

# GENE BLACKLOCK Birding & Natural History STUDIES: 2016

BLACKLOCK'S INTRO TO EXCITING WORLD OF BIRDS: 1-Day Short Course

**Tuesday, January 19—Class:** 9 am-noon, Education Station. **Field Trip:** 1:30-5:30 pm

A short course and basic introduction designed especially for beginning birders with little or no experience in the sport of birding. Study some of the more than 450 known bird species in South Texas, with acclaimed birder, naturalist, educator and author **Gene Blacklock**. The Botanical Gardens is a **Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail** site. **\$45 members; \$60 non-members**. Class maximum 20, minimum 12.

**Prepaid registration required by January 15**, 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions 361.558.1829.

INTERMEDIATE FIELD BIRD IDENTIFICATION: 3-Day Short Course

**Thursdays—February 2, 9, 16**

Feb. 2—Class 9 am-noon; Field Trip 1:30-5:30 pm.

Feb. 9—Field Trip 7:30 am-noon; Class 1:30-5:30 pm.

Feb. 16—Field Trip 7:30 am-noon; Class 1:30-5:30 pm.



Designed for those who feel they need an intermediate field bird ID experience before jumping from Beginners' long series to the Advanced. Studies include common characteristics of different bird groups such as songbirds, waterfowl, birds of prey—with acclaimed birder, naturalist, educator, author Gene Blacklock. **\$95 members; \$110 non-members**.

**Prepaid Registration by January 28**, 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions, 361.558.1829.

BLACKLOCK'S ADVANCED BIRD ID & NATURAL HISTORY SERIES: 10 Classes, 3 Field Trips

**Begins with Monday class, February 8, concluding with May 7 field trip.**

**Classes:** Mondays, 6:15-9:15 pm; Feb 8, 22, 29; Mar 7, 14, 21; Apr 4, 11, 25; May 2.

**Field Trips:** Saturdays, March 19, April 16, May 7—times vary.

This series designed as the next step after a Beginning Birding Class/Series; or for those with some field experience in the sport of bird ID. Explore seasonality, migration highlights, preferred habitats and identification marks plus discussion/review of species in Biotic Provinces of Texas—with acclaimed birder, naturalist, educator, author Gene Blacklock. Class sessions held in Education Station at South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, a **Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail** site.

**\$200 members; \$235 non-members;** including all Gardens general admissions. (Non-member tuition includes a one-year Botanical Gardens individual membership.) Class maximum is 20, minimum 12. **Prepaid registration required by February 5**, 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions, 361.558.1829.



BLACKLOCK'S BEGINNING WILDFLOWER ID & NATURAL HISTORY: 2-Day Short Course

**Class Session:** Friday, March 11, 6:15-9:15 pm

**Field Trip:** Saturday, March 12, 9 am-1 p.m.

Award-winning naturalist Gene Blacklock leads this practical, hands-on class and field trip for beginners identifying and studying native Texas wildflowers in Coastal Bend "hot spots." Class session held in Education Station at South Texas Botanical Gardens, a **Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail** site. **\$45 members, \$60 non-members**,

**Prepaid registration required by March 6**, 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions, 361.558.1829.



BIRDS AND SPRING MIGRATION: 1-Day Short Course

**Saturday, April 9—Class:** 9 am-noon. **Field Trip:** 1:30-5:30 pm

Experience unique bird species that pass through South Texas during spring migration; and why Corpus Christi was named "Birdiest City" in the United States 10 years in a row—with acclaimed birder, naturalist, educator, author Gene Blacklock. **\$45 members; \$60 non-members**.

**Prepaid Registration by April 4**. 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions, 361.558.1829.

BLACKLOCK'S SHOREBIRD IDENTIFICATION, ALTERNATE PLUMAGE: 1-Day Short Course

**Saturday, May 14—Class:** 9 am-Noon; **Field Trip:** 1-5 pm

Gene Blacklock leads this one-day course for all levels of birders, studying Coastal Bend shorebirds, life histories, migration timelines, summer breeding plumage. Students should bring binoculars. Class held in Education Station at Botanical Gardens, a **Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail** site. **\$45 members; \$60 non-members**. Class maximum 20, minimum 12.

**Prepaid registration required by May 10**, 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions 361.558.1829.

## **KIDS' BASIC BIRDING CAMP**

**Wednesday-Friday, July 6-8, 9 am-1 pm**

Kids ages eight through 13 will learn basic bird identification techniques and bird biology using fun games and challenges with entertaining birder, author, educator and naturalist Gene Blacklock, and other guest speakers.

**\$75 per child members; \$90 non-members**. PREPAID REGISTRATION REQUIRED. 361.852.2100.

BLACKLOCK'S INTRO TO EXCITING WORLD OF BIRDS: 1-Day Short Course

**Saturday, September 10—Class:** 9 am- noon; **Field trip:** 1:30-5:30 pm.

A short course and basic introduction designed especially for beginning birders with little or no experience in the sport of birding. Study some of the more than 450 known bird species in South Texas, with acclaimed birder and naturalist **Gene Blacklock**. Class session held in Education Station at South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, a **Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail** site. **\$45 each members; \$60 non-members**.

Class maximum 20, minimum 12. **Prepaid registration required by September 8**, 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions 361.558.1829.

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BLACKLOCK'S BEGINNING BIRD ID SERIES: 10 CLASSES & 3 FIELD TRIPS

**Begins Monday, September 19, running through December 3**

**Classes:** Mondays, 6:15-9:15 pm-- Sept 19, Sept 26; Oct 3, 10, 17, 24; 31; Nov 7, 14, 28. **Field Trips:** Saturdays, Oct 22, Nov 12, Dec 3.

With award-winning & entertaining birder/naturalist, Gene Blacklock, co-author of *Birds of Texas--a Field Guide* & *Birds of the Texas Coastal Bend*; former environmental educator for *Welder Wildlife Foundation*; *Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program*; and *Texas Parks & Wildlife* field biologist in colonial water bird management. This series is designed for people who wish to know more about bird identification but have little or no experience in the sport of field identification. Class sessions held in Botanical Gardens new Education Station. The Botanical Gardens & Nature Center is a **Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail** site. Class maximum is 18, minimum 12. **\$200 members; \$235 non-members**, including all Botanical Gardens general admissions. (Non-member fee includes one-year Botanical Gardens individual membership.)

**Prepaid registration required by September 15**, 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions 361.558.1829.



BLACKLOCK'S HAWKS IN FLIGHT IDENTIFICATION: 2-Day Short Course

**Class: Friday, September 23**, 6:15-9:15 pm; **Field Trip: Saturday, September 24**, 9:30 am-1 pm

Just in time for fall migration and Corpus Christi *Hawk Watch*, local naturalist Gene Blacklock discusses the common "birds of prey" in an evening class; and leads a Saturday field trip. Class session held in Botanical Gardens Education Station. **\$45 members; \$60 non-members.**

Class maximum 30, minimum 12. **Prepaid registration required by September 18**, 361.852.2100. Curriculum questions 361.558.1829.

## **TRAVEL & LEARN! Gene Blacklock's BIOTIC PROVINCE SAFARIS TRAVEL & LEARN!**

Explore five of the seven biological regions of Texas with educator/naturalist/author Gene Blacklock;  
**Co-sponsored by the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center.**

KANSAN (Panhandle); BALCONIAN (Hill Country); CHIHUAHUAN (Trans Pecos); AUSTRORIPARIAN (Piney Woods); TAMAULIPAN (South Texas)—all equally exciting and interesting! Exploring these areas provides unique opportunities to see some of the most fascinating and beautiful flora and fauna regions within the United States, as well as some of the most attractive birds of North America. Special emphasis will be finding and seeing all birds (1) specifically endemic to each of these regions; (2) in the appropriate season to see them; (3) with a time line to maximize optimum opportunities to see the greatest species diversity.

### **FIVE CLASSES/EXTENDED FIELD TRIPS featuring FIVE MAJOR BIOLOGICAL REGIONS OF TEXAS!**

**Balconian--2015. Kansan & Chihuahuan--2016. Austroriparian & Tamaulipan--2017.**

[TRIPS PRICED SEPARATELY. Participants need not take all safaris.]

**[TRIP B] KANSAN REGION STUDY**, Northwest Panhandle "A Touch of Winter"—Headquarters Amarillo, La Quinta Inn Airport. (Palo Dura and Caprock Canyons State Parks, Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Lake Meredith, Red Bluff Lake)

**Class**—Friday, January 22, 6:15-9:15 pm, Botanical Gardens Education Station.

**Field Trip**—January 25-31, including travel days. Highlights Nearctic birds wintering in Texas.

**Cost:** **\$750** Botanical Gardens Members; **\$830** Non-Members (includes 1-year BG membership)

[Costs include use of 15-passenger van on safari; but not air or ground transportation to point of start]

**POSSIBLE TRIP SPECIES:** *Pacific Loon, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Tundra Swan, Rough-legged Hawk, Snowy Owl, woodpeckers, towhees, ravens, sparrows, Western Meadowlark, Sand Hill Crane, finches, more.*



Max 10, min 6. **PREPAID REGISTRATION required by December 1**, 361.852.2100. **QUESTIONS:** Gene Blacklock, 361.558.1829.

**[TRIP C] CHIHUAHUAN/MEXICAN REGION STUDY**, Trans Pecos "Land of Shadows & Sun"

—Headquarters Big Bend Lodge and Davis Mountain Lodge.

(Davis Mountains, Mount Livermore Circle, Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute, Cottonwood Campground, Rio Grande Village)

**Class**—Friday, April 15, 2016, 6:15-8 pm, Botanical Gardens Education Station.

**Field Trip**—April 17-23, including travel days.

**Costs:** **\$750** Botanical Gardens Members; **\$785** Non-Members (includes 1-year BG membership)

**POSSIBLE TRIP SPECIES:** *Elf Owl, Colima Warbler, Western Screech Owl, Montezuma Quail, Zone-tailed Hawk, Western Bluebird, more.*



Max 10, min 6. **PREPAID REGISTRATION required by March 1**, 361.852.2100. **QUESTIONS:** Gene Blacklock, 361.558.1829.

## **2017**

**[TRIP D] TAMAULIPAN REGION STUDY**, Rio Grande Valley and Laredo

**Class**—Friday, January 13, 2017, 6:15-9:15 pm, Botanical Gardens Education Station. **Field Trip**—January 23-27, including travel days.

**[TRIP E] AUSTRORIPARIAN REGION STUDY**, Big Thicket

**Class**—Friday, April 14, 2017, 6:15-9:15 pm, Botanical Gardens Education Station. **Field Trip**—April 18-22, including travel days.

**[PARTICIPANTS MUST PROVIDE OWN TRANSPORTATION, ACCOMMODATIONS, FOOD AND DRINKS, BIRDING EQUIPMENT, PERSONAL ITEMS, OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES,—CARPOOLING ENCOURAGED. Gene Blacklock or the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center are not responsible for injuries, medical expenses, or damages during course of field trips. Cancellation Policy Applies—may be found on [www.stxbot.org](http://www.stxbot.org), Birding & Nature Resources; or call 361.852.2100.]**