

Volume 44, No. 6 & 7  
June/July 1995



# The Spoonbill

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## Chairman's Message

BY BOB LUCKNER

Hello and welcome to another year of activities of the Ornithology Group (OG) of the Outdoor Nature Club. Your leadership team looks forward to working with you to make this an outstanding year of programs, field trips and friendships.

Bob Luckner-Chairperson  
Dan Coleman-Vice-Chairperson  
Bob Ohmart-Treasurer  
Kate Fine-Secretary

As always, key factors to the success of the OG are hardworking volunteers and the active participation of the club members--traditions that are well established. A full list of the volunteers is included elsewhere in *The Spoonbill*. Steve Bennett (261-0334) has again volunteered to be the program coordinator and has some great speakers lined up with leads on several others. This year we will sponsor joint/special meetings with Houston Audubon Society to leverage our resources and memberships. Two relatively new members have volunteered to coordinate field trips: Bill Eley for weekend trips (662-0034) and Tom Lewis for weekday trips (497-2550). David Veselka (692-1384) will coordinate youth trips. We are also planning longer field trips such as the trip to Trinidad and Tobago that Maggie and Bob Honig organized last May.

Our program and field trip coordinators are very interested in your ideas. Please let them know who and what you want to hear and where you want to go. Our club's activities will be enhanced by your active participation.

Your leadership team and volunteer coordinators are ready to make this a great year of birding and learning for you. Since some of us may be new to you, please stop by at a meeting and say, "Hi." Good birding!

# Calendar

## Membership Meeting

### "A Beginning Tropical Birder's Impressions of Central America"

Mike Austin

**Date:** Monday, August 7

**Location:** Harris County Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, just west of Hillcroft.

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

Pre-meeting Learning Corner at 6:30 p.m.: Dave Bradford will instruct the beginning birder on the use of field guides and optics and what to do in the field: where to go and how to do it!

Mike Austin is a medical doctor in solo practice in Friendswood. Born in Canada, he has been birding since the age of eight. A regular contributor to local birding newsletters, Mike has also authored articles published in *Bird Watcher's Digest* and *Birding*. Mike will recount his impressions of birds and other wildlife observed on a recent trip to Costa Rica. He will be using his slides and slides borrowed from Steve Gast and Mary Ann Danielson, who accompanied him on this trip.

## Have you moved?

If you're not receiving your *Spoonbill* or you have moved or, (horrors!) you have not paid your dues, write or call:

Mary Dodson, ONC Membership  
9618 Longmont  
Houston, TX 77063  
(713) 974-3089

## AUGUST

Saturday, August 26: **OG Field Trip to Bolivar Flats.** 7:30 a.m. Meet leader, Richard Uzar, in the ferry parking lot on Bolivar Peninsula for a half-day trip birding for early migrant shorebirds. Richard plans on birding all day. You are invited to join him for the half-day field trip or for the entire day. Come prepared with food, water and insect repellent! *Richard Uzar, 527-0454.*

## SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 11: **OG Membership Meeting.** 7 p.m. Harris County Bayland Community Center. Please note this meeting is on September 11, not the first Monday in September. Nancy Newfield will discuss southeastern hummingbirds. Learning Corner at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 16: **Beach Clean-Up.** Another great trash-off day at Bolivar Flats sponsored by the Texas General Land Office and Houston Audubon Society! Arrive at 7:30 a.m. for birding, then help clean the Flats from nine until noon. Leader to be announced.

Wednesday, September 20: **OG Weekday Field Trip to Candy Abshier WMA.** At the height of fall hawk migration, Winnie Burkett will conduct a hawkwatching clinic from 8 a.m. to noon. At noon, we'll break for lunch and regroup at Boy Scout Woods in High Island for an afternoon with fall warblers. *Tom Lewis, 497-2550.*

Thursday, September 28: **Special Joint HAS/OG Program.**

7 p.m. Houston Museum of Natural Science. Peter Ginn, a well-known lecturer throughout southern Africa and a writer and photographer is the guest speaker. The museum is providing the meeting room free of charge and granting free admission to the display of Edward Lear parrot lithographs. Details later.

Saturday, September 30: **OG Field Trip to Sabine Woods.** This will be a full day at Sabine Woods and surrounding area. Details in the next issue of *The Spoonbill*.

**Texas Deepwater Pelagic Trips:** From Port O'Connor. August 19 and September 30. For more information or to sign up, contact Dwight Peake at (409) 740-4621.

## Your Help is Needed!

The OG needs a Learning Corner coordinator to schedule presenters October through May. If you can help out, call Bob Luckner at 328-6236.

## Texas Hummingbird Roundup

The Texas Hummingbird Roundup, conducted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Nongame and Urban Program, is designed to collect information from Texans on their backyard observations. In 1994, observers in Harris County reported Ruby-throated (955), Black-chinned (12), Buff-bellied (8), Rufous (61) and Broad-tailed (1) Hummingbirds. By contrast in Hays County, southwest of Austin, observers reported all of the above listed species as well as one Calliope and one Green Violet-ear Hummingbird.

Because of the Hummingbird Network, Bosque County garnered a new record: a Broad-billed Hummingbird.

You can sign up by mailing your name, address and county (and an optional \$6 donation) to: Texas Hummingbird Roundup, Nongame and Urban Program, TPWD, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744. The participation packet includes a garden see packet, decal, survey form and newsletter with survey results. The voluntary donation will help cover costs of running the survey.

## Upcoming Birding Festivals

7th Annual HUMMER/BIRD Celebration, Rockport-Fulton, Texas, September 7-10, 1995. Call 1 (800) 242-0071 for information.

2nd Annual Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival, Harlingen, Texas, November 8-12, 1995. Call (210) 423-5440 or fax (210) 425-3870 for details.

## Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge Hours

The refuge is open to the public the first full weekend each month.

The gate *may* be open occasionally on weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., when refuge crews are working there. Check with the refuge office (409) 849-6062 before you go.

The refuge is located ten miles northeast of Freeport off CR-227.

## Calling all OG Library Books!

If you *still* have an OG library book or tape please call David Bradford at 855-2615 to arrange for its return. This will help with our summer inventory.

## Hawk Watch 1995

This year's Hawk Watch dates are Sept. 9-Oct. 15. Candy Abshier WMA, 8 a.m.-Noon. To volunteer call Winnie Burkett at 992-5640. More details next month!

## 1995 OG Picnic and Election of Officers

On June 3, a small group of OG birders met in the early morning hours to bird Brazos Bend State Park. Some highlights of our walk: Prothonotary Warblers, one Anhinga with wings spread, a young Red-shouldered Hawk and the biggest bullfrog you could ever imagine.

We were glad to break off and join more OG members in the shade for lunch. We enjoyed great food, even better company, begging Tufted Titmouse and Dave and Dodie Bradford's new baby, Travis. Joining Travis was his brother, Tyler. Tony and Phyllis Frank brought their daughter, Danielle, who proved she can hold her ground against all comers. And Dan Coleman brought his children, Tyler and Eliza.

During a brief business meeting the following slate of officers, as nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the membership at the May meeting, were elected by acclamation: Bob Luckner, Chair-Person; Dan Coleman, Vice Chair-Person; Bob Ohmart, Treasurer; and Kate Fine, Secretary.

See you at the August 7 meeting!  
*Kate Fine, Secretary*

## 1995-1996 "Youth" Field Trips

- Oct. 28- Brazos Bend State Park
- Dec. 2- Galveston Island State Park
- Feb. 3- West Harris County
- Mar. 2- Brazoria Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge
- Apr. 20- Boy Scout Woods High Island

The field trip program for young birders, planned by David Veselka, affords the opportunity for youth, ages 10 and older, to bird with their peers. Drivers are needed and if you want to help out, call David at 692-1384. Birders younger than ten must be accompanied by a parent.

## Bird Belize!

Oct. 27-Nov. 3, 1995  
\$1,150 per person

Three nights at the Lamanai Outpost Lodge in the rainforest. Tour the Lamanai Mayan ruins and the New River Lagoon. Possible birds include Keel-billed Toucan, Collared Forest-Falcon, Gray-necked Wood-Rail, Jabaru, and Snail Kite. The Lamanai Outpost Lodge has a bird list of over 300 species in less than three years. Then: three nights on Caye Caulker, a small island of mangroves and coconut palms-one of the last breeding places of the endangered Black Catbird. Optional trip to Half Moon Kay Red-footed Booby colony. Price includes all travel, lodging and all meals at Lamanai. David Sarkozi, 520-5906.

## A Second Trip to Trinidad!

Following the success of this year's OG trip to Trinidad, the Houston Audubon Society is organizing a return trip for June 29–July 10, 1996. Trip coordinators again are Bob and Maggie Honig. You don't have to be an OG or Audubon member to go!

Trinidad lies barely 10 miles from the great Orinoco delta of Venezuela, and thus shares with its mainland neighbor a rich and varied fauna: species lists contain 366 regularly occurring birds, 55 reptiles, 25 amphibians, and 617 butterflies. Birds breed virtually year round.

We will spend eight nights at the Asa Wright Nature Centre, a 200-acre sanctuary in Trinidad's rainforest northern range. Several days at the Centre will allow us to get very familiar with the rain forest habitat at a relaxed pace. A first-time visitor might see 20-30 life birds before breakfast from what some people call "the best porch in New World."

The food at the Centre is excellent, with almost all of the fruits and vegetables (including the coffee) grown on the property. We will plan several day trips to diverse habitats such as the Caroni Swamp for the spectacular evening flight of Scarlet Ibis returning to their mangrove roosts. Additional day trips are easily arranged for those who wish to visit other sites.

On Tobago for three nights, our beachfront lodging will be the Blue Waters Inn. We will visit several habitats, including a boat ride to Little Tobago Island for seabirds and the lush Tobago Rain Forest Preserve. There will be daily opportunities for snorkeling – the reefs are fabulous!

Cost of the trip will be approximately \$2000. This fee will include airfare from Houston, accommodations (double), meals, afternoon tea and rum punch each evening at Asa Wright Nature Centre, airport transfers, field trips and tips. It is imperative that you reserve your place right away. GROUP SIZE WILL BE LIMITED TO 20, plus the trip coordinators. Call Maggie or Bob at 665-6963.

## Special Thanks for 1994-95

by Bob Luckner

I would be remiss if I didn't extend the thanks of the OG as well as my personal thanks to last year's officers and volunteers: David Bradford-Chairperson; Gail Yovanovich-Vice-Chairperson; Mike Gremillion-Treasurer; Maggie Honig-Secretary; Judy Boyce- Newsletter Editor; Phyllis and Tony Frank-Clearing House Editors; Steve Bennett-Programs; Dwight Peake-Field Trips; Winnie Burkett-Weekday Field Trips and Hawk Watch Coordinator; David Veselka-Youth Field Trips; Maggie and Bob Honig-Trinidad/Tobago trip; and all the field trip leaders!

And Karen Beekman-Learning Corner; Richard Uzar and P.D. Hulce-Houston Christmas Bird Count; Pat Wight-Mailing Labels; Gregg Mueller and Liz Zivley-Mailing Committee; M.A. Correll-Library; Mary Pat Haddican-Membership; Bob Schwartz-Aluminum Recycling; P.D. Hulce-Birding Maps; David Dauphin and Ed Rosenberg-Checklist Committee. Thanks again for a great year. You are a tough act to follow!

## The Spoonbill

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TEXAS RARE BIRD ALERT TAPE:  
Houston Audubon Society  
992-2757

# Clearing House MAY 1995

EDITORS: PHYLLIS AND TONY FRANK

A total of 195 species were reported for the month, including 31 species of shorebirds and 20 species of warblers. Another location for Cave Swallows was reported.

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 all those good birds. And with all the reminders completed - on to the birds.

<u>Loon, Common</u>	20-20	1/1	GA-(1)20,VA
Grebe, Pied-bill	6-28	4/46	BR-1/34 CH-1/4 GA-1/4 JE-1/4
Grebe, Eared	6-6	1/1	GA-HI(1)6,JW
Pelican, Amer Wht	6-14	2/71	GA-(21)6,JW; JE-(50)14,JW
Pelican, Brown	6-14	2/75	GA-(70)6,JW; JE-(5)14,JW
Corm, Dbl-crested	14-14	1/16	BR-(16)14,BB
Corm, Neotropic	2-28	8/287	BR-1/20 GA-1/70 JE-6/197
Anhinga	6-28	5/8	BR-1/2 JE-4/6
Bittern, American	11-11	1/1	JE-(1)11,JW
Bittern, Least	11-28	4/25	BR-1/19 JE-3/6
Heron, Great Blue	2-14	7/38	U-1/6 BR-1/7 CH-1/1 GA-1/20 JE-3/4
Egret, Great	2-28	11/457	U-1/35 BR-2/190 CH-1/4 GA-1/100 JE-6/128
Egret, Snowy	2-27	9/306	BR-2/150 CH-1/2 GA-1/11 JE-5/143
Heron, Little Blu	5-14	6/162	BR-1/77 CH-1/12 JE-4/73
Heron, Tricolored	2-28	9/227	BR-1/135 CH-1/2 GA-2/2 JE-5/88
Egret, Reddish	6-14	3/29	BR-1/17 GA-1/10 JE-1/2
Egret, Cattle	2-28	11/1207	BR-2/518 CH-1/29 GA-1/52 JE-7/608
Heron, Green	2-28	7/70	BR-1/43 CH-1/6 JE-5/21
Nt-Heron, Blk-crn	2-28	6/95	BR-1/5 JE-5/90
Nt-Heron, Yel-crn	5-28	5/36	JE-5/36
Ibis, White	5-28	10/1088	BR-1/288 CH-1/200 GA-2/30 JE-6/570
Ibis, White-faced	2-14	8/192	BR-1/82 CH-1/12 GA-2/21 JE-4/77
Spoonbill, Roseat	2-28	8/263	BR-1/95 GA-1/50 JE-6/118
Whsl-Duck, Fulvs	6-28	5/55	BR-1/23 GA-1/2 JE-3/30
Whsl-Duck, Blk-bd	14-14	2/86	BR-(83)14,BB; JE-(3)14,JW
Duck, Wood	14-14	1/2	BR-(2)14,BB
Duck, Mottled	2-28	10/213	BR-1/120 CH-1/24 GA-1/20 JE-7/49
Mallard	6-6	1/2	JE-(2)6,JW
Teal, Blue-winged	5-14	4/116	BR-1/90 CH-1/4 GA-1/19 JE-1/3
Shoveler, Northrn	14-14	1/16	BR-(16)14,BB
Gadwall	14-14	2/3	BR-(2)14,BB; JE-(1)14,JW

<u>Redhead</u>	14-14	1/8	BR-(8)14,BB
Scaup, Lesser	6-14	3/70	BR-1/40 GA-1/15 JE-1/15
Duck, Ruddy	14-14	2/46	BR-(40)14,BB; JE-(6)14,JW
Vulture, Black	6-27	5/33	BR-2/28 CH-1/2 JE-2/3
Vulture, Turkey	5-27	6/36	BR-2/22 CH-1/1 JE-3/13
Osprey	2-2	1/1	JE-SW(1)2,JW
Kite, White-taild	2-14	6/9	BR-1/3 CH-1/1 GA-1/2 JE-3/3
Kite, Mississippi	14-14	1/5	BR-(5)14,BB
Hawk, Sharp-shin	14-14	1/1	JE-(1)14,JW
Hawk, Cooper's	14-27	2/2	BR-(1)14,BB; BR-(1)27,WPP
Hawk, Red-shouldr	14-27	3/13	BR-2/12 JE-1/1
Hawk, Broad-wingd	2-31	4/5	JE-SW(1)2,JW; JE-(1)5,JW; JE-(1)28,JW; JE-(2)31,JW
Hawk, Swainson's	6-14	3/6	BR-1/3 CH-1/2 JE-1/1
Hawk, Red-tailed	5-27	4/10	BR-2/7 JE-2/3
Caracara, Crested	14-14	1/2	BR-(2)14,BB
<u>Falcon, Peregrine</u>	14-14	1/2	BR-(2)14,BB
Bobwhite, Northrn	2-14	4/27	BR-1/21 CH-1/1 JE-2/5
Rail, Clapper	6-14	4/20	BR-1/12 GA-1/6 JE-2/2
Rail, King	8-14	3/4	BR-1/2 CH-1/1 JE-1/1
Sora	14-14	1/1	BR-(1)14,BB
Gallinule, Purple	6-28	4/53	BR-1/19 CH-1/31 JE-2/3
Moorhen, Common	5-28	7/161	BR-1/89 CH-1/46 GA-1/16 JE-4/10
Coot, American	6-14	3/260	BR-1/157 CH-1/88 GA-1/15
Plover, Blk-belli	6-14	5/329	BR-1/45 CH-1/30 GA-1/150 JE-2/104
Plover, Wilson's	14-14	1/1	JE-(1)14,JW
Plover, Semipalm	6-6	1/250	GA-BF(250)6,JW
Plover, Piping	6-14	2/27	GA-BF(25)6,JW; JE-(2)14,JW
Killdeer	2-14	8/220	BR-1/123 CH-1/2 GA-1/3 JE-5/92
Oystercatcher, Am	6-14	2/5	BR-(4)14,BB; GA-(1)6,JW
Stilt, Black-neck	6-14	6/263	BR-1/213 CH-1/11 GA-1/10 JE-3/29
Avocet, American	6-14	2/268	BR-(68)14,BB; GA-BF(200)6,JW
Yellowlegs, Great	5-14	2/32	JE-(1)5,JW; JE-(3)14,JW
Yellowlegs Less	5-14	5/62	BR-1/48 CH-1/1 GA-1/1 JE-2/12
Willet	2-14	6/200	BR-1/124 GA-1/34 JE-4/42
Sandppr, Spotted	2-14	6/84	BR-1/1 GA-1/1 JE-4/82
Whimbrel	5-14	4/55	BR-1/3 CH-1/20 JE-2/32
Curlew, Long-bill	6-14	3/3	BR-1/1 GA-2/2
Godwit, Hudsonian	5-14	3/56	CH-(14)6,JW; JE-(20)5,JW; JE-(22)14,JW
Godwit, Marbled	6-14	2/26	BR-(1)14,BB; GA-(25)6,JW
Turnstone, Ruddy	6-14	5/269	BR-1/67 CH-1/25 GA-1/21 JE-2/156
Knot, Red	14-14	1/1	JE-SR(1)14,JW
Sanderling	6-14	4/1700	BR-1/60 GA-1/1000 JE-2/640
Sandppr, Semipalm	6-14	2/28	GA-(20)6,JW; JE-(8)14,JW
Sandppr, Western	6-14	3/142	BR-1/68 GA-1/50 JE-1/24
Sandppr, Least	2-14	4/24	BR-1/1 GA-1/10 JE-2/13
Sandppr, Wht-rump	6-14	4/223	BR-1/23 CH-1/100 GA-1/20 JE1/80
Sandppr, Baird's	14-14	1/2	BR-(2)14,BB
Sandppr, Pectoral	6-14	3/81	BR-1/4 CH-1/26 JE-1/51
Dunlin	6-14	3/1040	BR-1/15 CH-1/25 GA-1/1000
Sandppr, Stilt	14-14	2/11	BR-(5)14,BB; JE-(6)14,JW
Sandppr, Buf-brst	6-14	2/5	BR-(1)14,BB; CH-(4)6,JW
Dowitcher, S-bill	6-14	2/52	BR-(2)14,BB; GA-BF(50)6,JW
Dowitcher, L-bill	6-14	3/252	BR-1/47 CH-1/200 JE-1/5
Phalarope, Wilson	14-14	1/218	BR-(218)14,BB
Gull, Laughing	6-27	6/1724	BR-2/927 GA-1/250 JE-3/547
Gull, Franklin's	6-6	1/25	CH-(25)6,JW
Gull, Ring-billed	6-14	5/52	BR-1/21 GA-1/25 JE-3/6
Gull, Herring	6-14	3/13	GA-1/10 JE-2/3
Tern, Gull-billed	2-14	4/33	BR-1/24 CH-1/5 JE-2/4
Tern, Caspian	2-14	6/136	BR-1/20 GA-1/10 JE-4/106
Tern, Royal	2-14	5/206	BR-1/25 GA-1/125 JE-3/56
Tern, Sandwich	6-6	1/10	GA-BF(10)6,JW
Tern, Common	6-14	2/6	GA-BF(2)6,JW; JE-(4)14,JW

Tern, Forster's	6-14	5/208	BR-1/113	CH-1/11	GA-1/50	JE-2/34
Tern, Least	2-28	6/229	BR-1/71	GA-1/25	JE-4/133	
Tern, Black	6-14	3/98	BR-1/34	GA-1/28	JE-1/36	
Skimmer, Black	14-28	3/99	BR-1/96	JE-2/3		
Dove, Rock	5-28	7/63	U-1/12	BR-1/22	JE-5/29	
Dove, Mourning	2-28	11/479	U-1/40	BR-2/209	CH-1/9	GA-1/4 JE-6/217
Dove, Inca	6-28	6/15	BR-1/7	GA-2/4	JE-3/4	
Cuckoo, Yel-billd	2-27	8/92	BR-2/21	GA-1/2	JE-5/69	
Owl, Barn	6-8	3/3	GA-1/1	JE-2/2		
Owl, Great Horned	14-14	1/2	BR-(2)14	BB		
Owl, Barred	14-27	2/6	BR-(5)14	BB; BR-(1)27	WPP	
Nighthawk, Common	2-27	8/77	BR-2/48	GA-1/1	JE-5/28	
Swift, Chimney	2-28	9/73	BR-1/8	GA-1/5	JE-7/60	
Hummer, Ruby-thrt	2-14	7/75	BR-1/12	GA-2/11	JE-4/52	
Kingfisher, Beltd	14-14	1/1	BR-(1)14	BB		
Wdpeckr, Red-head	14-14	1/1	JE-(1)14	JW		
Wdpeckr, Red-bell	14-27	2/26	BR-(22)14	BB; BR-(4)27	WPP	
Wdpeckr, Downy	6-27	5/13	BR-2/5	GA-1/1	JE-2/7	
Wdpeckr, Pileated	14-27	2/5	BR-(2)14	BB; BR-(3)27	WPP	
Wood-Pewee, East	2-14	6/127	BR-1/3	GA-1/12	JE-4/112	
Flycatch, Yel-bel	2-11	3/12	JE-SW(1)2	JW; JE-(9)8	M;	JE-SW(2)11, JW
Flycatch, Acadian	2-8	3/23	GA-(1)8	M; JE-(13)2	JW;	JE-(9)8, M
Flycatch, "Trail"	2-2	1/2	JE-SW(2)2	JW		
Flycatch, Least	2-14	2/14	JE-(13)2	JW; JE-SW(1)14	JW	
Flycatch, Gr Crst	14-27	2/6	BR-(4)14	BB; BR-(2)27	WPP	
Kingbird, Western	14-14	1/1	JE-(1)14	JW		
Kingbird, Eastern	2-14	8/524	BR-1/105	CH-1/41	JE-6/378	
Flycatch, Ss-tail	2-27	9/112	BR-2/36	CH-1/6	JE-6/70	
Lark, Horned	6-14	2/3	BR-(1)14	BB; GA-BF(2)6	JW	
Martin, Purple	2-28	11/149	BR-2/41	CH-1/11	GA-2/18	JE-6/79
Swallow, Tree	5-14	3/30	JE-3/30			
Swallow, Cliff	14-27	3/149	BR-2/129	JE-1/20		
Swallow, Cave	14-27	3/26	BR-(20)14	BO; BR-(2)27	WPP;	JE-SR(4)14, JW
Swallow, Barn	5-28	9/184	BR-2/114	CH-1/12	GA-1/3	JE-5/55
Jay, Blue	2-28	10/53	BR-2/17	CH-1/1	GA-1/6	JE-6/29
Crow, American	5-27	5/48	BR-1/25	CH-2/10	JE-2/13	
Crow, Fish	11-28	3/12	JE-3/12			
Chickadee, Carol	2-27	6/85	BR-2/79	JE-4/6		
Titmouse, Tufted	14-27	2/39	BR-(21)14	BB; BR-(18)27	WPP	
Wren, Carolina	8-27	4/32	BR-2/30	GA-1/1	JE-1/1	
Wren, Marsh	14-14	2/21	BR-(5)14	BB; JE-(16)14	JW	
Bluebird, Eastern	6-27	3/7	BR-2/6	JE-1/1		
Veery	2-11	4/8	GA-(2)8	M; JE-SW(4)2	JW;	JE-(1)8, M; JE-SW(1)11, JW
Thrush, Gra-cheek	2-2	1/2	JE-SW(2)2	JW		
Thrush, Swainsons	2-14	5/30	GA-(8)8	M; JE-SW(10)2	JW;	JE-(9)8, M; JE-SW(2)11, JW; JE-(1)14, JW
Thrush, Wood	2-2	1/10	JE-SW(10)2	JW		
Robin, American	1-28	7/16	GA-1/1	HA-1/2	JE-5/13	
Catbird, Gray	2-14	5/114	BR-1/2	JE-4/112		
Mockingbird, N	2-27	11/379	BR-2/67	CH-1/14	GA-2/13	JE-6/285
Thrasher, Brown	2-8	2/4	JE-SW(2)2	JW; JE-(2)8	M	
Waxwing, Cedar	8-14	3/90	JE-3/90			
Shrike, Loggerhed	2-28	12/254	BR-2/25	CH-1/28	GA-2/12	JE-7/189
Starling, Euro	2-28	10/349	BR-2/203	CH-1/3	GA-1/10	JE-6/133
Vireo, White-eyed	2-27	4/34	BR-2/27	JE-2/7		
Vireo, Yell-thrtd	2-8	2/2	GA-(1)8	M; JE-SW(1)2	JW	
Vireo, Philadelph	2-8	2/3	GA-(1)8	M; JE-SW(2)2	JW	
Vireo, Red-eyed	2-14	5/32	BR-1/1	GA-1/1	JE-3/30	
Warb, Blue-winged	2-8	2/6	JE-SW(5)2	JW; JE-(1)8	M	
Warb, Gold-winged	2-8	2/2	GA-(1)8	M; JE-SW(1)2	JW	
Warb, Tennessee	2-8	3/54	GA-(27)8	M; JE-(7)2	JW;	JE-(20)8, M
Parula, Northern	8-8	1/1	GA-(1)8	M		
Warb, Yellow	2-11	4/20	GA-(2)8	M; JE-(1)2	JW;	JE-(10)8, M; JE-(7)11, JW
Warb, Chstnt-side	2-8	3/49	GA-(16)8	M; JE-SW(15)2	JW;	JE-(18)8, M
Warb, Magnolia	2-14	5/80	BR-(1)14	BB; GA-(22)8	M;	JE-(27)2, JW; JE-(29)8, M; JE-SW(1)11, JW
Warb, Blk-thr Grn	2-8	3/20	GA-(8)8	M; JE-(4)2	JW;	JE-(8)8, M
Warb, Blackburn	2-11	4/33	GA-(12)8	M; JE-SW(10)2	JW;	JE-(10)8, M; JE-SW(1)11, JW
Warb, Bay-breastd	2-11	5/64	CH-AW(1)6	JW; GA-(27)8	M;	JE-(21)2, JW; JE-(14)8, M; JE-SW(1)11, JW
Warb, Blackpoll	2-2	1/1	JE-(1)2	JW		
Warb, Blk-and-wht	2-8	3/26	GA-(11)8	M; JE-SW(10)2	JW;	JE-(5)8, M
Redstart, Amer	2-11	4/106	GA-(24)8	M; JE-(53)2	JW;	JE-(27)8, M; JE-SW(2)11, JW
Warb, Prothonotry	14-14	2/3	BR-(2)14	BB; JE-(1)14	JW	
Ovenbird	2-8	3/20	GA-(8)8	M; JE-SW(5)2	JW;	JE-(7)8, M
Waterthrush, N	2-14	4/21	BR-(1)14	BB; GA-(6)8	M;	JE-SW(3)2, JW; JE-(11)8, M
Warb, Kentucky	2-2	1/1	JE-SW(1)2	JW		
Yellowthroat, Com	2-27	6/62	BR-2/23	JE-4/39		
Warb, Hooded	2-11	2/6	JE-SW(5)2	JW; JE-(1)11	JW	
Warb, Canada	2-2	1/1	JE-SW(1)2	JW		
Tanager, Summer	2-14	2/5	JE-SW(4)2	JW; JE-SW(1)14	JW	
Tanager, Scarlet	2-11	4/13	GA-(1)8	M; JE-SW(9)2	JW;	JE-(2)8, M; JE-SW(1)11, JW
Cardinal, Northrn	2-27	9/272	BR-2/232	CH-1/1	GA-1/1	JE-5/38
Grosbeak, Ros-brs	2-11	3/20	JE-(11)2	JW; JE-(4)8	M;	JE-SW(5)11, JW
Grosbeak, Blue	2-8	2/5	GA-(1)8	M; JE-(4)2	JW	
Bunting, Indigo	2-14	6/151	BR-1/1	CH-1/1	GA-1/3	JE-3/146
Bunting, Painted	2-14	5/14	BR-1/3	CH-1/7	JE-3/4	
Dickcissel	5-14	5/180	BR-1/120	JE-4/60		
Sparrow, Savannah	5-14	4/29	BR-1/21	GA-1/1	JE-2/7	
Sparrow, Shp-tail	6-14	2/7	BR-(2)14	BB; GA-BF(5)6	JW	
Sparrow, Seaside	2-14	3/15	BR-1/13	GA-1/1	JE-1/1	
<u>Sparrow, Swamp</u>	2-2	1/2	JE-(2)2	JW		
Blackbird, Red-wg	2-28	9/1623	U-1/300	BR-1/890	CH-1/20	JE-6/413
Meadowlark, East	5-14	7/323	BR-1/250	CH-1/4	GA-1/1	JE-4/68
meadowlark, sp.	8-8	1/15	JE-1/15			
Grackle, Gr-tail	2-28	10/427	BR-2/100	CH-1/2	GA-1/30	JE-6/295
Grackle, Bt-tail	6-14	6/548	BR-1/286	CH-1/8	GA-1/1	JE-253
Grackle, Common	2-27	9/256	BR-2/162	CH-1/6	JE-6/88	
Cowbird, Brn-head	5-27	8/89	BR-2/31	CH-1/2	GA-2/13	JE-3/43
Oriole, Orchard	6-14	6/62	BR-1/9	GA-2/4	JE-3/49	
Oriole, Hooded	14-14	1/1	JE-SW(1)14	JW		
Oriole, Northern	2-8	2/23	JE-(11)2	JW; JE-(12)8	M	
Sparrow, House	2-28	10/67	BR-2/20	CH-1/3	GA-2/11	JE-5/33

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS: 23377; Birds that were reported that needed notes: Northern Gannet (20), Le Conte's Sparrow

LIST OF OBSERVER CODES: Brazosport Birders, Brent Ortego, Warren Pruess (BB); Brent Ortego (BO); John Whittle (JW); Jim Morgan (M); Mary Ann & Bob Moore (MBM); Virginia & Scott Anderson (VA); Warren Pruess, Betty Jo Peters (WPP)

LIST OF LOCATION CODES: Anahuac NWR (AW); Bolivar Flats (BF); High Island (HI); Sea Rim St. Park (SR); Sabine Woods (SW); 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)

Common Loon - Virginia Anderson May 20, 1995

The bird was in the canal which runs alongside Sportsman's Rd. Summer plumage was complete. Good view of extended wing. Previous experience with the species.

Redhead - Warren Pruess May 14, 1995

Larger than nearby Lesser Scaup. Heavy bodied duck with red head and neck. Breast dark below the throat. Light gray back and sides, dark tail. Rounded crown in profile. Light colored bill with dark tip.

Broad-winged Hawk - J. Whittle May 29, 1995

Small buteo, with relatively broad wings, which were pointed rather than rounded. The wing tips came almost to the tip of the tail on the perched bird. The hawk was dark brown above. The throat and upper breast was almost completely brownish-rufous, giving way to medium width rufous barring on the lower breast and belly. The underside of the wings was light with a dark trailing edge and wing-tips. The upper surface of the wings was dark brown. The upper tail showed one clear white band on the dark tail, and another, less distinct, at the base of the tail. The under surface of the tail showed two dark, two light bands. All approximately the same width. The cere and legs were bright yellow.

Peregrine Falcon - Warren Pruess May 14, 1995

Coastal prairie near Big Slough. Large falcon. With sun at back, observed large helmeted raptor with brown spots on breast merging with more banded appearance below. White background. In flight, it displayed the tapered, pointed wings of a falcon. Wing linings brown and lacked dark axillary areas characteristic of a Prairie Falcon.

Cave Swallow - W. Pruess May 27, 1995

Under bridge on FM 2611 at San Bernard River. Same size a Cliff Swallows. Near large group of Cliff Swallows on ground collecting mud. Forehead warm rusty brown color in contrast to dark crown and eye area. Light buffy area extending from nape of neck, through the cheeks and throat. Warm rusty brown rump patch.

Hooded Oriole - J. Whittle May 14, 1995

Typical oriole shape and size, giving the impression of a Baltimore Oriole on quick sight as it flew away. The basic color of the bird was a flaming orange, with a black throat, upper breast and lores, extending very slightly onto the forehead. The back was jet black, sharply contrasting with the orange nape. The rump was orange. The tail was all dark black, without orange or yellow edges. The wings (perched) were dark black, with a very bright white upper wing bar. and traces of a white lower wing bar. Bill fairly thin and curved uniformly.

Swamp Sparrow - J. Whittle May 2, 1995

Three birds in salt cedars at edge of wet salt marsh. Typical medium sized sparrows. The faces were gray with a lighter gray line through or slightly above the eye. The crown appeared reddish. The breast was light in color, with sparse diffuse streaks. Rufous patched on the wing were conspicuous. Tail relatively long. Legs light.

#### APRIL ADDENDUM AND CORRECTIONS

First, I must correct the notes from Broad-billed Hummingbird to Broad-tailed Hummingbird. I apologize for the mistake. Additional reports were received. Bob Behrstock submitted notes for Glossy Ibis, Wood Stork, Surf Scoters and Audubon and Canada Warblers. Additional reports were received from Warren Pruess.

One letter concerning the possible overwintering of House Finches was received.

## Clearing House JUNE 1995

EDITORS: PHYLLIS AND TONY FRANK

A total of 113 species were reported for the month, most by J. Whittle. Six shorebird species that either lingered, stayed or returned early were reported. Shorebird migration should be good during August.

Reports are due August 3rd. 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 all those good birds. And with all the reminders completed - on to the birds.

Grebe, Pied-bill 3-30 7/29 CH-1/1 GA-4/23 JE-2/5  
 Pelican, Amer Wht 3-16 3/16 GA-3/16  
 Pelican, Brown 3-16 3/251 GA-BF(45)3, JW; GA-(78)9, JW;  
 GA-(128)16, JW  
 Corm, Neotropic 3-30 7/446 GA-4/419 JE-3/27  
 Anhinga 16-16 1/1 JE-(1)16, JW  
 Frigatebird, Magn 3-9 2/17 GA-BF(5)3, JW; GA-BF(12)9, JW  
 Bittern, Least 3-9 2/5 CH-AW(4)3, JW; GA-(1)9, JW  
 Heron, Great Blue 3-30 6/80 CH-1/1 GA-4/78 JE-1/1  
 Egret, Great 3-30 11/350 CH-4/16 GA-4/326 HA-1/1 JE-  
 2/7  
 Egret, Snowy 3-30 13/211 CH-2/4 GA-4/184 HA-3/7 JE-  
 4/16  
 Heron, Little Blu 3-30 6/87 CH-3/63 JE-3/24  
 Heron, Tricolored 3-30 9/57 CH-2/15 GA-4/35 JE-3/7  
 Egret, Reddish 3-16 3/63 GA-BF(20)3, JW; GA-(21)9, JW;  
 GA-(22)16, JW  
 Egret, Cattle 3-30 11/586 CH-4/45 GA-3/187 JE-4/354  
 Heron, Green 3-30 9/27 CH-3/20 GA-2/3 HA-1/1 JE-3/3  
 Nt-Heron, Blk-crn 3-3 1/3 JE-(3)3, JW  
 Nt-Heron, Yel-crn 3-30 7/14 GA-1/2 HA-3/8 JE-3/4  
 Ibis, White 3-30 7/345 CH-1/1 GA-4/94 JE-2/250  
 Ibis, White-faced 3-30 4/84 CH-1/6 GA-3/78  
 plegadis, sp. 10-10 1/8 HA-1/8  
 Spoonbill, Roseat 3-30 7/278 CH-1/1 GA-4/252 JE-2/25  
 Whsl-Duck, Fulvs 3-30 5/25 CH-(1)30, JWW; GA-(10)3, JW;  
 GA-(9)9, JW; GA-(3)16, JW; JE-(2)3, JW  
 Whsl-Duck, Blk-bd 3-3 1/1 CH-AW(1)3, JW  
 Duck, Wood 9-9 1/4 JE-(4)9, JW  
 Duck, Mottled 3-16 7/131 CH-2/33 GA-2/48 JE-3/50  
 Mallard 3-9 2/3 GA-(1)9, JW; JE-(2)3, JW  
 Teal, Blue-winged 3-9 3/10 CH-AW(2)3, JW; GA-(3)3, JW;  
 GA-(5)9, JW  
 Scaup, Lesser 3-16 3/8 GA-(3)3, JW; GA-(3)9, JW;  
 GA-(2)16, JW  
 Vulture, Black 3-30 4/4 CH-1/1 JE-3/3  
 Vulture, Turkey 3-30 7/15 CH-4/9 GA-2/2 JE-1/4  
 Kite, White-taild 3-30 2/3 GA-(2)3, JW; GA-(1)30, JWW  
 Hawk, Red-shouldr 3-16 2/3 JE-(2)3, JW; JE-(1)16, JW  
 Hawk, Broad-winged 19-30 1/3 JE-(1)19, JW; JE-(1)21, JW;  
 JE(1)30, JWW  
 Hawk, Swainson's 3-16 2/2 JE-(1)3, JW; JE-(1)16, JW  
 Bobwhite, Northrn 3-16 2/7 CH-(1)16, JW; JE-(6)3, JW  
 Rail, Clapper 3-30 4/23 GA-4/23  
 Rail, King 3-30 2/9 CH-(4)30, JWW; JE-(5)3, JW  
 Gallinule, Purple 3-30 5/52 CH-AW(34)3, JW; CH-(15)30, JWW;  
 GA-(1)30, JWW; JE-(1)9, JW; JE-(1)16, JW  
 Moorhen, Common 3-30 8/59 CH-2/39 GA-3/7 JE-3/13  
 Coot, American 3-30 6/28 CH-2/16 GA-4/12  
 Plover, Blk-belli 3-16 3/235 GA-3/235  
 Plover, Wilson's 3-16 2/75 GA-BF(25)3, JW; GA-BF(50)16, JW  
 Plover, Semipalm 3-16 2/45 GA-BF(25)3, JW; GA-BF(20)16, JW  
 Killdeer 3-30 11/98 CH-4/33 GA-3/6 HA-1/9 JE-  
 3/50  
 Oystercatcher, Am 3-16 3/20 GA-BF(3)3, JW; GA-BF(10)9, JW;  
 GA-BF(7)16, JW  
 Stilt, Black-neck 3-30 8/85 CH-1/14 GA-4/57 JE-3/14  
 Avocet, American 3-16 3/83 GA-BF(15)3, JW; GA-BF(44)9, JW;  
 GA-(24)16, JW  
 Yellowlegs, Great 16-16 1/1 GA-BF(1)16, JW  
 Willet 3-30 4/369 GA-4/369  
 Curlew, Long-bill 3-30 4/25 GA-4/25  
 Godwit, Marbled 3-30 4/60 CH-(2)30, JWW; GA-BF(25)3, JW;  
 GA-BF(8)9, JW; GA-BF(25)16, JW  
 Turnstone, Ruddy 3-16 3/40 GA-BF(5)3, JW; GA-BF(10)9, JW;  
 GA-BF(25)16, JW  
 Knot, Red 3-16 3/7 GA-BF(1)3, JW; GA-BF(3)9, JW;  
 GA-BF(3)16, JW  
 Sanderling 3-16 3/364 GA-3/364  
 Sandprr, Western 3-16 3/110 GA-BF(50)3, JW;  
 GA-BF(40)9, JW;  
 GA-BF(20)16, JW  
 Dunlin 3-3 1/1 GA-BF(1)3, JW  
 Dowitcher, S-bill 3-16 3/16 GA-BF(1)3, JW; GA-BF(14)9, JW;  
 GA-BF(1)16, JW  
 Gull, Laughing 3-30 7/1081 CH-1/27 GA-4/1041 JE-2/13  
 Gull, Ring-billed 3-16 4/19 GA-3/15 JE-1/4  
 Gull, Herring 3-16 3/12 GA-3/12  
 Tern, Gull-billed 3-16 4/5 CH-(1)3, JW; GA-(2)3, JW;  
 GA-BF(1)9, JW; GA-BF(1)16, JW  
 Tern, Caspian 3-16 3/7 GA-BF(1)3, JW; GA-BF(4)9, JW;  
 GA-BF(2)16, JW  
 Tern, Royal 3-30 4/878 GA-4/878  
 Tern, Sandwich 3-30 4/205 GA-4/205  
 Tern, Common 3-16 3/78 GA-BF(50)3, JW; GA-BF(25)9, JW;  
 GA-BF(3)16, JW  
 Tern, Forster's 3-30 5/148 CH-1/4 GA-4/144  
 Tern, Least 3-30 7/104 GA-4/98 JE-3/6  
 Tern, Black 3-30 5/255 CH-(2)30, JWW; GA-(23)3, JW;  
 GA-(49)9, JW; GA-HI(150)16, JW;  
 GA-(31)30, JWW  
 Skimmer, Black 3-16 5/31 GA-BF(1)3, JW; GA-BF(4)9, JW;  
 GA-(3)16, JW; JE-(3)9, JW; JE-(20)16, JW  
 Dove, Rock 3-24 5/32 GA-1/10 HA-1/7 JE-3/15  
 Dove, Mourning 3-30 12/193 CH-4/44 GA-3/20 HA-1/51 JE-  
 4/78  
 Dove, Inca 3-30 5/19 GA-2/3 HA-1/13 JE-2/3  
 Parakeet, Monk 1-8 2/7 HA-(3)1, PM; HA-(4)8, PM  
 Cuckoo, Yel-billd 3-16 4/15 CH-(1)3, JW; JE-(11)3, JW;  
 JE-(1)9, JW; JE-(2)16, JW  
 Owl, Barred 27-27 1/5 HA-(5)27, PM  
 Nighthawk, Common 3-30 6/15 CH-(1)30, JWW; GA-BF(3)3, JW;  
 GA-BF(1)9, JW; GA-BF(1)16, JW; GA-(6)30, JWW;  
 JE-(3)3, JW  
 Swift, Chimney 3-30 7/62 GA-2/3 HA-1/11 JE-4/48  
 Kingfisher, Beltd 30-30 1/1 CH-(1)30, JWW  
 Wdpeckr, Red-head 24-24 1/4 HA-(4)24, PM  
 Wdpeckr, Red-bell 10-16 2/3 HA-(1)10, PM; JE-(2)16, JW  
 Wdpeckr, Downy 24-24 2/5 HA-(1)24, PM; HA-(4)24, PM  
 Kingbird, Eastern 3-30 10/113 CH-3/61 GA-3/7 JE-4/45  
 Flycatch, Ss-tail 3-30 11/48 CH-4/9 GA-4/29 JE-3/10  
 Lark, Horned 3-9 2/2 GA-BF(1)3, JW; GA-BF(1)9, JW  
 Martin, Purple 3-30 10/107 CH-3/22 GA-3/24 HA-1/18 JE-  
 3/43  
 Swallow, Barn 3-30 9/52 CH-3/17 GA-3/22 JE-3/13  
 swallow, sp. 24-24 1/2 HA-1/2  
 Jay, Blue 3-24 7/39 CH-2/3 GA-1/3 HA-1/15 JE-3/18  
 Crow, American 3-16 2/4 JE-(3)3, JW; JE-(1)16, JW  
 Crow, Fish 3-30 4/9 JE-(1)3, JW; JE-(2)9, JW;  
 JE-(5)16, JW; JE-(1)30, JWW  
 Chickadee, Carol 3-10 3/6 HA-(1)10, PM; JE-(4)3, JW;  
 JE-(1)9, JW  
 Titmouse, Tufted 3-3 1/1 JE-(1)3, JW  
 Wren, Carolina 1-30 3/7 HA-1/2 JE-2/5  
 Wren, Marsh 3-3 1/5 JE-(5)3, JW  
 Robin, American 3-30 4/10 JE-(1)3, JW; JE-(5)9, JW;  
 JE-(2)16, JW; JE-(2)30, JWW  
 Mockingbird, N 3-30 14/167 CH-4/31 GA-4/25 HA-2/24 JE-  
 4/87  
 Shrike, Loggerhed 3-30 12/140 CH-4/33 GA-3/45 HA-1/2 JE-  
 4/60  
 Starling, Euro 3-30 8/85 CH-1/2 GA-3/17 HA-1/22 JE-  
 3/44  
 Vireo, White-eyed 3-16 3/20 JE-(12)3, JW; JE-(6)9, JW;  
 JE-(2)16, JW  
 Warb, Pine 3-16 2/4 JE-(3)3, JW; JE-(1)16, JW  
 Yellowthroat, Com 3-16 3/5 JE-(2)3, JW; JE-(2)9, JW;  
 JE-(1)16, JW  
 Warb, Hooded 3-9 2/3 JE-(1)3, JW; JE-(2)9, JW  
 Tanager, Summer 9-16 2/2 JE-(1)9, JW; JE-(1)16, JW  
 Cardinal, Northrn 3-24 7/43 CH-3/5 HA-1/2 JE-3/36  
 Bunting, Indigo 9-9 1/1 CH-(1)9, JW  
 Bunting, Painted 16-16 1/1 GA-(1)16, JW  
 Dickcissel 3-30 4/10 CH-(1)3, JW; JE-(4)3, JW;  
 JE-(4)16, JW; JE-(1)30, JWW  
 Sparrow, Seaside 30-30 1/1 GA-(1)30, JWW  
 Blackbird, Red-wg 3-16 6/219 CH-1/92 GA-2/16 JE-3/111  
 Meadowlark, East 3-30 9/73 CH-3/6 GA-2/10 JE-4/57  
 Grackle, Gr-tail 3-30 9/215 CH-3/14 GA-2/9 HA-1/1 JE-  
 3/191

Grackle, Bt-tail 3-16 4/8 CH-1/4 GA-1/1 JE-2/3  
Grackle, Common 3-24 4/97 HA-1/45 JE-3/52  
Cowbird, Brn-head 3-30 8/33 CH-3/17 GA-2/5 JE-3/11  
Sparrow, House 3-30 10/109 CH-3/6 GA-3/11 HA-1/80 JE-3/12

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS: 9805; One species was reported that needed notes: Franklin's Gull

LIST OF OBSERVER CODES: John & Jana Whittle (JJW); John Whittle (JW); Peggy Milstead (PM)

LIST OF LOCATION CODES: Anahuac NWR (AW); Bolivar Flats (BF); High Island (HI); Yacht Basin Road (YBR)

LIST OF COUNTY CODES: Brazoria (BR); Chambers (CH); Fort Bend (FB); Galveston (GA); Harris (HA); Jefferson (JE)

Broad-winged Hawk - J. Whittle June 19, 21 and 30, 1995

Small Buteo. Mainly dark brown above, lighter below with reddish brown bars especially thick on the upper breast. The bill was grayish black, the cere was distinctly yellow. In flight, the underwings were light with distinct dark edge along the trailing edge and at the tips. Relatively short tail, with bold, broad dark and light bars on both the upper and lower surfaces.

Greater Yellowlegs - J. Whittle June 16, 1995

Bolivar Flats. The bird was a typical *Tringa* sandpiper, with a relatively long neck, slender body. The legs were very long. The bird was essentially gray on white, with coarse gray flecks on the head and a narrow white eye ring. The back was dark, with white spots. The upper sides of the wings and back were uniformly dark. The rump was white, while the upper tail was white with darker bars. The bill was relatively long, significantly longer than the depth of the head. The legs appeared dark brown or black (probably muddy).

Marbled Godwit - J. Whittle June 3, 1995

Bolivar Flats. Typical large godwit. Many of the 25+ birds were dull buff-brown with darker markings. Others were brighter with reddish brown tones. Several flying birds showed cinnamon wing linings, and more diffuse cinnamon flight feathers, and uniformly colored upper wings, rump and upper tail. Long, slightly upturned bill, pinkish at base, darker tip.

Similar description of 8+ birds on June 9, 1995 and 25+ birds on June 15, 1995 at the same location. Two birds reported from Yacht Basin Rd. on June 30, 1995. Typical large godwits, smaller than nearby Long-billed Curlews. All birds were dull buff-brown with traces of cinnamon especially on the belly.

Red Knot - J. Whittle June 3, 1995

Bolivar Flats. Chunky sandpiper, smaller than nearby Black-bellied Plovers, very noticeably larger than the numerous Sanderlings. The bird was more or less pale gray, darker above than below, without prominent markings. The upper breast appeared dappled gray on lighter gray. Dark, medium length bill.

Three birds documented June 9, 1995 had a similar description with splotched of very pale red on the belly just in front of the legs.

Three birds documented June 16, 1995 had a similar description to first bird above.

Western Sandpipers - J. Whittle June 3, 1995

Bolivar Flats. Small *Calidris* sandpiper, smaller than Sanderlings. Most birds were grayish, darker above, almost white below, typically with gray markings on the breast. A few birds showed reddish brown scapulars. Black bill, relatively long.

40 birds were reported June 9 from the same location. Similar description, except some birds were noted to have reddish brown ear coverts and sides of crown.

Dunlin - J. Whittle June 3, 1995

Bolivar Flats. Alternate plumage. Typical Dunlin. Bright rufous back; otherwise gray wings. The bird was whitish below with some streaking and a dark black belly patch. Black fairly long bill, drooped at the tip.

Short-billed Dowitcher - J. Whittle June 3, 1995

Bolivar Flats. Basic plumage. Typical dowitcher size. The bird was gray-brown above, and pale below, with extensive fine darker markings on the sides of the breast extending down almost to the belly on the edges. The central breast was clear. The supercilium was white. The back and rump were white. On tail, black bars were observed on white. The black bars were discernibly narrower than the white. The bill was relatively stout and very short (about 2/3 length typically seen).

14 birds were reported from this location June 9, 1995. Similar description to above, except variable bill length. Heard calling.

Same location June 16, 1995, one bird similar description to first provided.



## Footnotes

.....Attwater's Prairie-Chicken continue decline in wild. Numbers have plummeted to an alarming total of 68 birds in the wild...spring surveys conducted by Fish and Wildlife Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife biologists indicate a decline of more than 50 percent from last year's record low of 158 individuals.

At the same time, however, a glimmer of hope for the species is emerging from captive populations of the bird. A total of 16 hens and 19 roosters are currently being held at three sites in Texas: Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, Texas A&M University and Houston Zoo. The birds produced about 75 viable eggs this year, of which 16 have hatched. In addition, 25 eggs were collected from the wild population. All remaining eggs should hatch this month (May). The recovery goal for this imperiled bird is to restore and maintain a genetically viable, self-sustaining population of 5,000 individuals in three different areas by the year 2000. *Fish and Wildlife Service, May 17, 1995.*

.....Birders and National Wildlife Refuges mean an economic bonanza for local communities. Birders visiting refuges mean big bucks to local economies, according to early preliminary finds from an independent survey conducted in 1993-94...at refuge birding "hot spots" across the country. ..."refuges attract ecotourist dollars for local business, creating jobs and tax revenues at no cost to the community," said Dr. Paul Kerlinger, who conducted the study. One refuge studied: Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge in south Texas. Visitors attracted by Santa Ana's 388 species of birds and other unique wildlife, spent \$14.42 million in 1994.

...Ironically, while bird numbers are declining, more and more people are spending money to enjoy them. *Fish and Wildlife Service, May 30, 1995.*

.....BIRDERS HAVE CLOUT. Sixty-five million Americans enjoy birdwatching and bird feeding. Yet, many birders are not aware that populations of favorite species are declining at rates of 2-4% each year. Many recreational birdwatchers and bird feeders may not have considered the impacts of habitat loss, or lack of funding for migratory bird conservation programs on the diversity and abundance of the birds that they love. Birders are a fast-growing and potentially powerful constituency in the United States. We outnumber golfers by more than two to one. We spent over \$18 billion on memberships, optics, cameras and birding trips in 1991 alone. [Not to mention all those books we buy! Ed.] Are we a massive, silent constituency when it comes to speaking out on behalf of conservation of birds? *From Prairie and Timbers Audubon Society's Rustlin's.*

.....DNA--BEYOND O.J. As many of you know, field guides are arranged in order of evolution. That is--grebes and loons are "older" from an evolutionary standpoint than hummingbirds...passerines being the new kids on the block. However, DNA testing, known as DNA hybridization, is going on to test the relationships of one group of birds to another. This was the process used to determine that the Turkey Vulture was more closely related to the Wood Stork than to raptors, where it currently resides in field guides. --*From Llano Estacado Audubon Society's Scissortail.*

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