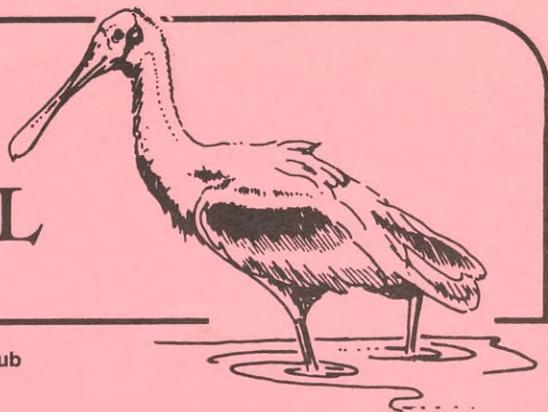


# The SPOONBILL



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Houston, Texas B. C. Robison, editor

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## Coming Events

Tuesday, Nov. 3: Deadline for Spoonbill material and for Clearing House reports. Send reports to Art MacKinnon, P.O. Box 9437, Beaumont, Texas 77709.

Thursday, Nov. 5: Ornithology Group meeting at Bayou Manor, 4141 S. Braeswood at 7:30 PM. The program will be "Sparrow Identification" presented by Jim Morgan.

Thursday Nov. 12: Outdoor Nature Club meeting at the Houston Arboretum. Joe Liggio will talk on the Big Thicket.

Wednesday, Nov. 18: Audubon Society meeting at Houston Garden Center at 7:30 PM presents "Bird Songs" by Dr. Ralph Moldenhouer, ornithologist over the Sound Library at Sam Houston State University.

Saturday, Nov. 21: N. B. This date has been officially changed from the 28th. Ornithology Group field trip to Brazos Bend State Park led by Bob Honig. Meet at the Interpretive Center at 1:00 PM for an afternoon of birding. Bring food for a picnic supper to be followed by owling. Park fee is \$2.00.

**RARE Bird Alert Tape**, sponsored by Piney Woods Wildlife Society: 821-2846.

## A BRIEF PROFILE OF WINGS, INC. by Bob Behrstock

WINGS, Inc. is one of the major tour companies specializing in trips for bird watchers. The new catalog lists slightly more than 80 events, including 27 weekends in popular birding spots throughout the U.S. and Canada. Currently we are offering trips to 30 of approximately 40 countries we visit on six continents. While most of our itineraries emphasize birding, a number of trips combine archeology, cultural exploration, a little shopping and more general travel pursuits. Such tours include Great Britain,

Greece, Charleston, South Carolina, Taos, New Mexico and an extensive train trip across South America. While a handful of trips involve sleeping in tents, Mongolian yurts or other shelters, most utilize as good an accommodation as the area offers, including some which are truly deluxe.

WINGS' predecessor was born in 1974 when Will Russell, currently Managing Director, and Davis Finch formed Northeast Birding, which stressed the Northeastern U.S. and Canada. In 1977 Rich Stallcup joined, enriching the company with his specialized knowledge of western birds. In July, 1980 WINGS was formed and in August, 1982 WINGS purchased SUNBIRD, a tour company in England, greatly enhancing our Old World coverage and theirs in the New World. Among the roughly thirty leaders guiding WINGS tours are a number of well-known writers and artists, including Jon Dunn, principal consultant for the popular National Geographic Society field guide, Peter Grant, author of Gulls: A Guide to Identification, and Killian Mullarney, who, along with Peter Grant, is preparing a new field guide to the birds of Europe and the Middle East. Most of WINGS' leaders reside in the U.S., but some live in Canada, Britain, Australia, Africa and the Far East. All are chosen for their knowledge, humor, leadership and patience; this last trait being perhaps most important to new or less skilled birders. All of the leaders are itinerant naturalists, versed in other aspects of natural history, and enjoy mammals, fish, plants, insects, stars and other bonuses typically encountered during a birding excursion. Information about WINGS' itineraries, leaders, and tour mechanics is available from WINGS, Inc., P.O. Box 31930, Tucson AZ 85751, or call 602-749-1967 to inquire.

## CLEARING HOUSE DELAYED

We regret that the Clearing House cannot be published until next month, along with October sightings. Blame the Postal Service for losing it. A computer problem prevented a timely replacement.

# Noel's Niche Looking Back

by Noel Pettingell

.....10 YEARS AGO/FROM OCTOBER '77 SPOONBILL

"AROUND AND ABOUT \*\* Congratulations to Debbie DeKeyzer for her excellent photo of the Aztec Thrush we saw at the recent OG meeting. She and her fellow birders, Mimi Hoppe and David Wolfe, found the bird August 21st at Boot Springs, Big Bend. It must be a heady feeling to be the first to see a new North American species and have a great photo to show for it."

"SHARING Sharing the joys of birding is what this newsletter is all about. Many of you share your sightings with us via the Clearing House and...give us ideas on where to go the next time we get out... Shared highlights of a birding vacation trip can give us hints on planning a trip ourselves as well as the vicarious pleasure of armchair birding. All of us have enjoyed the 'Memorable Lifers' we've been reading about. Share your special bird with us. Do you have a way of identifying a certain bird that is not stressed in the books? Share that tip with us. Have you noticed behavior of some bird that has interested, amused or thrilled you? Share with us. Is there some particular species you would like to know more about? Study up on it, write down what you learned and share it with us. You learn and we do too! A sighting, a sentence a paragraph, half a page--share your birding with us in THE SPOONBILL!"

[Will 1987 readers please do likewise?..Ed.]

## MIKE AUSTIN ON TEXAS FLYCATCHERS

It's fun to bird with Mike Austin, and it was fun to listen to him at the October 1st OG meeting. Along with his humor he delivered solid information gained from an awesome amount of field work. To illustrate his words Mike showed slides by area birders and played his recorded calls. Without the slides and calls much of what Mike presented would be useless to write up. You had to be there. But with Mike's permission The Spoonbill will give its readers, some of whom could not attend, and who may need help with flycatchers, a recap of "The Austin System" of observing them, plus a few pointers that are not stressed in guides.

"The Austin System" for observing flycatchers requires the observer to note:

1) WHEN: "Common birds ARE COMMON!" Learn from the checklist what birds to expect at each season, and be very careful about identifying a flycatcher that is common at another season, but rare at the time you are birding.

2) WHERE: What sort of habitat does it hunt from? Know the different niches - tangly (empidonax), more open (wood pewees, Great Crested).

3) VOICE: Learn flycatchers songs and call notes. The latter are especially important in separating some species.

4) BEHAVIOR: A) Note how the bird catches insects. Does it fly from one limb to another just

below the upper story? Does it make wide, circular or straight sallies from a perch? B) Body movements: Does it flick its wings or tail, and if so, does it do so just after it lands or all the time it is perched? Does it bob its tail up and down?

5) APPEARANCE: Know the common representatives of each family of flycatchers in our area. Learn the field marks and calls. Then if you see something odd, you will find it much easier to know if you have an unusual species. Practice constantly. Ask yourself:

A) Does it have an eye-ring or wing bars?

B) What color is it? Pay attention to the color of each part of the bird.

C) Realize that wing bar color in flycatchers denotes age not species. In the pewee white wing bars denote the adult, brown the immature.

D) Molt occurs around the time of fall migration, so that some are in fresh plumage and some in old, abraded plumage. The latter may make identification impossible in the field.

A few specific tips that one need not see a slide or hear the call to profit by were: The male Vermilion Flycatcher may show mottled red plumage in our area. This species likes to perch on rattlebeans in water. Olive-sided Flycatchers make a wide circle and return to the same perch over and over. Watch for the white tufts when they take off; the tufts may be hidden on perch. Pewees fly from one bare branch to another just under the canopy. Their wings are long in relation to their tails, whereas the empidonaces' wings are shorter. Acadian is the most languid empid; it flicks its wings and tail when it lands, and then remains relatively still. The Least and Yellow-bellied are very active, flicking wings and tail constantly on perch. Least has an eccentric eye-ring, wider behind the eye. Western's eye-ring is pointed front and back and often absent over the eye. Empidonaces may answer a taped call.

Though Mike did not say so, his system could help distinguish between other similar species, not just flycatchers, because it forces one to see the whole bird, not just look at it. Those who missed this program missed an informative and occasionally hilarious presentation.

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT DATES

For the benefit of those who like to make early plans to participate in Christmas Bird Counts the following counts and dates have been reported to The Spoonbill: Houston (OG) on Sat. Dec. 19; Armand Bayou on Sat., Dec. 19; Freeport on Sun., Dec. 20; Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR on Tues., Dec. 22; San Bernard NWR on Tues., Dec. 22; Buffalo Bayou on Sat., Dec. 26; Spring Creek, (Piney Woods Wildlife Society) on Sat., Jan. 2; and Brazos Bend on Sun., Jan. 3.

In November the full roster of counts with compilers' names and phone numbers will be published. All compilers who have not sent in dates, compiler's names and phone numbers please do so early in November to Libby Price, Editor, 3715 Sunset Blvd., Houston TX 77005 (713-665-1159).

# Clearing House - SEPTEMBER, 1987

The Clearing House is a monthly record of bird sightings made on the Upper Texas Coast. How to read the CH: Location--(how many) date, observers. Common, widely distributed species on the UTC during the reported month are listed as follows: number of reports, (lowest # - highest #; total # of individuals seen), e.g. 8 reports (1-20;82). Noteworthy sightings will be underlined, capitalized, or both, according to their status. Observation locations will be listed by UTC county: Braz (Brazoria), Cha (Chambers), Fbd (Ft. Bend), Gal (Galveston), Har (Harris), Jeff (Jefferson), and Wal (Waller). Birds with very rare, vagrant, accidental, or no status on the Checklist at the date of sighting require details. Sightings needing details but submitted without them will not be included in the regular Clearing House. All observations affecting the species' status on the current UTC checklist must be accepted by the Checklist Committee. Documentation is required for consideration by the Committee.

220 species reported this month

Grebe, Pied-billed: 5 reports (2-20;27)  
Grebe, Eared: Wal-(2)24,TE  
Pelican, American White: Har-(10)11,(8)28,Mu; Gal-(3)7,UP;  
(8)19,BG;(3)30,Owens  
Cormorant, Double-crested: Har-(6)11,Mu; Gal-(6)9,Mu  
Cormorant, Olivaceous: 10 reports (2-25;108)  
Anhinga: Wal-(1)24,TE  
Frigatebird, Magnificent: Gal-(4)12,Mu;(4)12,Th  
Bittern, American: Cha-(2)16,Mu  
Bittern, Least: Cha-(1)12,U  
Heron, Great Blue: 11 reports (2-20;76)  
Egret, Great: 10 reports (1-75;201)  
Egret, Snowy: 12 reports (1-75;208)  
Heron, Little Blue: 9 reports (1-25;40)  
Heron, Tricolored: 4 reports (1-15;18)  
Egret, Reddish: 7 reports (1-26;48)  
Egret, Cattle: 15 reports (3-500;1930)  
Heron, Green-backed: Gal-(3)2,(1)16,Mu;(1)12,Th;(1)19,BG;  
Cha-(1)7,UP;(1)12,U;(1)13,Uzar;(6)19,JM  
Night-Heron, Black-crowned: Cha-(1)13,Uzar  
Night-Heron, Yellow-crowned: 7 reports,(1-13;24)  
Ibis, White: 11 reports (3-160;296)  
Ibis, White-faced: Cha-(800)9,(1350)16,Mu;(11)7,UP;(8)12,U;  
(2)13,Uzar;(2000)12,Th;(60)13,DR;(2)19,JM; Har-(120)20,SW;  
Wal-(100)24,TE  
Spoonbill, Roseate: 9 reports (2-60;177)  
Stork, Wood: Gal-(8)2,Mu; Cha-(1)9,(1)28,Mu; Har-(18)11,(2)28,Mu  
Whistling-Duck, Fulvous: Har-(4)20,SW; Wal-(125)24,TE  
Whistling-Duck, Black-bellied: Har-(1000)20,SW; Wal-(200)24,TE  
Duck, Wood: Har-(3 imm.)13,Braun  
Teal, Green-winged: Har-(1000)20,SW  
Duck, Mottled: 11 reports (4-300;548)  
Pintail, Northern: Wal-(25)24,TE  
Teal, Blue-winged: 6 reports (5-2000;2885)  
Teal, Cinnamon: Har-(4)20,SW (no notes - ed.)  
Shoveler, Northern: Har-(50)20,SW; Wal-(100)24,TE  
Gadwall: Har-(100)20,SW (no notes - ed.)  
Wigeon, American: Wal-(2)24,TE  
MERGANSER, RED-BREADED: Wal-(1)24,TE (see notes)

## NOTICE

Art MacKinnon has resigned from the position of Clearing House Editor. Ted Eubanks, Jr. has taken over temporarily. October and November sightings should be in January's Spoonbill, December and January in February's. Please send all of your November sightings as well as December sightings to Ted at this address: NOVA

P.O. Box 1024  
Houston, Texas 77251-1024

Warbler, Worm-eating: Gal-(1)2,(1)9,(1)12,(1)16,(1)28,Mu;  
 (1)12,Th;(3)13,DR;(1)19,JM;(1)19,BG;(3)30,M; Jeff-(1)19,JM  
 Ovenbird: Gal-(4)2,(1)9,(1)12,(1)16,(4)28,Mu;(1)12,Th;(6)13,DR;  
 (4)19,JM;(2)19,BG;(8)30,M; Har-(1)8,(1)15,Mu;(1)13,Braun  
 Waterthrush, Northern: Gal-(3)2,(3)9,(1)12,(1)16,Mu;  
 (1)12,(2)19,Th;(4)19,JM; Har-(1)13,Braun; Wal-(1)24,TE  
 Warbler, Kentucky: Gal-(4)2,(3)16,Mu;(1)13,DR;(2)19,JM;  
 Jeff-(3)19,JM  
 Warbler, Mourning: Gal-(5)2,(1)9,(5)12,(3)16,Mu;(4)12,Th;  
 (1)19,JM;(1)30,M; Har-(1)15,Mu  
 Yellowthroat, Common: Gal-(2)2,Mu; Cha-(3)19,JM; Wal-(15)24,TE  
 Warbler, Hooded: Gal-(2)2,(1)9,(2)12,(3)16,Mu;(1)13,DR;(2)19,JM;  
 (4)30,M; Har-(2)8,(1)15,Mu  
 Warbler, Wilson's: Gal-(8)2,(1)9,(8)12,(12)16,(6)28,Mu;  
 (2)12,(1)19,Th;(2)19,JM;(1)19,BG;(3)20,TE;(16)30,M;  
 Har-(2)13,Braun; Wal-(3)24,TE  
 Warbler, Canada: Har-(3)8,(13)15,Mu;(1)15,W; Gal-(18)2,(11)9,  
 (31)12,(20)16,(5)28,Mu;(20)12,(9)19,Th;(12)13,DR;(52)19,JM;  
 (6)19,BG;(3)30,M; Jeff-(22)19,JM  
 Chat, Yellow-breasted: Gal-(21)2,(6)9,(1)12,(3)16,(2)28,Mu;  
 (1)19,JM; Har-(5)8,(3)15,Mu; Jeff-(4)19,JM; Wal-(1)24,TE  
 Tanager, Summer: Gal-(1)2,(1)9,(3)12,(1)16,(2)28,Mu;  
 (1)12,(3)19,Th;(8)19,JM;(2)19,BG;(10)30,M; Har-(4)13,Braun;  
 (1)20,SW; Jeff-(4)19,JM  
 Tanager, Scarlet: Gal-(1)16,Mu (notes submitted)  
 Tanager, Western: Har-(1)2,LP (notes submitted)  
 Cardinal, Northern: 12 reports (1-25;83)  
 Grosbeak, Rose-breasted: Gal-(1)30,M  
 Grosbeak, Blue: Gal-(1)16,Mu;(1)30,M; Har-(2)20,SW; Jeff-(6)19,JM  
 Bunting, Indigo: Gal-(10)30,M; Har-(2)20,SW; Jeff-(10)19,JM  
 Bunting, Painted: Cha-(2)9,Mu; Jeff-(10)19,JM; UTC-(2)13,DR;  
 Dickcissel: Har-(3)20,SW; Jeff-(3)19,JM  
 Sparrow, Seaside: Cha-(2)9,Mu  
 Sparrow, Lincoln's: Har-(1)30,Braun (notes submitted)  
 Blackbird, Red-winged: 7 reports (20-1000;1845)  
 Meadowlark, Eastern: 2 reports (1-3;4 - hard to believe)  
 Grackle, Great-tailed: 7 reports (2-100;186)  
 Grackle, Boat-tailed: Cha-(25)12,U;(8)13,Uzar;(50)13,DR;(4)19,Th;  
 Jeff-(120)19,JM  
 Grackle, Common: 6 reports (1-400;503); Har-(1 schizochroic)24,  
 Braun (see notes)  
 Cowbird, Brown-headed: 3 reports (10-200;225)  
 blackbird species: 4 reports (9-4000;4224)  
 Oriole, Orchard: Gal-(2)2,(3)9,(5)16,(1)28,Mu; Jeff-(1)19,JM  
 Oriole, Northern: Har-(3)8,(2)15,Mu;(9)13,Braun;(2)17,(1)18,  
 (3)19,W;(6)20,SW; Gal-(35)2,(18)9,(58)16,(2)28,Mu;(2)12,  
 (4)19,Th;(3)13,DR;(30)19,JM;(3)19,BG;(12)30,M; Cha-(1)12,U  
 Sparrow, House: 5 reports (1-40;71)  
 (Parakeet, Monk): Harris-(1)15,24,W  
 (Turtle-Dove, Ringed): Har-(1)13,Braun

#### Additional Species

Swallow, Violet-green: Cha-(1)12,U (due to the inconclusive nature of the field notes, this observation has been referred directly to the UTC Checklist Committee without inclusion in the Clearing House - ed.)

#### CONTRIBUTORS - SEPTEMBER, 1987

BG=John Buckman, Steve Gast; Braun=Ron and Marcia Braun; C=Jerry Caraviotis, Bill Kendrick; Cureton=Wesley Cureton; DR=Don Richardson, Gil Douglas; EM=Ted Eubanks, Jim Morgan; JB=John Buckman; JM=Jim Morgan; M=Derek Muschelek, Mark Magruder; Mu=Derek Muschelek; Owens=M.L. Owens; PM=Peggy Milstead; SW=Steve Williams; TE=Ted Eubanks; Th=Rob Thacker; U=Richard Uzar, Bob Schartz; UP=Richard Uzar, Jean Palmquest; Uzar=Richard Uzar; W=Dennis Wiesenborn.

#### CLEARING HOUSE NOTES - SEPTEMBER, 1987

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER                      09/24/87                      Eubanks

Basic plumaged Red-breasted Merganser observed in small pond on Neuman Road in Waller County. Shaggy hood and stiff tail eliminates all ducks but other two mergansers. Reddish bill eliminates Hooded Merganser. Common Merganser has a reddish hood which ends abruptly at the upper breast, crosses the throat with

Gull, Laughing: 6 reports (200-4000;9400)  
 Gull, Ring-billed: 5 reports (1-30;73)  
 Gull, Herring: 2 reports (2-12;14)  
 Tern, Gull-billed: Gal-(8)2,Mu;(6)30,M;(1)7,UP; Cha-(1)13,DR;  
 (4)16,Mu; Har-(1)20 @ Warren Lake,SW  
 Tern, Caspian: 4 reports (3-40;62)  
 Tern, Royal: 6 reports (15-2500;5015)  
 Tern, Sandwich: Gal-(20)9,(10)12,Mu;(4)12,Th  
 Tern, Common: Gal-(2)9,(3)12,Mu;(2)12,Th;  
 Tern, Forster's: 4 reports (1-40;63)  
 Tern, Least: 5 reports (15-300;580)  
 Tern, Black: 11 reports (2-75;167)  
 Skimmer, Black: Gal-(60)7,UP;(100)9,(99)12,Mu;(20)12,Th  
 Dove, Rock: 3 reports (6-23;39)  
 Dove, Mourning: 15 reports (2-80;368)  
 Dove, Inca: 8 reports (1-25;53)  
 Ground-Dove, Common: Braz-(1)20,TE  
 Cuckoo, Yellow-billed: Gal-(1)7,UP;(1)16,Mu;(1)19,Th;(5)19,JM;  
 (3)19,BG;(5)30,M;Cha-(1)13,Uzar; Har-(4)13,Braun;(1)29,SW  
 Jeff-(1)19,JM; Wal-(2)24,TE  
 Barn-Owl, Common: 5 reports (1-7;12)  
 Screech-Owl, Eastern: Har-(1)13,Braun  
 Owl, Great Horned: Braz-(2)7,PM; Wal-(1)24,TE  
 Nighthawk, Common: Braz-(2)13,W; Har-(2)15,W; Gal-(6)2,(1)9,  
 (35)16,Mu;(3)7,UP;(1)12,Th; Cha-(1)13,DR  
 Chuck-will's-widow: 10 reports (1-18;59)  
 Swift, Chimney: Har-(14)5,(10)20,PM;(6)13,Braun;(7)23;(3)19,W;  
 (11)27,JB; Cha-(3)12,U; Gal-(1)12,Th; Jeff-(6)19,JM;  
 Wal-(200)24,TE  
 Hummingbird, Ruby-throated: Braz-(2)13,W; Har-(3)8,(6)15,Mu;  
 (1)19,W;(3)1-14,(4)15-30,Braun;(1-3)all month,LP;(6)12,Th;  
 (17)20,SW;(2)27,JB; Gal-(4)2,(65)16,(125)28,Mu;(20)13,DR;  
 (4)19,Th;(40)19,JM;(1)19,BG;(50)30,M; Jeff-(30)19,JM  
 Wal-(25)24,TE  
 Hummingbird, Rufous: Har-(1)21,LP  
 hummingbird species: 1 report (1)  
 Kingfisher, Belted: 13 reports (1-6;27)  
 Woodpecker, Red-headed: Har-(1)20,W; Cha-(2)13,DR  
 Woodpecker, Red-bellied: 9 reports (1-5;23)  
 Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied: Gal-(2)30,M (notes submitted)  
 Woodpecker, Downy: 12 reports (1-8;50) (including several in the  
 coastal hiatus)  
 Flicker, Northern: Har-(1)4,(1)26,W;(1)30,SW; Gal-(6)30,M;  
 Wal-(1)24,TE  
 Woodpecker, Pileated: Har-(1)8,Mu;(4)13,Braun;(1)20,(2)26,W;  
 (1)22,SW;(2)27,JB; Cha-(1)13,DR  
 Flycatcher, Olive-sided: Gal-(2)2,(2)12,(1)16,Mu;(1)13,DR;  
 (1)19,JM;(2)12,(2)19,Th;(2)30,M; Har-(1)13,Braun  
 Wood-Pewee, Eastern: Har-(1)13,Braun;(1)15,16,W;(1)20,SW;  
 Gal-(8)2,(5)9,(7)12,(2)16,(1)28,Mu;(5)12,(1)19,Th;(10)13,DR;  
 (40)19,JM;(4)19,BG;(2)30,M; Wal-(1)24,TE  
 Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied: Gal-(2)19,Th; Jeff-(1)19,JM  
 Flycatcher, Acadian: Gal-(6)19,JM  
 Flycatcher, "Traill's": Har-(1)20,SW; Jeff-(1)19,JM;  
 Gal-(1)20,TE;  
 Flycatcher, Least: Har-(1)16,(1)19,W; Gal-(10)2,Mu;(1)19,LP;  
 (1)19,Th;(3)20,TE; Jeff-(1)19,JM; Wal-(2)24,TE  
 empidonax species: 12 reports (1-80;252)  
 Phoebe, Eastern: Galveston-(1)30,M  
 Flycatcher, Vermilion: Braz-(2)20,TE  
 Flycatcher, Ash-throated: Har-(1)19,Cureton (see notes)  
 Flycatcher, Great Crested: Har-(1)3,SW;(6)8,(6)15,Mu;(6)13,Braun;  
 (1)15,17,(1)19,(3)20,W; Gal-(28)2,(10)9,(14)12,(6)16,Mu;  
 (3)12,(1)19,Th;(14)19,JM;(7)19,BG; Jeff-(8)19,JM;  
 Cha-(1)13,Uzar; Wal-(2)24,TE  
 Kingbird, Western: Har-(1)20,SW  
 Kingbird, Eastern: Har-(1)19,W;(45)20,SW; Gal-(25)2,(12)9,  
 (6)16,Mu;(2)12,Th;(15)7,UP;(10)19,BG; UTC-(45)19,JM;  
 Cha-(1)13,Uzar; Braz-(3)7,PM; Wal-(5)24,TE  
 Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed: Braz-(2)19,W; Cha-(2)7,UP;(2)12,U;  
 (3)13,Uzar;(1)13,DR;(15)16,Mu;(1)12,Th;(2)19,Th;  
 Har-(60)28,Mu; Jeff-(6)19,JM; Wal-(60)24,TE  
 Martin, Purple: Gal-(1)2,(3)9,Mu; Har-(3)20,SW  
 Swallow, Tree: Cha-(1500)7,UP;(20)12,U;(2)13,Uzar; Gal-(75)7,UP;  
 UTC-(3)19,JM; Wal-(5)24,TE

Swallow, Northern Rough-winged: Har-(1)13, Braun; (35)20, SW;  
 UTC-(3)19, JM; Cha-(3)13, DR; Wal-(15)24, TE

Swallow, Bank: Cha-(100)9, Mu; Wal-(25)24, TE

Swallow, Cliff: Cha-(300)7, UP; (25)9, Mu; (50)12, U; Har-(22)20, SW

Swallow, Barn: Cha-(1200)7, UP; (600)9, Mu; (250)12, U; (80)13, Uzar;  
 (50)13, DR; Gal-(50)7, UP; (30)13, DR; (20)19, Th; (10)19, BG;  
 Har-(200)20, SW; UTC-(1)19, JM; Braz-(10)7, PM; Wal-(200)24, TE

swallow species: Cha-(1 albino)7, UP

Jay, Blue: 12 reports (1-30;138)

Crow, American: 9 reports (1-75;144)

Crow, Fish: Jeff-(1)19, JM

Chickadee, Carolina: 10 reports (1-25;77)

Titmouse, Tufted: 7 reports (1-15;311)

Nuthatch, Brown-headed: Cha-(1)13, DR; (2)28, Mu; Har-(1)27, JB

Wren, Carolina: 9 reports (1-9;35)

Wren, Bewick's: Wal-(1)24, TE

Wren, House: Har-(1)20, SW; Wal-(1)24, TE

Kinglet, Ruby-crowned: 6 reports (1-14;19)

Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray: Har-(6)8, (12)15, Mu; (1)4, 24, 25, W;  
 (40)13, Braun; Gal-(26)2, (18)9, (80)16, (70)28, Mu;  
 (10)12, (12)19, Th; (15)13, DR; (60)19, JM; (5)19, BG; (36)30, M;  
 Cha-(1)13, Uzar; (2)13, DR; Jeff-(80)19, JM; Wal-(75)24, TE

Bluebird, Eastern: Har-(10)13, Braun; (1)27, JB

Thrush, Swainson's: Gal-(1)16, (1)28, Mu; (2)30, M (notes submitted)

Thrush, Wood: Galveston-(3)30, M

Robin, American: Harris-(1)17, 18, W

Catbird, Gray: Harris-(2)19, W; Gal-(16)30, M; Wal-(3)24, TE

Mockingbird, Northern: 13 reports (1-30;118)

Thrasher, Brown: Har-(2)26, W; (2)27, JB; (1)30, SW; Gal-(2)2,  
 (1)9, (2)16, (100)28, Mu; (1)13, DR; (2)19, JM; (460)30, M; Cha-  
 (2)28, Mu; Jeff-(1)19, JM; Wal-(15)24, TE

Shrike, Loggerhead: 13 reports (1-25;96)

Starling, European: 11 reports (6-100;334)

Vireo, White-eyed: Gal-(1)2, (2)9, (1)16, (2)28, Mu; (1)13, DR;  
 (1)19, JM; (2)30, M; Har-(1)8, (6)15, Mu; (12)13, Braun

Vireo, Solitary: Gal-(2)13, DR; (1)19, BG; (1)30, M; Wal-(1)24, TE;  
 (notes submitted)

Vireo, Yellow-throated: Gal-(1)2, (1)12, (1)16, Mu; (1)12, Th; (1)30, M

Vireo, Warbling: Gal-(2)2, (3)9, (2)12, (1)16, Mu; (2)12, Th; (1)13, DR;  
 (8)19, JM; (1)19, BG; (3)30, M; Har-(1)13, Braun; (1)15, Mu;  
 Jeff-(4)19, JM

Vireo, Philadelphia: Gal-(3)13, DR; (1)30, M

Vireo, Red-eyed: Gal-(10)2, (5)12, (6)16, (6)28, Mu; (10)12, (5)19, Th;  
 (3)13, DR; (20)19, JM; (2)19, BG; (12)30, M; Jeff-(8)19, JM

Warbler, Blue-winged: Gal-(2)2, (2)16, Mu; (1)13, DR; (1)19, Th;  
 (1)19, JM; (1)19, BG; Har-(1)8, (2)15, Mu

Warbler, Golden-winged: Gal-(2)12, Mu; (2)12, Th

Warbler, Tennessee: Gal-(3)12, (3)28, Mu; (1)12, Th; (3)30, M

Warbler, Orange-crowned: (2)13, DR (no notes)

Warbler, Nashville: Gal-(2)2, (1)12, (10)16, (8)28, Mu;  
 (1)12, (1)19, Th; (3)19, JM; (1)19, BG; (1)20, TE; (15)30, M;  
 Har-(1)30, SW; Wal-(1)24, TE (notes submitted)

Parula, Northern: Gal-(1)12, (3)16, Mu; (1)12, Th; (2)13, DR; (3)30, M;  
 Har-(1)3, SW; (1)8, (1)15, Mu

Warbler, Yellow: Gal-(9)2, (2)9, (10)12, (8)16, Mu; (5)12, (1)19, Th;  
 (6)19, JM; (3)30, M; Cha-(4)9, Mu; Jeff-(2)19, JM

Warbler, Chestnut-sided: Gal-(1)28, Mu; (2)30, M; Jeff-(1)19, JM

Warbler, Magnolia: Gal-(2)16, (1)28, Mu; (4)30, M; Jeff-(3)19, JM

Warbler, Black-throated Blue: Gal-(1)19, Th; (1)19, JM; (1)30, M; (new  
 early fall arrival date)

Warbler, Black-throated Green: Gal-(5)12, (5)16, (1)28, Mu; (6)19, JM;  
 (2)30, M; Har-(1)15, Mu; Jeff-(2)19, JM

Warbler, Blackburnian: Gal-(3)12, (2)16, Mu; (3)12, Th; (1)13, DR;  
 (1)19, JM

Warbler, Yellow-throated: Gal-(1)9, (1)12, (1)28, Mu; (1)12, Th;  
 (2)13, DR; (1)19, BG; Jeff-(1)19, JM

WARBLER, GRACE'S: Gal-(1)16, Mu (see notes)

Warbler, Pine: Cha-(15)13, DR; (10)28, Mu; Har-(10)13, Braun;  
 (2)27, JB; Gal-(1)19, JM

Warbler, Prairie: Gal-(2)2, (2)12, Mu; (2)12, Th

Warbler, Cerulean: Gal-(1)12, Mu; (1)12, Th

Warbler, Black-and-white: Har-(1)12, W; (2)13, Braun; Gal-(10)2,  
 (8)9, (36)12, (26)16, (8)28, Mu; (30)12, (6)19, Th; (9)13, DR;  
 (21)19, JM; (2)19, BG; (2)20, TE; (32)30, M; Jeff-(3)19, JM;  
 Wal-(1)24, TE

Redstart, American: Gal-(1)2, (3)16, (2)12, (8)28, Mu; (1)13, DR;  
 (1)19, Th; (3)19, JM; (18)30, M; Jeff-(3)19, JM

Warbler, Prothonotary: Gal-(2)2, Mu; (1)13, DR; (1)19, Th; (1)19, BG;  
 Jeff-(1)19, JM

Duck, Ruddy: Har-(50)20,SW; Wal-(3)24,TE  
 Vulture, Black: 5 reports (7-35;73)  
 Vulture, Turkey: 6 reports (1-25;37)  
 Osprey: Gal-(1)19,Th;(1)19,BG;(1)20,TE;(1)30,M; Har-(2)8,(1)11,  
 (2)15,(1)28,Mu  
 Kite, Black-shouldered: 11 reports (1-8;25)  
 Kite, Mississippi: Har-(3)3,(1)5,SW;(1)4,PM;(3)6,7,Braun;  
 Gal-(2)19,BG  
 Harrier, Northern: 11 reports (1-10;36)  
 Hawk, Sharp-shinned: Gal-(1)30,M; Jeff-(1)19,JM; Har-(1)2,PM;  
 Wal-(1)24,TE  
 Hawk, Cooper's: Cha-(1)9,Mu;(1)13,DR  
 accipiter species: 1 report (1)  
 Hawk, Red-shouldered: 8 reports (1-3;13)  
 Hawk, Broad-winged: Gal-(2)2,(3)9,(2)12,(2)16,Mu;(1)13,DR;  
 (1)19,Th;(9)19,JM;(2)19,BG;(100)30,M;(1)12,Th;  
 Har-(2)3,(1)16,(4)19,SW;(30)26,Th; Jeff-(6)19,JM  
 Hawk, Swainson's: Har-(1)4,7,18,(3)20,SW  
 Hawk, Red-tailed: Har-(1)2,LP;(1)13,Braun; Wal-(2)24,TE  
 Caracara, Crested: Braz-(2)20,TE; Wal-(2)24,TE  
 Kestrel, American: 12 reports (1-25;61)  
 Merlin: Cha-(1)7,UP;(2)12,U;(1)13,Uzar; Jeff-(1)19,JM  
 Falcon, Peregrine: Cha-(1)19,Th; Har-(1)2,SW  
 Bobwhite, Northern: 5 reports (6-12;47)  
 Rail, Clapper: 4 reports (1-3;9)  
 Gallinule, Purple: Cha-(4)9,Mu;(4)12,U;(5)13,Uzar;(15)19,JM  
 Moorhen, Common: 9 reports (2-60;159)  
 Coot, American: 7 reports (2-50;115)  
 CRANE, SANDHILL: Har-(50)19,C (see notes)  
 Plover, Black-bellied: 11 reports (1-165;412)  
 Golden-Plover, Lesser: Cha-(1)9,Mu (all fall *P.dominica* should be  
 carefully scrutinized for a possible *P.fulva* - ed.)  
 Plover, Snowy: Gal-(10)5,TE;(8)9,(2)12,Mu;(2)12,Th;(5)20,TE  
 Plover, Wilson's: Gal-(24)9,(2)12,Mu;(2)12,Th;(25)20,TE  
 Plover, Semipalmated: Gal-(1)2,(88)9,(50)12,Mu;(60)5,TE;  
 (30)7,UP;(10)12,Th;(50)20,TE; Cha-(3)12,U;(1)13,Uzar;(6)13,DR  
 Plover, Piping: Gal-(75)5,TE;(15)7,UP;(52)9,(36)12,Mu;(8)12,Th;  
 (1)19,BG;(50)20,TE  
 Killdeer: 19 reports (1-100;474)  
 Oystercatcher, American: Gal-(24)9,(13)12,Mu  
 Stilt, Black-necked: 13 reports (5-75;336)  
 Avocet, American: Gal-(12)12,Mu;(2)12,Th; Cha-(11)12,U;  
 Wal-(3)6,EM;(10)24,TE; Braz-(5)20,TE  
 Yellowlegs, Greater: 16 reports (1-25;89)  
 Yellowlegs, Lesser: 15 reports (1-75;330)  
 Sandpiper, Solitary: Cha-(3)9,Mu  
 Willet: 15 reports (1-75;286)  
 Sandpiper, Spotted: Gal-(1)9,(1)16,Mu; Har-(1)11,(1)28,Mu;  
 Braz-(1)7,PM  
 Sandpiper, Upland: Gal-(3)2,Mu;(2)19,BG; Cha-(18)9,(5)16,Mu;  
 (3)7,UP;(1)12,U;(1)13,Uzar;(1)19,Th; Wal-(25)6,EM; Braz-  
 (1)20,TE  
 Whimbrel: Gal-(2)5,TE  
 Curlew, Long-billed: 11 reports (4-36;159)  
 Godwit, Marbled: Gal-(15)5,TE;(36)9,(30)12,Mu;(2)12,Th;  
 (37)19,BG;(15)20,TE; Cha-(2)19,JM  
 Turnstone, Ruddy: Gal-(25)5,TE;(12)7,UP;(15)9,Mu;(4)12,Th;  
 (1)19,BG;(25)20,TE  
 Knot, Red: Gal-(3)5,TE;(1)9,Mu;(10)20,TE  
 Sanderling: 9 reports (2-300;1303)  
 Sandpiper, Semipalmated: Gal-(2)2,(8)9,(1)12,Mu;(150)7,UP;  
 Cha-(2)13,DR; Har-(1)11,Mu  
 Sandpiper, Western: 14 reports (2-850;4056)  
 Sandpiper, Least: 15 reports (2-300;918)  
 Sandpiper, Baird's: Gal-(2)9,Mu  
 Sandpiper, Pectoral: Gal-(1)2,(8)9,Mu;(12)7,UP; Cha-(25)9;  
 (6)13,DR;(6)16,Mu;(7)13,Uzar; Wal-(150)6,EM;(1)24,TE  
 Dunlin: UTC-(1)13,DR  
 Sandpiper, Stilt: Gal-(10)2,Mu;(4)19,JM; Wal-(20)6,EM;(1)24,TE  
 Sandpiper, Buff-breasted: Gal-(10)9,Mu; Cha-(6)9,Mu  
 Dowitcher, Short-billed: Gal-(10)5,TE;(300)9,(325)12,Mu;  
 (40)12,Th;(25)20,TE; Cha-(10)12,U;(11)13,Uzar  
 Dowitcher, Long-billed: Cha-(30)16,Mu; Har-(50)20,SW;  
 Wal-(50)6,EM;(1500)24,TE  
 dowitcher species: 2 reports (1-200;201)  
 Snipe, Common: Wal-(75)24,TE  
 Phalarope, Wilson's: Gal-(3)19,BG; Wal-(2)6,EM;(6)24,TE

a collar (or band), and contrasts with an immaculate white throat. This individual had a light reddish head which formed no collar at the throat; the hood instead faded gradually into the breast on the sides and did not cross the throat.

SANDHILL CRANE

09/19/87

Caraviotis, Kendricks

When we initially noticed these birds from a distance my first thought was that I was looking at a flock of geese. When the birds and I became closer I observed the following: large, long-winged gray birds flying in one flock high overhead. Birds flying in a loose V-formation, flying very slowly with characteristic alternate flapping and gliding. No vocalizations were heard. The birds were observed while I was taking part in the Hardy Toll Road opening day bicycle ride, adjacent to the Park Spring Toll Plaza south of Lexington Avenue, at 7:15 p.m. under a lightly overcast sky. I watched the birds approximately two minutes with unaided eyes; the birds were flying ESE. Although the birds were observed without optics so that details greater than those above could not be observed, to me the observed jizz of the birds was pure Sandhill Crane. My friend Bill Kendrick, who is familiar with Sandhills, independently identified the birds as such when they flew over him a short distance down the toll road from where I had observed them.

Ash-throated Flycatcher

09/19/87

Cureton

White Oak Bayou in Houston - (1)19. Perched in rattlebeans and other low shrubs. Darted in and out of thickets. Perched once at about 10 ft., but usually at 3-4 ft., even though tall trees were nearby. A *Myiarchus* that seemed slightly smaller than a great crested. Throat seemed pale from one angle, darker from another angle, but not the mouse gray of a great crested. Also, the gray did not extend as far down. From the back the folded tail showed only thin russet edges. Head seemed small. Beak seemed thin and slight, although not as dark as on some ash throats I've seen. Breast and belly were perhaps a little more yellow than shown in books, but all *Myiarchus* are brighter in fall than in summer. It called only once, but I didn't hear well because of a passing truck. However, the muffled jerky pwit pwit heard was definitely not that of a great crested. Size, color, and behavior seem to eliminate great crested. I've seen a good many ash throats. Second record from White Oak Bayou - first on August 24-31, 1980.

Black-throated Blue Warbler

09/19/87

Thacker

Observed in the Thrush Woods section of Smith Woods at High Island for about one hour from 4:20 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. Bird had a black throat, black cheeks, and back extending down sides; dark bluish back, bold white wing patch, a white crescent separated the black on the throat from the blue on the back below the lesser wing coverts. Entire underside except for the throat was a bright crisp white - including the undertail, legs fleshy colored. Bird stayed in the understory or on ground feeding on insects. Would often fan tail showing white underneath, similar to a Hooded Warbler. Frequently gave a single "chup" call. Bird observed by several other observers. (Both Morgan and Muschalek submitted excellent notes on Black-throated Blue Warblers at High Island - Muschalek observed a female on 09/30, and Morgan observed a male - same bird? - on 09/19).

GRACE'S WARBLER

09/16/87

Muschalek

Observed around 2:00 p.m. at "Smith Oak Sanctuary" in High Island.

Observer: Derek Muschalek

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Length of Observation: 3 minutes

Weather: Sunny

Light: Excellent

Distance: 12 feet

Optical Equipment: 8X40 binoculars

Habitat: Hackberry

Size: Approximately 5"

Behavior: Actively foraging

Description: Very long lemon yellow superciliary stripe. Lemon

Yellow semi-circle under eye. Lemon yellow chin, throat, and upper breast. Remainder of underparts were clear white with faint

## REPORT ON THE TEXAS COASTAL CLEANUP

On September 19th, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon, OG members and some other ONC members worked on Bolivar Peninsula in the Texas Coastal Cleanup. The beach was cleaned from Bolivar Flats to Gilchrist. In addition to our group there were people from the Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Boy Scouts, school and church groups, some ex-members of the Peace Corps, and some individuals who heard about the cleanup on the radio. Maryann Young, coordinator for the cleanup, was pleased by the participation and the results. The trash collected was about 50/50 from offshore and onshore sources on Bolivar.

The OG group of about 30, led by John Buckman, worked just outside the Bolivar Flats Sanctuary, while the Audubon group, including some other OG members, worked the sanctuary.

45 TONS of trash were picked up on Bolivar, a very respectable portion of the 208 tons reported for the entire project. As one of the volunteers, your editor knows it was work. However it was not altogether unpleasant work; the weather was perfect, the company superb, and the results were wonderful to see.

There was so much trash that at first one tended to be picky, thinking "These plastic bags, cups, gloves, clothing, cans, monofilament line and glass have to go, but that paper is biodegradable, that plastic is shattered and that piece is very small." But when the worst was gone from a small area, the items that were left suddenly became eyesores, and one went back and picked them up too. As we left we gazed at the unsullied beach and wished it could always be that way.

There is some encouraging news about maritime dumping legislation. Annex V of the MARPOL treaty, which prohibits ships from dumping their garbage within 25 miles of shore, has been recommended for ratification by the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee. Lobbying has been effective.

The sponsors of this cleanup, the Center for Environmental Education and the General Land Office, will schedule another cleanup in April of 1988. Plan to go if you possibly can. You will feel rewarded.

## BOOK REVIEW: A WORLD OF WATCHERS, BY JOSEPH KASTNER by Noel Pettingell

This 244-page chronicle by Joseph Kastner, published by Alfred A. Knopf, N.Y., 1986, is subtitled "An Informal History of the American Passion for Birds - From Its Scientific Beginnings to the Great Birding Boom of Today." The author, a former editor of Life Magazine, has subdivided his narrative into 18 chapters from "The Forerunners: Indians and Early Bird Watchers" to "Listeners and Savers: Bird Watchers by the Millions."

Kastner's anecdotal sketches include such notables (after whom many birds were named) as Catesby, Wilson, Audubon, Thoreau, Grinnell, Nuttall, Cassin, Baird, James G. Cooper, Xantus, Bendire,

Brewer, Ridgway, Coues, Fuertes, Brewster, both Presidents Roosevelt, Lynds Jones, Burroughs, Chester Reed, William Dawson, Chapman, Florence Merriam Bailey, Griscom, Forbush, Margaret Nice, Alan Cruikshank, Joseph Hickey, Peterson, Robert Allen, Pough, Robbins and a host of others not as well known to most of the birding fraternity but nevertheless recognized by the author for significant bird-related accomplishments.

Also included in this unique volume are 10 watercolor portraits and 18 black-and-white field sketches by Louis Agassiz Fuertes, as well as separate, detailed bibliographies for each chapter at the back of the book.

Much of Kastner's narrative explores the intriguing backgrounds and character of his subjects, and their influence on the study and appreciation of birds by both professionals and amateurs, from egg-collectors to field guide authors, and all those in between. He also delves into the origins of organizations such as the American Ornithologists' Union, Bronx County Bird Club, Cooper Ornithological Society, Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, Linnaean Society, the Massachusetts and National Audubon Societies and the Nuttall and Wilson Ornithological Clubs. Kastner boldly brings up an equal rights issue by noting that women were not allowed to join the Nuttall Club until 1974 and the DVOG until 1982.

Two of the most significant events leading to the current popularity of bird watching in America are considered by Kastner to be initiation of the Christmas Bird Count in 1900 by Frank Chapman and the publication of Peterson's A Field Guide to the Birds of the Eastern United States in 1934. The rapidly-increasing participation in CBC's from coast to coast stimulated interest in competing lists and thereby replaced the widespread collecting of eggs and specimens, while the new guide revolutionized field identification and eventually resulted in bird watchers' outnumbering all other outdoor enthusiasts except those who hunt and fish. Kastner, in fact, says that according to a 1979 survey there are 7 million "qualified bird watchers," who are familiar with at least 40 species, and 2 million "committed birders," who can identify 100 or more species, bird with some regularity, use a field guide and keep some kind of list. Kastner considers that "bird watchers" seem to be most concerned with habits of birds, while "birders" have a special interest in adding to the number of species they have seen. Most of those surveyed found observing birds in the wild to be fascinating, and thought of this activity as a wholesome pastime which not only enabled them to get out into the fresh air, but also provided them with the fun of being both competitive and companionable, as well as challenging their skill in identification.

Joseph Kastner has written what is probably the most comprehensive book on the subject to date, and it obviously involved a tremendous amount of research to complete. However, as a result of translating so much information into readable form, a few errors did get through which are herewith corrected "for the record." On Pages 210 and 211 in a discussion of Rockport, Texas is included a statement that "three-quarters of the species found in the United States can be seen there..." Actually, just under 500 species (414 documented) have been

reported in the general vicinity of Rockport (i.e. 9-county Texas Coastal Bend) which is less than 60% of about 850 continental species, or a little over 60% of around 800 species occurring in the lower 48 states.

On page 211 California and Florida were credited with having the most species, whereas it is actually California and Texas. Arizona also exceeds Florida's total.

On page 212 the Big Day teams try to see or hear as many species as possible within 24 hours, not 14. Also on page 212: Kenya, Africa Big Day record should be 290, not 264; Peru Big Day record was 331 by two birders, not 330 by one; Noble Proctor counted 166 species within a 50 by 50 foot, not yard area during a 4-year period, not in a single year.

This book is available at the Chickadee for \$25.

#### MINUTES OF OG MEETING OCT. 1, 1987

Robert Thacker, Chairman, opened the meeting by introducing the speaker, Dr. Mike Austin, president of the Piney Woods Wildlife Society, and a member of the OG. Austin gave an excellent and entertaining program on identification of Texas flycatchers, illustrated by slides taken by area birders.

Jerry Patrick, Group Treasurer, reported a balance of \$1181 in cash and a \$4000 C.D., adding that 70% of the group expenses are publishing costs for The Spoonbill. He said that due to finding a new printer and changing the type style, Libby Price, Editor, has reduced these costs by 16%.

René Franks, Field Trip Co-Chairperson, announced future field trips (see coming events).

Rob Thacker praised group participation in the recent Texas Coastal Cleanup, and asked members to pick up copies of the new ONC Information Brochure (available on literature table) to distribute to appropriate places and people when birding. He relayed a request from Brazos Bend State Park personnel asking for volunteers for guiding and other activities there. Those interested should call the park or Ron Grimes ONC president at 495-6193.

Members joined in applauding the long-term efforts of retiring Clearing House Editor, Ron Braun,

and were reminded to mail sightings early to the new editor, Art MacKinnon in Beaumont.

Thacker also asked for individual pledges to the Texas Breeding Bird Atlas, and for letters to congressmen endorsing the reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act. He further asked for postcards to be sent to them as well as City Council members opposing the Wallisville Dam project. Pledge and postcards and Texas Ornithological Society membership blanks brought by John Baird are always available on the literature table, or from Peggy Milstead. She also has available copies of updates to the checklist, from past Clearing House notes. [The cost is \$.76 or \$1.76 if mailed to you.]

Mark Magruder discussed the destruction of rain forests worldwide, and urged people to protest to appropriate companies, of which he provided a list for people to address.

Laura Singleton reminded members of the Audubon Auction and Wine and Cheese Party, and also announced that the new hawk and seabird guides are available at the Chickadee.

Members were informed that henceforth the Rare Bird Alert will take reports of bird sightings only. Announcements and news should be phoned to Audubon tape editor, Sandi Hoover at 932-1392.

Ted Eubanks, Jr. announced that the Houston Audubon Society has just purchased a 5% undivided interest in the Smith Oaks property at High Island, with negotiations continuing. He explained that the purchase constitutes a conservation easement, requiring the approval of HAS before any future sale.

Libby Price urged members to contribute articles on birding trips to The Spoonbill. [Thanks to the raise in dues and economies reported above, contributors need not be afraid of having articles cut..Ed.]

After discussion of a recent Massachusetts rare bird sighting and UTC sightings, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM. Caroline Callery, Secretary

FOR OG information, checklists, maps, contact Maxine Davis, 10602 Cedarhurst, Houston 77096, 723-8559.

SEND bird sightings for Clearing House to: Art MacKinnon, P.O. Box 9437, Beaumont TX 77709, 1-409-385-6789.

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