



**SOUTH TEXAS
BOTANICAL
GARDENS
& NATURE CENTER**

MaryJane Crull, Communications Director
mjc@stxbot.org
361-852-2100 • 361-816-8889

Michael Womack, Executive Director
wmwomack@stxbot.org
361-852-2100 • 361-834-6413

8545 S. Staples St • Corpus Christi TX 78413 • STXBOT.ORG • 361-852-2100



Press Release 3
April 3, 2025

It's down to (*bird on*) the wire!
Register online by April 16 for
Birdiest Festival in America.
Birders from 25 states due here April 23-27



CORPUS CHRISTI--Millions globally are hooked on birding! Exquisite colors, unique songs, birds in flight, birds in water, birds bathing, photography, checking species off the list all draw them in! Whatever the reason, new birders with starter binoculars, or pros with 24-inch camera lenses need to experience birding in Corpus Christi! **Online registration cut-off** for the eighth annual "BIRDIEST FESTIVAL IN AMERICA", April 23-27, **is April 16!**

BFIA offers non-stop knowledge and entertainment—expert-taught classes and workshops, Vendor Trade Show, The Raptor Project, chatting with seasoned birders, whole or half-day guided field trips to private ranches, coastal hot spots or small area birding meccas, and artisan booths! Evening events include Welcome BBQ, "Birds & Beers," Author's Wine & Cheese Night," Keynote Speaker, Author, Photographer and Guide Kevin K. Karlson. Corpus Christi dining, attractions, bayfront and beaches add plenty for those who extend their stay!



While based at South Texas Botanical Gardens, **it's Corpus Christ's birding festival** with a separate website and hybrid staff / volunteer administrative team led by board member Denise Housler who's chaired all eight years! "We're advertising in national birding magazines, and drawing attention with species counts from 249 to a high of 284, not counting pre or post trips," she stated.

No problem convincing birders from Maine or Oregon to head to the Gulf Coast—25 states are represented so far! Past festivals attracted guests from Alaska, Canada, Australia and The Netherlands! Staff support Michael Womack and MaryJane Crull agree one goal is to get **many more residents** to attend the Festival in their own back yard--a fun, exciting, thrilling adventure as locals and other Texans catch the enthusiasm from those who attend several festivals a year!

"Even with eight field trips full, and a dozen close to it, numerous trips still have space," says Program Coordinator and Audubon member Libby Even. *Chasing Warblers, Port Aransas Hot Spots, Barnhardt Q5, Shorebirds, Choke Canyon, Knolle Ranch, Kleberg Hot Spots, King Ranch North, Nueces Delta, Welder Wildlife, Texas Scramble, Fulton/Hilltop and Texas Scramble* remain open.

FLINT HILLS Resources is BFIA **Presenting Sponsor**, supported by City of Corpus Christi, H-E-B, Visit Corpus Christi, Gulf Coast Growth Ventures-Exxon/Mobil, Rally Credit Union, Gloria Hicks, Joyce Barnette, and CC Produce.



BFIA \$40 Registration covers all six one-hour Presentations (classes), Raptor Project, Industry Vendor Tent, daily Gardens admission; plus ability to purchase separately-priced workshops, field trips, bird walks and evening entertainment events. WWW.BIRDIESTFESTIVAL.ORG, 361-563-5968. ##