



Volume 46, No. 1

January 1997

The Spoonbill

Back to Baylands, etc.

February 3 Meeting Speaker & Topic

*"The Impaling Behavior of the
Loggerhead Shrike in East Texas"*

a presentation by
Kelly Mizell

Ms. Mizell will give the OG a fun and factual talk based upon her observations made in Nacogdoches County. Come hear her keen observation and the behavioral conclusions made about our East Texas Shrikes.

Kelly is a Ph.D. candidate at Texas A&M University. Her research on Shrikes was part of her M.S. program at Stephen F. Austin University.

The February meeting is set for Monday, February 3, 7 P.M. at Baylands Community Center, 6400 Bissonet. PLEASE NOTE THE DIFFERENT MEETING LOCATION.

February Learning Corner

TBA

Sonny is certain to have an informational and educational corner. Bob Honig is set for March's meeting.

March 3 Meeting Speaker

"Bird Nesting Habits"

a presentation by
John Tveten

Well "they" said it wouldn't happen. But starting with the February meeting, the OG returns to the familiar confines of the Baylands Community Center. The center is located at 6400 Bissonet.

Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) will be published in next month's "Spoonbill." To date I've received three CBC accounts. If you want your CBC included in the annual roundup please send your count wrap up.

January's Field Trip was "sleet-ed" out. A mistake in scheduling had the OG monthly trip set on the same day as the year's worst winter weather. David Sarkozi says he will double check his weather calendar before planning future trips.

That being said the *February Field Trip* is still simmering. No date nor locale is selected yet. David has some great ideas but needs field trip leaders. If you have any ideas or want to volunteer to lead a field trip call David Sarkozi at (713) 520-5906.

Your OG needs YOU! The role of programs coordinator remains unfilled (call Dan Coleman (713) 646-7028). Also, *help in mailing the Spoonbill is desperately needed.* Can the OG count on your help (contact the editor).

What's inside

<i>Meeting Announcement</i>	1
<i>Return and Errata</i>	1
<i>OG News & Minutes</i>	2
<i>Calendar</i>	3
<i>Clearing House for November</i>	5

Ornithology Group

Chairman

Bob Luckner
(713) 328-6236

Vice-Chairman

Dan Coleman
(713) 646-7028

Treasurer

Bob Ohmart
(281) 579-7403

Secretary

Janet Rathjen
(713) 280-8620

Learning Corner Coordinator

Sonny Fischer
(281) 346-2354

Field Trip Coordinator

David Sarkozi
(713) 520-5906

Clearing House

Phyllis & Tony Frank
(713) 480-7878

The Spoonbill

Published by

Ornithology Group
Houston Outdoor Nature Club
P.O. Box 270894
Houston, TX 77277-0894

Editor

Damien Carey
(281) 361-3333/(281) 361-4120
Fax (281) 361-7333
email: wildbird@vonl.com

Mail, fax or e-mail submissions *by the 15th of every month* for possible inclusion. *Please include author's name, address and phone number.*

Meeting Minutes

December 1, 1996. Vice Chairman Dan Coleman called the meeting to order. He welcomed everyone, asked (first) time visitors to introduce themselves. Carolyn Callery announce that the Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. has a plan to do marsh restoration at the San Jacinto Battlegrounds. She has asked members to write a letter to them in Austin, addressed to Project Manager of the San Jacinto Restoration Project at the address on the back of the last Spoonbill and show your support.

Barbara Hoffmann made an announcement about a change in the status of Honey Creek, a very small beautiful location that previously belonged to the Nature Conservancy. It was sold to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. They now have plans to put in horse trails and a stable, anti will allow off road vehicles to run up and clown the creek. This will destroy the beauty and peace of the park for photographers and nature watchers. She brought a petition for members to sign to try to stop this development which will be presented to the TPWD next Sunday. When the property was sold to TPWD it was on the understanding that the area would not be touched.

John and Gloria Tveten donated a copy of their butterfly book to the OG library. David Sarkozi announced upcoming field trips. David asked for interest to go out to Anahuac again in

January to drag for Yellow Rails. P.D. Hulce announced the local Christmas Counts. He had a short list of the local counts available at the membership table. Don Richards(on) reminded everyone of his birding classes.

Bob Ohmart presented the proposed budget as it was printed in the December Spoonbill. Scott Richardson moved that the budget be approved as presented; Debbie Nelson seconded. Some discussion was made about whether we needed to set aside money for revisions to the UTC checklist. It was brought up that the previous revision was underwritten by a corporation. This will be looked into to help cover the cost for future revisions. A question was raised as to whether the checklist committee has been meeting regularly to keep the records tip to date. No one knew. The budget was approved as presented.

Dan asked for any other business. A question was asked about whether anyone has seen the Amazon Kingfisher. John Tveten reported that the photographs that were taken are not definitive because the photos were taken from the front. There have been more than 200 people signed in at the entrance from all over the world trying to see the kingfisher. Someone announce(d) that the Kelp Gull has returned to East Beach in Galveston, along with four other gulls specie not regularly found here. The business part of the

OG News & Announcements

meeting was followed by the program by Bob Ohmart on his birding trip to Alaska.

*Respectfully submitted,
Janet Rathjen, Secretary.*

FOAR You

Friends of Anahuac Refuge (FOAR) is formed as a volunteer group has formed to support Anahuac NWR.

The group helps with various conservation and recreation projects on the refuge. Ongoing projects include: Prairie Restoration; Yellow Rail Study; Shorebird Study; New

Birding Trail; and Interruptive Signs/Trail.

The 10 memberboard of directors includes OG Members David Dauphin, David Sarkozi, and Lu Skillern.

Membership is \$10/year for an individual \$15/year family \$50/year contributing. ALL are welcome and encouraged to join. Send your dues to:

*Friends of Anahuac
Refuge, Inc.
P.O. Box 1348
Anahuac, Texas 77514
Call (409) 267-3337.*

Rail Wranglers Wanted

A Yellow Rail Study at Anahuac NWR needs volunteers help. A TAMU Ph.D. candidate is conducting the study of Yellow Rails at Anahuac NWR.

Volunteers help with capture and monitoring of Yellow Rails. Various methods are being used to capture the rails, not all activities involves strenuous marching through the spartina grass!

Interested? Contact David Sarkozi (713) 520-5906 or email dsarkozi@infocom.net.

Membership Application

Join the Houston Outdoor Nature Club!
Fill in the information below and mail to:

ONC Membership, Mary Dodson,
9618 Longmont, Houston, TX 77063.

Already a member and moved? Fill in your current address.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone: () _____ - _____ e-mail: _____

If family membership list names of spouse or children:

Are you a _____ NEW MEMBER? or _____ Rejoining member?

ONC Annual Dues (Circle one) Your OG can use your help.

Regular \$ 8 _____ I can offer some time

Junior (under 18) \$ 2 and effort to the OG. Please

Family \$ 15 contact me.

Supporting \$ 40

Life \$100

Additional Study Group Dues Questions? Contact Mary

Ornithology Group \$ 12¹ Dodson at (713) 974-3089.

TOTAL* \$ _____

* - Please make checks payable to Outdoor Nature Club

¹ - Study Group dues are per adult.

Editorial Changes

If you haven't noticed (or cared) the "Spoonbill's" email address is changed to wildbird@vonl.com.

Also, Ma Bell changed the area code of the Spoonbill editorial staff phone numbers to 281.

Renewel REDUX

If'n you haven't already please renew or this is your last Spoonbill.

Remember these caveats: include ONC AND OG dues (per adult); and make your check payable to the "Outdoor Nature Club."

If you know someone interested in the ONC or OG pass along the form.

Calendar

February TBA - Timing for February's Field Trip is still in the works. Get details at the next meeting or call David Sarkozi at (713) 520-5906.

Galveston Bird Club

Word is out! The Galveston Bird Club (GBC) is forming. Long time birder, life science teacher and ornithology doctoral student Jim Stevenson is asking interested OG members to join and/or help spread the word.

Mr. Stevenson plans monthly meetings, field trips and excursions (Mexico, Florida and points West). He anticipates offering bird watching classes.

Membership is free and a newsletter is available by writing:

*Galveston Bird Club
Rt. 1 Box 185C
Galveston, TX 77554*

After January 29 you can contact Mr. Stevenson for more information at (409) 737-4081.

In Memoriam

Long time OG member Richard Davis passed away after a long illness in December.

Mr. Davis was a 30 year member of the ONC and the OG. He enjoyed camping at the Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary.

His family requested memorial contributions to the OG in lieu of flowers.

...off the OG Newswire

Among the 1996 good news stories from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

• An estimated *90 million ducks flew south* from their northern nesting grounds, the highest figure since the Service began estimating the "fall flight" in the 1950s.

Several years of plentiful rain and snowfall in primary nesting areas of the north central United States and south central Canada, along with restoration and conservation of millions of acres of wetland habitat, has boosted duck population by 34 million since 1990.

• In early December, *six California condors were released* into the wild in northern Arizona after an absence of 72 years.

The six condors, which were bred in captivity in California and Idaho, were held in acclimation pens at the release site for several weeks before they were set free in mid-December.

The huge birds nearly became extinct during the 1980s and have been restored through

captive-breeding in zoos and releases to their former range in California and, now, Arizona.

• *Eighty-two young bald eagles were fledged* from 58 active nest sites at the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge in Minnesota. Nine of the nests produced triplets.

By comparison, in 1986, there were nine active nests, each producing only one young.

• *Mississippi Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge*, where most of the remaining wild population of this endangered crane resides, *reported a record 13 nesting pairs in 1996*, the highest number of nesting pairs recorded in 30 years of monitoring.

Today there are 95 Mississippi sandhill cranes in this country, 23 of them hatched in the wild, compared to only 30 in existence in 1975.

• *About 170 whooping cranes are expected to arrive this year at Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas*, up from 158 last year.

Only 16 whooping cranes were left in the wild in the 1940s.



November 1996 Clearing House Report

Editors: Phyllis & Tony Frank

1506 Richvale Ln

Houston TX 77062

email: PhylFrnk@oal.com

A total of 215 species were recorded for the month. Least Grebe in two locations, Black Rail and thirteen species of warblers were among the interesting reports for the month.

All reports are due February 3rd (Mail CH submission to: Clearing House (OG), P.O. Box 271374, Houston, TX 77277). Readers are reminded that all decisions regarding checklist status are made by the checklist committee. Publication of a rarity does not imply acceptance of the record by the editors or the committee. The CH format remains the same this month. The listing uses the following format: bird name, early late dates, reports/total and summary by county or detailed listing. The format of the county summary is as follows: county designation - number of reports/number of birds. The detailed listing format is as follows: county-(number of birds) day, observer code. Very rare birds are underlined. Birds with no previous record on date or vagrant status appear in bold. Birds new to the checklist are capitalized and underlined. Please remember to submit notes on birds very rare or vagrant status. And with all the reminders completed - on to the birds.

- Loon, Common 9-28 3/5 CH-SP(1)9,DV; GA-(3)23,HAS;
JE-PI(1)28,JJW
- Grebe, Least 2-17 3/3 BR-BW(1)3,WP; JE-TP(1)2,JW;
JE-TP(1)17,JW
- Grebe, Pied-bill 2-28 17/195 BR-2/56 CH-1/6 GA-4/43 JE-10/90
- Grebe, Horned 17-28 3/17 JE-TP(1)17,JW; JE-PI(13)24,JW;
JE-PI(3)28,JJW
- Grebe, Eared 3-28 3/5 BR-BW(2)3,WP; BR-SB(2)23,DV;
JE-PI(1)28,JJW
- Pelican, Amer Wht 2-28 18/2473 CH-1/50 GA-3/232 JE-14/2191
- Pelican, Brown 2-23 6/396 GA-4/350 JE-2/46
- Corm, Dbl-crested 2-29 17/477 CH-2/14 GA-4/249 HA-2/15
JE-8/198 WA-1/1
- Corm, Neotropic 2-28 11/348 CH-1/10 GA-4/20 JE-6/318
- Anhinga 9-23 4/5 CH-3/4 JE-1/1
- Bittern, American 16-16 1/1 CH-AW(1)16,DS
- Heron, Great Blue 2-29 27/233 BR-1/12 CH-3/8 GA-4/72
HA-2/20 JE-15/105 WA-2/16
- Egret, Great 2-29 23/235 CH-2/3 GA-4/43 HA-2/75
JE-13/92 WA-2/22
- Egret, Snowy 2-29 22/260 BR-1/16 CH-2/4 GA-4/47
HA-2/4 JE-12/187 WA-1/2
- Heron, Little Blu 3-28 10/36 BR-1/4 CH-2/4 GA-4/21 JE-3/7
- Heron, Tricolored 2-28 15/38 BR-1/2 CH-1/1 GA-4/20 JE-9/15
- Egret, Reddish 3-23 5/17 BR-1/1 GA-4/16
- Egret, Cattle 2-26 9/311 CH-1/10 GA-2/116 HA-2/20 JE-4/165
- Nt-Heron, Blk-crn 2-26 9/206 BR-1/40 CH-2/9 HA-2/150 JE-4/7
- Nt-Heron, Yel-crn 2-2 1/1 JE-TP(1)2,JW
- Ibis, White 2-28 16/1161 BR-1/2 CH-1/1 GA-4/164
HA-2/70 JE-8/924
- Ibis, Glossy 9-17 2/2 HA-WHC(1)9,JM; JE-(1)17,JW
- Ibis, White-faced 2-28 13/2282 BR-1/65 CH-2/250
HA-2/182 JE-7/1680 WA-1/105
- plegadis, sp. 2-26 8/396 U-1/100 CH-1/143 JE-6/153
- Spoonbill, Roseat 3-28 16/217 BR-1/5 CH-1/10 GA-4/99 JE-10/103
- Stork, Wood 2-3 2/3 BR-(2)2,JWR; JE-TP(1)1,JW
- Whl-Duck, Fulvs 3-3 1/1 BR-BW(1)3,WP
- Goose, Gr Wht-fn 2-29 10/3825 BR-1/320 CH-2/85
HA-2/3100 JE-4/170 WA-1/150
- Goose, Snow 2-28 19/35051 BR-1/10000 CH-2/15685
GA-1/9 HA-2/3543 JE-11/3314 WA-2/2500
- Goose, Ross' 2-23 3/10 BR-1/4 CH-1/3 JE-1/3
- Goose, Canada 9-26 3/310 CH-1/50 HA-2/260
- Duck, Wood 2-2 1/2 JE-TP(2)2,JW
- Teal, Green-wing 2-28 12/4361 BR-1/314 CH-2/150
GA-1/16 HA-1/240 JE-7/3641
- Duck, Mottled 2-28 13/158 CH-1/10 GA-3/44 JE-9/104
- Mallard 3-28 6/23 BR-2/13 CH-1/4 GA-1/2 JE-2/4
- Pintail, Northern 3-28 6/499 BR-1/2 CH-3/450 HA-1/40 JE-1/7
- Teal, Blue-winged 2-28 13/6219 BR-1/6 CH-1/300 GA-3/13
JE-8/5900
- Shoveler, Northm 2-29 17/3351 BR-2/61 CH-3/550
GA-3/19 HA-1/460 JE-8/2261
- Gadwall 2-28 19/1554 BR-1/2 CH-3/765 GA-3/44
HA-2/13 JE-10/730
- Wigeon, American 2-23 7/248 BR-1/5 CH-2/202 GA-2/14 JE-2/27
- Canvasback 23-23 1/1 BR-SB(1)23,DV
- Redhead 2-16 2/10 CH-AW(2)16,DS; JE-TP(8)2,JW
- Duck, Ring-necked 2-22 5/84 BR-1/2 GA-1/2 JE-3/80
- Scaup, Greater 9-28 4/4 JE-SR(1)9,JW; JE-TP(1)10,JW;
JE-TP(1)17,JW; JE-PI(1)28,JJW
- Scaup, Lesser 2-29 17/677 BR-2/8 CH-1/10 GA-3/123
HA-1/60 JE-10/476
- Bufflehead 2-28 3/242 JE-3/242
- Merganser, Red-br 23-28 5/34 BR-1/2 GA-2/13 JE-2/19
- Duck, Ruddy 2-29 14/1487 BR-3/56 CH-2/2 GA-1/4 JE-8/1425
- Vulture, Black 2-26 5/27 BR-1/3 JE-2/6 WA-2/18
- Vulture, Turkey 2-28 21/286 BR-1/9 CH-3/15 GA-2/7
HA-2/65 JE-11/55 WA-2/135
- Osprey 3-29 7/8 BR-2/2 CH-2/2 GA-2/3 JE-1/1

Clearing House

- Kite, White-tail 2-29 20/103 BR-2/4 CH-1/6 GA-3/10
HA-1/1 JE-13/82
- Eagle, Bald 15-17 2/2 CH-(1)17,JW; JE-TP(1)15,JW
- HARRIER, Northern 2-29 27/134 BR-2/18 CH-5/24 GA-4/16
HA-2/16 JE-12/41 WA-2/19
- Hawk, Sharp-shin 2-29 8/11 CH-1/1 GA-1/2 HA-1/2 JE-4/5 WA-1/1
- Hawk, Cooper's 9-28 6/6 CH-2/2 HA-1/1 JE-3/3
- Hawk, Red-shouldr 3-17 8/16 BR-1/1 CH-1/3 HA-1/1
JE-4/10 WA-1/1
- Hawk, Broad-winged 2-9 2/2 CH-AW(1)2,DV; CH-SP(1)9,DV
- Hawk, Swainson's 3-3 1/1 JE-(1)3,KS
- Hawk, White-tail 2-17 4/9 BR-3/8 FB-1/1
- Hawk, Red-tailed 2-29 38/389 BR-4/74 CH-5/45 FB-1/15
GA-5/14 HA-2/80 JE-19/89 WA-2/72
- (Hawk, Kridler's) 17-17 1/1 CH-(1)17,JW
- Hawk, Ferruginous 2-17 4/4 BR-(1)2,JWR; BR-(1)10,JWR;
BR-(1)17,JWR; FB-(1)17,BR
- Hawk, Rough-legged 17-17 1/1 CH-(1)17,JW
- Caracara, Crested 2-26 5/12 BR-2/2 HA-2/7 WA-1/3
- Kestrel, American 2-29 33/199 BR-2/7 CH-3/26 GA-4/20
HA-2/18 JE-20/115 WA-2/13
- Merlin 3-29 6/6 BR-1/1 CH-1/1 HA-1/1 JE-3/3
- Falcon, Peregrine 3-3 1/1 BR-BW(1)3,WP
- Bobwhite, Northern 26-26 1/8 HA-WHC(8)26,JM
- Rail, Yellow 16-16 1/4 CH-AW(4)16,DS
- Rail, Black 16-16 1/1 CH-AW(1)16,DS
- Rail, Clapper 16-16 1/1 GA-(1)16,DLR
- rail, sp 16-16 1/1 GA(1)16,DLR
- Sora 16-16 1/1 CH-AW(1)16,DS
- Moorhen, Common 3-29 11/98 BR-1/24 CH-2/30 JE-8/44
- Coot, American 3-28 15/6271 CH-3/2650 GA-3/21
JE-9/3600
- Crane, Sandhill 3-26 6/28 BR-1/7 GA-3/17 HA-1/2 WA-1/2
- Plover, Blk-bell 2-29 9/161 BR-1/3 GA-4/117 JE-4/41
- Plover, Snowy 9-23 2/20 GA-BF(3)23,GTAS; JE-(17)9,JW
- Plover, Wilson's 23-23 1/1 GA-BF(1)23,GTAS
- Plover, Semipalm 9-29 4/118 BR-1/6 GA-1/1 HA-1/110 JE-1/1
- Plover, Piping 9-29 6/40 GA-(3)10,JB; GA-(4)23,HAS;
- GA-BF(10)23,GTAS; JE-(11)9,JW;
JE-(6)29,JW; JE-SR(6)29,JW
- Killdeer 2-28 26/857 BR-1/29 CH-3/102 GA-4/50
HA-2/340 JE-14/161 WA-2/175
- Oystercatcher, Am 16-23 4/16 GA-4/16
- Stilt, Black-neck 3-28 15/293 BR-1/10 GA-4/23 JE-10/260
- Avocet, American 2-29 11/3252 BR-2/44 GA-1/3000 JE-8/208
- Yellowlegs, Great 2-26 9/57 BR-1/20 CH-1/9 GA-2/15 HA-1/5 JE-4/8
- Yellowlegs, Less 2-26 10/42 CH-2/2 GA-1/9 HA-2/12 JE-5/19
- Sandprr, Solitary 15-15 1/1 JE-TP(1)15,JW
- Willet 2-29 10/244 BR-2/21 GA-4/182 JE-4/41
- Sandprr, Spotted 10-23 4/5 GA-(1)10,JB; GA-(1)16,DLR;
GA-(2)23,HAS; GA-(1)23,GTAS
- Whimbrel 23-23 1/3 GA-(3)23,GTAS
- Curlew, Long-bill 3-26 7/72 BR-1/4 CH-1/1 GA-4/55 WA-1/12
- Godwit, Marbled 10-23 4/69 GA-4/69
- Turnstone, Ruddy 16-29 4/58 BR-1/8 GA-3/50
- Knot, Red 2-23 2/21 GA-BF(20)23,GTAS; JE-SR(1)2,JW
- Sanderling 2-29 7/401 BR-1/40 GA-4/305 JE-2/56
- Sandprr, Western 2-29 12/309 BR-1/4 GA-4/54 HA-1/5
JE-5/146 WA-1/100
- Sandprr, Least 3-29 11/186 BR-1/10 GA-3/9 HA-2/10
JE-4/152 WA-1/5
- Dunlin 9-29 8/93 BR-1/1 GA-3/58 HA-1/2 JE-3/32
- Sandprr, Stilt 2-29 6/114 BR-(2)29,DV; GA-(2)16,DLR;
JE-TP(5)2,JW; JE-TP(55)10,JW;
JE-TP(30)15,JW; JE-TP(20)17,JW
- Dowitcher, S-bill 2-23 7/153 GA-2/31 JE-5/122
- Dowitcher, L-bill 2-26 8/695 CH-1/15 HA-2/400 JE-5/280
- dowitcher, sp. 3-17 4/818 BR-1/12 GA-1/6 JE-2/800
- Snipe, Common 3-29 8/63 BR-2/4 CH-2/53 FB-1/1
GA-1/2 HA-1/1 WA-1/2
- Gull, Laughing 2-29 15/3412 BR-1/205 CH-1/50
GA-4/1450 JE-9/1707
- Gull, Franklin's 2-17 5/1252 BR-2/1000 FB-1/200
JE-1/32 WA-1/20
- Gull, Bonaparte's 29-29 1/6 BR-(6)29,DV
- Gull, Ring-billed 2-29 14/713 BR-1/12 CH-1/25 GA-4/146 JE-8/530
- Gull, Herring 2-29 5/58 GA-2/30 JE-3/28
- Tern, Gull-billed 23-28 2/2 CH-AW(1)23,GTAS; JE-PI(1)28,JJW
- Tern, Caspian 2-29 8/95 CH-1/1 GA-3/44 JE-4/50
- Tern, Royal 2-29 9/639 BR-1/1 GA-4/182 JE-4/456
- Tern, Sandwich 10-23 4/57 GA-(1)10,JB; GA-(6)16,DLR;
GA-(30)23,HAS; GA-BF(20)23,GTAS
- Tern, Common 10-29 3/8 GA-(6)10,JB; JE-SR(1)29,JW;
JE-SR(1)29,JW
- Tern, Forster's 2-29 7/209 GA-4/125 JE-3/84
- Skimmer, Black 10-23 4/430 GA-4/430
- Dove, Rock 2-28 15/421 GA-3/235 HA-2/15 JE-9/159 WA-1/12
- Dove, White-winged 10-23 2/3 CH-AW(1)23,GTAS; GA-(2)10,JB
- Dove, Mourning 2-29 28/714 BR-1/46 CH-3/45 GA-3/209
HA-2/55 JE-17/279 WA-2/80
- Dove, Inca 9-26 5/10 GA-1/3 JE-2/4 WA-2/3
- Ground-Dove, Comm 9-9 1/4 WA-(4)9,JM



Clearing House

- Ani, Groove-billd 16-17 2/4 CH-AW(1)16,DS; JE-(3)17,KS
 Owl, Barn 2-24 4/4 GA-HI(1)2,DV; JE-SW(1)3,KS;
 JE-SW(1)17,KS; JE-SW(1)24,KES
 Screech-Owl, East 9-9 1/1 HA-WHC(1)9,JM
 Owl, Great Horned 9-9 1/1 GA-HI(1)9,DV
 Owl, Short-eared 23-23 1/1 GA-(1)23,HAS
 Hummer, Buf-belly 25-25 1/1 HA-(1)25,JWR
 Hummer, Ruby-thrt 2-2 2/6 GA-HI(1)2,DV; JE-SW(5)2,JW
 Hummer, Rufous 1-23 3/3 GA-HI(1)23,GTAS; HA-(1)1,PTF;
 JE-SW(1)2,JW
 selasphorous, sp. 2-2 1/1 JE-SW(1)2,JW
 Kingfisher, Beltd 2-29 20/78 CH-2/5 GA-3/18 HA-2/3
 JE-12/51 WA-1/1
 Wdpeckr, Red-bell 10-23 3/3 GA-1/1 JE-2/2
 Sapsuck, Yel-bell 9-29 4/7 JE-2/2 WA-2/5
 Wdpeckr, Lddr-bck 9-9 1/1 WA-(1)9,JM
 Wdpeckr, Downy 2-29 9/19 GA-1/2 JE-6/13 WA-2/4
 Flicker, Northern 9-26 4/7 GA-1/1 HA-2/3 WA-1/3
 Wdpeckr, Pileated 9-26 3/3 HA-2/2 JE-1/1
 Wood-Pewee, East 2-28 5/5 JE-SW(1)2,JW; JE-SW(1)3,KS;
 JE-SW(1)17,KS; JE-SW(1)24,KES;
 JE-SW(1)28,KES
 Phoebe, Eastern 2-29 24/121 BR-2/4 CH-6/25 GA-5/8
 HA-1/20 JE-9/29 WA-1/35
 Flycatch, Vermiln 9-26 3/4 FB-BB(2)17,BR; HA-WHC(1)9,JM;
 WA-(1)26,JM
 Flycatch, Ash-thr 26-26 1/1 WA-(1)26,JM
 Flycatch, Ss-tail 2-26 5/17 BR-BW(6)3,WP; CH-AW(2)2,DV;
 HA-WHC(1)9,JM; HA-WHC(1)26,JM; JE-(7)2,JW
 Lark, Horned 3-29 2/11 BR-BW(1)3,WP; BR-(10)29,DV
 Swallow, Tree 2-29 17/4337 CH-4/3130 JE-13/1207
 Swallow, N R-wing 3-17 2/10 JE-(9)3,JW; JE-TP(1)17,JW
 Swallow, Barn 2-2 1/1 JE-TP(1)2,JW
 Jay, Blue 3-29 14/90 GA-1/2 HA-2/20 JE-9/43 WA-2/25
 Crow, American 9-26 5/141 HA-2/50 JE-1/6 WA-2/85
 Crow, Fish 2-17 5/509 JE-(1)2,JW; JE-TP(95)2,JW;
 JE-TP(400)10,JW; JE-TP(3)17,JW;
 JE-(10)17,KS
 Chickadee, Carol 9-26 4/47 HA-2/14 WA-2/33
 Titmouse, Tufted 9-26 2/6 WA-(3)9,JM; WA-(3)26,JM
 Creeper, Brown 9-9 1/1 JE-SW(1)9,JW
 Wren, Carolina 2-26 6/17 HA-1/3 JE-3/6 WA-2/8
 Wren, Bewick's 9-26 4/7 HA-WHC(1)9,JM; HA-WHC(1)26,JM;
 WA-(4)9,JM; WA-(1)26,JM
 Wren, House 2-29 17/66 BR-2/4 CH-2/3 GA-3/4
 HA-2/22 JE-6/8 WA-2/25
 Wren, Winter 24-24 1/1 JE-SW(1)24,KES
 Wren, Sedge 2-26 8/67 BR-1/16 CH-3/3 GA-1/6
 HA-2/39 JE-1/3
 Wren, Marsh 2-29 9/30 BR-2/8 CH-2/4 HA-1/1 JE-4/17
 Kinglet, Gold-crn 9-9 1/2 CH-AW(2)9,DV
 Kinglet, Ruby-crn 2-28 15/123 BR-1/1 CH-1/4 GA-2/4
 HA-2/32 JE-7/32 WA-2/50
 Gnatcatch, Blu-gra 2-29 20/124 BR-2/3 CH-2/3 GA-3/10
 HA-1/3 JE-10/85 WA-2/20
 Bluebird, Eastern 9-26 3/8 HA-WHC(1)26,JM; WA-(3)9,JM;
 WA-(4)26,JM
 Thrush, Swainsons 3-3 1/2 JE-SW(2)3,KS
 Thrush, Hermit 9-26 6/11 BR-1/1 HA-2/4 JE-1/1 WA-2/5
 Thrush, Wood 28-28 1/1 JE-SW(1)28,KES
 Robin, American 3-28 9/24 CH-1/2 HA-2/5 JE-4/10 WA-2/7
 Catbird, Gray 2-29 17/85 BR-1/1 CH-2/2 GA-3/7
 JE-10/74 WA-1/1
 Mockingbird, N 2-29 24/194 BR-1/4 CH-2/13 GA-4/51
 HA-2/24 JE-14/82 WA-1/20
 Thrasher, Brown 2-29 11/16 GA-3/4 HA-1/2 JE-6/8 WA-1/2
 Pipit, American 10-29 7/39 BR-1/30 CH-1/2 JE-5/7
 Waxwing, Cedar 15-15 1/1 JE-TP(1)15,JW
 Shrike, Loggerhed 2-29 30/284 BR-1/11 CH-3/45 GA-4/44
 HA-2/24 JE-18/135 WA-2/25
 Starling, Euro 2-28 21/3365 BR-1/6 CH-1/33 GA-4/1000
 HA-2/430 JE-11/1351 WA-2/545
 Vireo, White-eyed 2-2 2/3 GA-HI(2)2,DV; JE-SW(1)2,JW
 Vireo, Solitary 9-28 5/6 HA-WHC(1)26,JM; JE-SW(1)24,KES;
 JE-SW(1)28,KES; WA-(2)9,JM; WA-(1)26,JM
 Warb, Tennessee 2-2 1/4 JE-SW(4)2,JW
 Warb, Orange-crn 3-29 12/80 BR-1/3 GA-2/2 HA-2/20
 JE-5/25 WA-2/30
 Warb, Nashville 2-2 1/1 GA-HI(1)2,DV
 Parula, Northern 2-3 2/3 JE-SW(2)2,JW; JE-SW(1)3,KS
 Warb, Magnolia 2-24 5/10 CH-AW(1)2,DV; GA-HI(4)2,DV;
 JE-SW(3)2,JW; JE-SR(1)3,KS; JE-SW(1)24,KES
 Warb, Yellow-rump 2-29 17/194 BR-1/2 CH-3/9 HA-2/40
 JE-9/73 WA-2/70
 Warb, Blk-thr Grm 2-23 6/13 CH-AW(2)2,DV; FB-BB(1)17,BR;
 GA-HI(7)2,DV; GA-(1)23,HAS; JE-SW(1)3,KS;
 WA-(1)9,JM
 Warb, Palm 3-29 6/14 BR-(3)29,DV; JE-SR(2)3,KS;
 JE-SR(6)17,KS; JE-SW(1)24,KES;
 JE-SR(1)24,KES; WA-(1)9,JM
 Warb, Blk-and-wht 17-17 1/1 FB-BB(1)17,BR
 Redstart, Amer 2-29 5/8 BR-(2)23,DV; CH-AW(2)2,DS;
 GA-HI(2)2,DV; JE-SW(1)2,JW; JE-SW(1)29,JW
 Yellowthroat, Com 2-29 15/27 BR-2/2 CH-3/12 GA-2/2
 HA-1/1 JE-7/10



Clearing House

Warb. Hooded 24-24 1/1 JE-SW(1)24,KES
 Warb. Wilson's 3-24 3/3 FB-BB(1)17,BR; JE-SW(1)3,KS;
 JE-SW(1)24,KES
 Tanager, Summer 2-2 1/2 JE-SW(2)2,JW
 Cardinal, Northern 3-29 17/135 BR-2/4 HA-2/32 JE-11/34 WA-2/65
 Grosbeak, Ros-brs 2-28 2/4 JE-SW(3)2,JW; JE-SW(1)28,KES
 Grosbeak, Blk-hed 27-27 1/1 JE-SW(1)27,JW
 Bunting, Indigo 2-28 10/57 BR-1/2 GA-1/6 JE-8/49
 Dickcissel 29-29 1/1 BR-(1)29,DV
 Sparrow, Chipping 3-9 5/26 GA-HI(1)9,DV; HA-WHC(15)9,JM;
 JE-SR(6)3,KS; JE-SR(3)9,JW; WA-(1)9,JM
 Sparrow, Field 9-26 4/18 HA-WHC(5)9,JM; HA-WHC(5)26,JM;
 WA-(4)9,JM; WA-(4)26,JM
 Sparrow, Vesper 26-26 1/14 WA-(1)26,JM
 Sparrow, Savannah 2-29 18/637 BR-3/45 CH-4/136 GA-2/50
 HA-2/225 JE-5/121 WA-2/60
 Sparrow, Grasshop 9-9 1/1 CH-SP(1)9,DV
 Sparrow, Le Conte 3-26 6/32 BR-BW(2)3,WP; CH-SP(2)9,DV;
 CH-AW(1)16,DS; CH-AW(1)23,GTAS;
 HA-WHC(11)9,JM; HA-WHC(15)26,JM
 Sparrow, Fox 26-26 1/1 WA-(1)26,JM
 Sparrow, Song 9-29 8/25 BR-(1)29,DV; CH-SP(5)9,DV;
 HA-WHC(2)9,JM; HA-WHC(8)26,JM;
 JE-SW(1)17,KS; JE-SW(1)24,KES;
 WA-(1)9,JM; WA-(6)26,JM
 Sparrow, Lincoln's 3-26 9/72 BR-1/3 CH-1/1 HA-2/39
 JE-3/3 WA-2/26
 Sparrow, Swamp 2-29 19/126 BR-3/18 CH-2/3 FB-1/10
 HA-2/65 JE-10/29 WA-1/1
 Sparrow, Wht-thrt 2-28 13/95 BR-1/5 CH-2/6 FB-1/5
 GA-2/5 HA-1/15 JE-4/16 WA-2/43
 Sparrow, Wht-crn 3-28 7/23 HA-2/10 JE-3/4 WA-2/9
 Sparrow, Harris' 26-26 2/2 HA-WHC(1)26,JM; WA-(1)26,JM
 Junco, Dark-eyed 23-28 2/2 BR-SB(1)23,DV; JE-SW(1)28,KES
 Blackbird, Red-wg 2-29 23/704619 BR-1/281 CH-1/150 GA-2/102
 HA-2/700 JE-16/703186 WA-1/200
 Meadowlark, East 2-29 22/336 BR-2/27 CH-2/13 GA-4/81
 HA-3/100 JE-9/20 WA-2/95
 Grackle, Gr-tail 2-29 21/1994 BR-1/42 CH-2/700
 GA-4/635 HA-2/90 JE-12/527
 Grackle, Bl-tail 2-28 4/77 GA-1/1 JE-3/76
 Grackle, Common 2-26 10/973 HA-1/500 JE-7/208 WA-2/265
 Cowbird, Brn-head 2-26 10/6279 U-1/2000 GA-3/54
 HA-1/1000 JE-4/225 WA-1/3000
 Oriole, Northern 28-28 1/1 JE-SW(1)28,KES
 Siskin, Pine 26-26 1/1 HA-WHC(1)26,JM
 Goldfinch, Amer 3-28 8/59 FB-1/2 HA-2/17 JE-4/25 WA-1/15
 Finch, House 26-26 1/1 WA-(1)26,JM
 Sparrow, House 9-26 6/83 GA-3/37 HA-2/45 JE-1/1

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS: 817,283. The following eight species were reported did not have notes for them: Whip-poor-will, Buff-bellied Hummingbird, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, empidonax sp.,

Great-crested Flycatcher, Swainon's Thrush, Yellow-breasted Chat, Blue Grosbeak, Bronzed Cowbird.

LIST OF OBSERVER CODES: Bob Behrstock, Will & Jan Risser (BR); Don & Lee Richardson (DLR); David Sarkozi (DS); Don Verser (DV); Golden Triangle Audubon Society Field Trip/John Whittle (GTAS); Houston Audubon Society Field Trip/Don & Lee Richardson (HAS); John Buckman (JB); John & Jana Whittle (JJW); Jim Morgan (JM); John Whittle (JW); Jan & Will Risser (JWR); Ken & Eric Sztraky (KES); Ken Sztraky (KS); Phyllis & Tony Frank (PTF); Warren Pruess, Tom Taroni (WP).

LIST OF LOCATION CODES: Anahuac NWR (AW); Brazos Bend St. Park (BB); Bolivar Flats (BF); Brazoria NWR (BW); High Island (HI); Pleasure Island (PI); San Bernard NRW (SB); Smith Point (SP); Sea Rim St. Park (SR); Sabine Woods (SW); Tyrrell Park (TP); West Harris County (WHC); Yacht Basin Road (YBR)

LIST OF COUNTY CODES: Brazoria (BR); Chambers (CH); Fort Bend (FB); Galveston (GA); Harris (HA); Jefferson (JE); Upper Texas Coast (U); Waller (WA)

Least Grebe - W. Pruess November 3, 1996. Rogers Pond at Brazoria NWR. 2/3 size of nearby Green-winged Teal. Dark crown giving a crested appearance. Dark, narrow band over entire crown from in front of eye, extending down back of the neck. Contrasting with lighter face, neck. Yellow-orange eye. Dark narrow band of plumage down nape merging with dark back. White rump. Folded wing shows narrow white near edge towards end of wing.

Least Grebe - J. Whittle November 3, 1996. Cattail Marsh at Tyrrell Park. Small grebe, smaller than Pied-billed in vicinity, with a thin, sharp bill. Distinguished from Pied-billed by smaller size, grayer appearance, larger "half-moon" of white showing at rear; thinner bill; yellow-orange eye.

Clearing House

Also seen October 19, 20, 1996 and two birds on October 31, 1996 by John Hayes (fide J. Whittle).

Wood Stork - J. Whittle November 3, 1996. Cattail Marsh at Tyrrell Park. Large ibis like bird. White with black primaries and secondaries. Bare, black head. Tail was black. Bill was long and curved.

Black Rail - D. Sarkozi November 16, 1996. Short, wet *Spartina* grass at Anahuac NWR. Bird flushed while dragging a weighted rope. Larger and darker than any sparrow seen that day with more head and neck extension than any sparrows. No white at all in wings. Wings appeared longer than sparrows. Head and wings gave bird a cross-like appearance. Flew low and only flushed about 25 feet. One of the other observers noted a rusty color on the bird when it first flushed. Observed 4 Yellow Rails the same day.

Solitary Sandpiper - J. Whittle November 15, 1996. Cattail Marsh at Tyrrell Park. The bird was significantly smaller than accompanying dowitchers. Had shorter, somewhat sharper bill. White underneath. Dark brown on top. Prominent white eye ring. When the bird flew, it had a black line lengthwise down the rump and central tail, with very distinct dark barring across the tail and

the base of the rump. No wing stripe.

Stilt Sandpiper - J. Whittle November 3, 1996. Cattail Marsh at Tyrrell Park. Birds were significantly smaller than the accompanying dowitchers. Had shorter, somewhat sharper bills; whiter underneath, grayer on top; white superciliary line; legs somewhat yellower than dowitchers. Legs relatively much longer than dowitchers. Less chunky than dowitchers.

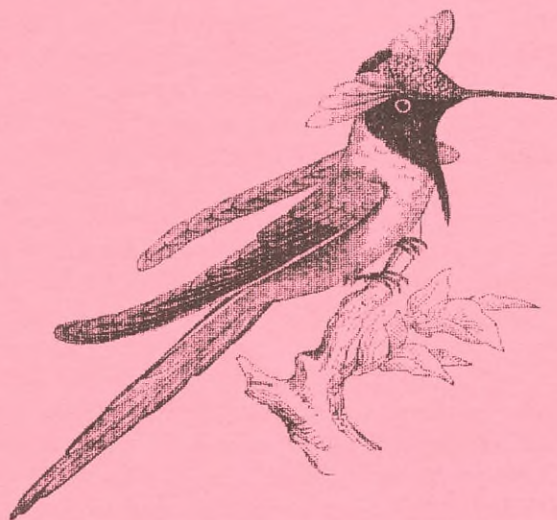
Stilt Sandpiper - D. Verser November 29, 1996. Spoil pond at Quintana. Approximately 50 % larger than Western Sandpiper. Long, olive legs. Bill longer than head with only a slight droop at end. Grayish breast but otherwise white underparts. Mantle uniformly gray without pale edging. Pale supercilium. White rump and no wing strip in flight. Picking from top of water and probing into mud. Also reported November 11, 15 and 17, 1996.

Buff-bellied Hummingbird - J. & W. Risser November 25, 1996. Large hummingbird. Red bill with dark tip. Green gorget and upper back, pale buff abdomen and undertail coverts. Notched cinnamon tail.

Northern Parula - J. Whittle November 2, 1996. Sabine Woods. Warbler with blue-gray wings; greenish patch on back, white eye ring, yellow with reddish brown bar on male. Two white wing bars.

Magnolia Warbler - K. Strzaky November 24, 1996. A small active warbler with a white eyebrow and yellow rump. Faint dark streaking observed on its yellow breast and sides. Bird had 2 white wing bars and white tail patches were also seen.

American Redstart - D. Sarkozi November 2, 1996
One female or first year bird. In hackberry trees along East Bay at Anahuac NWR. Bird was moving around top of the tree, continually fanning tail showing bright yellow patches on tail. A bird of similar description was report at Sabine Woods by J. Whittle on this date.



Clearing House

American Redstart - J. Whittle November 29, 1996. Gray head. Brown above, white below. Large yellow patches on wings and tail with a spot of yellow below shoulder slightly reddish in part.

Hooded Warbler - K. Stzraky November 24, 1996. A small ground active warbler with black hooding on a yellow body. The back was olive-green. Hooding covered crown, neck and throat of bird.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak - K. Stzraky November 28, 1996. One photo submitted. Large billed bird with a faint buffy wash on upper breast. Two white wing bars. White eyebrow to nape with a white throat. Breast and side streaking were not heavy. Red wing linings in flight and when leaned to feed.

Dickcissel - D. Verser November 29, 1996. Good view in salt cedar in Quintana. About the size

of a Song Sparrow. Large gray thick bill. Light brown upperparts with black streaks on crown and upper back. Distinctive face markings. Yellow in front and above eye and white crescent below eye. Yellow submoustacial stripe. White chin outlined with thin black line. Burnt orange breast. Pale edges to primaries.

J. Whittle also submitted notes for Glossy Ibis and Whimbrel. In addition, a report of Rough-legged Hawk was submitted.

***Next meeting is at the
Baylands
Community
Center
6400 Bissonett***

**Houston Outdoor Nature Club
Ornithology Group
P.O. Box 270894
Houston, TX 77277-0894**

SOLICITED MAIL

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Houston, Texas
Permit No. 1063

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

Printed on 100% recycled paper