



THE SPOONBILL

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LAST CALL FOR YOUR DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS!

You will not receive THE SPOONBILL after this issue if your dues aren't in to Miss Melba Drake, 1746 Wroxton Court, Houston, Texas 77005. Dues are \$2.00 per year, which includes receipt of THE SPOONBILL; non-member subscriptions are \$3.00 a year.

SINGLE PARTIES FIND OVER 200 SPECIES IN SEPARATE "BIG DAYS" ON APRIL 22 and 28 - by Noel Pettingell

A new all-time high one-party one-car record for Texas of 203 species (including Rock Dove) was established on April 22 by the following group of observers: Benton Basham (from Dunlap, Tenn.), Victor Emanuel, Kenn Kaufman (from Wichita, Kansas), Noel Pettingell, and Jim Tucker (from Austin, Tx.).

The party began its historic run at Vic Emanuel's residence (1603 W. Clay) in Houston at 4:20 A.M. (CST), followed shortly thereafter by a 10-minute stop at City Hall which produced a Whip-poor-will "staked out" the previous evening. Pre-dawn scouting of Deussen Park south of Lake Houston yielded another Goatsucker, an unexpected Chuck-will's-widow, and quick checks of key areas in the vicinity of Sheldon Reservoir resulted in a party total of 65 species seen and/or heard by 6:15 A.M.

Proceeding southeast toward Galveston Bay via Pasadena and LaPorte, the party headed for its next scheduled stop, Compton's Woods north of Seabrook. Several essential migrant species were added here as well as 4 lingering Rufous-sided Towhees and a flock of White Ibis. Upon leaving the Woods at 7:10 the list stood at 85 species and by 8 A.M. at the Texas City Dike the party had recorded a total of 114.

Arriving on Galveston Island at 8:25 A.M., the team birded several essential migrant traps such as Kempner Park (Robin, Waxwing, Ovenbird, N. Waterthrush), LaFitte's Grove east of 12-mile Road (Cape May Warbler) and 13-mile Road (Cerulean Warbler, Lincoln's Sparrow), along with important marsh and waterbird areas in between. By the time the party reached the San Luis Bridge at the western tip of the Island

just prior to 10 A.M., 147 species had been found and the Standard Big Day Sheldon-Galveston 16-hour Run had been compressed into less than 6 hours!

During the next 3 hours, while enroute to Goose Island State Park in Aransas County, only 17 species were added to the party list, although most of these proved to be exclusive essentials such as Redhead, both Vultures, White-tailed Hawk, Oystercatcher, Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Roadrunner, Cliff Swallow, Brewer's Blackbird, and White-crowned Sparrow. Goose Island Park yielded not a single new species despite the fact that numerous migrants, including 12 kinds of warblers, had been found here within a 10-minute period by another party earlier in the month.

In the Rockport area Fulvous Tree Ducks and a Caracara were new for the day and at Oso Bay in Corpus Christi Double-crested Cormorant, Snowy and Wilson's Plovers, and Avocet were added to the list, which totaled 175 species as of 3 P.M.

During the 3-hour trip from Corpus to the Santa Ana Refuge in the Lower Rio Grande Valley 13 more species were added, including Harris' Hawk, Golden-fronted and Ladder-backed Woodpeckers, Western Kingbird, Curve-billed Thrasher, Bronzed Cowbird, Pyrrhuloxia, Lark and Cassin's Sparrows. Another 11 species were found at Santa Ana before nightfall shortly after 7 P.M. - Black-bellied Tree Duck, White-tailed Kite, Chachalaca, Ground and White-fronted Doves, Tropical Kingbird, Kiskadee Flycatcher, Weid's Crested Flycatcher, Green Jay, Long-billed Thrasher, and Nashville Warbler - which brought the day's total up to 199 species (including Rock Dove). The 200th and 201st of the day were heard calling at 7:17 (Pauraque) and 7:18 (Screech Owl) at Santa Ana. The last two species were found at Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park - Elf and Barn Owls at 9:25 P.M., exactly 17 hours, 567 car miles, and 12 3/4 foot miles since the first species was identified at City Hall in Houston....

None of the 203 species recorded on April 22 was exceptionally rare and only 19 of them were warblers. Skies were generally overcast and winds from the SE throughout the day. Temperatures at Houston were 70 to 83, Galveston 69 - 75, Corpus Christi 73 - 80, and Brownsville 74-80.

Personal lists were as follows: 195 each by Kaufman and Tucker, 191 by Basham, 190 by Emanuel and 188 by Pettingell, all including Rock Dove.

The previous all-time high one-party Texas record was 195 species recorded by Herbert and Olga Clarke, Ben Feltner, and Jim Tucker on April 30, 1972 along a route which included Sheldon Reservoir, Compton's Woods, Rockport, Corpus Christi, and the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

On April 28, 1973, a new Texas and North American one-party record of 229 species (including Rock Dove) was established by the following observers (personal totals in parentheses) along essentially the same route as that of the April 22nd Big Day: Kenn Kaufman (214), Stuart Keith (from N.Y.C. - 211), Joseph W. Taylor (from Honeoye Falls, N.Y.), and Jim Tucker (209). The superior quality of the participants as well as refinements in the route and timetable plus an influx of migrants were vital factors which contributed toward the accomplishment of this record-breaking feat - certainly one of the most demanding of all competitive events within the sport of birding. No other details pertaining to the April 28th run were available at the time of this writing.

The highest previous North American one-day count by a single party was set on April 29, 1972 when a total of 227 species (including Rock Dove) was recorded in Southern California (San Diego and Imperial Counties) by the following observers (personal totals in parentheses): Guy McCaskie (209), Scott Terrill (208), Jon Winter (202), Clifford R. Lyons (201).

THE 600 CLUB

The 600 Club consists of members who have sighted 600 or more species of birds in North America. Their motto is "Co-operation - not Competition". The April 15, 1973 official summary includes one member who

has not only reached the 700 mark, but is actually over, and also includes seven Texas members, though there seem to be more than that in Texas who have identified that many species. If you are one of those and desire to join the 600 club, here is the necessary information:

An annual voluntary contribution (in lieu of dues) commenced January 1, 1973. This contribution of \$5.00 per year per person, \$7.00 for husband and wife members, covers all expenses of the 600 Club. Please send, by October 1, 1973, the exact number of species recorded by you within the AREA covered by the A.O.U. Check-List of North American Birds, Fifth Edition, 1957. Contributions and the above information should be sent to:

Mr. Earle R. Greene
P. O. Box 1058
St. Simons Island, Georgia 31522

ANNUAL SPRING PICNIC A GREAT SUCCESS - by Johanna Grabbe

The annual Spring Picnic of the O.G. was held on Sunday, May 6th, at Mary Tigner's (better known as Tig) farm near Dayton, and was a great success with 39 present in spite of the weather which seemed to be nip and tuck. The birds were not co-operative, either; however, a Summer Tanager made an appearance while the two feeding stations attracted the usual, but there was an abundance of Cardinals, while a Ruby-throated Hummingbird fed freely on the beautiful red Hotpoker plant and the Evening Primroses.

All of us had a delightful tour of Mary's art gallery living room which was lined with her water colors and oils. What hidden talents, Tig!!

Most of the group had lunch under a large oak tree - where we had our short meeting. A small group lunched under the covered patio - near the coffee pot and the wheelbarrow loaded with iced Cokes. That groaning snack table was another one of Tig's talents.

Many thanks to Tig---

FEEDING HUMMINGBIRDS - from "The Phalarope", Midland, Texas

"From Mrs. H. O. Mueller, San Antonio:
During April I have as many as thirty to forty hummingbirds at my feeders. They use over a quart of sugar water a day. When I first began feeding the birds, I used a mixture of 2/3 water, 1/3 sugar. Then I read an article in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC in January, 1963, which said that nectar contained only 20% sugar. Since then I have used that for a formula.

Mrs. Mueller also sent several clippings concerning the feeding of hummingbirds. These are summarized here:

From TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE, September, 1967: Unlike sugar water, a honey mixture ferments readily, and the resulting fungus is very harmful to hummingbirds. This fungus makes the tongue of the hummingbird swell, which disables it from normal feeding habits and thus starves the bird to death. If fresh honey is used and if the container is thoroughly cleaned out and replenished before fermentation has a chance to occur, the danger to hummingbirds of fungus starvation is negligible. But where a honey mixture is put out and left until it is used up, birds feeding on this mixture after a period of days are very likely to suffer from this fungus ailment.

From the Director of the San Diego Zoo: For the zoo's caged collection of hummingbirds, 28 ounces of white cane sugar is mixed with one gallon of water and three-quarters of an ounce of Superhydramin Powder, vanilla flavor. Superhydramin is a protein-vitamin-mineral concentrate and results in healthy birds. Do not give hummingbirds honey! It causes a growth on the bird's tongue, resulting in necrosis and ultimate death.

CLEARING HOUSE, APRIL, 1973

- Loon, Common:
(7)19, Cove, AKM
- Grebe, Eared:
(3)7, (5)19, Cove, AKM
- Grebe, Pied-billed:
(14)7, (2)19, Cove, AKM; (NC)17,
Galveston, ER & BK
- Cormorant, Double-crested:
(30p)7, (16)19, (1)21, (2)30, Cove,
AKM
- Cormorant, Olivaceous:
(4p)7, (13)19, (5)26, Cove, AKM
- Anhinga:
(1)26, (150p)27, Cove, AKM
- Heron, Great Blue:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER & BK
- Heron, Green:
(1)18, yard, P&MJ; (1)18, 27,
(2p)26, Cove, AKM; (4)10, (1)16,
yard, (5)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Heron, Little Blue:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Egret, Cattle:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK; (2-10)
daily, Dickinson & San Leon, MM
- Egret, Reddish:
(3)17, Galveston, ER&BK; (1)4,
Bolivar Lighthouse-white phase, VE
- Egret, Common:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK; (2-3)
daily, Dickinson & San Leon, MM
- Egret, Snowy:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Nightheron, Black-crowned:
(25p)19, Cove, AKM
- Nightheron, Yellow-crowned:
(2)10, (1)11, 16, (1)24, yard, ER&BK
- Bittern, Least:
(1)28, High Island, P&MJ; (NC)17,
Galveston, ER&BK
- Ibis, White-faced:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Ibis, White:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Spoonbill, Roseate:
(9p)26, Cove, AKM; (NC)17, Galves-
ton, ER&BK
- Goose, Blue:
(1)28, Anahuac Refuge, DHH
- Treeduck, Fulvous:
(7)28, High Island, P&MJ
- Mallard:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Duck, Black:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Duck, Mottled:
(2-6)5 days, Cove, AKM
- Gadwall:
(40p)7, (4p)19, Cove, AKM
- Teal, Blue-winged:
(4)7, (11)18, (38)21, (7p)26, Cove,
AKM; (NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Scaup, Lesser:
(3)19, Cove, AKM
- Vulture, Turkey:
(10)no date, yard, ER&BK
- Kite, Swallow-tailed:
(2)24, North of Hankamer on Hy. 61,
Hazel Nichols, Phyllis Jackson,
Alice Marsh
- Hawk, Sharp-shinned:
(41)26, (80p)27, Cove, AKM
- Hawk, Broad-winged:
(1)19, 20, (2)21, yard, (1)28, High
Island, P&MJ; (12p)3, (1)7, (3)9,
(65)26, (50p)27, (1)28, Cove, AKM;
(2)9, (4)10, (1)12, yard, ER&BK
- Hawk, Swainson's:
(2)11, 26, Cove, AKM
- Hawk, Marsh:
(1)5, 10, 11, Dickinson & Bacliff, MM
- Osprey:
(1)14, Lake Charlotte, MB & DHH
- Hawk, Sparrow:
(1)26, (2)27, Cove, AKM
- Rail, King:
(50p)1, Cove, DW & P; (NC)17, Gal-
veston, ER&BK
- Rail, Clapper:
(1)17, Galveston, P&MJ
- Rail, Virginia:
(2, one about one-half albino)1,
Cove, AKM
- Rail, Sora:
(2)17, Galveston, P&MJ; (100p)no
date, Cove, DW & P
- Gallinule, Common:
(1)28, High Island, P&MJ; (NC)17,
Galveston, ER&BK
- Coot, American:
(65p)7, (1)18, (71)19, Cove, AKM;
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Oystercatcher, American:
(3)1, Bolivar, DHH
- Killdeer:
(2)9, (1)13, yard, (NC)17, Galveston,
ER&BK
- Plover, American Golden:
(9)6, (1)13, Cove, AKM; (NC)17,
Galveston, ER&BK
- Turnstone, Ruddy:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Snipe, Common:
(1)18, Cove, AKM
- Plover, Upland:
(1)5, 11, Cove, Damon McKay; (2)13,
(7)16, (2)19, Cove, AKM; (2)17, Gal-
veston, ER&BK; (10)5, (5)7, (3)13,
(8)17, Hobby Airport, NP; (15-20)
5, 10, near Alvin, MM; (3)10, (1)11,
Houston Baptist College, PN
- Sandpiper, Spotted:
(2)19, (1)26, Cove, AKM
- Sandpiper, Solitary:
(1)19, Cove, AKM; (1)10, 11, 13,
yard, ER&BK
- Willet:
(4)7, (17)19, (9)26, Cove, AKM;
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Yellowlegs, Greater:
(3p)18, (4)19, (40p)21, (10p)26,
Cove, AKM; (NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Yellowlegs, Lesser:
(1)12, (2)18, 19, (10)13, (20p)14,
(100p)21, (5)21, (3)27, Cove, AKM;
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Sandpiper, Pectoral:
(20p)21, Cove, AKM
- Sandpiper, Baird's:
(10)4, Bolivar-feeding at edge of
sand dunes, VE
- Dowitcher, Short-billed:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK

- Godwit, Hudsonian:
(1)20, Galveston, VE&DHH; (6)28,
FM 1985, Chambers Co., DHH
- Sanderling:
(1)19, Cove, AKM
- Stilt, Black-necked:
(NC)17, Galveston, BK&ER
- Phalarope, Wilson's:
(3)28, High Island, P&MJ
- Gull, Herring:
(1)7, (3)19, Cove, AKM
- Gull, Laughing:
(NC)17, Galveston, BK&ER
- Gull, Bonaparte's:
(9)4, (1)19, Cove, AKM; (15)4, beach
near High Island, several in full
summer plumage (black heads), VE
- Tern, Gull-billed:
(2)18, Cove, AKM
- Tern, Common:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Tern, Least:
(NC)19, 26, Cove, AKM; (NC)17, Gal-
veston, ER&BK
- Dove, Rock:
(1)9, 10, Cove, AKM
- Dove, White-winged:
(3)22, Galveston County Court-
house, Party A
- Dove, Mourning:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galveston,
ER&BK; (2-6)daily, San Leon &
Dickinson, MM; (1-2)9 days, yard,
P&PN
- DOVE, RINGED TURTLE:
(2)22, (3)25, (1)26, yard-see notes,
P&MJ
- Dove, Inca:
(NC)daily, yard, ER&BK; (NC)17,
Galveston, ER&BK; (1-2)7 days,
yard, P&PN
- Cuckoo, Yellow-billed:
(1)18, 19, Cove, AKM; (1)17, Galves-
ton, ER&BK
- Owl, Screech:
(1)10, yard, ER&BK; (1)7, yard, DHH
- Owl, Barred:
(NC)10, 15, 17, yard, ER&BK
- Chuck-Will's-Widow:
(2)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Whip-Poor-Will:
(1)5, 25, yard, ER&BK
- Nighthawk, Common:
(1)19, 21, yard, (2)28, High Island,
P&MJ; (1)19, Cove, AKM; (20)25,
yard, ER&BK
- Swift, Chimney:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galveston,
ER&BK; (3)20, 24, yard, P&PN
- Hummingbird, Ruby-throated:
(1)10, 30, yard, (1)17, Galveston,
ER&BK; (2)16, 17, yard, MM; (1)11,
yard, P&PN
- Kingfisher, Belted:
(1)7, 28, High Island, P&MJ; (5)17,
Galveston, ER&BK; (1)19, San Leon,
MM
- Flicker, Yellow-shafted:
(1)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Woodpecker, Pileated:
(1)7, 28, Cove, AKM; (1)8, 17, yard,
ER&BK; (1)1, High Island, DHH;
(1)12, 610 and Memorial, P&PN
- Woodpecker, Red-bellied:
(1)7 days, (3)18, Cove, AKM;
(NC)daily-nesting, yard, ER&BK;
(1-2)5 days, yards, P&PN
- Woodpecker, Red-headed:
(1)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)18, 27,
(3)26, Cove, AKM; (1)17, Galveston,
ER&BK; (1)4 days, yard, P&PN
- Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied:
(2)22, yard, (1)28, High Island, P&MJ;
(2)11, (1)16, Yard, ER&BK
- Woodpecker, Downy:
(NC)daily, yard, ER&BK; (1)3 days,
yard, P&PN
- Kingbird, Eastern:
(1)17, Galveston, (4)28, High Island,
P&MJ; (2)23, Cove, DW & P
- Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed:
(12p)4, (3)7, 26, Cove, AKM; (NC)17,
Galveston, ER&BK; (4-10)daily,
Dickinson, San Leon, Bacliff, MM;
(1)2, Houston Baptist College, PN
- Flycatcher, Great Crested:
(2)28, High Island, P&MJ; (6)18,
(1)27, Cove, AKM; (NC)daily, yard,
ER&BK; (1)24, 30, yard, P&PN
- Empidonax sp. Flycatcher:
(2)18, (1)26, Cove, AKM
- Wood Pewee, Eastern:
(1p)18, Cove, AKM; (1)24, yard, P&PN
- Swallow, Bank:
(NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Swallow, Barn:
(2)16, yard, (NC)17, Galveston, ER&BK
- Martin, Purple:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galveston,
ER&BK; (3)20, yard, P&PN
- Crow, Common:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galveston,
ER&BK; (1)24, yard, P&PN
- Chickadee, Carolina:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galveston,
ER&BK
- Titmouse, Tufted:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galveston,
ER&BK; (2-3)20, 23, 24, yard, P&PN
- Nuthatch, Red-breasted:
(1)7, High Island, DHH
- Wren, House:
(1p)18, Cove, AKM; (1)9, yard, BK&ER
- Wren, Carolina:
(NC)daily-nested, yard, (NC)17,
Galveston, ER&BK
- Mockingbird:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galveston,
ER&BK; (1)24, yard, P&PN
- Catbird:
(1)17, Galv, (2)21-30, yard, (10p)28,
High Island, P&MJ; (3p)18, 27,
(1)26, Cove, AKM; (4)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Thrasher, Brown:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK;
(1)20, 23, yard, P&PN
- Robin:
(1)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Thrush, Wood:
(1)7, 28, High Island, (1)17, Galv,
P&MJ; (10p)18, Cove, AKM; (5p)17,
Galv, BK&ER; (1)7 days, yard, P&PN
- Thrush, Hermit:
(1)1, 7, High Island, DHH
- Thrush, Swainson's:
(1)17, Galv, (1)7, (3)28, High Island,
P&MJ; (4p)17, Galv, ER&BK

Thrush, Gray-cheeked:

(1)22, yard, P&MJ; (2)17, Galv, BK&ER

Veery:

(2)17, Galv, ER&BK

Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray:

(10)9, 10, 16, yard, (NC)17, Galv, BK&ER; (15Op)1, High Island, DHH

Kinglet, Ruby-crowned:

(1)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)22, Sheldon, Party A; (1-2)20, 25, 26, yard, P&PN

Pipit, Water:

(1)18, Cove, AKM; (1)28, Hobby Airport, NP

Waxwing, Cedar:

(6p)27, Cove, AKM

Shrike, Loggerhead:

(NC)17, Galv, BK&ER

Starling:

(NC)17, Galv, ER&BK

Vireo, White-eyed:

(1)1, City Hall, (4)7, (1)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)18, (2)19, Cove, AKM; (NC)12, 24, yard, (NC)17, Galv, BK&ER; (5Op)1, High Island, DHH; (1)20, yard, P&PN

Vireo, Yellow-throated:

(1)7, High Island, (1)17, Galv, P&MJ; (NC)10, 13, yard, BK&ER

Vireo, Solitary:

(1)1, (2)22, yard, (1)7, High Island, P&MJ; (NC)16, yard, ER&BK

Vireo, Red-eyed:

(1)18, yard, (2)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)18, Cove, AKM; (NC)3 days, yard, ER&BK; (1)20, yard, P&PN

Vireo, Philadelphia:

(1)17, Galv, (1)28, High Island, P&MJ

Vireo, Warbling:

(1)28, High Island, P&MJ

Warbler, Black-and-white:

(1)1, 17, Galv, (4)7, 28, High Island, P&MJ; (5)18, Cove, AKM; (4Op)1, High Island, DHH; (1)20, yard, P&PN

Warbler, Prothonotary:

(2)16, 17, yard, MM

Warbler, Swainson's:

(1)7, 28, High Island, P&MJ; (NC)22, Sheldon and Compton's Woods N. of Seabrook, Party A; (1)1, High Island, (2)7, Galv & High Island, DHH

Warbler, Worm-eating:

(1)7, High Island, P&MJ; (3)17, Galv, ER&BK

Warbler, Golden-winged:

(1)28, High Island, P&MJ

Warbler, Blue-winged:

(1)7, High Island, (1)19, 20, 22, yard, P&PN; (1)20, yard, P&PN

WARBLER, BREWSTER'S:

(1)26, High Island-see notes, Hazel Nichols, et al.

Warbler, Tennessee:

(4)16-30, yard, (2)28, High Island, P&MJ; (15p)18, Cove, AKM

Warbler, Orange-crowned:

(1)21, yard, (1)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)11, 16, yard, ER&BK; (1)22, Compton's Woods N. of Seabrook, Party A

Warbler, Nashville:

(1)17, Galv, (1)30, yard, P&MJ; (NC)6 days, yard, BK&ER

Warbler, Parula:

(1)5, yard, (1)7, (3)28, High Island, (1)17, Galv, P&MJ; (NC)5 days, yard, ER&BK; (10Op)1, High Island, DHH

Warbler, Yellow:

(1)17, Galv, (1)28, High Island, (1)30, yard, P&MJ; (2)16, 17, yard, MM

Warbler, Magnolia:

(3)28, High Island, (1)29, City Hall, P&MJ

Warbler, Cape May:

(1)7, (3)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)22, Galv (LaFitte's Grove E. of 12-mile Rd.), Party A; (1)14, High Island, MB & DHH

Warbler, Myrtle:

(2)20, yard, (4)28, High Island, P&MJ; (3)18, Cove, AKM; (NC)5 days, yard, ER&BK; (2)16, 17, yard, MM; (1)20, yard, P&PN

Warbler, Black-throated Green:

(1)17, Galv, (2)28, High Island, P&MJ; (NC)26, yard, ER&BK; (NC)16, 17, yard, MM

Warbler, Cerulean:

(1)17, Galv, P&MJ; (NC)16, yard, ER&BK

Warbler, Blackburnian:

(1)28, High Island, P&MJ

Warbler, Yellow-throated:

(1)1, 17, Galv, (1)7, High Island, P&MJ; (1)18, Cove, AKM; (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK; (1)20, yard, P&PN

Warbler, Chestnut-sided:

(4)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)18, Cove, AKM

Warbler, Bay-breasted:

(5)28, High Island, P&MJ

Warbler, Blackpoll:

(1Op)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)14, (5)28, High Island, (1)20, Galv, DHH

Ovenbird:

(NC)17, Galv, ER&BK

Waterthrush, Northern:

(1)29, City Hall, P&MJ; (2)18, (2)23, Cove, DW, CP

Waterthrush, Louisiana:

(1)1, Galveston, P&MJ; (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK

Warbler, Kentucky:

(1)1, City Hall, (1)7, High Island, P&MJ; (2)18, Cove, AKM; (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK; (1)20, yard, P&PN

Yellowthroat:

(2)7, (6)28, High Island, (2)17, Galv, (1)22, yard, (10)29, City Hall, P&MJ; (6)18, (2)19, Cove, AKM; (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK; (1)20, yard, P&PN

Chat, Yellow-breasted:

(1)17, Galv, (1)26-30, yard, P&MJ

Warbler, Hooded:

(1)1, City Hall, (4)7, (2)28, High Island, (2)17, Galv, P&MJ; (3)18, Cove, AKM; (1)11, 13, yard, (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK; (4Op)1, High Island, DHH; (1)14, 24, (2)20, yard, P&PN

Warbler, Wilson's:

(1)20, 22, yard, P&MJ; (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK; (1)7, High Island, DHH

Warbler, Canada:

(L)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)20, yard, P&PN

Redstart, American:

(2)17, Galv, (2)28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)18, (3)23, Cove, DW & CP

- Meadowlark, Eastern:
(NC)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Blackbird, Yellow-headed:
(1)7, Galv (7-mile road), DHH;
(3)28, Galv, J&BH
- Blackbird, Redwing:
(NC)10, yard, (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Oriole, Orchard:
(2)7, 28, High Island, (5)16-30,
yard, (3)17, Galv, P&MJ; (1)23,
(3)21, Cove, DW, CP, AKM; (10p)17,
Galv, ER&BK; (4)16, 17, yard, MM
- Oriole, Baltimore:
(4)16-30, yard, (2)17, Galv, (3)28,
High Island, P&MJ; (5)23, Cove,
DW, CP; (1p)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Oriole, Bullock's:
(1)3, Galv, P&MJ
- Grackle, Boat-tailed:
(NC)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Grackle, Common:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK; Dickey
(3)20, yard, P&PN
- Cowbird, Brown-headed:
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Tanager, Western:
(1)7, High Island, P&MJ; (1)1, High
Island, MB&DHH; (1)4, High Island,
VE
- Tanager, Scarlet:
(1)7, 28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)18,
Cove, DW, CP, DHH; (2)17, Galv, ER&BK; Sparrow,
(10-15)7, High Island, DHH
- Tanager, Summer:
(4)7, 28, High Island, (2)17, Galv,
(2)22-30, yard, P&MJ; (1)18, Cove,
AKM; (NC)16, yard, (2)17, Galv, ER&
BK; (1)20, yard, P&PN
- Cardinal:
(2)6 days, yard, P&PN; (NC)daily,
yard, (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Grosbeak, Rose-breasted:
(1)20, 24, (2)30, yard, (3)28, High
Island, P&MJ; (4)16, 25, 30, yard,
(2)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Grosbeak, Blue:
(5)17, Galv, P&MJ; (5)18, (6p)19,
(1p)21, 22, Cove, AKM; (4)17, Galv,
ER&BK; (1)7 days, yard, P&PN
- Bunting, Indigo:
(2-5)16-30, yard, (1)17, Galv, (2)28,
High Island, P&MJ; (1)18, (10p)19,
(1p)21, 23, Cove, DW, CP; (NC)4 days,
yard, (12p)17, Galv, ER&BK; (1-3)4
days, yard, P&PN
- Bunting, Painted:
(1)22, 23, yard, (1)28, High Island,
P&MJ; (2)18, (1)19, Cove, AKM;
(NC)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Dickeissel:
(1)19, Cove, AKM; (2)17, Galv, ER&BK
- Siskin, Pine:
(1)24, yard, P&MJ
- Goldfinch, American:
(10-12)9-30, yard, P&MJ
- Towhee, Rufous-sided:
(3)7, 28, High Island, P&MJ; (1)7, 18,
Cove, AKM; (4)22, Compton's Woods N.
of Seabrook, Party A
- Sparrow, White-crowned:
(7)16, (3)18, Cove, AKM
- Sparrow, White-throated:
(8-10)all month, yard, P&MJ;
(NC)daily, yard, (NC)17, Galv, ER&BK;
(6-9)6 days, yard, P&PN
- Sparrow, Lincoln's:
(1p)18, Cove, AKM; (1)16, yard, BK&ER
- Sparrow, Swamp:
(3p)18, Cove, AKM
- Sparrow, Song:
(1)11, yard, ER&BK

CLEARING HOUSE CONTRIBUTORS

MB	Mike Braun	MM	Margaret Morgan
VE	Victor Emanuel	P	Chuck and Dennis Peting
DHH	Dan H. Hardy	P&PN	Paul and Phyllis Nimmons
J&BH	Jean and Bill Harwell	CP	Chuck Peting
P&MJ	Paul and Margaret Jones	NP	Noel Pettingell
BK	Barbara Kendrick	ER	Elaine Robinson
AKM	Arlie K. McKay	DW	Donald White

Party A: Benton Basham (Dunlap, Tenn.), Victor Emanuel, Kenn Kaufman (Wichita, Kansas), Noel Pettingell, Jim Tucker (Austin)

CLEARING HOUSE NOTES

RINGED TURTLE DOVE: For at least two days prior to this sighting (on April 22, 1973) we had heard an unusual dove call in our neighborhood - a little bit like the Inca Dove, but not like the Mourning Dove. The actual sighting occurred when 2 Ringed Turtle Doves alighted in the pine tree over our outdoor terrace. They were of very light sandy plumage, had a blue eye ring - red eye - black band partially around neck on back at the nape - tail rounded with white corners. The two were attempting to mate and were observed in our patio area for about 5 minutes both in the trees and on the ground - once came as close as about 10 feet.

Photograph was made at about 15 feet. Later in the day we observed them flying overhead and again noted very light plumage. They were again sighted both flying and perched in the neighborhood on 25th and 26th. --T. Paul Jones

Note from Hazel Nichols--Had a short trip to Upper Texas Coast (Wed. and Thursday, April 25-26) with Phyllis Jackson and Alice Marsh, and want to report two good records. Enroute, just north of Hankamer on Hwy. 61, between Devers and Hankamer, late Tuesday (April 24) we saw 2 Swallow-tailed Kites. One flew directly over road in front of us. When we stopped, we could see another farther beyond. One 'sashayed' about displaying against a backdrop of trees beyond,-flashing black and white. We lost one beyond trees, but this one moved on in a southerly direction--and we had hopes it would stop over at Turtle Bayou. Yesterday A.M. (Thursday, April 26) we checked Smiths Woods at High Island again before leaving, and among the warblers, a Brewster's Warbler was carefully observed--close at hand--by a Doctor Barnard Benson (from Houston) and myself. In excellent light, it was about 4'-5' high in the hedge between the old house and barn. It was exactly as shown in the books--yellow crown with black line through eye, yellow patch in wing, white below with yellow wash across breast,slaty back.

NAMES FOR REFERENCE:

Chairman: Miss Marilyn Crane, 3601 Allen Pky., #214,
Houston 77019 522-6393

Treasurer: Miss Melba Drake, 1746 Wroxton Court,
Houston 77005 522-8285

Spoonbill: Mrs. Irving (Laura) Greenbaum, 5615 Portal Dr.,
Houston 77035 721-1310

Clearing-House: Mr. Dan H. Hardy, 10215 Chatterton,
Houston 77043 468-2748

Rare Bird Alert: Mrs. L. W. (Margaret) Anderson, 2913 Amherst,
Houston 77005 668-6405
Note: If you cannot reach Margaret, call Mrs.
Jerry Baker, (713) 921-2644

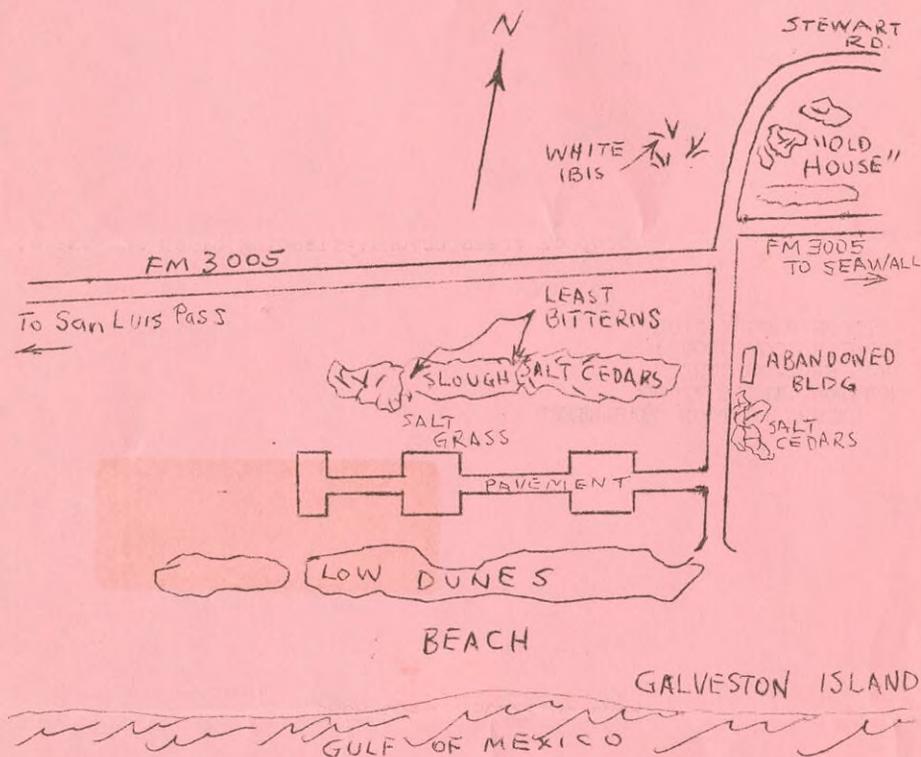
EDITORIAL COMMENT

Your editor appreciates the articles that have been sent in to her, and requests that if you come across something you think might be of interest to OG folks, send it on to me. Many times people have said, "Oh, I thought someone would have sent that in to you." And, of course, no one had!! Whether it be a newspaper article, a magazine article, an OG event, or a birding "find" you happened on that you think would be of interest to others, it would benefit all of OG. These things are what comprise the SPOONBILL, and it is with your help that it is published.

RARE BIRD ALERT CALL

If you wish to have your name added to or removed from the Rare Bird Alert in the next roster (to be published in early August), please notify Margaret Anderson, as listed above.

MAP OF THE MONTH



This is a good addition to your collection of maps-of-the-month, for birders have long known the "Old House" is good for migrants. (the tumbledown shack is no longer there, but habit is strong, and the area is still referred to as the "Old House"). White Ibis are often seen in the area. Just south of there, as shown, on May 13th, three Least Bitterns were observed (in fact, Paul photographed one of them). We parked at the end of the camping area paved road, and saw two of them, and then saw the third one by walking over to the edge of the slough.

--- Margaret Jones

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