Port Aransas Birders Win First Place During Great Texas Birding Classic

(Port Aransas, TX) – The Port Aransas & Mustang Island Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau has sponsored adult and youth teams in Texas Parks & Wildlife Department’s Great Texas Birding Classic for the past 21 years. This year’s teams won first place in the annual birding event, held April 15-May 15, 2017.

Winners of the Great Texas Birding Classic were announced Saturday at award ceremonies in San Antonio and Houston. The “Port A Spoonbills” Big Sit team won first place in the Central Coast division, counting 117 different species of birds at the Leonabelle Turnbull Birding Center in Port Aransas on April 30. The team will receive a $1,000 conservation grant to award to the project of their choice. Port A Spoonbills team leaders Dr. Joan and Scott Holt were joined by birders Mikael Behrens, Nan Dietert, Julie Findley, Joan Garland, Jeff Hentz, Lyndon Holcomb, Sheri Johnson, Georgia Neblett, Susan Sheehan, Bobby Sherwood, and Colleen Simpson.

The youth team competing in the Roughwings Regional Tournament from Port Aransas, the “Port A Pipits”, tied for first place, counting 111 species of birds on May 1. The team was chaperoned by Dr. Joan Holt and Julie Findley, with birders Calligraphy Lauseng, Zoey Montgomery and Hannah Ramsden.

For listings of island accommodations, restaurants, shopping and activities, visit www.portaransas.org. Download the Visit Port Aransas & Mustang Island mobile app to help you plan the perfect island vacation.

Discover the original ISLAND LIFE destination – Port Aransas & Mustang Island. The Port Aransas & Mustang Island Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau is the one-stop information planning source for all travel trade and media professionals. Experience our 18 miles of wide, sandy beaches, world class watersport activities, sport fishing, kayaking, nature preserves, championship golf, and more. Port A is famous for nightlife and endless varieties of food, entertainment and great shopping. Accommodations for all lifestyles and budgets include hotels, vacation homes, condos, cottages, and RV parks.

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