



## Middle of Summer Update

### Bird Photography in the Rio Grande Valley

Shoot Oct 17-19 on the ranch owned by Steve Bentsen near Rio Grande City. Steve is a professional photographer so his blinds are top-notch. Green jay, chachalaca, kiskadee, roadrunner, and other valley specialties. Go to [www.dosvenadas.com](http://www.dosvenadas.com) to see the possibilities.

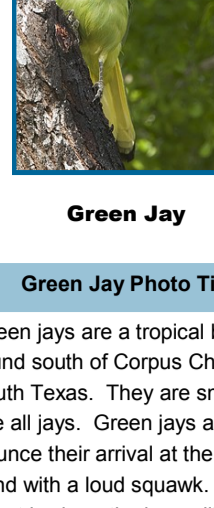
We'll stay at a nearby guest ranch. There are three individual bed-rooms with private baths plus a common room. We'll have all meals there. I've booked us to arrive on the 16th and leaving on the morning of the 19th. I'll rent a van so we can drive down in one vehicle. Gas is included in the cost of the trip.

Total cost for the trip -- blind, lodge, food, and transportation -- would be \$1,200 per person.

Send me a deposit of \$100 or the entire amount if you're interested. Balance of payment would be due 30 days before the trip.

[Email if there are questions or to reserve.](mailto:kathy@dosvenadas.com)

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**Green Jay**

#### Green Jay Photo Tip:

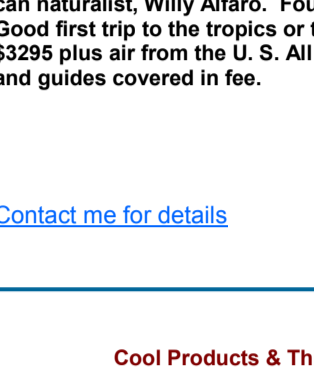
Green jays are tropical birds found south of Corpus Christi in south Texas. They are smart like all jays. Green jays announce their arrival at the photo blind with a loud squawk. If the coast is clear, the jays will feed. If the slightest thing is off or something isn't right, the jay will let out a loud alarm call and all the birds will clear out. So when a green jay approaches the feeder at your photo blind, stay still, let it feed and get comfortable. Then start photographing once the jay has settled down. Hold your impulse to shoot and you'll be rewarded with photos of one of the best birds in Texas.

### Leisure Learning Photo Classes

#### I'm offering a full line-up of photography classes at Leisure Learning.

- \* Digital SLR — Aug 12, Oct 2 — menus, camera settings, workflow
- \* Marketing Your Photos to Calendars & Magazines — Sept 24
- \* Intermediate — Sept 11 — kids, pets, vacations. Build on what you learned in Basic Photography.
- \* Flash Photography — Sept 4 — bring your flash and tripod. This a hands-on class.
- \* Landscape Photography — Oct 1st
- \* Photography at Night — July 29 — Just Added!!
- \* Basic Photography — Aug 23, Sept 27
- \* Photoshop for Photographers — Oct 14 — Photoshop and Light-room workflow, metadata, renaming, processing.
- \* Macro Photography — Oct 22 — hands on so bring your camera, tripod, flash, and flowers.

### Leisure Learning



**Monarch butterfly**

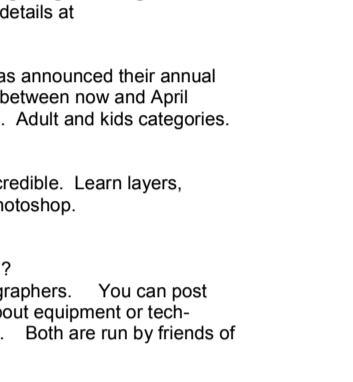
### Butterfly Photography Class and Outing

I'll teach a class in **Butterfly Photography on Saturday Oct 11. We'll start in the classroom and then move outside to work on live butterflies in the Arboretum's fabulous butterfly gardens. The class is 9:00-11:30. Register [www.houstonarboretum.org](http://www.houstonarboretum.org) starting in a couple of weeks or call 713.366.0421 if you want to get in early.**

[Houston Arboretum](http://www.houstonarboretum.org)

### Future Outings

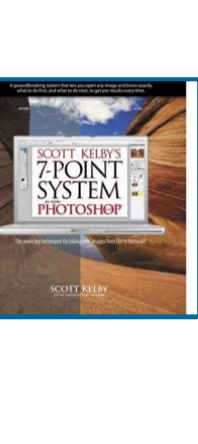
**Ecuador -- Hummingbirds and birds Nov 6-17th. Stop-action hummingbirds with the multi-flash set-up, tropical birds, and stunning landscapes. It's possible to come home from this trip with photos of nearly 50 species of hummingbirds. Led by Kathy Adams Clark, Gary Clark, and Ecuadorian naturalist. Three comfortable lodges in different eco-systems plus hotels in Quito. \$3095 plus air from the U.S. (five openings left.)**



**White-bellied woodstar is less than 3 inches long. It's a feisty little hummingbird, though. This one was photographed during the 2007 Ecuador trip. Ecuador has 132 species of hummingbirds. We photographed 48 species on our last trip.**

[Contact me for details](mailto:kathy@dosvenadas.com)

### Cool Products & Things in the News



Gary Clark will be teaching a workshop entitled Beginning Birdwatching on Saturday, Oct 4th. Good bird photographers know their birds as well as they know their cameras. Learn from the best but then I'm a little biased. Call Carole at 281-765-7947 to register. Cost is \$15. Offered by Lone Star College - North Harris Adult Lifelong Learning Program.

Gary will also teach a free Birdwatching Basics class at Gulf Coast Bird Observatory on Saturday, Sept 20 [www.gctbo.org](http://www.gctbo.org)

North American Nature Photography Association's Chicago Road Show. August 8-10, 2008 in Lisle, Illinois. Speakers: Rob Sheppard, Bill Campbell, and Richard Day. Photoshop, nature photography 101, book publishing, bird photography, and much more. Details [www.nanpa.org](http://www.nanpa.org)

Nature Discovery Center in Bellaire is having a mixed media art contest with winning entries to be show next April at their Spring Fling. All images must be take in Russ Pittman Park. All ages. Look for details at [www.naturediscoverycenter.org](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org)

Jones County Park & Nature Center in Humble has announced their annual photo contest. Entries must be taken in the park between now and April 2009. I'll be the judge so take some good photos. Adult and kids categories. [Contact the park for details.](http://www.jonescountytx.com)

Scott Kelby's **7-Point System for Photoshop** is incredible. Learn layers, sharpening, and all the other secrets hidden in Photoshop.

Are you hanging out on [Photomigrations.com](http://Photomigrations.com) or [TexasPhotoForum.com](http://TexasPhotoForum.com) ? Both are excellent on-line communities for photographers. You can post images for critique or bragging, post questions about equipment or techniques, and learn from your fellow photographers. Both are run by friends of mine so drop by, register, and get active.



To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](http://www.dosvenadas.com).

Questions or comments? E-mail us at [HoustonPhotoTeacher@comcast.net](mailto:kathy@dosvenadas.com) or call 281-367-2042.