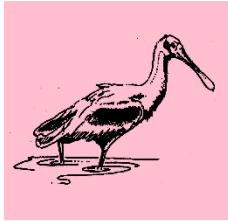


## Monthly Meeting December 1, 2014

**Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet St, Houston, TX**



6:30 pm Holiday Social

7:00 pm [Ornithology Group](#) (OG) Business Meeting

7:30 pm [Program](#): Texas Pelicans by Winnie Burkett

[Field Trip](#): Participate in a Christmas Bird Count

### [Olinguito](#)

## Texas Pelicans

By Winnie Burkett

Pelicans are fascinating birds with all kinds of interesting behaviors that you can actually see because they are so big. Winnie's goal is to tell you everything you ever wanted to know about pelicans.

**Biography:** Winnie Burkett, was introduced to birding at age four by her grandmother. She grew up looking for birds in the wetlands of South Florida and attended Florida State University. Moving around the country with her petroleum geologist husband gave her the opportunity to get to know birds and habitat around the US while raising three sons. In 2011 Winnie retired from her position as sanctuary manager for Houston Audubon where she was instrumental in the addition of 1800 acres to the Houston Audubon sanctuaries on the Bolivar Peninsula. Winnie's main interests and concerns are water birds and water bird habitat protection.

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## Christmas Bird Counts

The Houston Audubon Society has a list of all of the Texas Christmas bird counts with their dates and links to how to join that count. Please participate in as many counts as you can; add a new one this year. Beginning, advanced, and all levels in between are welcome. For information about the counts click on the link below:

<http://www.houstonaudubon.org/default.aspx/MenuItemID/1105/MenuGroup/CBC.htm>

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## Olinguito

By Joann Raine

I expected exotic hummingbirds in Ecuador and I was not disappointed by the 27 new ones I observed. The larger surprise was the viewing of the newly identified small mammal at Tandayapa Lodge. The Smithsonian researchers came two years ago to sample the genetics of this nocturnal and shy resident of the rainforest in the Andes ecosystem above 5,000 feet.

After dinner on the extensive porch at the lodge, the manager cautioned us not to leave yet. He was placing bananas on the feeding platform and arranging a red light for viewing. With caution a small creature scaled the tree trunk and a small arm reached out to snatch a banana. As it turned out, there was an Olinguito family out there in the dusk. But it was the baby that they were allowing to reach the bananas.

This was a smaller version of the Central American Olinga. Scientists have named it a subspecies. It can be found in Ecuador and Peru and-happily- at the Mindo valley area, Tandayapa Lodge.

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## **About the Ornithology Group**

**Chair: Nina Rach | 281-433-0651 | NRach@autrevie.com**

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**ONC website: <http://www.outdoornatureclub.org/>**

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