



## *December 16, 2014, Celebration & Program*

### Hear details about the two Christmas Bird Counts in the County.

This is the 115th year of the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, the oldest and largest wildlife census conducted in the Western Hemisphere, assessing the health of bird populations and helping to guide conservation policy and action. Of the 2,242 Circles in the CBC we are fortunate to have two in Bastrop County. The Bastrop-Buescher State Parks Count is, as always, January 1 (Signup: [bastropcbc.com](http://bastropcbc.com)). The 2014 Lost Pines Christmas Bird Count will be held on Sunday, December 21 (Signup: [visitlostpines.com](http://visitlostpines.com)). BCAS is a sponsor of both CBCs.

We will hear about the history and highlights from the national, state, and local results from 2013. Speakers: Amanda Fier, Nick Cowey, and Jan Goebel. Then we'll discuss getting ready for this year's counts. Participation in a CBC is among the actions individuals can take in the face of the global-warming climate effects on birds, as the data we gather forms the base for tracking the effects.

### As a Nod to the BCAS Tradition of exchange of Gifts from Nature,

everyone attending will receive a "raffle" ticket for a generous number of door-prizes to be distributed after the program, at no charge for the ticket. If you want to bring an item, do so, wrapped or unwrapped.

### Refreshments

Vera Jaeger, Mary Ellen Branan, and Priscilla Jarvis will decorate and provide festive refreshments. Members also may bring a favorite finger-food to add to the table, if they wish (optional).

### Trail of Lights - Colorado River in Bastrop

BCAS members will man the gingerbread house in Fisherman's Park on Thursday, December 18, 6-10:00 p.m. We'll hand out apple juice and cookies and bird information to the crowds on the River Walk.

