



The Chattanooga Chat

January 2023

The Chattanooga Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society

Ray Zimmerman, Editor

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Sandhill Cranes at Hiwassee Refuge – Photos by Ray Zimmerman, December 2022

2023 Programs

Some topics are still tentative, but here is a list of the scheduled speakers for the first half of 2023.

Meetings are at 7:00 PM
Ascension Lutheran Church
729 S. Germantown Road, East Ridge,
Tennessee 37412

January 12 - Clyde Blum
TBA, possibly Local Birding

February 9 - Dr. David DesRochers
TBA Possibly Hawaiian Birds

March 9 - Mel Vandergriff
Birding McGee Marsh & Surrounding Area

April 13- Luke Thompson
Birding at Baylor School or Shorebirds at Baylor

May 11 - Andrew Meador
Birding & Biomimicry

June 8 - Eliot Berz
TBA Possibly Kingfishers



The Sandhill Crane Festival returns to Birchwood and Meigs County on January 14 and 15. The website has further information.

<https://www.tn.gov/twra/wildlife/birds/sandhill-crane-festival.html>



Sandhill Cranes at Hiwassee Refuge

Soddy Mountain

Bill Haley sent a report on his Soddy Mountain Hawk Count, which is still going strong. Here are the results.

Fall 2022 Soddy Mtn. hawk totals. (29th yr.)
Sept. 11 - Nov. 30, 2022

Turkey Vulture 808
Osprey. 10
Bald Eagle 46
Northern Harrier 17
Sharp-shinned Hawk 289
Cooper's Hawk 54
Red-shouldered Hawk 12
Broad-winged Hawk 1,668
Red-tailed Hawk 103
Golden Eagle 1 (ad.)
American Kestrel 9
Merlin. 7
Peregrine Falcon 4

Total 3,028
Total hours 374.25

Sandhill Crane program and viewing on January 21

Reflection Riding will host a program focused on the Sandhill Cranes on Saturday, January 21, from 12:30 pm – 5:30 pm. David Aborn will be taking participants out to look at our captive cranes and will discuss the Sandhill Cranes as a species and the history of the cranes at the Hiwassee Refuge. After his presentation, we will caravan out to the Hiwassee Refuge to see the wild cranes. I would love to have as many CTOS members as possible meet us with spotting scopes and help people enjoy the diversity of birds at the refuge. Please send out a request for volunteers to join us at the Refuge, and please feel free to join us for the presentation.



Events are also posted on the Calendar on our webpage.

<http://chattanooga.org/calendar-of-events/>

You can now renew your membership online.

<https://chattanooga.org/joining-or-renewing-as-a-member/>

You can also send a check to
Fran Hiestand CTOS Treasurer 8935 N.
Hickory Valley Road Chattanooga, TN
37416