



THE SPOONBILL

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+ Of the Passenger Pigeon +
+ From Audubon's Ornithological Biography +
+ taken from Peterson's The Bird Watcher's +
+ Anthology. +
+ "But I have satisfied myself, by long +
+ observation, that nothing but the gradual +
+ diminution of our forests can accomplish +
+ their decrease, as they not unfrequently +
+ quadruple their numbers yearly, and +
+ always at least double it. +
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CLEARING HOUSE:

Compiled by: T. Ben Feltner

- Pied-billed Grebe: (20) 10/7, (8 other days) Cove AKM; (6) 10/23 Sugarland LS CS; (20) 10/23 W. Harris Co. HH LH "C"
- White Pelican: (11 days), (1500) 10/3, 10/20 Cove AKM; (1000-2000 every day) (3000) 10/26-30 LaPorte LS CS; (500) 10/23 Tunnel "A"
- Brown Pelican: (6) 10/23 Tex City "A"; (20) 10/30 Galv. "B"
- Double-crested Cormorant: (1) 10/10 LaPorte LS CS; (6) 10/16, 10/18, (7) 10/29, Cove AKM; (30) 10/23 Galv. HLP
- Olivaceous Cormorant: (2) 10/29 Cove AKM
- Cormorant (sp). Reported profusely throughout the area.
- Anhinga: (30) 10/1 S. of Dayton, (5) 10/13 Wallisville, AKM; (1) 10/12 LaPorte, (15) 10/23, Sugarland LS CS; (3) 10/23 W. Harris Co. HH LH "C"; (1) 11/5 Shel. BCP JP
- Cattle Egret: (60) 10/1, (75) 10/4, (45) 10/7, (25) 10/25 Cove AKM; (30) 10/23 W. Harris Co. WB
- Reddish Egret: (1) 10/3, 10/14 Cove AKM; (1) 10/6, 12, 14 (2) 10/10 LaPorte LS CS; (2) 10/10 Gal. TBF DAD; (2) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (4) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- American Bittern: (1) 10/18, 19 Cove AKM
- Wood Ibis: (13) 10/1, (1 crippled) 10/20, (25) 10/31 Cove AKM; (1) 10/6, 10, 14, 17, 20. (250) 10/19 LaPorte LS CS.
- White-faced Ibis: (1000) 10/1, (150) 10/3, (1) 10/7 Cove AKM; (3) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"
- White Ibis: (13 days) (1000) 10/1 Cove AKM; (30) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (9) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (55) 10/30 Highland Bayou "B"; (5) 11/5 Shel. BCP JP
- Roseate Spoonbill: (8 days), (75) 10/20 Cove AKM; (2) 10/11, (50) 10/29, LaPorte LS CS
1. White-fronted Goose: (1) (Greenland Form Answer albifrons flavirostris, see details) 10/10 Gal. DAD TBF; (13 days), (300) 10/17, (225) 10/19 Cove AKM
- *Canada Goose: (3) 10/22 Cove AKM; (15) 10/30 Texas City "B".
2. Snow & Blue Geese: (25 days) (7) 10/3 Cove AKM; (200) 10/15, (300) 10/16, (500) 10/27, 10% Blues LS CS; (45) 10/23 W. Harris Co. LH HH "C"; (3) 10/23 Highland Res. "A"; (500) 10/30 Gal. "B"; (1400) 10/30 W. Harris Co. SGW
- Fulvous Tree Duck: (320) 10/30 W. Harris Co. SGW
- *Mallard: (2) 10/19, (11) First sure migrants. 10/20 (4) 10/22, (8) 10/30 Cove AKM.
- *Black Duck: (2) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Mottled Duck: (10 days), (150) 10/3 Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 W. Harris Co. HH LH "C"; (1), 10/30 Gal. "B"; (5) 10/23 Gal. HLP
- *Gadwall: (1) 10/18, (30) 10/19 (70) 10/29 Cove AKM; (2) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (1) 10/30 Gal. "B"; (20) 10/23 Shumann Lake HH LH "C"
- Pintail: (8 days) (200) 10/3 Cove AKM; (10) 10/16, (25) 10/29 LaPorte LS CS; (3) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Green-winged Teal: (10 days) (1500) 10/3 Cove AKM
- Blue-winged Teal: (165) 10/1 (4) 10/15 (10) 10/29 LaPorte LS CS; (22 days) (700) 10/3 (300) 10/21 Cove AKM; (4) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- American Widgeon: (9 days 2-50 per day) (3000) 10/30 Cove AKM; (10) 10/23 Lake Schumann HH LH "C"; (13) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (10) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (60) 10/30 Gal. "B"

- Shoveler: (6 days) (32) 10/3, (20) 10/29 Cove AKM; (5) 10/23 Gal. HLP, "A" (25) 10/29 LaPorte LS CS; (6) 10/30 Gal. "B"; (2) 11/5 Shel. BCP JP
- Wood Duck: (1) 10/1, 8 Tunnel LS C
- *Redhead: (1) 10/23 Schumann Lake HH LH "C"
- Canvasback: (1) Not migrant 10/23 Cove AKM
- Lesser Scaup: (7) 10/3, (1) 10/29 (many thousands in the bay 10/28 Arnold McKay) Cove AKM; (2) 10/23 Schumann Lake HH LH "C"; (1) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (17) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Ruddy Duck: (1) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (2) 10/30 Gal. "B"
3. White-tailed Kite: (1) 10/8, LS CS; (2) 10/22 JBS NS LH; (1) 10/23 LH HH NCO "C".
Near Richmond.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk (2) 10/14, (1) 10/19, 21 Cove AKM; (1) 10/10 Gal. TBF DAD; (1) 10/29, 31 LaPorte LS CS.
- Cooper's Hawk: (3) 10/7, (1) 10/28, Cove AKM; (2) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (1) 10/30 Gal. "B"; (1) 11/5 LaPorte BCP JP
- Red-tailed Hawk: (9 days) (1) 10/18 (3) 10/23 (19) 10/30 (17) 10/31 Cove AKM; (1) 10/19 (2) 10/20 (8) 10/23 (2) 10/30 (4) 10/31 LaPorte LS CS; (30) 10/22 Sugarland Area (1) Krider's and one Melanistic "D"; (25) 10/23 Sugarland Area LH HH "C"; (5) 10/23 Gal. "A"
4. Harlan's Hawk: (1) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Broad-winged Hawk: (1) 10/10 Hous. SGW; (1) 10/23 (1) 10/31 LaPorte LS CS
- Swainson's Hawk: (1) 10/5, 30 Cove AKM; (11) 10/3, Sugarland LH HH "C"; (1) 10/31 LaPorte LS CS
- White-tailed Hawk: (1) 10/23 N. Ellington HLP
5. Rough-legged Hawk: (1) 10/15 LaPorte LS CS
6. Ferruginous Hawk: (1) 10/31 LaPorte LS CS
- *Bald Eagle: (2) 10/23 Cove AKM
- Marsh Hawk: (20 days) (9) 10/4, (16) 10/30 (19) 10/31 Cove AKM; (12) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (12) 10/23 Gal. Area "A"
- Osprey: (1) 10/5, 15, 18, 22 LaPorte LS CS; (2) 10/6, (1) 10/7, 9, 20, 29; (2) 10/30 Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"; (1) Gal. "B"; (1) 11/5 Cedar Bayou BCP JP
- Caracara: (1) 10/5 Cove AKM; (1) 10/8 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/30 Webster "B"
- Peregrine Falcon: (1) 10/5 Cove AKM; (1) 10/7 (2) 10/15 (1) 10/31 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/30 Gal. "B" Total 6.
- Pigeon Hawk or Merlin: (1) 10/14, 10/20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/6, (1) 10/7, (1) 10/16 LaPorte LS CS; Total 4
- Sparrow Hawk or Kestrel: (13) 10/4, (15) 10/6, (17) 10/30 Cove AKM; (7) 10/23 Gal. & Area "A"; (Profuse Reports)
- Bobwhite: (2 with ten downy chicks) 10/6 LaPorte LS CS
- King Rail: (1) 10/3, 14, 19 (2) 10/29 Cove AKM
- Clapper Rail: (1) 10/10 Gal. TBF DAD; (1) 10/18, 20 Cove AKM
- Virginia Rail: (1) 10/3 Cove AKM
- Common Gallinule: (1) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (1) 10/31 Cove AKM
- Coot: (6 days) (3) 10/3, (31) 10/20, (2500) 10/30 Cove AKM
7. Semipalmated Plover: (9 days) (16) 10/1 Cove AKM; (3) 10/23 Gal. "A"
- Piping Plover: (23) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (4) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Snowy Plover: (7) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Black-bellied Plover: (9 days) (44) 10/1 Cove AKM; (60) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Ruddy Turnstone: (2) 10/20 Cove AKM; (30) 10/23 Gal. "B"
- Common Snipe: (11 days) (47) 10/13 Cove AKM; (1) 10/15 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/22 Katy SGW; (10) 11/6 Sugarland HH LH
- Long-billed Curlew: (25) 10/1 Cove AKM; (1) 10/15 LaPorte LS CS; (17) 10/23 Gal. "A"
- Upland Plover: (1) 10/4, (2) 10/6 Cove AKM
- Spotted Sandpiper: (1) 10/7 Nav. Dist. TBF; (7 days 3rd to 30th) Cove AKM
- Greater Yellowlegs: (10 days) (19) 10/3 Cove AKM; (Profuse reports of small numbers)
- Lesser Yellowlegs: (800) 10/3, (150) 10/14 (10) 10/29 Cove AKM
- Knot: (6) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (3) 10/23 Gal. "A"
- Pectoral Sandpiper: (1) 10/1, (1 cripple) 10/20 Cove AKM
- Dunlin: (3) 10/9 Cove AKM; (1) 10/9, (3) 10/10, (10) 10/15, (50) 10/20, 24, (100) 20, 26, 29 LaPorte LS CS; (30) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Stilt Sandpiper: (20) 10/1, (8) 10/3, Cove AKM; (200) 10/1, (25) 10/20, (5) 10/24, 29, (10) 10/30, (25) 10/31, LaPorte LS CS
- Marbled Godwit: (7) 10/10 Gal. TBF DAD; (9) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (10) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (3) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Sanderling: (1) 10/9 Cove AKM; (10) 10/10 Gal. DAD TBF; (239 Actual count for 2/3 W. Beach taken by DAD) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (5) 10/31 LaPorte LS CS
- American Avocet: (500) 10/1 (200); 10/5, 6, 20; (300) 10/24 (100) 10/26 (500) 10/29 (200) 10/30, 31, LaPorte LS CS; (3) 10/20 Cove AKM; (4) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (2) 10/23 Sugarland "C"; (6) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (4) 10/3 Gal. "B"; (32) 10/5 Tunnel BCP JP
- Black-necked Stilt: (2) 10/14 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/23 Nav. Dist. "A"; (1) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Herring Gull: (3) 10/10 Gal. DAD TBF; (9) 10/23 Gal. "A"
- Franklin's Gull: (2) 10/18, (3) 10/29, (9) 10/30, (5) 10/31 Cove AKM; (300) 10/26, (125) 10/30 (50) 10/31 LaPorte LS CS
- Least Tern: (3) 10/5 LaPorte LS CS
- Black Tern: (4) 10/5, (2) 10/17 LaPorte LS CS

- Sandwich Tern: (12) 10/10 Gal. TBF DAD; (25) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (26) 10/23 Gal. "A";
(4) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Black Skimmer: (2) 10/7, (1) 10/19, 29 Cove AKM; (350) 10/10 Gal. TBF DAD; (300) 10/23
Gal. "A"; (150) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Ground Dove: (1) 10/18 Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 Sugarland area HH LH "C"; (2) 10/23 Sugar-
land CS
- Inca Dove: (2) 10/23 Gal. "A"
8. Roadrunner: (1) 10/23 Moss's Bluff Ara Harmon (fide AKM)
- Barn Owl: (1) 10/7, 19 Cove AKM
- Screech Owl: (7 days) Cove AKM; (2) Resident LaPorte LS CS
- Great Horned Owl: (22 days) Cove AKM
- Barred Owl: (1) 10/22, 29 Cove AKM
- Chuck-will's-widow: (2) 10/3 LaPorte LS CS
- Whip-poor-will: (1) 10/6, (3) 10/20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/10 found dead LaPorte LS CS
- Common Nighthawk: (37) 10/7 Nav. Dist. TBF; (5) 10/16 Houston LS CS; (2) 10/20 Houston
JBS NS; (1) 10/22 Clodine SGW
- Chimney Swift: (1) 10/1, 19 Cove; (2) 10/21 Baytown AKM; (10-25) through 10/26, (2)
10/29, (1) 10/30 LS CS; (6) 10/19, (3) 10/28 Houston SGW
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird: (16 days), (3) 10/15, 10/11, 10/18, (1) 10/31 Cove AKM; (9)
10/3 (10) 10/5, 6 (15) 10/8, (3) 10/12, (5) 10/13 (3) 10/15 (1) 10/17, 18, 19, 20
(3) 10/21 (1) 10/22, 26, 27, 28 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (1)
10/23 Gal. "A"; (2) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (1) 10/30 NS
9. Rufous Hummingbird: (1) 10/6 Cove AKM; (2) 10/17, (1) 10/18, (2) 10/19 (1) 10/20, 22
Morgan's Point. LS CS
- Belted Kingfisher: (10 days) (5) 10/3 (3) 10/18, 29 Cove AKM; (2) 10/10 Gal. "A"; (3)
10/23 Gal. HLP; (5) 11/5 BCP JP
- Yellow-shafted Flicker: (1) 10/1 LaPorte LS CS; (14 days) (5) 10/16 (6) 10/20 Cove AKM;
(10) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (3) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"
- Pileated Woodpecker: (1) 10/15, 19, 27 LaPorte LS CS; (3) 10/31 Cove AKM; (2) 10/23
Sugarland HH LH "C"; (2) 11/5 Cedar Bayou BCP JP
- Red-headed Woodpecker: (1) 10/28 LaPorte LS CS
- *Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: (6 days) (1) 10/9 Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (1) 10/24
LaPorte LS CS; (1) 11/5 Houston SGW
- Downy Woodpecker: (1) 10/9, 18, 20, 31 Cove AKM; (2) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (1) 10/23
Cedar Bayou "A"
- Eastern Kingbird: (1) 10/1, (3) 10/15 LaPorte LS CS
- Western Kingbird: (1) 10/6, Cove AKM; (1) 10/15 LaPorte LS CS
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: (20-45) 10/1 - 10/29, (5) 10/30, (150) 10/31 Nav. Dist. TBF;
(25) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (2) 10/25 LaPorte LS CS; (17) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Crested Flycatcher: (1) 10/6, (2) 10/8 Cove AKM
- Eastern Phoebe: (1) 10/16, (2) 10/18, (5) 10/20, (1) 10/27, (5) 10/29, 31 Cove AKM; (2)
10/15 LaPorte LS CS; (12) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (2) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (3) 10/23
Gal. HLP; (1) 11/5 LaPorte BCP JP
- empidonax (Species): (5) 10/6, (2) 10/20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 Gal. HLP
- Eastern Wood Pewee: (5 days) (1) 10/20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/5, 6, 21 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/23
Sugarland HH LH "C"; (1) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (3) 10/3 Gal. HLP; (1) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Vermilion Flycatcher: (1) 10/5, (3) 10/7, (1) 10/9, 19 Cove AKM; (1) 10/15 LaPorte LS CS;
(2) 10/23 Sugarland LH HH "C"
- Horned Lark: (4) 10/23 Gal. "A"
- Tree Swallow: (7) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"
- Rough-winged Swallow: (200) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"; (250) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- Barn Swallow: (100) 10/1, 6, 8 LaPorte LS CS; (12) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (700) 10/23
Cedar Bayou area "A"
- Cliff Swallow: (21) 10/22 W. Harris Co. SGW; (1) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"
- *Brown Creeper: (1) 10/30, (1) 11/3 Houston LH HH
- House Wren: (2) 10/6, (1) 10/14, (2) 10/18, (5) 10/20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/14, 15 LaPorte LS
CS; (3) 10/23 Seabrook "A"; (2) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (1) 10/30 Gal. "B"
- *Winter Wren: (1) 10/31 Cove AKM
- Long-billed Marsh Wren: (1) 10/6, 29, 30 Cove AKM
- Catbird: (1) 10/3, 5, 8, 10, 11; (3) 10/12, (1) 10/15, 16, 17 LaPorte LS CS; (6) 10/6, (1)
10/9, (10) 10/18, (7) 10/19 Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (2) 10/30 Kempner "B"
- Brown Thrasher: (15) 10/8 LaPorte LS CS; (3) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"; (1) 10/23 Cedar
Bayou "A"; (2) 10/23 Gal. HLP
- Robin: (1) 10/14 Cove AKM
- Eastern Bluebird: (10) 10/23 Sugarland "C"; (2) 10/23 Richmond LS CS; (8) 11/6 W. Harris Co.
LH HH
- *Golden-crowned Kinglet (No count) 10/29, (10) 10/31 LaPorte LS CS; (2) 11/1 Houston JBS;
(1) 11/6 Houston HH LH
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet: (11) 10/8, 20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/11, 12, 13, (4) 10/14 LaPorte LS CS;
(1) 10/23 Gal. HLP.
- Water Pipit: (1) 10/7, (6) 10/30 LaPorte LS CS (1) 10/23 Highland Res. "A"; (5) 10/20
Cove AKM; (75) 11/5 Houston SGW
- White-eyed Vireo: (1) 10/18 Cove AKM; (16) 10/22 W. Harris Co. SGW; (1) 10/30 Gal. "B";
(6) Cedar Bayou

- *Solitary Vireo: (1) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (1) 10/16, 21, 30 LaPorte LS CS
 Yellow-throated Vireo: (1) 11/6 Houston LH HH
 Red-eyed Vireo: (1) 10/5 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/18, 20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 Cedar Bayou TBF
 Philadelphia Vireo: (1) 10/5 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/18 Cove AKM
 Black & White Warbler: (1) 10/6, (3) 10/18, (2) 10/20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/16, 22 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"
 10. Worm Eating Warbler: (1) 10/8 Rice Stadium SGW
 Tennessee Warbler: (3) 10/6, (1) 10/14, (3) 10/18, (5) 10/20, (1) 10/30 Cove AKM; (3) 10/15, (1) 10/26, (22) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"; (5) 10/23 Gal. HLP
 Orange-crowned Warbler: (2) 10/15, (1) 10/16, 19, 21, 26, 30 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/19, 20, (2) 10/29 Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"
 Nashville Warbler: (15) 10/6, (1) 10/7, (3) 10/9, (10) 10/14, (30) 10/18, (1) 10/19, (10) 10/20, (8) 10/29, (1) 10/30 Cove AKM; (5) 10/7, (1) 10/10, 11, 21, 24, 31, (2) 10/15, 16, LaPorte LS CS; (10) 10/23 Cove "A"; (1) 10/23 Gal. HLP
 Parula Warbler: (1) 10/1 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/18, (2) 10/20 Cove AKM
 Yellow Warbler: (1) 10/1, 6, 21 LaPorte LS CS
 Magnolia Warbler: (1) 10/6, 14, 19, 29, 30; (5) 10/18, (6) 10/20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/10, 19, 20, 22 (2) 10/15 LaPorte CS LS; (1) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"; (1) 10/23 Gal. HLP
 11. Black-throated Blue Warbler: (1) 10/22 Houston SGW
 Myrtle Warbler: (1) 10/14 Cove AKM; (1) 10/25, 31 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 11/4 Houston SGW; (12) 11/6 Houston HH LH
 Black-throated Green Warbler: (1) 10/7, 16, 19, 26 (2) 10/21 LaPorte LS CS; (10) 10/18 (1) 10/20, 30 Cove AKM; (3) 10/23 Cove "A"; (1) 10/30 Kempner "B"
 12. Prairie Warbler: (1) 10/6 Cove AKM
 Palm Warbler: (3) 10/6, (1) 10/14, 18 Cove AKM
 Oven bird: (1) 10/18 Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 Gal. HLP
 13. Connecticut Warbler: (1) 10/10 LaPorte LS CS
 Yellow throat: (2-10) on 7 days Cove AKM; (1) 10/15, 23 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (1) 10/30 Gal. "B"
 Yellow-breasted Chat: (1) 10/1, 5, 6 LaPorte CS LS; (2) 10/6, 18, (1) 10/14 Cove AKM
 14. Hooded Warbler: (1) 10/14 LaPorte LS CS
 Wilson's Warbler: (1) 10/1, 15, 23, (3) 10/7 LaPorte LS CS; (10) 10/6, (1) 10/18 Cove AKM
 American Redstart: (1) 10/6, 20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/11, 13, 14, 28, 30 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (1) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (1) 10/30 Kempner "B"
 Bullock's Oriole: (1) 10/29 Cove AKM
 Common Grackle: (5) 10/23 Houston SGW; (3) 10/31 Cove AKM
 Summer Tanager: (1) 10/10, 20 Cove AKM
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak: (1) 10/16, 20 LaPorte LS CS; (1) 10/18, (15) 10/20
 Blue Grosbeak: (1) 10/6, 18, (2) 10/20 Cove AKM; (1) 10/15, 18 LaPorte LS CS
 Indigo Bunting: (1) 10/5, 7, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 LaPorte LS CS; (10 days) (50) 10/18, (100) 10/20 (12) 10/22 W. Harris Co. SGW; (1) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"; (2) 10/23 Gal. HLP; (3) 10/30 Gal. "B"
 Painted Bunting: (2) 10/6 Cove AKM
 Dickcissel: (1) 10/6, (2) 10/4 Cove AKM; (18) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"
 *American Goldfinch: (17) 10/31 Nav. Dist. TBF
 *Savannah Sparrow: (7) 10/14, (3) 10/21, (10) 10/30 Cove AKM; (1) 10/21 LaPorte CS LS; (10) 10/22 W. Harris Co. SGW; (6) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"
 *Grasshopper Sparrow: (1) 10/9 Cove AKM
 Seaside Sparrow: (7) 10/23 Gal. "A"; (1-3) on 5 days Cove AKM
 *Vesper Sparrow: (2) 10/31 Cove AKM
 Lark Sparrow: (3) 10/6 Cove AKM
 *Chipping Sparrow: (2) 10/31 Cove AKM; (1) 11/6 Houston HH LH
 *White-crowned Sparrow: (2) 10/8, (10) 10/18, 20 (3) 10/30 Cove AKM; (5) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"; (6) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"
 *White-throated Sparrow: (1) 10/23 Cedar Bayou "A"; (1) 10/29 Cove AKM
 *Lincoln's Sparrow: (3) 10/6 (1-6 on 8 days) Cove AKM; (1) 10/23 Cove "A"; (2) 10/23 Sugarland HH LH "C"
 *Swamp Sparrow: (2) 10/6, (3) 10/19, (2) 10/20 Cove AKM

DETAILS:

1. White-fronted Goose: On 10/10 Dudley Deaver and I were birding in Galveston on West Bay Fishing Camp Road when he spotted what he thought to be a duck feeding in the field to the east. On closer observation it proved to be a White-fronted Goose. The bird was alone and fairly tame; I was able to approach it to within 30 yards or so and could see all its field marks clearly. Knowing its field marks fairly well, I was astonished to see that it had a bright yellow bill. After consultation with SGW, and a little research I am satisfied that this individual is a Greenland White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons flavirostris*. TBF
2. Snow & Blue Geese: I have lumped these two species in the Clearing House for the sake of accuracy. In flocks flying overhead or at a distance, it is sometimes hard to tell if the immature Snowies are Snow or Blue Geese. In addition many people report the two as a unit. eg Twenty Snow and Blue Geese.

3. White-tailed Kite: Because of the rarity of this species, it is assumed that all this month's observations are subsequent sightings of the two birds reported by JBS on 10/2/60.
4. Harlan's Hawk: Status rare winter resident. Seen well by four competent observers.
5. Rough-legged Hawk: Status - rare winter resident.
6. Ferruginous Hawk: Status - rare winter resident.
7. Semipalmated Plover: On 10/23/60 SGW, DAD & TBF were birding the East Jetties at Galveston. Steve was using the scope to check the sand-bars for Sandwich Terns. He spotted a bird which at first appeared to be a Ruddy Turnstone with a soiled belly. Closer observation revealed that it was not dirt but jet black plumage. After about ten minutes of scrutiny both Steve and I agreed that the bird must be a variant Semipalmated Plover. It was a striking bird; the black underparts resembled those of the Black-throated Blue Warbler in color and shape.
8. Roadrunner: Very rare resident.
9. Rufous Hummingbird: rare winter resident and fall migrant.
10. Worm-eating Warbler: Rare fall migrant.
11. Black-throated Blue Warbler: Male still in spring plumage. Fourth fall record, seventh area record for this casual migrant.
12. Prairie Warbler: Rare fall migrant.
13. Connecticut Warbler: Rare fall migrant.
14. Hooded Warbler: Date 10/14 equals latest ever, set in 1959.

* First reported for the season.

CREDITS:

"A" - SGW, TBF, DAD	HLP - Harvey L. Patten
"B" - JBS, SGW, VLE, NS	BCP - Billy C. Pettit
"C" - ALL participants in October field trip	JP - Jean Pettit
"D" - JBS, NS, LH, HH	WB - Walter Barbare
AKM - Arlie K. McKay	TBF - T. Ben Feltner
LS - Linda Snyder	DAD - Dudley A. Deaver
CS - Clinton Snyder	SGW - Steve G. Williams
HH - Henry Hoffman	JBS - Jerry B. Strickling
LH - Louise Hoffman	NS - Nancy Strickling
	NGO - Norma C. Oates

COVE:

I counted 164 species in the month of October this year as compared to 196 in the corresponding month of 1959. On October 20, I tallied 101 species. Birding has been poor.

On the lighter side White-fronted Geese have been more plentiful than in many prior years. Snow and Blue Geese have been migrating since the 6th of October. Bobwhites also most in many years, coveys are many and large. While Western Sandpipers have been abundant, a marked decrease is evident in Semipalmated Sandpipers, the latter being recorded on only two days, the 7th and 14th. Only five Vermilion Flycatchers this fall is the lowest tally in over ten years. No Bank or Cliff Swallows were seen this month.

On October 14 I saw a Red-winged Blackbird which had a white tail with the exception of the two or three middle feathers.

On October 1, there were about 25 Long-billed Curlews at Damon McKay's house where they could be watched from the home for several weeks. They remained there till the dove season opened, feeding on his lawn and playing on his roof.

Points of Note:

Over-all birding for the month of October has not been up to par. Both Mr. McKay and the Snyders made note of this in their reports. During the latter part of October there was a prevailing trend of northerly weather which may have helped migrants to by-pass our area. If this is true, however, it didn't bring us any large numbers of wintering birds. The exceptions were geese, hawks and thrashers. Most wintering birds are just trickling in.

If I may interpret this local trend, I would say November will bring forth a birding plentitude especially in bird numbers.

Galveston has been rather void of passerine migrants so far but some of the water birds are in good numbers. I was impressed by the large numbers of Skimmers, Caspian and Royal Terns, reported from Galveston and the noticeable lack of Forster's Terns. I would judge the ratio of Royals to Forsters at Galveston at about 150 to 1. Eastern Bluebirds are beginning to reappear after a somewhat slim September. We may have some left after all.

The reports from LaPorte indicate this may be another good year for Golden-crowned Kinglets. This would, however, be rather unusual following last year's bountiful crop. As Vic Emanuel has pointed out they tend to run in cycles.

Forgive the brevity of this summation but it is hoped that I may impose on Vic to render an over-all fall picture in the December issue. "Good Birding".....TBF

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A REVIEW by D. A. Deaver

BIRDS OF ALASKA

by Ira N. Gabrielson, President Wildlife Management Institute and
Frederick C. Lincoln, Biologist, U. S. Department of the Interior

This is such an interesting and well written book that I found it difficult to stop reading long enough to write this review.

Of the 911 pages, literally loaded with goodies, the first 29 are devoted to a chronological "History of Alaskan Ornithology." This section deals heavily with the first date records of the various species, but is admirably well written so as not to be boring. The following section, "Some Interesting Aspects of Alaskan Ornithology," containing seven pages, is exactly that. A short section (four pages) on "Migration" is next and outlines in detail the known routes used by the several birds found in Alaska. Nine pages are then consumed with the explanation of "Alaskan Ecological Zones." These are excellently detailed and extremely valuable to anyone wanting to bird Alaska. The next page and a fraction deal briefly with the unsuccessful attempts to introduce game birds into the state. Following, is the heart of the work, The many species and sub-species, arranged, with a few exceptions, in A.O.U. checklist order, take up 777 pages. This means that an average of 2,47 plus pages are used for each of the 414 forms of 321 species. In some cases six or more pages are necessary per species while others require less than one. One hundred and thirty-two of these forms represent species found in our own area, either as migrants or winter residents. Herein, I believe, lies the greatest value of the book to the SPOONBILL reader. One now has the opportunity to study the life history of birds, such as the Blackpoll Warbler, that are seen but once, perhaps in several years. Thenceforth, when one sees the bird during migration, one greets a familiar friend instead of just another "good bird" for the day's list.

A very thorough "Description" which includes notes on the nests and eggs is given for each form in this section. Descriptions, running well over a page in length, are not uncommon. Then follows the bird's "General Range" after which the "Alaskan Range" is offered. This is highly detailed with many date records and paragraphs on spring and fall migration. Next we find what in my opinion is the most interesting facet of the work. It is entitled, simply, "Haunts and Habits." It is the known life history of each species, taken principally from the experiences of the senior author. His experiences cannot even with the wildest stretch of the imagination be called "limited." Reading this part of the book, one becomes desirous of departing immediately for Alaska to witness these wondrous avifauna personally.

The "Hypothetical List" follows with short paragraphs for each species. This list includes several "old favorites" such as Mockingbird, Starling and Willet.

The next section of the work is a "Gazetteer" which is helpful especially when in the "Alaskan Range" a bird is said to range from Unangashik to Takshagemut and has been recorded on the Opkawaruk and Oolammagavik Rivers.

This should be enough to make any book complete. There is, however, the "frosting" so to speak. I am referring to the extraordinarily fine color plates by Olaus J. Murie and Edwin R. Kalmbach. Ten plates picturing fifty-one species add tremendously to the book's already high value. Only two of the pictured species are known in our own area. The White-fronted Goose is a regular visitor and the other, the Harlan's Hawk has been recorded here.

Much can be said in praise of this book. However, to avoid rewriting it in this review, I can but vociferously recommend that each reader purchase and devour this fabulous volume. The book, first conceived in 1942, was completed on July 1, 1956 and published by The Stackpole Company in conjunction with The Wildlife Management Institute. "Birds of Alaska", priced at \$15.00, is not stocked in Houston but any of the major book stores can special order it with delivery in ten to thirty days.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

- November 20 (Sunday) Ornithology Group Field Trip led by Walter Barbare. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Sear's Parking Lot on Harrisburg. Sheldon Reservoir and Lake Houston are on the itinerary.
- November 25, 26 and 27 Texas Ornithological Society's Thanksgiving Field Trip at Del Rio, Texas with headquarters at the Roswell Hotel. Registration begins at 2:00 p.m. in the lobby of the Roswell on November 24. Since our space is limited, see Nance Cunningham's write-up in Nature Club Notes, Vol. 9, Issue 8.
- December 13 (Tuesday) Outdoor Nature Club Meeting, Garden Center, 8:00 p.m. Armand Yramategui will speak on "Unique Natural Areas in Texas."
- December 26 (Monday) 4th Annual Freeport Christmas Count. Last year Freeport pulled up to 10th in the nation; with your help it could very easily take higher honors. For information, contact Vic Emanuel, leader and compiler at 234A Simkin's Hall, Austin 18, Texas.
- December 31 (Saturday) Houston's 26th Annual Christmas Count. Last year we placed 7th in the national race. We have the potential to do better. Let's show Sabine a few additional species. Call Walter Barbare, GY 4-2365, for details.

FIELD TRIP - OCTOBER 23, 1960 reported by Clayton Gilman

Wonder of Wonders! A field trip without rain. Such was the happy experience of those who met at Sugarland on the morning of October 23, and under the leadership of Louise and Henry Hoffman, headed for Schumann's Lake, a short distance east of Sugarland. The first birds of note were White-crowned and Lincoln's Sparrows which were feeding along Richmond Road in the weeds and also in the beautiful stand of yaupon along the fence. A few ducks - Gadwall, Red Head - Coots and cormorants were seen in the lake.

And then came the outstanding event of the day. As the group was returning to the cars, the sharp eyes of Norma Oates discovered an almost completely white bird perched on a dead tree some hundred yards from the road. Excitement ran high upon its identification as a White-tailed Kite. The bird remained on its perch for a considerable length of time, then slowly flew away, giving everyone an opportunity to observe the black patches on the wings. A first, for many of us.

The next stop was at a small Mexican cemetery just off Hiway 6 where we found Eastern Bluebirds, Downy Woodpeckers and, along the shore of a nearby stream, a pair of Avocets. It was now the time of day when the inner man must be satisfied so we proceeded south to a grove of trees hard by what is known as the Levee Road and disposed of what food had not been nibbled away during the morning. At this point, Walter Barbare found it necessary to return to Houston and enroute found 30 Cattle Egrets that had been missed by the main group. Traveling west on the Levee Road produced nothing out of the ordinary except one Ground Dove, and a large flock of crows which were venting their spleen on a solitary hawk, species unknown.

After returning to the vicinity of Sugarland, some of the group headed for home while others went on to Richmond and down the west side of the Brazos in quest of two White-tailed Kites that had been seen in that area. The kites were not found but two Pileated Woodpeckers and several more hawks were added to the list as well as additional bluebirds. A total of 65 species.

Those participating in the trip were Bess, Walter and Lee Barbare; Thelma Smith, Eva and Clayton Gilman, Carolyn Simmons, Edna Miner, Luta Buchanan, Jerry Baker, Nancy and Jerry Strickling, Cathy and Milton Frachuer, Norma Oates, Josiephone Wilkin, Ruth Moorman, Nance Cunningham, Armand Yramategui, and we were glad to welcome as guests, Pat and Linda Heard from Corpus Christi, and Charles Stein.

DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE: DECEMBER 1, 1960

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 Secretary Miss Katrina Thompson, 2039 Milford (6)
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