



KNOXVILLE CHAPTER OF THE TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Please join us on **Wednesday, May 1st** at 6:30 pm in Room 118 of the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine, located at 255 EJ Chapman Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919. Stay afterwards to socialize and have refreshments.

This month's program will be presented by Gary Bailey from the Kingsport chapter of TOS. Gary will be talking about his trip to Antarctica that he took last year with his wife, Betty. As we all know, when someone is talking about birds in Antarctica, penguins will be the main topic. Come join us for a fun filled night of birding "WAY DOWN UNDER" with Gary and Betty.



Emperor Penguins



American White Pelicans in Knox and Blount

For the 2nd time in two years, American White Pelicans have shown up in Knox and Blount Counties. A flock of around 40 to 45 birds started showing up near at Ish Creek and Scenic Point in Blount County around March 3rd and continued to be seen for a week. On March 12th the likely same group moved to the cove out near Duncan Boat Dock and hung around for 3 or 4 days. American White Pelicans are

now overwintering in several locations in Tennessee including the Hiwassee Refuge area in Meigs County. It is believed most of those birds migrate further north in the summer to breed.

Election of Officers

The nominating committee has put forth the following slate of officers for the upcoming year. Nominations can also be made from the floor. Officers will be voted on at our May meeting. The slate submitted is;

- President - Morton Massey
- Bill Keeler - Vice President
- Mindy Fawver - Treasurer
- Laura Tappan - Secretary



Carolina Wren nest in top of tool box

Did You Know

There are 37 regularly occurring warblers that spend their summers east of the Mississippi River. The very rare Kirkland's Warbler, nests in upstate Michigan and is rarely seen in Tennessee. All 36 of the other warblers regularly pass thru or are residents of Tennessee.

So how do we fare here in East Tennessee. Again, all 36 of these warbler do regularly pass thru or are residents of East Tennessee. The Connecticut and Mourning Warblers are the least reported, often only 1 or 2 in a year.

If you have birded anytime in the Knoxville area, you know you go to Sharp's Ridge to see warblers. Sharp's Ridge boasts an impressive list of 34 of these 36 warblers. Only the Northern and Louisiana Waterthrushes have not be reported. In any typical year, about 28 warbler species are seen on the ridge.

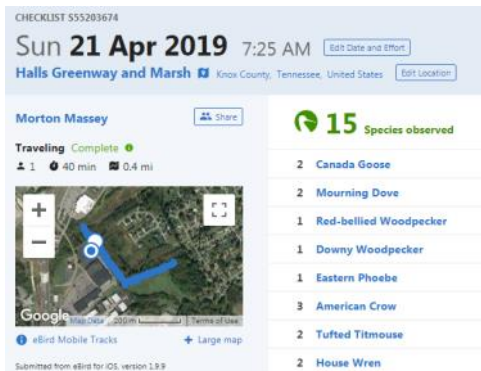
So what is the one warbler that can be seen 12 months out of the year in East Tennessee? (See last page Quiz)

What are the three warblers (besides the Pine Warbler) that can regularly be seen during the winter in East Tennessee? (See last page Quiz).

Do You Use eBird?

There have been some additional new features added to eBird that you may not be aware of. If you use eBird either on your computer or smartphone you may want to check these features out.

If you share your checklists a lot with particular friends you can now automatically have a shared list saved to your account without having to accept it. Go to My Ebird and look under Manage My Contacts. Make the person you want to automatically share your list with a friend then check the automatically share checklist box.



If you are using a smartphone, eBird saves the actual route you took. Just open up a checklist and you can see the route in blue on the left side (or top) of the screen.

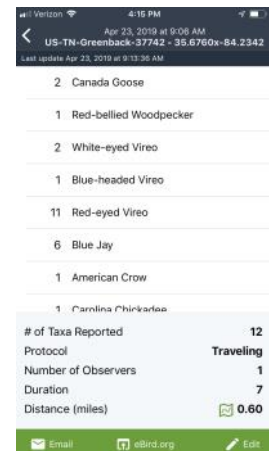
On this checklist there is a solid white dot and a white dot with a blue center. These two points mark the start and ending of your report. If you start and end your report at the same location you will usually see only one dot.

It is recommended that you leave your checklist open the entire time you are reporting. **But if you do double back on your route, adjust your distance so as not to duplicate your distance.** You can only see the route map for your own trips.

Have you ever saved a checklist on your smartphone with the eBird App then realized you left something off or reporting something incorrectly. Previously you could edit your list but you first had to the report then go into the eBird program and make your changes there. When done you had to figure out how to find the save button.

Now eBird has made things much easier. All you have to do is select your report in the list on your phone then click the Edit button at the lower right corner of the screen. Your original checklist comes up and you make changes as if you had not saved it yet. When done, hit the submit button again.

You can still go directly to the eBird program if you want by hitting the middle button at the bottom of the screen.





Please go to: www.knoxvillebirding.org for all KTOS information.

- Calendar (Fieldtrip Info)
- Newsletters
- Membership Information
- Contact Us
- FaceBook
- Photo Share
- Resources



Being part of a like minded community is important. Please remember to check the status of your membership. Morton Massey will be happy to answer any questions. You can email him at knoxtbirds@gmail.com. Please remember to put "Membership" in the subject line.



Field trips and social gatherings are a great way of getting to know one another. Fields trips can be lead by any of our members regardless of skill level. We all can learn from one another. If you have an idea or would like to lead a trip, please contact Melinda Fawver at knoxtbirds@gmail.com. Please remember to put "Field Trip" in the subject line.

Always check the Calendar at www.knoxvillebirding.org to view upcoming Field Trips, Festivals, Bird Counts and Social Gatherings.

Shade grown coffee is a great product and environmental friendly for our beloved feathered friends.

To order shade-grown coffee, email David Johnson and Jean Alexander at jjadmj@yahoo.com. Your order must be turn in Thursday night before for meeting each month. David and Jean bring orders to the monthly meetings.

Thank you, David and Jean!

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| <p>Sun-Grown Coffee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Grows faster ✗ Requires more water, fertilizer and pesticides ✗ Supports less biodiversity ✗ Degrades ecosystems | <p>Shade-Grown Coffee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Grows slower ✓ Requires less water, fertilizer and pesticides ✓ Supports greater biodiversity ✓ Sustains healthy ecosystems ✓ Allows farmers economic diversification ✓ Tastes better |
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2019 Membership Renewals:

Annual dues can be turned in at KTOS meetings or mailed to KTOS, 6932 Westland Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919. Dues levels: \$26/individual, \$30/family, \$38/sustaining, \$13 student (high school or younger), or TOS life membership for \$450 with \$8 annual fee to Chapter.



2017 - 2018

Chapter Officers / Staff

President

Jimmy Tucker

Vice President

Bill Keeler

Treasurer

Morton Massey

Secretary

Talissa Ralph

Newsletter Editor

Position Open

Website

Amy Tucker

Discover Birds

Tom Howe

Field Trip Coordinator

Melinda Fauver

State Directors, 2016 - 2018

Ron Hoff

Dollyann Myers

State Directors, 2015 - 2017

Michael Plaster

Chris Welsh

For more information :

knexnbirds@gmail.com

Please remember to put your inquiry in the subject line.

Example: Membership, Discover Birds, etc...

The Warbler Man of Sharp's Ridge



For 16 years Tony Headrick has been leading the April and May KTOS birding walks up on Sharp's Ridge. Mentored by his predecessor Jim Campbell, Tony developed a profound love for spending many of his spring mornings looking for the small and beautiful warblers that migrate thru East Tennessee.

Interestingly Tony never records what he sees. He is out to enjoy nature and take in what ever comes his way. Talkative, friendly and helpful, Tony is always there to welcome new visitors. But don't be late. Tony leave on time (or before). He can't wait to find his next Golden-winged warbler.

Great-horned Owl Nest

This Great-horned Owl and its baby were reported by Geoffrey White, principle of the Knoxville Adventist School on Kingston Pike. The adult bird would be seen flying in out of the nest regularly during the day in late March and early April. Geoffrey was kind enough to let about a dozen KTOS members to come view the birds from their parking lot.

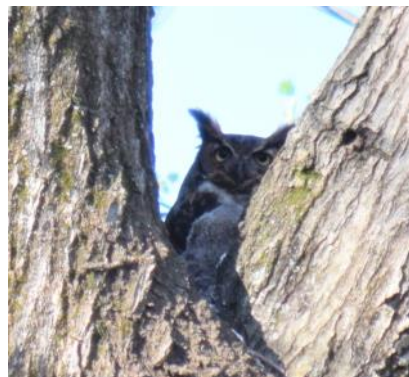


Photo by Michael Winck

Upcoming Events

- Sharp's Ridge Walks – Thursday April 24th & May 1st at 8 am
- Seven Islands Bird Walk – Wednesday April 24th at 8 am
- TOS Spring Meeting - April 26 – 28, Nashville
- Knox County Spring Count – Sunday May 4th

Warbler Quiz

The Pine Warbler is present year round
The Yellow-rumped, Orange-crowned and Palm Warblers are present in winter months but not necessarily in large numbers.



Next month's program will be our annual spring pot luck dinner at Ijams. Come bring a food to share and join us a 6pm at Ijams Nature Center.