

Tellico Village Birding Club Newsletter – June 2024

Next Monthly Meeting

The next monthly meeting will take place 6 PM Tuesday, July 2nd in Room D of the Chota Recreation Center. Joe Lewis will present “The less common birds of Tellico Village”.



A calendar for July 2024. The days of the week are listed at the top: S, M, T, W, T, F, S. The dates are arranged in a grid. The date 2 is circled in blue.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

The remaining 2024 meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month at 6 PM in Room D of the Recreation Center. Originally a meeting was not scheduled for November due to Election Day, however the polling place has been moved to another location and a meeting will be held as usual in the Recreation Center.

Birds Of Tellico Village Videos

Work on episode 6 has begun! The episode will include Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Eastern Phoebe, Cedar Waxwing and Common Grackle.

Below are links to the prior five episodes on YouTube:

Episode 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mckVH7dfLXY>

Episode 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYRmThHKpMI&t=244s>

Episode 3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PsIripyEveU&t=200s>

Episode 4: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i8nV2ooMldQ&t=40s>

Episode 5: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pvqudrqFJpc>

Seven Islands Bird Banding Events

I recently attended a bird banding event at Seven Islands State Birding Park. Hosts Mark Armstrong and Clare Datillo, both of whom have been birding club speakers in the past year, did an excellent job. If you have never been to a bird banding event I highly recommend that you register for one. Looking at the current list of events (<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/seven-islands>) there is one scheduled for July 14th. The last two birds banded at the recent banding were good ones; Black-and-white Warbler and Yellow-breasted Chat:



Ask AI – Ruby-throated Hummingbirds

It's that time of year when Ruby-throated Hummingbirds are at our feeders. I asked the "Ask AI" app to tell me some fun facts about "baby" Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. Below is the response:



Certainly! Here are some fun facts about baby ruby-throated hummingbirds:

1. **Nesting**: Baby ruby-throated hummingbirds are born in tiny, delicate nests that their mothers build using materials like plant fibers, spider silk, and bits of leaves. The nests are about the size of a half walnut shell.
2. **Size**: Baby hummingbirds are very small when they hatch. They are typically about the size of a jellybean or even smaller.
3. **Growth rate**: These tiny birds grow very quickly. They double their weight within the first few days after hatching.
4. **Feeding**: Baby hummingbirds are fed by their mothers through regurgitation. The mother hummingbird collects nectar and insects, partially digests them, and then regurgitates the food into the mouths of her chicks.
5. **Fledging**: Baby hummingbirds typically fledge, or leave the nest, when they are around 3 weeks old. At this stage, they are still very small and may not be able to fly very well initially.

6. ****Independence****: Even after fledging, baby hummingbirds may still depend on their mother for food for some time until they learn to forage for food on their own.

7. ****Migration****: Ruby-throated hummingbirds are known for their impressive migration. Baby hummingbirds learn the migration route from their parents and undertake the long journey south to warmer climates when the time comes.

8. ****Colored feathers****: While adult male ruby-throated hummingbirds have the distinctive ruby-colored throat patch, baby hummingbirds do not develop this coloring until they mature.

These tiny birds are fascinating creatures with incredible abilities despite their small size.

Member Contribution – Jane Coggins

Jane reported: Some more unusual birds in backyard over the last couple weeks:

Orchard Oriole
White eyed vireo
Eastern kingbird
Red winged blackbird

I enjoyed watching a pair of bluebirds that nested and watched their doting to five baby birds and watched them all fledge. Also was intrigued when dad would remove the white sacs (they were well fed from berries to cicadas and everything in between). Mom and dad chased other birds away and together attacked a squirrel they got too close. It's neat to see them now learn to do their own food gathering.

Joe Says: The first three birds listed above will be included in my program for the July meeting!

Member Contribution – Kristin Farrington

Kristin says: Just saw Seven Islands State Birding Park event, free, on June 30, 8pm. Sunset hike.

Joe says: Here is a link to the event, https://tnstateparks.com/parks/event_details/seven-islands/#/?event=10th-anniversary-sunset-hike