



## 2020-2021 Officers

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Larry Basden

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Larry Morgan

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Linda Basden

## November Meeting 11/4–Larry Morgan

Larry will tell us about birding in Southeastern Arizona. He will share some of his birding experiences while serving as the host of the Paton house in Patagonia, Arizona as well as birding the general area.

## December Meeting 12/2–Lee Walker

Lee will be sharing with us some information on amateur astronomy. He'll explain why it doesn't require a telescope (or even binoculars) to enjoy the amazing universe that is home to all of us. We'll learn about the real reason for the seasons, how to find your way around the night sky, and give us some insight on the scale and distance of what we see. This will give us some understanding of why some of the sights we see are so remarkable to consider.

## Field Trips & Activities November/December

### *Monthly Lagoon Surveys:*

**November 13** (Sat.)—Monthly Lagoon Survey (meet at lagoon gate for 7:00am start) duration about 4 hours.

**December 11** (Sat.)—Monthly Lagoon Survey (meet at lagoon gate for 7:30am start) duration about 4 hours.

### *Field Trips:*

**November 20** (Sat.)—Trip to Turcotte's Blind and the upper Ross Barnett Reservoir to find migrating waterfowl. Leave at 8am from behind Ed's Burger at Midtown Market.

### *Other Activities:*

**December 18** (Sat.)—Hattiesburg Christmas Bird Count. This is an all-day event but it's not necessary for all participants to spend the entire day in the field. See the article in this issue about the CBC and join us for this Audubon sponsored event.

Other activities are still in the planning stage for November and December. Keep looking at the website, the Facebook page, and the Pine Woods Audubon listserv.

These, as well as other events, can also be seen (and downloaded) at the PWAS [website](#).

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month (September through May) in the Education Building at the Hattiesburg Zoo. Refreshments at 6:30 pm. Meetings begin at 7:00 pm and are open to the public.

Pine Woods Audubon Society is a chapter of National Audubon Society, Inc.



## President's Corner

We're taking baby steps on the road back toward "normal". My fingers are crossed that we don't encounter yet another variant of Covid-19 while we're making progress along the path. It's great to see meetings and field trips on the schedule again. My thanks to everyone who has pitched in to move us along the road back.

One of our biggest annual events is just around the corner—the Hattiesburg Christmas Bird Count. I hope all of you will consider volunteering your assistance to this activity. Adding more eyes in the field can only help us to find more species to report. But, even if you can't spend some time in the field, you can help us by doing a feeder watch on December 18 to enlarge the area we survey this year. We haven't had many yards included as feeder watch locations for quite a few years. Just an hour or two counting birds at your backyard feeder can have a positive impact on this annual activity.

Stay safe. We look forward to seeing more of you at a meeting or activity as we finally put "the Virus" on the back-burner and get back to our life again.

Larry Basden

## Hattiesburg Christmas Bird Count

**Mark the date on your calendar—Saturday, December 18, 2021.**

The 122nd Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) takes place between December 14 and January 5. This year our time for the Hattiesburg count is the first Saturday after the CBC season opens.

While we would love to have you join us as we cover our 15-mile count circle on the 18th, if that isn't possible you can still contribute to our effort by doing a feeder count in your own backyard.

The Hattiesburg CBC is an important part of our Chapter's contribution to citizen science for the Audubon Society. This count will mark the Chapter's 48th consecutive year of participation. If you are willing to help with our effort this year, contact Joshua Hodge (cel-601-765-5674) whether you want to help in the field or as a feeder counter. All help in this effort is appreciated.

More eyes searching make higher species counts more probable. The actual count number of individual birds in each species can include only the count day itself, December 18 for this count. However, we can report species (but not individual count numbers) for the 3 days prior to and the 3 days after our count date. So, if we all keep eyes (and ears) open during this period, we may be able to reach this year's target of 100 species. Let's see if we can make that happen with your help.

## Field Trip & Activities Summaries—Larry Morgan

### The Big Sit

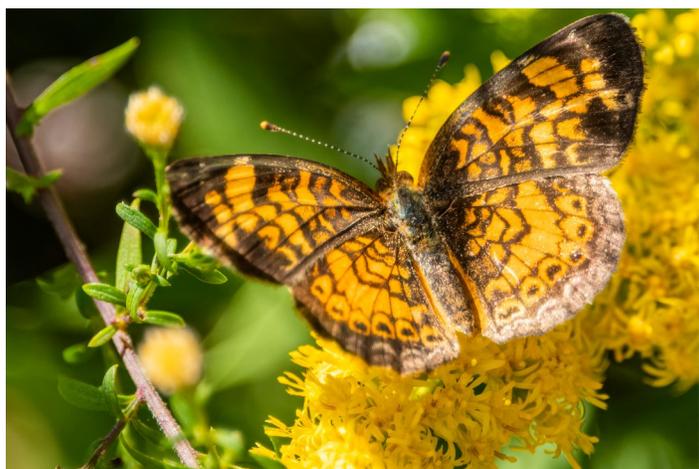
The Big Sit was held Sunday, October 10th at the entrance to the Hattiesburg Lagoons. The tally for the day was 41 species. Highlights for the day included a Bald Eagle, 2 close flybys of a pair of Coopers Hawks, a lingering Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 2 Wild Turkeys, and an American Kestrel. When birding was slow, we also spent some time chasing insects. Participants for the day were Diane Lafferty, Larry Basden, Linda Basden, Kelly O'Neal, Teresa O'Neal, Sharon McGregor, Joshua Hodge and Larry Morgan. Pictures below were taken at the Big Sit.



Yellow-billed Cuckoo



Male Wild Turkeys



Pearl Crescent



Genus Tricopoda (Feather-legged Flies)

### Dauphin Island Trip

October 23rd was a beautiful weather day on the island. Unfortunately, the birds were sparse. I suspect that the strong winds carried most of the warblers southward as we saw no warblers at all. We did manage to find a total of 29 species (24 on the island and 5 more at another location). Highlights of the day were the 50 or so Brown Pelicans and many young Laughing Gulls. We were told about another site where we could find some actual shorebirds. It is an Alabama hotspot—the Bayou La Batre shipyards. The shipyards added Willet, Semipalmated Plover, Least Sandpiper, Caspian Tern, and Short-billed Dowitcher to our list for the day.

We're on the Web!

www.pinewoodsaudubon.com

## The Pine Warbler

Pine Woods Audubon Society  
134 Sweet Bay Trail  
Petal, MS 39465

Address Service Requested



### November

- 4 (Thu.)— PWAS Meeting, 7pm at Zoo
- 9 (Tue.)— Keg & Barrel, 5:30pm at Keg & Barrel
- 13 (Sat.)— Monthly Lagoon Survey, 7am start at Lagoon Gate
- 20 (Sat.)— Field Trip to Ross Barnett Reservoir area, meet behind Ed's Burgers for 8am departure



### December

- 2 (Thu.)— PWAS Meeting, 7pm at Zoo
- 7 (Tue.)— Keg & Barrel, 5:30pm at Keg & Barrel
- 11 (Sat.)— Monthly Lagoon Survey, 7:30am start at Lagoon Gate
- 18 (Sat.)— Hattiesburg Christmas Bird Count, contact Joshua Hodge to participate