty dark outside. I took a picture of this Great Egret, and it was fanning its feathers and the background came out almost pitch black, so it had these white, beautiful feathers beneath this black background. It was pretty cool.”

Where are some of your favorite places to photograph birds?
“In Austin, Hornsby Bend is the best, and then Pedernales Falls State Park, Commons Ford, and McKinney Falls State Park. Outside of Austin, Big Bend, the Texas Coast, Sea Rim State Park, and Sabine Woods.”

Who are your favorite wildlife/nature photographers?
“Greg Lasley, Alan Murphy, and Robert Royse.”

What advice do you have for birders who are interested in photography, but don’t really know where to start?
“Equipment is hard [to recommend] because there is such a range of prices, but start with a $400 or $500 camera and practice. Get out every opportunity you have, and look at other bird photographers’ work. That’s how I got going on it. The more you do, the better you get at it.”

Where else can people see your work? Where else is it featured?
“My website, jamesagiroux.com, Flickr, and the KXAN bird forecasts.”

World Swift Day at Chaetura Canyon

POSTED ON JUNE 10, 2019
By: Georgean and Paul Kyle, Sanctuary Stewards

Friday, June 7, 2019 was the first ever World Swift Day. It was organized by Martine Wauters of Brussels, Belgium. Martine is working with Dr. Jane Goodall’s Roots and Shoots program to educate children about conservation of the more than 100 species of swifts in the world.

The event was celebrated with 120 world-wide events in 29 countries and 4 continents. At Chaetura Canyon, three dozen guests toured the sanctuary, watched the Chimney Swifts cavorting overhead and feeding their newly-hatched babies via the live video feed in the South Tower on the residence. A video presentation began with introductory comments by Dr. Goodall followed by several short features about several of the world’s swift species and ending with the short film about the Kyles’ work with Chimney Swifts by Abe Moore (Texas Parks and Wildlife).

Celebrate Purple Martins in South Austin

POSTED ON JUNE 11, 2019

This past Saturday, over 100 people joined to learn more about the Purple Martin Colony in South Austin managed by Laura Joseph and her corps of volunteers. Volunteers lowered the Purple Martin houses to reveal babies in different stages of development, including the fledglings pictured above. A few words were said in honor of Dr. Gardner Sumner, who was a colony volunteer, neighbor, and friend.

Laura Joseph’s home (pictured below) adjacent to the colony was built in 1875 and is the oldest structure south of the river. It is a Greek Revival Style home with 22-inch thick walls made of stone quarried at Oak Hill. Laura led a tour of her gardens for dozens of guests, filled with stories about the history of some of her unique plants.

Guests enjoyed drinks and movie snacks including fresh popcorn made by our own Canyon Docent Sarah Ruiz. Thanks, Sarah! Thanks also to Canyon Docent Rafael Ruiz for the photos of the event.

Guests received hand-crafted wooden Swift Hearts as mementos of the evening and a token of our appreciation of their great support of Chaetura Canyon and Chimney Swift conservation!
Travis Audubon gives a special thanks to Laura and her volunteers for hosting such a lovely event!

VIP Trip to Autrey Pedernales River Property

POSTED ON JUNE 12, 2019

Pam and Jeff Autrey’s property on the Pedernales River was a fabulous spot for our VIP birding trip on June 2. Ten generous Travis Audubon donors, led by the intrepid Judith Bailey and Dennis Palafox, enjoyed a lovely morning of birding.

We convened in South Austin for breakfast snacks and coffee, then rolled through Johnson City (with a Great Horned Owl on a wire!) to the Autrey’s. On the road that led to the property, we stopped the cars to listen for Field Sparrows, Painted Buntings, Summer Tanagers, and Bewick’s Wrens. We then arrived to a warm welcome at the Autrey’s home, where we stopped to listen for Northern Bobwhites near the house (foiled!). Heading down the road, Male Painted Buntings showed off at every turn. We also saw a raucous meeting of five or six Golden-fronted Woodpeckers of all ages on a dead tree along the way. This short walk led us to gorgeous riparian habitat on the Pedernales, shaded by huge pecan trees and cooled by lovely breezes. We had an Orchard Oriole to serenade us, and an Olive-sided Flycatcher on the line nearby.

With the riverfront as a backdrop and our camping chairs by the water, we sat in the June-Texas shade and did some more casual birding, beating the heat, counting the Swallows, and enjoying some lovely snacks and drinks. We had covered 1.5 miles in three hours and saw 38 species. Not a bad way to spend a Sunday among friends.

Thank you to Pam and Jeff Autrey for sharing their piece of paradise with us, and thank you to the generous donors who make Travis Audubon’s work possible. If you’re interested in joining us on VIP field trips like these, email me at nicole@travisaudubon.org to learn more about our levels of membership.

Chaetura Canyon Celebration Day

POSTED ON JUNE 14, 2019

Today marks Georgean and Paul Kyle’s 50th wedding anniversary, a perfect day to celebrate all that they have achieved together. In honor of their work as conservation heroes, Travis County has officially proclaimed June 14, 2019 as Chaetura Canyon Celebration Day. The Proclamation states the following:

WHEREAS, Chaetura Canyon was founded in 1972 by Georgean and Paul Kyle, when the then-newlyweds purchased one acre in northwestern Travis County in order to establish a wildlife rehabilitation facility where they cared for more than 2,000 injured and displaced animals over a 20-year period; and

WHEREAS, The Kyles have been instrumental in expanding the property and establishing Chaetura Canyon as a world-renowned center for the research and conservation of Chimney Swifts (chaetura pelagica), a once common bird in steep decline, as well as other native avifauna, wildlife, and native plants; and

WHEREAS, The North American Chimney Swift Nest Site Research Project, established by the Kyles as a North American conservation initiative, has helped to build and inspire the building of hundreds of Chimney Swift towers constructed across the United States and Canada to provide habitat for these vulnerable birds; and

WHEREAS, Since 2006, when the Kyles donated their 8-acre portion of the canyon and their home to Travis Audubon Society while retaining a life estate, Chaetura Canyon has
become an important Bird Sanctuary, stewarded by the Kyles and now protected and conserved in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, Paul and Georgean Kyle have contributed immensely to wildlife and habitat conservation efforts through their work and have shown a fifty-year commitment both to each other and the environment and native species in Central Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARAH ECKHARDT, COUNTY JUDGE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, do hereby proclaim June 14, 2019 as CHAETURA CANYON CELEBRATION DAY in Travis County.

Signed and entered this 14th day of June, 2019.

We thank the Kyles for their efforts and legacy at Chaetura Canyon!

**Travis Audubon Joins “Move the Pipeline, Save the Water” Campaign**

POSTED ON JUNE 20, 2019
By: Christy Esmahan, Travis Audubon Board Member

Recently, the Board of Trustees of Travis Audubon signed a resolution to join the Wimberly Valley Watershed Association and dozens of other local organizations in protesting the proposed route of the Kinder Morgan (KM) Permian Basin Pipeline Highway through the Hill Country between Austin and San Antonio. In our press release we cited the threat that this route would pose to the fragile and unique habitat where the endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler (GCWA) breeds, an area already confined to a small region on our planet, as well as to the other birds that live and breed there. This route would also expose the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer to danger of contamination because there to be an accidental leak or explosion. Hays and Gillespie Counties, and the cities of San Marcos, Fredericksburg and others joined the resolution as well.

This week we took our actions one step further and joined a growing coalition of organizations supporting the Move the Pipeline Save the Water (MTPSTW) campaign to stop KM from building the Permian Basin Highway Pipeline through the karst aquifers of the Texas Hill Country.

To be clear, the resolution does not oppose the pipeline, but rather the route that KM has chosen. Not only are drilling businesses providing livelihoods to fellow Texans, losing millions of dollars every day that their product cannot be moved from West Texas to port, but methane and other gasses are being either leaked or flared, both of which pose a danger and a hazard to our environment.

There are, however, other pipeline highways already in existence, to which this new pipeline could be added. Some of the other routes are not very different (as little as 30 miles longer) and those pipeline highways avoid the porous limestone and aquifers of Central Texas. Furthermore, those other pipeline highways do not cut through habitat used by the GCWA and many of our local birds and other wildlife.

There is little time to act. KM has been granted eminent domain and construction is due to begin soon, reaching completion in 2020. The clear-cutting that will take place will potentially spread oak wilt, which would further damage GCWA habitat, and the 24/7 lighting and jet-engine noise of the compressors will harm both wildlife and landowners along the path. This is only one pipeline of several that could be placed along the “highway,” and these could contain other kinds of petroleum-derived products.

However, Margaret Mead’s words are still true: “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” In that spirit, we encourage all of our members, fellow birders, and indeed, citizens of the Texas Hill Country, to sign the petition to protect Texas’ water and help spread the word.

More information on our Purple Martin Parties, held Friday and Saturday evenings in July, can be found on our website at [www.TravisAudubon.org](http://www.TravisAudubon.org)!
Thank You
TO OUR 2018-2019 DONORS

Leadership Circle
Bob and Margaret Ayres
Judith Bailey
Carol Bennett
Holly and Tom Brandt
Frances and Oskar Cerbins
Ann and Don Connell
Colin Corgan
Jackie Davis
The Dickson Family
The Donovan Family
The Gagarin Family
Patricia Gallagher
Cecilia Green
Lee Decker and Faye Harris
Caroline Jones
Carolyn Long
Barry Lyon and Brooke Smith
The Marsden Family
Susan Miller
Dennis Palafox
Ann Bishop & Penny Potter
Carol Ray
Alan Roddy
Theodore C Rogers
Lorna Terhune
The Warneke Family
Jo Wilson

Lifetime Members
The Aeschbach Family
Carol Bennett
Holly and Tom Brandt
Donna Brasher
Valarie Bristol
Sam Burnes
Frances and Oskar Cerbins
The Collins Family
Colin Corgan
Kelley Cunyn and Gregg Sporar
Jackie Davis
Stacia and Walt DeBill
The deVries Family
Laura Legett and Joe Doherty
Carol Edwards
Sharon and Don Flournoy
The Gagarin Family
Ann Gardner
Chris Gunter
Bryan Hale
Julie Hallmark
The Harte Family
The Hoverman Family
Burgess Jackson
Caroline Jones
Diedra Kerr
Ronnie Kramer
Tasso Leventis
The Lowrimore Family
The Marsden Family
Cheryl McGrath and Robert Miller
Sally Means
The Moore Family
Kevin R Moore
The Mundy Family
Jorjana Price
Marilyn Rabkin
Deborah Robertson
Alan Roddy
Theodore C Rogers
Stephen Rumsey
Ryan Runkle
Mary Sanger
Andy and Nona Sansom
The Schaezler Family
The Schoolar Family
The Sexton Family
Vince Shouba
Catherine Sims
Ellen Smith
Bryan and Cindy Sperry
Byron Stone
Patsy Turner and Tim Stuart
Stan VanSandt
Paul Wade
Isabel Welland
The Wheeler Family
Jo Wilson
John Wilson
The Yates Family
The Youngblood Family
Wise Owl
Sustaining Members

Joseph Ahlquist
Barbara Anderson
Judith Bailey
Melissa Bedrock
Will Boettner
Dawn Bowes
Janet Brandt
Valarie Bristol
Evan Carton
Frances Cerbins
Fred Dalbey
Elaine Davenport
Jackie Davis
Pat Dillon
Christy Esmahan
Vella Fink
Susan Galbreath
Eugene Garver
Donna Joan Herschleb
Joseph Hunt
Todd Ingarfield
Mary Jo Kennard
Richard King
Janet Krueger
Stephen Livingston
Julia Marsden
Ann McGinley
Trent Miller
Owen Moorhead
Geruza Paiva
Jeff Patterson
Michael Portman
Carol Ray
Sharon Richardson
Veronica Roberts
Deborah Russell
Nona Sansom
Robyn Seiferth
Brian W Sheehan
Ellen Blair Smith
Eric Stager
Mark Stoetzer
Ian Tennant
Nancy Townsend
Celeste Treadway
Carl Trovall
Cindy Verheyden
Jean Warneke
Gaines Whitcomb
Jo Wilson
Mark Wilson
Michael Wolf
Julie Zess

William Gammon
David C Gray
The Harris Family
The Harte Family
Sarah Heather
Joan Hilgers
Tina Huckabee
The Jones Family
The Jones Family
Lisa Jones
Margaret Kenty
Carla Kenyon
The Kerr Family
Caroline Leggette
Linda and Scott Leo
Suzy Maclay
Joan Marshall
Debbie Martin and Robert Sullivan
William J McAbee
The McCann Family
Mary and Lynn Moak
The Morrison Family
J. P. Patterson
Allen Peck and Lidia Agraz
Betsy Pobanz and Barry Newberger
Leslie H Pool
The Race Family
Samuel Radcliffe
The Wittliff Family
Rose Ann Reeser
Susan Rieff
The Rizzo Family
Jan Roberts
Susan Silberman
Ellen Smith and Alan Campion
Kim Soechting
The Swisher Family
Lorna Terhune
Felicia Thomas
Laura Tull
The Vinson Family
Deb and Lee Wallace
Judy Willcott and Laurence Miller
Pat Yingst and Tony Parchman
Nikki and Charli Zern

Warbler Members
The Acosta Family
Karen Bartoletti
Carol Bohumolski
Catherine Brown
Suzanne Burgess
The Cannon Family
Allen Cudding
Michelle Cutrer and
Richard Whittington
Carol Delatorre and Rob
Klausmeier
Genevieve Duncan
Sarah Eckhardt
Kent Ellington
Christel Erickson-Collins
The Fason Family