

Press Release  
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## ***Birdiest Festival in America has big advantages for residents of Birdiest City; New "Target Birds" matched to field trips for visitors and locals' Life Lists! On-Line Festival Registration ends 5 pm, Apr 16; Register On-Site 1-5 pm, Apr 21-25.***

"Wings-Up" for Corpus Christi's **ninth BIRDIEST FESTIVAL in AMERICA, Wednesday, April 22- Sunday, April 26**, plus two pre-trips (already full) and one post-trip! Experience spring migration on Gulf Coast at hub of busiest flyways. While birders from 30 states have attended, the biggest challenge has been involving locals in this Festival! Festival leadership agrees we want more Coastal Bend participation, especially beginners. Locals forego air, hotel, restaurant expenses; but play key roles in welcoming visiting birders investing in Corpus Christi tourism!



"Birders can attend a day or two, part of a day, or all of this activity-filled event," emphasizes Event Chair Denise Housler! "Take a trip or attend a presentation, check out the Exhibitor Tent and a Raptor Show! The **Welcome Texas BBQ** is a great way to meet birders from all over the country soaking in their enthusiasm! We have talks or workshops for beginners and veteran birders," she added. Wednesday's **Beers & Birders** unites birders, guides and Festival coordinators for fun and plenty of bird talk over beer, charcuterie boards, bird trivia games, door prizes and raffles.

✓ "Drawing birders to Corpus Christi are five different Coastal Bend habitats, all containing bird-attractive migrant traps," explained Program Coordinator Libby Even. World-famous **King Ranch** is a highlight of 13 exclusive Full-Day and 13 Half-Day field trips to private ranches and shoreline hot spots in large vans with seasoned guides, plus four U-Drive excursions and Guided Bird Walks.



✓ Nineteen **TARGET BIRDS**, new this year! Hovering over website photos shows a field trip matched to likely sightings! These are selected species typically present in late April both local birders and visitors want on their **"life lists!"** Thirteen trips have sold out; birders are coming from 22 states!



✓ Popular Jonathan Wood brings back his unique traveling raptors, amazingly adapted to people and cameras! Nine entertaining **Raptor Project** presentations in a tent with seating have been scheduled during the Festival.

✓ **KEYNOTE SPEAKER** veteran birder, guide, author **David Sarkozi** presents **"Beyond the Birds of Texas--Interesting Things that Won't Fit into a Field Guide"** Friday evening, April 24. Sarkozi has birded since a teenager! The author of 614-page "Birds of Texas" has led countless birding trips in both Texas and Belize; achieving two 'Texas Big Years'—documented 500 species in a year, plus other milestones. Birders and Sarkozi will cross paths frequently during the Festival on field trips, bird walks, and one of the pre-trips!



✓ **FESTIVAL \$40 REGISTRATION:** Covers admissions to Botanical Gardens Festival base, Raptor Project, Exhibitor Tent, Presentations, Saturday's Artisan and Water-Smart Plant Sale; plus access to separately-priced trips, workshops, entertainment. **DON'T WAIT** to get your first choices. Registration and complete five-day schedule online at [www.birdiestfestival.org](http://www.birdiestfestival.org). (**Online registration ends 5 pm, April 16!**) Register in-person on-site 1-5 pm, April 21-25; Exhibitor Tent. **Direct questions** to Event Chair [denise@aquariaservicesinc.com](mailto:denise@aquariaservicesinc.com).)

### ✓ **ENTERTAINMENT:**

Apr 22: 5-8:30 pm **"Beers & Birders"**  
Apr 23: 5-7:30 pm **"Welcome Texas BBQ"**  
Apr 24: 6 pm **"KEYNOTE Evening"**  
Apr 25: 10 am-5 pm **"BLOOMS & BIRDS"**

**\$2 ADMISSION COMMUNITY DAY**  
**WATER-SMART Plant Sale**  
ARTISAN VENDORS  
Butterfly, Lady Bug Releases  
Animal Ambassadors



Helping Here

