

THE SPOONBILL

Volume XXVI, No. 1
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PUBLISHED BY THE ORNITHOLOGY GROUP, OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB, HOUSTON, TEXAS

A REMINDER.....DUES ARE DUE

Mary Gillette reports many members and subscribers have responded to our dues notice of last month, but there are some of you who have not as yet done so. Please, will you mail your check today? Remember, members' dues are \$2.00 (plus \$5.00 for ONC) and non-member subscriptions to THE SPOONBILL are \$3.00.

COMING EVENTS

- Saturday
May 14 OG field trip to West Galveston to get those late migrants. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Kempner Park. Half day trip, bring lunch and insect repellent.
- Sunday
May 15 Most of us, when going to Galveston, have birded the pond near the Galveston Daily News building. It is extremely rich in birdlife and needs protection from development and also controls on the water level. Some interested Galveston birders would like to see this area preserved as a Bird Sanctuary. You are invited to a meeting to be held at 2:00 p.m. at the Armand Bayou Nature Center so concerned birders can get together to form some kind of plan and organization. There is a lot of individual support --what is needed is to get it all together. Your presence, with your ideas and interest, will be appreciated. We groan a lot about the rapid disappearance of familiar birding haunts, here is a chance to actively support an attempt to save a "Good Birding Spot"!
- Saturday
May 21 The OG Henslow Census is postponed pending permission from Santa Fe to enter their property. Ted Eubanks asks everyone who plans to help with the census to let him have your name, and as soon as he gets the word he will call each one and give the date and time.
- Saturday
May 21 Visitor's Day at Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary should be called Visitor's Weekend, for Marian Taylor says camping will be allowed Friday and Saturday nights. The Sanctuary will be open until 3:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Be sure to take insect repellent, food and water. Send your list of birds seen (make a note of any nesting birds) to the 1977-78 Sanctuary Checklist Compiler, Alfred Chandler, 1200 Bettles, Conroe, Texas 77301.
- May 21-31 Merlin Birding Tours trip to Arizona. Ben Feltner can lead you straight to the birds for which Arizona is famous. For information write P.O. Box 19687, Houston, Texas 77024.

FUTURE EVENTS TO PLAN FOR

Judy and Roger Novak of Galveston are arranging a trip to the Galapagos Islands, July 26 to Aug. 3. The trip involves flying to the Galapagos and spending five days on the M/V Buccaneer (90 passenger air-conditioned cruise ship), visiting five of the islands. Shore trips and nightly preview presentations will be conducted by local naturalists. Optional extensions including the Upper Amazon and Machu Picchu (Peru) are available. For further information write the Novaks at 105 Tarpon, Galveston, Texas 77550. A description of the trip and a film show, "The Galapagos Islands and Ecuador" will be presented May 13, at 8:00 p.m. at the Galvez Hotel in the Director's Room. If you wish, you may call the Novaks, after five, at AC713, 762-3272.

A Merlin Birding Tour to the Northwest Pacific is planned for June 25 to July 5. You can see both land birds and pelagics under Ben Feltner's leadership. For information, write P.O. Box 19687, Houston, Texas 77024.

PAST EVENTS by Ted Eubanks, Jr.

Spring migration on the Texas Gulf Coast is as unpredictable as the weather systems which affect it so. For example, migrant birding during March proved to be excellent, with lingering cold fronts causing minor fallouts on March 20 and on the weekend of March 26-27. Early April birding, however, was abnormally slow. A strong high pressure ridge along the Gulf Coast and a powerful storm system off the Yucatan combined to produce one of the most migrant-scarce early-Aprils in memory. For instance, on the weekend of April 8-9 David and Jan Dauphin birded the coast from Galveston to High Island and observed no warblers. On the same weekend in 1976, at the same locations, I recorded 18 species. This, therefore, is the setting for the April 16 OG field trip to High Island, a day which once again proved the inconstancies of migrant birding, a day which went from scarcity to abundance, from famine to feast.

The morning of April 16 dawned dust-dry, the rains which had deluged Houston the day before having totally missed High Island. The 30-odd participants on the field trip met at 8:00 a.m. in High Island's roadside park, and divided into two groups to cover the region's habitat more effectively. One group, under the guidance of Paul Nimmons, birded the oil fields surrounding the salt dome, and recorded Black Tern, Long-billed Marsh Wren and Virginia Rail, among other species. The second group, led by David Dauphin, covered Scout's Woods, and were rewarded for their efforts the grand total of one Hooded Warbler! Down, but not out, Dauphin regrouped the troops at Smith's Woods and began the battle anew. Gradually, as the morning wore on, the tide began to change. Numerous bands of warblers began to appear in the pecan trees on the north side of Smith's, and before the rains came at noon more than twenty species had been recorded. Although the torrents washed most of the birders away at noon, many of the die-hards stayed in hopes that the rains would produce one of the famous Gulf Coast passerine fallouts in the afternoon. (And it did. See below. --Ed.)

MIGRANT FALLOUT AT HIGH ISLAND by Jim Morgan

On April 16 a mid-day thunderstorm followed by light intermittent rain produced a significant migrant fallout at High Island. After a dull morning the welcome rain brought down large numbers of birds all afternoon. Sightings of various birders observing this event showed a count of 25 species of warblers. Our party of Glenn and Penny Cureton and myself logged 20 species of warblers plus numerous other migrants. All estimates of numbers have been submitted to the Clearing House for publication. A brief list of the highlights includes 50+ Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, 200+ Red-eyed Vireos, 200+ Tennessee Warblers, 100+ Orchard Orioles, 175+ Scarlet Tanagers, 75+ Summer Tanagers and 100+ Indigo Buntings. Also significant was the sighting of 20+ Blackpoll Warblers. The total number of individuals was estimated at 1200+ migrants which includes only Smith's Woods. Including Boy Scout Woods would probably bring the total to 2000+ as reports from that area said that the fallout was exceptional there also. All estimates are felt to be conservative.

But such a fallout produced excitement far beyond mere numbers to report. For instance, the viewing of 5 Scarlet and 2 Summer Tanagers through my binoculars while focused on one spot, or three Blackpolls in binocular view at one time, or the finding of generally low feeding warblers (such as Worm-eating Warblers) high in the trees, or finding the huge Live Oaks in the middle of Smith's Woods literally covered with Red-eyed Vireos and Tennessee Warblers which one had to sort through to find other species, or finding a Mulberry tree sprinkled with the variety of color produced by numerous Tanagers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Indigo Buntings and Orchard Orioles, only to be enhanced when a male Northern Oriole zips in to get in on the feast. Such a fallout is a truly rewarding experience to view.

In order to follow up on this fallout, Ted Eubanks, Jr. and I returned to High Island the next morning where we found the total number of individuals to be much less than the preceding afternoon, but the variety of species even better. We ran into Paul and Margaret Jones who had seen 19 species of warblers by 8:00 a.m. (and 24 by 10:00 --Ed.!) Ted and I logged 24 species of warblers that day plus all the migrant thrushes in good numbers, both cuckoos in quantities and large numbers of catbirds. This was truly a weekend that I (and others I am sure) will remember for a long time.

COMMENTARY ON THIS SPRING'S MIGRATION

The south-easterly winds seemed to push our warblers right on over our heads, except when the occasional rains brought some down. But they didn't seem to tarry long, a few hours and they were up, up and away. The May Dallas newsletter reports a scarcity of warblers; Tom Collins, who has monitored Freeport Municipal Park several times a day for the past month and a half, reports that when numbers of warblers come in to the park after a rain, they seem to melt away within a few short hours. 1975-1976 found the weather favoring the birders, this year it favored the birds! But the

thrushes have been the exception, especially the Swainson's Thrush. That bird has been seen everywhere and in numbers. For instance, in our yard in Bellaire 2 to 5 Swainson's have been seen every day since April 16, up to 3 Wood Thrushes also, and most days a Veery or two and a Gray-cheeked Thrush. The numbers in our yard started dwindling about the 2nd of May. The songs have been the delight of our lives for the past couple of weeks: early in the morning has brought us the flute-like notes of the Wood Thrush, and the musical song of the Swainson's has been heard from early morning to dusk. A neighbor's mulberry tree just the other side of our back fence has provided us with a feast for the eyes, with Indigo Buntings, Cedar Waxwings, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Northern and Orchard Orioles, all four thrushes, Tennessee Warblers (also in numbers, 8 to 10 some days), White-throated Sparrows and American Goldfinch, and Scarlet and Summer Tanagers visiting it day after day. The mulberries are almost gone and an occasional Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Swainson's Thrush was still being seen by May 5.

BRAZOSPORT REPORT by Sherry Collins

(The February, 1977 SPOONBILL carried an item about the formation of a new birding group, the Brazosport Birders. Sherry Collins has consented to be THE SPOONBILL reporter for this group, and from time to time we will have her news of their activities).

On April 19, the Brazosport Birders held their regularly scheduled meeting at the Museum of Fine Arts. Tom Collins gave a program of taped bird calls of 20 species commonly found in this area. Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month. Anyone interested in further details please contact me at 265-4857.

Our field trip to the Freeport Municipal Park on April 2 caught some of the early migrants--parula, hooded, black-and-white, prothonotary, and blue-winged warblers. Many in our group are new to birding, and this was their first experience with spring migration. Needless to say, they were thrilled with their first sightings of the brilliantly colored warblers.

Our first group effort in a bird count was rather frustrating. We decided to participate in the Hawk Migration Watch scheduled for March 24-26. The weather didn't cooperate, and visibility was so low that the count had to be called off. We tried again the next two weekends, but rain and fog kept the count to zero. A spur-of-the-moment count organized when we saw broadwings coming in to roost on April 4, netted over 200 broadwings in 2 hours the next morning. Accipiters were seen coming in to the Dow Nature Trail late on April 24th. The next two days large numbers of accipiters, mostly sharp-shinned, Mississippi kites, broadwings, Swainson's and 2 ospreys were seen as they flew north across Flag lake. Reavis Johnson called in a sighting by his son of 2 swallow-tailed kites over the Angleton Intermediate School.

We've experienced one fall-out of warblers. On the afternoon of April 20, after the severe weather of that morning, Tom Collins and Jim Haddox found 22 species of warblers at the Freeport Municipal Park. A search of the same area the next morning, in gorgeous weather, turned up only 10 species.

EASTER VACATION IN THE VALLEY by Jim Morgan

During Easter vacation, Glenn and Penny Cureton and I made an enjoyable birding trip to the Rio Grande Valley and lower Texas coast. Your SPOONBILL editor requested that we share the highlights of our trip with you... We left Houston at 5:00 a.m. on Monday, April 4 and made our first stop at Refugio to look for the Green Kingfisher. This proved unsuccessful so we continued south until Riviera where we observed 30-40 Fulvous Whistling Ducks at the roadside pond along with several other duck species. Our next stop was the first roadside park in Sarita where we easily found the Tropical Parula Warbler along with a few migrants and a Greater Kiskadee. The second roadside park in Sarita produced three Vermilion Flycatchers and numerous Lesser Goldfinch plus an assortment of central Texas coast resident species. The remainder of the trip to McAllen produced ducks at roadside ponds, two Caracara, Swainson's Hawks and a White-tailed Kite along Highway 77. A quick trip late that afternoon to Santa Ana NWR produced an excellent viewing of a Gray Hawk, and a Bobcat bounding in front of our car. Tuesday morning found us back at Santa Ana where we found most of the Valley residents, including two Least Grebes on Willow Lake. We also saw about 40-50 Black-bellied Whistling Ducks, White-tailed Kite again, two Buff-bellied Hummingbirds, and two birds, commonly seen on the UTC, Whip-poor-will and Swamp Sparrow, which are not so common at Santa Ana at this time of year. At Santa Ana we witnessed two flocks of 35-50 Broadwinged Hawks rising on early-mid morning thermals, and another Bobcat. The following day we set out for the Falcon Dam area and we observed an Osprey on Hwy 83 west of McAllen. West of Roma we found 6-10 Brown Jays along the Rio Grande, a pair of fishing Ospreys, and three Ringed Kingfishers. Farther west below the dam we found

another Osprey, but still no Green Kingfishers. An afternoon visit to Falcon State Park produced many of the western desert species including Cassin's and Clay-colored Sparrows and yet another Osprey (possibly same one observed below the dam). A trip to Bentsen State Park that night to try for the Elf Owl was disrupted by a large birding tour group who dominated the area and consequently nobody saw the owl that night. Thursday morning found us back at Bentsen to observe one of the Orioles missed at Santa Ana. We found the Hooded Oriole and then set out for Laguna Atascosa NWR where we saw more Least Grebes, an Eared Grebe in beautiful spring plumage, and one more Osprey, bringing the total to 5 or 6 Ospreys for two days, something we were pleased to see. We set out for Refugio at mid-afternoon and observed a beautiful White-tailed Hawk along Hwy 77. Early Friday morning proved to be successful at Refugio as not one, but two, Green Kingfishers were found, suggesting possible nesting in the area. After this success we headed toward Aransas NWR and the entrance roads produced Carrara, Bay-winged (Harris') Hawk, a female Mallard with young, and nesting Cliff Swallows. The refuge was good for waders and marsh birds, but absolutely no migrants. Friday evening found us enroute back to Houston. Though we missed the Hook-billed Kites at Santa Ana and a few other species we had hoped for, the trip was truly enjoyable. The weather was not ideal for birding but was ideal for the birders. No attempt was made to "run up a list" but a final tally showed 160 species seen on the trip.

AROUND AND ABOUT

** On March 31 the SPOONBILL editor, with several others, joined Bessie Cornelius of Beaumont in a search for the Bachman's Sparrow north of Silsbee. A very few were heard singing, one was briefly glimpsed, the sky got lower and lower, and on the way back to Beaumont we ran into a torrential rain. A subsequent letter from Bessie included this interesting comment: "...But I do know those birds are in that area except I could not account for their behavior Wednesday. By all the rules they should have been singing from every brush pile. But I believe because the barometer was falling before the approaching storm the sparrow, as well as the other birds in the area, felt the increased weight of the air in their hollow bones and they didn't feel like singing. Also, it is said the falling barometer causes all wildlife to stick closer to the ground; because of this the insects were also closer to the ground. The weather man told me that the Chinese are doing a study with birds and other animals in relation to earthquakes. They believe birds detect fault lines moving before the actual tremor; that what is called infra-sound, long wave lengths, are detected by wildlife before the human ear ever hears it, if at all; that before storms erratic animal behavior is often noted. I have to have some excuse for not getting that sparrow to perform for all of you. I would have tried chasing the one you saw but I have found that does little good because they just run through the grass ahead of you. So, I say it was just because the weight of the air on Wednesday that the little bird kept out of our sight!"

** And let me share a portion of another letter with you. This one is from Randy Korotev, a former member and present subscriber in Madison, Wisconsin. "....Spring has been a bit weird here, too. The cold winter let up early; from mid February on it's been unseasonably warm. I'd estimate the flowers and trees are about 7-10 days ahead of average now. But I've only seen four species of warblers so far (April 25). I've been chasing around the state quite a bit during the last two months looking for "state" birds. The best bird was a European Wigeon that obligingly stayed for a week in a marsh near here. However, it took over two hours of searching through hundreds of American Wigeons and many other ducks to find him--worse than looking for a Ross' Goose! Some other good birds I've been lucky enough to see have been Sharp-tail Grouse, Saw-whet Owl, Black-backed 3-toed Woodpecker, Boreal Chickadee, Gray Jay, and Bohemian Waxwing".

** Mary Bourgeois sends us this account of the joys and trials of the fairly new birder: "A non-expert birder, I went with four other non-experts to the Anahuac Refuge April 17, and want to report that we saw a scarlet tanager so well that even non-experts couldn't miss it. I watched it for about 10 minutes with the naked eye and 8x32 binoculars, while the others picked blackberries. It was in full sun, in reeds 10 to 15 feet from the road, bright red, with black wings and tail and a faint tinge of yellow on each side of the breast next to the black wing, light colored beak. We saw about 4 blue-winged teal, a dozen coots, about 10 scissor-tailed flycatchers, 2 or 3 kingfishers, red-winged blackbirds in numbers, sparrows we couldn't identify, a covey of bobwhites, a number of meadowlarks, a number of kingbirds, and waterbirds we couldn't identify for sure, forgive us. My sister saw a mockingbird knock another bird out of a tree in our backyard. It lay stunned and later died, a hole in its throat. Even with the little carcass in our hands, she wrote Swainson's thrush on her list and I wrote gray-cheeked thrush on mine.....but we're learning!"

** Doris Winship of Rockport, with whom the editor chatted briefly at High Island last month, passed along some distressing information about the "birding climate" in the Rockport area. Rockport, almost solely due to Connie Hagar, became famous as a Mecca for birds and birders, and the residents were quite proud of their town's fame. However, that bloom is fading rapidly due to the gross inconsideration of some people who are so eager to "see the birds" they ignore all courtesy and consideration due property owners. And we all suffer because of the lack of manners of a few. Please, do not enter property without permission; if you have permission do not abuse it by thoughtless acts (for instance, what farmer would be happy with a bunch of birders straggling across his freshly planted field).

PLACES TO GO

** Unfortunately, this is news of a place to not go. Due to construction activities at the Dow Wilderness Trail in Lake Jackson, visitors are asked to not enter. At this time it is not known whether Dow will reopen a portion of the Trail when construction is completed. We will keep you informed of any new developments.

** Rice fields, in preparation or planted, can still be rewarding. For instance, Margaret Anderson and the editor found 17 Hudsonian Godwits in a puddle in a muddy field on Stockdick Road in West Harris County on May 4. And that same day, while checking a rice field where the rice was already 10 or 12 inches high, Margaret Anderson caught a quick but convincing glimpse of a Black Rail as it rose, fluttered a few feet, then dropped out of sight (the editor, to her chagrin, was looking the other way!). There were many White-rumped Sandpipers (one Baird's) that day, also.

** In checking past Clearing Houses it seems the beaches and the parks (Memorial, Bear Creek, Spring Creek, etc.) were birded the most in late May and during June. Probably picnicking and birding were being combined! Looking for nesting birds, newly fledged birds, particularly marsh and shore birds, can provide a delightful birding experience.

RESULTS OF HAS' BIG DAY RUN April 23, 1977

Participants: 17 Total species: 221

Team 1: Jim Morgan, Bob Moulton, Glenn Cureton, Penny Cureton -- saw 167 species

Team 2: George & Jane Clayton, Ted & Janet Eubanks, Rich Goldfarb -- saw 168 species

Team 3: Holly Hobart, Debbie DeKeyzer: saw 142 species

"Team 4": Noel Pettingill: saw 140 species

Team 5: Judy & Roger Novak: saw 88 species

Team 6: Jamie Leverette, Cindy Howard (novice birders): saw 52 species

"Team 7": Tom Collins: 128 species

Every team had "exclusive" sightings, area covered was from Freeport area east to High Island, Houston south to coast.

NEW BIG DAY ROUTE PRODUCES ONE-PARTY TOTAL OF 178 SPECIES by Noel Pettingill

On April 30 David Dauphin, Ted Eubanks, Jr., Paul Nimmons, and the writer attempted an all-out assault on the Upper Texas Coast Big Day Record of 194 species (incl. Rock Dove and Boat-tailed and Great-tailed Grackles) established on April 22, 1971 by a party of 5 (182 species identified by every observer). But instead of following the traditional Sheldon/Anahuac/High I./Bolivar routes, the 1977 group began their Big Day at the battleship "Texas" where two "staked-out" owls were confirmed by 4:45 a.m. (CDT)--Barn (nesting in the ship) and Screech. Next stop was the Houston Lighting & Power Cooling Ponds and Cotton Bayou marsh area in NW Chambers County where two more owls were found (Horned and Barred), along with unusually late Ring-necked and Canvas-back ducks, and both cormorants. White Memorial Park at I-10 and Tex. 61 was next along the route and here essential woodland species were added among which were a late Brown Creeper and 8 kinds of warblers, including Swainson's, Anahuac NWR was the next major birding area and, thanks to a 45-minute marsh buggy tour (with Ed Jackson at the wheel), we saw 5 rail species which included 3 Black and 10 Yellow! Two beautiful male Ring-necked Pheasants were also seen, one just inside the entrance and another just after we left the Refuge. From about noon until 2:30 p.m. we birded the High Island area where we found late Worm-eating and Myrtle Warblers and an elusive bird briefly glimpsed by David Dauphin which he feels could only have been a Black-throated sparrow. Ironically, what may have been the best bird of the day got away before either Dauphin or others in the party could substantiate the sighting, so we reluctantly decided to consider it as an unconfirmed report. (It should be noted "For the Record" that John and Gloria Tveten saw a Black-throated Sparrow at High Island (!) on April 18, 1965, as reported in THE SPOONBILL, May, 1965 (pp.3 & 15) and Audubon Field Notes, Aug., 1966 (p.497).) As we left High Island heading west along the beach toward Bolivar Flats we

ran into rain which would continue for the rest of the day. Unfortunately, we encountered no significant land bird "waves" as a result of the bad weather at either Port Bolivar or Kempner Park on Galveston, so we concentrated on marsh birds, finishing up the day's birding at Galveston Island State Park with a total of 178 species, including the pheasant (breeding and perhaps established in Chambers County) and 20 species of warblers. The biggest "misses" of the day were Shoveler, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Painted Bunting. Also missing were some ♂ warblers we had expected to find. Including Cerulean, Chestnut-sided, Kentucky, Chat, and Canada. Also not on the list were Loon, all the hawks except for Marsh, Snowy Plover, Snipe, Solitary Sandpiper, Acadian (or Empidonax) flycatcher, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Bluebird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and Yellow-throated Vireo. Had we been able to find all 30 of the missing expected species, as well as the 178 we actually recorded (which included 11 "unexpected" or "bonus" species), our total would have exceeded our goal of over 200 in one day by a single party. We were never more than 45 minutes behind our schedule and actually reached Galveston Island a full hour ahead of our planned arrival because we didn't have to use that amount of time which had been allowed for the Bolivar Ferry wait (thanks to the rain). The route we had chosen for this "experimental" party run certainly has the potential for a 200-plus Big Day if it were to be scheduled a week earlier and the route as well as the timetable were to be modified somewhat (e.g., more time spent in woodlands and rice fields by remaining on Bolivar Peninsula until dark).

ANNOUNCING A "NEWS EXCHANGE" OF UNUSUAL BIRDS

The OG has the Rare Bird Alert, which was formed years ago for the purpose of quickly getting news to a few avid birders of a really rare feathered visitor to our area, i.e., the Texas City Dike Kittiwake, and the Quintana Purple Sandpiper. However, it has been felt for sometime that news of unusual birds should be available on a current basis, not extremely rare birds, but ones that a lot of people would like the opportunity of seeing such as the Bobolinks at Galveston Island State Park. The decision was made at the planning session of the board at the recent picnic to have someone handle news of current sightings of unusual birds. David Dauphin, Rare Bird Alert Chairman, said that, since he already receives numerous calls from out-of-town as well as local birders requesting information on what is being seen, he and Jan would handle this new chore. So when next you are out birding, and you see something you think would be of interest to some of our members, especially many of our new birders, report it to the Dauphins. (Of course, this list will change from week to week). And you members who would like to know what has been seen within the past few days when planning an outing can call the Dauphins and find out. Since most of us slow down in our birding during the hot summer here on the coast, there may not be much news for the next few months!

A REQUEST FROM THE C-H EDITOR

Please submit reports to C-H in the Clearing House format. This will make compilation of reports much easier. Also, indicate a quantity for each species submitted. In the event a count cannot be made, use the abbreviation: n/c. Field notes of rare and unusual birds must contain the information set out in the March, 1977 SPOONBILL on pages 5 and 6.

CLEARING HOUSE April, 1977

How to read the C-H: Name of bird: (how many), date, location, observers
Abbreviations used: Anahuac NWR - Anahuac; HL&P Cooling Ponds - HL&P; Freeport Municipal Park - Fr. Park; Edith L. Moore Nature Sanctuary - ELMNS.

Loon, Common: (1)4, Bayou Vista, PJ; (1)23, Bolivar, M; (2)23, Galveston, A.
Grebe, Eared: (5)3, Bolivar, TE, DD; (10)23, Brazoria Co., A; (3)23, Bryan Beach, TC.
Pelican, White: (25)3, Bolivar, TE, DD; (15)23, Brazoria, A; (100)23, Gilchrist, R; (n/c) 23, 24, Galveston, M.
Cormorant, Double crested: (1)2, Fr. Park, BB; (25)23, Bolivar, R.
Cormorant, Olivaceous: (1)8, Galveston, L&MB; (n/c)23, Galveston, M; (1)23, Brazoria Co., A.
Heron, Green: (1)6, (2)30, Stafford, DM; (1)14, 17, ELMNS, HH, DR; (1-25)16, 17, 23, 30, High I., G&PC, TE, JMo, B&AM, R; (1)18, W. Galveston, JH; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.
Egret, Reddish: (2-5)3, 23, Bolivar, TE, DD, R; (1-2)16, 17, 23, Galveston, A, S&TC, M.
Night Heron, Yellow-crowned: (1)9, W. Harris Co., JH; (2)16, ELMNS, HH&Dek; (1)16, High I., G&PC, JMo; (1)19, 20, 29, White Oak Bayou, WC; (1)23, Galveston, A, M.
Bittern, Least: (1)6, 30, Stafford, DM; (1)9, W. Galveston, D&JD; (1)16, 23, 30, Anahuac, T&JE, JMo, B&AM, R; (1)20, Freeport, LJ; (7)23, Brazoria Co., A.
Bittern, American: (1)2, Fr. Park, BB; (1)2, Galveston, M; (4-5)3, 8, Ft. Bend Co., H, B; (1) 8, 16, 30, Anahuac, GP&WC, D&JD, T&JE; (3)20, Freeport, LJ; (1)23, Galveston, A.
Ibis, White: (5-25)3, 23, Galveston, A, DD, TE, M; (25)8, Ft. Bend Co., B; (5-50)9, 16, 30, Chambers Co., C&PC, T&JE, JMo, B&AM; (3)30, Trinity R., G, P&WC.

- Spoonbill, Roseate: (3)2, Baytown Tunnel, D&JD; (1)2, Freeport Marsh, BB; (n/c)2, High I., C; (10)3, Bolivar, TE, DD; (30)9, Chambers Co., (4)16, Anahuac, T, JE; (3-75)16, 23, 24, Galveston, A, L&MB, M; (20)23, Bolivar, R.
- Goose, Canada: (30)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM.
- Goose, White-fronted: (25)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (5)27, Anahuac, PC; (1)30, HL&P, P
- Goose, Snow: (375)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (10)27, Anahuac, PC.
- Whistling Duck, Fulvous: (2)16, Anahuac, T&JE; (25)23, Anahuac, R.
- Mallard: (2)13, W. Harris Co., T&JE; (2)20, Freeport, LJ; (2)23, Galveston, A (see notes).
- Gadwall: (4)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (10)23, Anahuac, R; (1)23, Galveston, M.
- Pintail: (30)3, W. Harris Co., JM, BM.
- Teal, Green-winged: (15)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (20)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (1)23, Anahuac, R.
- Teal, Blue-winged: (n/c)2, High I., C; (4)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (50)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (n/c)4, Galveston, PJ; (2)6, Stafford, DM; (n/c)16, High I., GH; (20)17, Chambers Co., TE, JMo; (50)23, Anahuac, R; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M; (n/c)all month, Galveston, JH.
- Teal, Cinnamon: (1)3, Warren Lake, JMo, BM.
- Wigeon, American: (14)4, Galveston, PJ; (5)23, Anahuac, R. 12,
- Shoveler, Northern: (20)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (100)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (2000+)W. Harris Co., MA, MJ; (2)16, High I., GH; (10)23, Anahuac, R; (n/c)23, Galveston, M.
- Duck, Ring-necked: (1)30, HL&P, P.
- Canvasback: (1)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (1)30, HL&P, P (see notes).
- Scaup, Greater: (1)9, High I., T&JE (see notes).
- Scaup, Lesser: (1-20)2, 23, High I., C, R; (n/c)4, 23, 24, Galveston, PJ.
- Oldsquaw: (1)2, 9, High I., G&WC, T&JE (previously reported); (1)8, Bolivar, D&JD (see notes)
- Scoter, White-winged: (1)16, High I., P&MJ (previously reported).
- Scoter, Surf: (3-26)9, 17, 23, High I., T&JE, M, JMo, R (previously reported).
- Scoter, Black: (15)2, (4)9, High I., T&JE, G&WC (previously reported).
- Merganser, Red-breasted: (8)4, Galveston, PJ; (2-7)9, 23, High I., T&JE, R; (n/c)24, Bolivar, M.
- Vulture, Turkey: (5)23, W. Galveston, A (unusual location).
- Kite, White-tailed: (1, carrying nesting material)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (1)8, Lake Jackson, L&MB; (1)23, Brazoria, A.
- Kite, Swallow-tailed: (2)26, Angleton, Reavis Johnson, fide SC (no field notes).
- Kite, Mississippi: (30-23, Angleton, A; (12-15)23, Chambers Co., MA; (1)24, (30)25, Dow Trail, SC, PH.
- Hawk, Sharp-shinned: (1)2, High I., TE, G&WC; (2)24, Dickinson, PJ; (1)5, Baytown, D&JD; (30)23, High I. to Bolivar, DeK, HH; (8-15)23-25, Dow Trail, T&SC; (1)24, Bolivar, M; (1)25, Wilcrest Rd. HH, DeK.
- Hawk, Cooper's: (1)6, Stafford, DM; (1)23, Galveston, A; (2-8)23, 25, Dow Trail, T&SC.
- Hawk, Red-tailed: (1)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (2)4, Ft. Bend Co., PJ; (1)13, W. Harris Co., T&JE; (1)23, Brazoria, A.
- Hawk, Red-shouldered: (1 with 2 downy young in nest)23, Galveston Co., Park, M.
- Hawk, Broad-winged: (1)3, 23, (2)8, yard, DM; (150)3, ELMNS, DR, J&BMA; (1)4, White Oak Bayou, WC; (1)5, yard, (1)6, Humble, PJ; (2)6, Baytown, D&JD; (2)23, Galveston, A, M; (5)25, Memorial Park, DeK, HH.
- Hawk, Swainson's: (1)5, Baytown, D&JD; (1)14, UH Campus, P&JE; (10)23, Brazoria & Galveston, A; (n/c)23, Galveston, M; (1)24, Dow Trail, SC; (2)25, Memorial, DeK, HH.
- Hawk, White-tailed: (1)24, Ellington area, MA (previously reported).
- Hawk, Rough-legged: (1)1, Wilcrest Rd., DeK, HH (see sad note-C-H ed.); (1)4, yard, DM (no field notes).
- Osprey: (1)3, Galveston, TE, DD; (1)4, W. Galveston, PJ; (1)6, Sugarland, DM; (1)24, Bolivar, M; (1)24, 25, Dow Trail, SC.
- Falcon, Peregrine: (1)23, Anahuac, DeK, HH (no field notes); (1)24, North Blvd., GH (see notes).
- Merlin: (2)4, Galveston, PJ (see notes); (5)23, Bolivar, NP (see notes); (3)23, Brazoria & Galveston, A (see notes).
- Kestrel, American: (10)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM.
- PHEASANT, RING-NECKED: (1)23, Anahuac, R (previously reported); (2)30, Anahuac, R.
- Rail, Virginia: (1-4)8, 16, 23, 30, Anahuac, D&JD, T&JE, JMo, B&AM, P, R, (see notes); (2)16, High I., OG; (2)23, Brazoria, A (see notes).
- Sora: (3)2, Freeport Marsh, BB; (1-3)2, 8, 16, High I., G&WC, D&JD, GH; (1-5)16, 23, 30, Anahuac T&JE, JMo, B&AM, R; (6)20, Freeport, LJ; (2)23, Brazoria, A; (1)26, W. Galveston, P&MJ.
- Rail, Yellow: (1)8, High I., D&JD (see notes); (10)30, Anahuac, P, JMo, B&AM.
- Rail, Black: (3)30, Anahuac, P, JMo, B&AM.
- Gallinule, Purple: (3)23, Shy's Pond (Lake Jackson), TC; (25)23, Maner Lake, A; (1)23, Anahuac, R.
- Plover, Semipalmated: (1)17, Chambers Co., JMo, TE; (1)20, Freeport, LJ; (1-5)23, 24, Bolivar, M, R.
- Plover, Piping: (n/c)2, High I., C; (3)4, Galveston, PJ; (1-2)23, 24, Bolivar, M, R.
- Plover, Snowy: (1)23, Bolivar, R.
- Plover, Wilson's: (50)9, W. Galveston, (100)10, W. Harris Co., D&JD; (1)21, Freeport, T&SC; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M; (10)23, Bolivar, M; (1)30, High I., JMo, B&AM.
- Plover, Golden American: (2)21, W. Galveston, JH; (30)23, Chambers Co., R; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M; (100)27, W. Harris Co., PJ.
- Turnstone, Ruddy: (1)17, High I., TE; (3)23, Bolivar, R; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.

- Snipe, Common: (1)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (1)6, 30, Stafford, DM; (6)23, Chambers Co., R.
 Curlew, Long-billed: (2-5)4, 9, 23, 24, W. Galveston, D&JD, JH, PJ, M; (1)23, Chambers Co., R.
 Whimbrel: (1)3, 23, Bolivar, TE, DD, R; (1-3)4, 9, 23, W. Galveston, A, D&JD, JH, M.
 Sandpiper, Upland: (1)3, Bolivar, TE, DD, R; (3)6, Stafford, DM; (8-5)7, 9, 23, 24, Galveston, A, D&JD, M; (7)8, Ft. Bend Co., (2)9, Chambers Co., T&JE; (10)10, W. Harris Co., D&JD; (1-12)17, 23, Freeport, TC; (5)23, Chambers Co., R.
 Sandpiper, Solitary: (1)2, High l., TE, G&WC; (2-3)3, 8, Ft. Bend Co., B, H; (4)16, Anahuac, T&JE; (2)23, Brazoria, A; (2)23, Chambers Co., R; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.
 Yellowlegs, Greater: (1)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (2)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (n/c)4, Galveston, PJ; (4)16, High l., GH; (15-30)23, 30, Chambers Co., JMo, B&AM, R.
 Yellowlegs, Lesser: (6)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (2)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (n/c)4, Galveston, PJ; (2, mating display)6, Stafford, DM; (2)16, High l., GH; (15)23, 30, Chambers, JMo, B&AM, R; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.
 Knot, Red: (10-5)2, 3, 17, 23, High l., C, G&WC, DD, TE, JMo, R; (5)8, Gilchrist, D&JD; (n/c-10)23, 24, Galveston, A, M.
 Sandpiper, Pectoral: (1-5)2, 3, 30, High l., G&WC, DD, TE, JMo, B&AM; (1)8, Ft. Bend Co., B; (2)13, W. Harris Co., T&JE; (2)23, Chambers Co., R; (1)23, Galveston, A; (n/c)24, Bolivar, M.
 REEVE: (1)8, Sportsman's Rd., L&MB (see notes).
 Sandpiper, White-rumped: (8-10)27, E. Harris Co., MA, MJ, NO.
 Sandpiper, Baird's: (2)23, Brazoria, A (see notes); (1)30, W. Galveston, P. (see notes).
 Sandpiper, Least: (10)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (5)23, Bolivar, R; (n/c)23, Galveston, M; (5)30, High l., JMo, B&AM.
 Dunlin: (5)23, Bolivar, R; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M; (100's)29, Chambers Co., P&MJ.
 Dowitcher, Short-billed: (n/c)4, Galveston, PJ; (10)23, Chambers Co., R; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.
 Dowitcher, Long-billed: (n/c)4, Galveston, PJ; (3)16, High l., GH; (40)23, Chambers Co., R.
 Dowitcher, Species: (2,000)23, Chambers Co., MA.
 Sandpiper, Stilt: (10-3)2, 3, 30, High l., G&WC, DD, TE, JMo, B&AM; (4-n/c)4, 23, Galveston, PJ, M; (2-5)23, Chambers Co., MA, R; (30+)28, Anahuac, MA, MJ, NO.
 Sandpiper, Semipalmated: (2)16, High l., GH; (1)23, Bolivar, R; (3)30, High l., JMo, B&AM.
 Sandpiper, Western: (n/c)29, Chambers Co., P&MJ.
 Sandpiper, Buff-breasted: (15)13, W. Harris Co., T&JE; (5)23, Chambers Co., R.
 Godwit, Marbled: (2)3, (5)9, Bolivar, DD, T&JE; (5)23, Chambers Co., R.
 Godwit, Hudsonian: (1-2)23, Chambers, MA, DeK, HH, JMo, BM, R (see notes); (6)28, Chambers Co., MA, MJ.
 American, Avocet: (500-2500)3, 8, 23, Bolivar, D&JD, TE, R; (2)16, High l., GH; (n/c)4, 23, 24 Galveston, PJ, M.
 Stilt, Black-necked: (2)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (4-10)16, 30, High l., GH, JMo, B&AM; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.
 Phalarope, Wilson's: (1)2, High l., TE (see notes); (2)27, W. Harris Co., PJ.
 Gull, Franklin's: (2)8, (2)30, Galveston, L&MB; (2)21, yard, T&JE.
 Gull, Bonaparte's: (3-4)2, 16, 23, High l., C, DeK, GH, HH; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.
 Tern, Gull-billed: (3)3, 23, Bolivar, TE, DD, R; (1)23, Brazoria, A; (1)23, Freeport, TC; (2)23, Galveston, M.
 Tern, Common: (n/c)4, Galveston, PJ; (2-4)23, 24, Bolivar, M, R.
 Tern, Least: (2-1000's)4, 23, 24, 30, Galveston, L&MB, PJ, M; (1)16, High l., GH; (3)16, Surfside, L&MB; (5)23, Bolivar, R.
 Tern, Sandwich: (2)17, San Luis Pass, SC; (5)23, Bolivar, R.
 Tern, Black: (5)16, High l., OG; (3)20, Freeport, LJ; (2)23, Bolivar, R; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.
 DOVE, RINGED TURTLE: (3-8)all month, Bellaire, P&MJ (previously reported).
 Cuckoo, Yellow-billed: (1-15)16, 17, 23, High l., D&JD, TE, GH, JMo, R; (1)18, Dow Trail, SC, PH; (1-2)20, 23, Galveston, A, JH.
 Cuckoo, Black-billed: (1-3)17, 23, High l., D&JD, DeK, TE, HH, JMo, R; (1-6)23, 25, Galveston, JH, M.
 Ani, Groove-billed: (1)23, Galveston, M (see notes)
 Owl, Great-horned: (2)30, Dow Trail, BB.
 Chuck-wills-widow: (1)5, 8, (3)10, (2)22, yard, DM; (1)8, 25, White Oak Bayou, WC; (1)23, High l., R; (1)23, Fr. Park, LB; (1)27, South Blvd., Sarah Gordon.
 Nighthawk, Common: (1)17, Ft. Bend Co., GH; (1)17, High l., TE, JMo; (1)18, W. Galveston, JH; (2-3)23, 30, Anahuac, JMo, B&AM, R; (2)23, Bolivar, M.
 Swift, Chimney: (n/c)all month, yard, GH; (1, nesting)5, yard, DM; (n/c)23, 24, Galv., M.
 Hummingbird, Ruby-throated: (1-5)2, 16, 17, 23, High l., C, G&PC, TE, GH, JMo, R; (2)2, yard, DM; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.
 Kingfisher, Belted: (n/c)2, High l., C; (2)16, Chambers Co., G&PC, JMo; (n/c)23, 24, Galv., M; (2)30, Surfside, L&MB;
 Flicker, Common (Yellow-shafted): (1)2, yard, DM; (1)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (1)3, W. Harris, JMo, BM; (1)4, Galveston, PJ; (1)1-18, White Oak Bayou, (1)24, Memorial Park, WC; (1)14, yard, GH.
 Woodpecker, Red-headed: (1)9, W. Harris Co., GH; (1)18, Dow Trail, SC, PH; (1)18, E. Harris Co., DR; (5)23, Chambers Co., R.
 Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied: (1)all month, W. Galveston, JH; (1)2, yard, DM; (3-5)16, 17, 23, 24, High, JMo, G&PC, TE, M, R.
 Woodpecker, Hairy: (2)23, South Blvd., P&MJ.

- Kingbird, Eastern: (1)3, W. Harris, JMo, BM; (10-15)16, 23, Chambers Co., G&PC, JMo, R; (3)16, High I., GH; (2)18, W. Galveston, JH; (n/c)24, Bolivar, M.
- Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed: 4-n/c)2, 16, High I., C, GH; (1)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (2, building nest)6, Stafford, DM; (2-n/c)18, 23, 24, Galveston, JH, M.
- Flycatcher, Great-crested: (1)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (1)4, Kempner Park, JH; (1)6, Baytown, D&J; (1)10, Spring Branch, JMo; (3)23, Ed White Park, R; (1)25, yard, SC.
- Phoebe, Eastern: (1)2, yard, DM; (1)8, Ft. Bend Co., B; (1)20, Galveston, JH; (1)30, Bolivar, P
- Flycatcher, Acadian: (1, seen and heard)30, Ed White Park, JMo, B&AM.
- Flycatcher, Empidonax species: (1)2, yard, DM; (1)23, Ed White Park, R.
- Pewee, Eastern: (1)2, 17, 23, High I., G&WC, D&J, TE, R; (1)18, 23, Galveston, JH, M; (3)24, North Blvd., GH.
- Flycatcher, Olive-sided: (1)26, White Oak Bayou, WC.
- Flycatcher, Vermilion: (1)3, Ft. Bend Co., H.
- Swallow, Tree: (5-20)2, 16, 17, High I., C, G&PC, TE, GH, JMo; (3-n/c)4, 18, 23, 24, Galveston, JH, PJ, M.
- Swallow, Bank: (5-n/c)23, 24, Galveston, A, M.
- Swallow-Rough-winged: (n/c)2, 16, High I., C, GH; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M; (5-10)23, 30, Anahuac, JMo, B&AM, R.
- Swallow-Barn: (n/c)2, 16, High I., C, GH; (2)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (1-n/c)4, 23, 24, Galveston JH, PJ, M; (20)30, Chambers Co., JMo, B&AM.
- Swallow, Cliff: (4)3, Hwy 59 at Oyster Creek, P&MJ; (5)8, Ft. Bend Co., TE; (2)24, Bolivar M; (1)30, Galveston, JMo, B&AM.
- Nuthatch, Brown-headed: (2)2, yard, JMo; (1)25, Memorial, DeK.
- Creepers, Brown: (1)30, Ed White Park, P.
- WREN, WINTER: (1)5, White Oak Bayou, WC (see notes)
- Wren, Bewick's: (1)30, Shy's Pond, BB (see notes).
- Wren, Marsh (Long-billed): (1)16, High I., GH; (1)26, Maner Lake, P&MJ.
- Wren, Sedge (short-billed): (6)30, Anahuac, JMo, B&AM.
- Catbird, Gray: (1)2, (3)23, yard, DM; (1)4, Galveston, PJ; (1-30)8, 16, 17, 23, 30, High I., L&MB, G&PC, TE, GH, JMo, B&AM, OG, R; (1)22, Houston City Hall, (1)25, yard, T&JE; (5-n/c)23, 24, Galveston, A, M; (6)30, Kempner Park, L&MB.
- Thrasher, Brown: (5)2, Ft. Bend Co., H; (1)5, yard, (1)24, North Blvd., GH; (2-6)16, 17, 23, High I., G&PC, TE, JMo, R; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M; (1)28, yard, DM.
- THRASHER, CURVE-BILLED: (1)26, Nottingham Ranch Rd., JH (previously reported).
- Thrush, Wood: (1)4, 5, Kempner Park, JH, PJ; (1-25)16, 17, 23, High I., G&PC, TE, GH, JMo, R; (2-3)16-28, yard, P&MJ; (1)24, North Blvd., GH; (n/c)23, 24, Galveston, M.
- Thrush, Hermit: (1)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (1)23, High I., R (see notes).
- Thrush, Swainson's: (1-25)16, 17, 23, High I., G&PC, D&J, TE, JMo, OG, R; (4-5)16-30, yard, P&MJ; (5)23, Galveston, M, A; (6)25, Fr. Park, L&MB.
- Thrush, Grey-cheeked: (1-4)16, 17, 23, High I., G&PC, D&J, TE, JMo, R; (1-2)16-28, yard, P&MJ; (2-n/c)23, 24, Galveston, A, M.
- Veery: (1-10)16, 17, 25, High I., G&PC, D&J, TE, JMo, OG, R; (2-3)16-26, yard, P&MJ; (1-5)18, 23, 24, Galveston, A, JH, M; (2)23, Anahuac, R; (1)24, North Blvd, (1)26-28, yard, GH; (5)25, Fr. Park, L&MB; (1)25, 26, White Oak Bayou, WC.
- Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray: (10)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (2)3, W. Harris Co., JMo, BM; (1-2)23, 30, High I., W, G&PC, JMo, B&AM, R.
- Kinglet, Ruby-crowned: (2)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (1)24, Houston City Hall, WC; (1)23, Galveston, A; (1)23, High I., R.
- Waxwing, Cedar: (8-12)all month, GH; (3)2, yard, DM; (8)23, Galveston, M.
- Vireo, Yellow-throated: (1-5)2, 3, 16, 17, High I., C, G&WC, DD, TE, JMo, OG; (2)17, Ft. Bend Co., (1)24, North Blvd. GH; (1)18, 23, 24, Galveston, JH, M; (1)20, yard, DM.
- Vireo, Solitary: (1-2)3, 8, Ft. Bend Co., B, H; (1-2)3, 17, 23, High I., D&J, TE, JH, JMo; (1)6, Baytown, D&J; (2)20, yard, DM; (1)23, Ed White Park, R.
- Vireo, Red-Eyed: (2)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (75-200)16, 17, 23, High I., G&PC, D&J, TE, JMo, R; (2)18, W. Galveston, JH; (6)23, Ed White Park, R.
- Vireo, Philadelphia: (1)20, yard, DM; (1)23, High I., R.
- Vireo, Warbling: (2)17, Ft. Bend Co., GH (see notes).
- Warbler, Black-and-white: (4-50)2, 16, 17, 23, High I., C, G&PC, D&J, TE, GH, JMo, R; (3)2, Fr. Park, (2)30, Dow Trail, BB; (1)6, Baytown, D&J; (2-n/c)18, 23, 24, Galveston, JH, M; (2)23, Ed White Park, R.
- Warbler, Prothonotary: (1-2)1, 2, Fr. Park, L&MB, BB; (1-10)2, 3, 16, 17, 30, High I., C, G, P&WC, D&J, TE, GH, JMo; (3)18, W. Galveston, JH; (1)23, Brazoria, A; (1)24, Bolivar, M; (1)24, North Blvd, GH; (1)25, yard, T&JE; (1)30, Shy's Pond, BB.
- Warbler, Swainson's: (1-3)17, High I., D&J, TE, JMo; (1)25, Freeport, L&MB.
- Warbler, Worm-eating: (2)1, Houston City Hall, BH; (3)2, Fr. Park, BB; (1-40)2, 3, 16, 17, 23, 30, High I., G, P&WC, D&J, TE, GH, JMo, OG, P, R; (1)14, ELMNS, HH (first record for ELMNS); (1)18, W. Galveston, JH; (1)18, Houston City Hall, T&JE; (1)24, North Blvd., GH.
- Warbler:*(1-10)17, 23, High I., D&J, TE, JMo, R; (1)23, Galveston, A; (1)24, Bolivar, M.
- Warbler, Blue-winged: (2)1, 2, Fr. Park, L&MB, BB; (3-30)2, 3, 16, 17, 23, High I., C, W&GC, D&J, TE, JMo, OG, R; (1)5, Houston City Hall, T&JE; (1)18, 2, Galveston, A, JH; (1)20, yard, DM; (1)24, Bolivar, M.
- Warbler, Brewster's: (1)May 1, High I., JMo (see notes).

* Golden-winged:

- Warbler, Tennessee: (2)1,2,Fr.Park,BB,L&MB; (1-200)16,17,23,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,GH,JMo,R; (1)16,Kempner Park,L&MB; (1)17,Ft.Bend Co.,GH; (8)20,Galveston,JH; (10)23,Ed White Park,R; (n/c)24,Bolivar,M; (1)30,Shy's Pond,BB; (5)30,Ed White Park,JMo,B&AM.
- Warbler, Orange-crowned: (1-2)17,High I.,G&WC,D&JD,TE.
- Warbler, Nashville: (1)16,17,23,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,JMo,OG,R; (1)25,yard,T&JE.
- Warbler, Parula, Northern: (3)2,Fr.Park,BB; (1-30)2,3,16,17,High I.,C,G&WC,D&JD,TE,GH,JMo,OG; (2-8)3,8,Ft.Bend Co.,B,H; (3)18,W.Galveston,JH; (1)20,yard,DM; (2)23,Ed White Park,R; (1)30,Dow Trail,BB.
- Warbler, Yellow: (1)16,Kempner Park,L&MB; (1-10)16,17,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,GH,JMo,OG; (1)18,W.Galveston,JH.
- Warbler, Magnolia: (1)24,30,High I.,JMo,B&AM,M; (1)25,W.Galveston,JH.
- Warbler, Cape May: (1)6,E.Galveston,JH; (1)23,24,Kempner,JB,JG,NO,JW.
- Warbler, Yellow-rumped (Myrtle): (4)1-5,yard,GH; (1-4)2,16,17,23,30,High I.,C,G&WC,D&JD,TE,JMo,P,R; (10)3,Ft.Bend Co.,H; (1)23,Galveston,A.
- Warbler, Black-throated Green: (1-3)3,16,17,23,30,High I.,DD,TE,GH,JMo,B&AM,OG,R; (1)20,23,Galveston,A,JH; (2)24,North Blvd.,GH.
- Warbler, Cerulean: (2-15)16,17,23,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,JMo,OG,R; (1)20,23,24,Galveston,A,JH,M; (1)22,Houston, City Hall,T&JE.
- Warbler, Blackburnian: (1-4)16,17,23,30,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,JH,JMo,B&AM,R; (1)16,Fr.Park,L&MB.
- Warbler, Yellow-throated: (2-10)16,17,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,JMo,OG; (1)6,23,Galv.,A,JH.
- Warbler, Chestnut-sided: (1-2)16,17,23,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,JMo,OG,R; (1)23,25,Galv.,A,JH; (4)24,North Blvd.,GH; (2)25,Houston City Hall,T&JE.
- Warbler, Bay-breasted: (1)16,17,23,High I.,TE,GH,JMo,R.
- Warbler, Blackpoll: (2-20)16,17,23,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,GH,JMo,OG,R; (1-5)18,23,24,Galveston,A,JH,M; (1)23,Ed White Park,R; (1)25,Fr.Park,L&MB.
- Warbler, Prairie: (1)10,W.Harris Co.,D&JD (see notes).
- Warbler, Palm: (1)23,Galveston,A.
- Ovenbird: (1)16,Kempner Park,L&MB; (2-8)17,23,High I.,D&JD,TE,JMo,R; (1)23,Galveston,M; (1)24,North Blvd.,GH; (2)25,Houston, City Hall,T&JE.
- Waterthrush, Northern: (1-5)3,16,17,23,24,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,GH,M,JMo,OG,R; (1)20,yard,DM; (1)22,Houston City Hall,TE; (2)23,Galveston,A.
- Waterthrush, Louisiana: (1-3)2,16,17,23,High I.,G,P&WC,D&JD,TE,JMo,R; (1)5,Kempner Park,JH; (1)23,Galveston,A.
- Warbler, Kentucky: (1-15)2,3,16,17,23,High I.,C,G&WC,D&JD,TE,JMo,OG,R; (1)15,Houston City Hall,T&JE; (1-3)18,23,Galveston,A,JH.
- Warbler, Mourning: (1)6,Baytown,D&JD (see notes).
- Chat, Yellow-breasted: (1)8,Ft.Bend Co.,B; (1)16,Kempner Park,L&MB; (1)20,yard,DM; (1)21,Houston City Hall, (1)25,yard,T&JE; (1-2)23,25,Galveston,A,JH; (1)28,29,yard,GH.
- Warbler, Hooded: (1)2,Fr.Park,BB; (1)2,Houston City Hall,JMo; (10-40)2,16,17,23,High I.,C,G&PC,D&JD,TE,GH,JMo,R; (1)4,Baytown,D&JD; (4-n/c)18,23,Galveston,JH,M; (3)23,Ed White Park,R.
- Warbler, Wilson's: (1)9,Houston Arboretum,WC; (1)16,High I.,G&PC,JMo.
- Warbler, Canada: (1)23,25,Galveston,A,JH.
- Redstart, American: (2-10)16,17,24,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,GH,M,JMo,OG; (1-2)17,23,Galveston,A,JH; (6)24,North Blvd.,GH.
- Bobolink: (1-3)23,26,29,Galveston I. St.Park,JB,GC,P&MJ,JW; (1)30,Brazoria Co.,LB.
- Oriole, Orchard: (1-10)16,23,30,Galveston,JH,M,JMo,B&AM; (5-100)16,17,23,High I.,G&PC,TE,GH,JMo,R; (2)17,Ft. Bend Co.,GH.
- Oriole, Northern (Baltimore): (1-5)16,17,23,High I.,G&PC,TE,JMo,OG,R; (1)16,30,Kempner Park,L&MB; (2-15)18,23,25,30,Galveston,A,JH,M,JMo,B&AM; (2)23,Ed White Park,R; (1)24,North Blvd.,GH; (10)25,yard,T&JE; (1)30,Shy's Pond,BB.
- Blackbird, Yellow-headed: (1 female)23,Ferry Landing,Galveston,M.
- Blackbird, Brewer's: (2)23,Chambers Co.,R.
- Tanager, Scarlet: (6-100)16,17,23,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,GH,JMo,OG,R; (2)16,Kempner Park,L&MB; (3-5)18,23,Galveston,A,JH,M.
- Tanager, Summer: (3-75)16,17,23,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,GH,JMo,R; (5)16,Kempner Park,L&MB; (1-n/c)17,23,24,Galveston,JH,M; (3)23,Ed White Park,R.
- Grosbeak, Rose-breasted: (2)2,Fr.Park,BB; (4-200)16,17,23,27,High I.,G&PC,D&JD,TE,JMo,B&AM,OG,R; (2-10)20,23,24,Galveston,A,JH,M; (2)21,Houston Arboretum,T&JE; (1)21,23,yard,DM; (10)23,Ed White Park,R; (6)30,Kempner Park,L&MB.
- Grosbeak, Black-headed: (1)17,High I.,D&JD (no field notes): (1 female)30,Shy's Pond,BB (see notes).
- Grosbeak, Blue: (1-20)16,High I.,G&PC,GH,JMo,OG; (1)20,23,Galveston,A,JH; (1)25,Fr.Park,L&MB.
- Bunting, Indigo: (2-4)1,2,Fr.Park,BB,L&MB,SC; (1-100)2,16,17,23,High I.,C,G&PC,TE,GH,JMo,R; (2-6)6,16,Kempner Park,L&MB,JH; (8-10)18-30,yard,DM; (n/c)23,24,Galveston,M; (15)23,Ed White Park,R.
- Bunting, Painted: (3-15)16,17,23,30,High I.,G&PC,TE,JMo,B&AM,OG,R; (3)20,Bryan Beach,LJ; (2)20,W.Galveston,JH; (1)30,Shy's Pond,BB.
- Dickcissel: (25)23,Chambers Co.,R; (2-10)23,Galveston,A,JB,JW.
- Goldfinch, American: (5-2,Fr.Park,BB; (2)3,yard,DM; (1-10)3-19White Oak Bayou,WC; (1)7-yard,T&JE; (10)23,High I.,DeK,HH.

Towhee, Eastern: (1)5, Kempner Park, JH; (1)8, Houston, WC; (1)18, Dow Trail, SC, PH; (1)23, High I., DeK, HH.
 Towhee, Spotted: (1)17, High I., D&JD, TE, JMo (see notes)
 Sparrow, Savannah: (2)23, Chambers Co., R; (3)24, Bolivar, M; (3)30, Anahuac, JMo, B&AM.
 Sparrow, Leconte's: (2)30, Anahuac, P (see notes).
 Sparrow, Henslow's: (4)27, Mykawa Rd., MA, MJ, NO.
 Sparrow, Sharp-tailed: (1)23, Bolivar, R.
 Sparrow, Lark: (3)8, Ft. Bend Co., TE (see notes).
 Junco, Gray-headed (slate-colored): (2)2, Houston City Hall, JMo (see notes); (3)4, Houston City Hall, T&JE (see notes).
 Sparrow, Chipping: (1-6)3, 8, Ft. Bend Co., B, H; (1)5, Kempner Park, JH; (1)16, High I., GH (see notes).
 Sparrow, Clay-colored: (1)11, Juliff, MA, MJ (see notes).
 Sparrow, White-crowned: (1)17, W. Chambers Co., D&JD; (1)23, Galveston, A.
 Sparrow, White-throated: (1)all month, Houston City Hall, T&JE; (8)all month, yard, GH; (3-8)1-18, yard, JMo; (2-10)2, 17, 23, High I., C, D&JD, R; (25)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (1)5, Kempner Park, JH; (n/c)23, Galveston M.
 Sparrow, Swamp: (4)3, Ft. Bend Co., H; (2)8, Ft. Bend Co., B; (1)23, Brazoria, A; (1)23, Kempner Park, R.
 Sparrow, Song: (3)2, Freeport Marsh, BB; (1)16, High I., (1)25, yard, GH; (1)26, Maner, P&MJ.

A summary of reports of abundant and fairly common species occurring throughout March April and May in the UTC will be published in the June issue of the SPOONBILL - CH ed

CLEARING HOUSE CONTRIBUTORS: MA-Margaret Anderson; L&MB-Larry & Martha Ballard; JB-Jerry Baker; T&SC-Tom & Sherry Collins; W, G&PC-Wesley, Glenn & Penny Cureton; D&JD-David & Jan Dauphin; DeK-Debbie DeKeyser; T&JE-Ted & Janet Eubanks, Jr.; JG-Johanna Grabbe; PH-Paula Haddox; JH-Jane Hamilton; J&BH-Jean & Bill Harwell; HH-Holly Hobart; GH-George Howe; P&MJ-T. Paul & Margaret Jones; DM-DAvid Marrack; J&BMA-Jim & Betsy Massey; J&KMo-Jim & Kevin Morgan; B&AM-Bob & Aileen Moulton; NO-Norma Oates; NP-Noel Pettingell; DR-Dee Ross; JW-Josephine Wilkin; E&BW-Edith & Bob Willman; A-party of George & Jane Clayton, T&JE, Rick Goldfarb; B-party of Maryann Chapman, Marilyn Crane, TE, P&MJ, BM; C-party of Fred Collins, Danna Cutts, Annette Johns, Sandy Redd; H-party of P&MJ, J&KMo, BM; M-party of Fred Collins & Memorial Dr. Methodist Church Beginning Birdwatching class; P-party of DD, TE, Paul Nimmons & NP; R-party of G&PC, JMo, BM; BB-Brazosport Birders' field trip; LJ-party of Ann Atkins, PH, SC, Shirley Wright; OG-Ornithology Group field trip.

A total of 273 species was reported by these observers. This is 31 species more than were recorded in March, and sets a new all time high for recent years in the UTC.

CLEARING HOUSE NOTES

Mallard: Two drakes in pond behind Galveston newspaper; green heads, white breasts, red neck bands; seen in good light from 30 to 50 feet with 20x scope. To my knowledge domestic Mallards have not been introduced to this pond. Mallard drakes and hens have been observed in this pond since early fall (fide G&J Clayton).--Ted Eubanks, Jr.

Canvasback: Adult male seen well in water near dike road by all 4 observers. Distinctive white body and head profile clearly noted. Species present in large numbers at this site all winter. --Noel Pettingell

Scaup, Greater: Single scaup observed with Surf Scoters north of High Island Pier; bird observed in flight as well as in the water; black head and neck; white breast and belly; white wing stripe extending through majority of primaries; observed in excellent light with 10x glasses from 100 feet. --Ted Eubanks, Jr.

Oldsquaw: Male. Slate-blue bill with pinkish, broad, subterminal band. Blackish head, neck, and anterior belly, except for a grayish area on side of face. White sides, dark back with rusty scapulars, black tail beginning to "pin". Seen in excellent light at 25 feet. --David Dauphin

HAWK, ROUGH-LEGGED: This hawk has been reported at this location since last fall. Now, I am sorry to report that survey teams and markers are now in the field along Wilcrest Dr., so this could mean the last season in this area for this hawk....and the Caracara, and the Swainson's, etc. --Debbie DeKeyser

Falcon, Peregrine: Swooped into treetop as I watched Elwhases at North Blvd. Well over a foot in perched length; long, pointed, sharply elbowed wings; "sideburns"; five semi-definite dark bands under tail. Distance 60 feet, 5:30 p.m., excellent light, 7x35 binoculars. --George Howe

Merlin: While driving on "flats" at South Jetty, Galveston, two small hawks rose from the grass alongside my car. One immediately dove back into grass. The other flew alongside for perhaps 75-100 yards at window height before dropping back into the grasses. The hawk was about 12" long with a wingspan of 20-24". Wings were sharply bent at the elbow and pointed at ends; steel-gray on top, lighter gray below. Head had a dark cap, with a white area around eye. Back of body was dark gray, front was finely streaked and slightly buffy. The "longish" tail was dark like back with lighter gray bands ending in a wide black terminal band. Excellent view of this Merlin in flight for several seconds in very good light at a close distance of about 5-6'. --T. Paul Jones

Merlin: Gray back and banded tail clearly noted on at least one individual (8x50 binoculars), as well as falcon shape and lack of Sparrow Hawk facial markings on all birds seen migrating northward from the Gulf. Five individuals were definitely counted without duplication but probably two or three times that number actually present in this group. Observed 2.2 miles east of FM 2612 and "dumber road" on south side of Tex. 87 at Magnolia Ave. (road to beach). --Noel Pettingell.

Merlin: Two falcons (1 male, 1 female) observed in Brazoria County on Hwy 35 near the Brazos River; one female observed on Galveston Island over Sea Isle; pointed wings; heavily barred tails; steel-blue back and crown on male; heavy breast streakings on females; all three Merlins lacked any distinctive facial markings; seen from as close as 10 feet in excellent light with 10x glasses and 20x scope.--Ted Eubanks, Jr.

Rail, Virginia: Rails observed in Freeport marsh near Quintana; half size of Clapper or King Rail; rich chestnut coloration and long beak eliminates both Sora and Yellow Rails; from as close as 40 feet with 10x glasses in excellent light.--Tec Eubanks, Jr.

Rail, Virginia: All birds seen flying--long bill and much smaller than King/Clapper. --Noel Pettingell

Rail, Yellow: This small, stubby-billed, yellowish rail showed a large white wing-patch as it flushed 10 feet away in good light. Consider the High Island marsh an unusual location for this bird. --David Dauphin

REEVE: Observed for about 6 minutes at a range of about 12 yards while the bird was feeding. She was near 3 Lesser Yellowlegs. Appeared shorter legged, but longer bodied and heavier than the Yellowlegs. Back, wing and tail - buffy brown; back had "chain" pattern; dull orangish legs; beak - black with orangish yellow base. Upper breast and lower neck streaked with buffy brown. When the bird flew we observed white edges on the rump. Observed in bright sunlight with 8x50 and 10x50 binoculars. --Larry & Martha Ballard.

Sandpiper, Baird's: Buffy-brown, peep-sized sandpiper; smaller than adjacent Pectorals; larger than Western and Semipalmated sandpipers nearby; black legs; wing-tips extending markedly beyond the tail; birds picked for food, never probed; Baird's walked and fed in a more horizontal position than sandpipers nearby; in flight dark rump and dark inner rectrices observed; birds seen in short grass field bordering a mudflat; from 15 feet in excellent light with 10x glasses and 20x scope. --Ted Eubank

Baird's Sandpiper: Legs dark and posture less upright than Pectoral. Breast not as sharply defined as Pectoral and central tail feathers and rump dark in flight. Also picked rather than probed when feeding. Seen at NE corner of 11-mi. (Nottingham Ranch) and Stewart Roads by all observers. --Noel Pettingell

Godwit, Hudsonian: Seen with thousands of Dowitchers in flooded field just east of the Anahuac Refuge cut-off road. Plumage was between spring and fall, but when the bird was flushed the white at the base of the tail was the give-away. Observers: Holly Hobart, Debbie DeKeyser, Bob Moulton and Jim Morgan. Excellent light. --Debbie DeKeyser

Phalarope, Wilson's: Single Wilson's Phalarope in winter plumage observed in tidal pool near swing bridge at High Island; thin, stiletto-beak; grayish back; drab brown wings; immaculate white undersides; "phalarope-eyeline" through eye; white rump; whitish-gray tail; bird spun in characteristic phalarope style while feeding, also fed by swishing back and forth in water Avocet-like; in excellent light from 20 feet with 20x scope. --Ted Eubanks, Jr.

Ani, Groove-billed: Seen in Galveston near Ferry Landing. Heard calling, saw perched and flying for about 5 minutes at 50 yards with binoculars and telescope.--Fred Collin

WREN, WINTER: Seen at 40 feet in shady riparian woodland. Tiny russet-colored wren with short tail held almost perpendicular to back. Gave several short notes similar to those of a song sparrow. I was not able to see it with binoculars, but a few min-

utes later I did see it with 7x50 binoculars at 30 feet in full sun in a nearby blackberry thicket. On April 8 in the same riparian area I heard what may have been one of the call notes, and I perhaps saw a winter wren there on April 17. One or two winter wrens have been at White Oak Bayou all winter, and I have become very familiar with the appearance, behavior, and call of the species, as compared to those of the house wrens also there. --Wesley Cureton

Wren, Bewick's: Originally seen and identified by Joyce Norman, Helen Holmberg and Martha Ballard. Singing typical Bewick's call--range about 20yards--light bright overcast. Dark patterned tail, white throat, chest and belly, heavy white eyestripe. Observed with 7x35, 10x binoculars. --Larry Ballard

Thrush, Hermit: Rust tail, brown back and spotted chest. Smaller than nearby Wood Thrushes. Raised tail and dropped it several times. Bird seen in Boy Scout Woods by Penny Cureton. --Jim Morgan

Vireo, Warbling: Dull brownish gray above, ivory below, no wingbars, vireo bill but more active than I expected, lacked bluish cap of Red-eyed Vireo and Tennessee Warbler. White eyestripe noticeable but not strongly so. Seen in pecan tree near suburban slough near Richmond, distance to 15 feet, 4 p.m., light overcast, 7x35 binoculars. --George Howe.

Warbler, Brewster's: This warbler was found in Smith's Woods among numerous other warblers. The first striking feature was the large yellow wing patch. The back was gray and the head had a yellow crown and forehead. Quite noticeable was the complete lack of the black ear and throat patches of the Golden-winged. Instead, this bird had a hint of a black line through the eye, but not as distinct as most Blue-wings. The throat, chest and belly were pure white, with no sign of a yellow breast band. After double checking the field guides to verify that the yellow breast band is often missing I felt safe in concluding that this bird was a Brewster's. The bird was seen at 20 feet for 6-10 seconds in good light with 8x40 binoculars. --Jim Morgan

Warbler, Prairie: Green above with brownish streaks on back. Yellow below with large, black streakings on the sides. Yellow line above the eye, black line through the eye and below the eye. Pale wingbars. Wagged its tail. Saw bird at eye level from 5 to 10 feet as I tried to "Pish" it into the car! --David Dauphin

Warbler, Mourning: Gray-hooded male was black at upper breast, yellow below, olive above, had a broken eye-ring. Seen in good light with 10x50 binocs at 50 feet. --David Dauphin

Grosbeak, Black-headed: Originally seen and identified by Ann Atkins and Larry Ballard. Female - high in tree - bright overcast. Range about 35 feet. Buff breast, very little streaking on sides near wings only, buff stripe through the eye. Observed with 7x35 and 8x50 binoculars. --Larry Ballard

Towhee, Spotted: This was a female bird with chocolate-colored head, back and throat. Lower chest and belly were white and sides were rusty. Wings were dark brown with heavy shoulder spotting. Tail dark brown with white outer corners. Seen at 30 feet with 8x40 binoculars for one minute in excellent light. --Jim Morgan.

Sparrow, Le Conte's: Seen in flight from marsh buggy. Yellowish appearance ruled out darker Sharp-tailed and Seaside Sparrows. Sparrow size, shape, flight, ruled out both Marsh Wrens. --Noel Pettingell.

Sparrow, Lark: Observed over 30 of these beautiful sparrows in freshly-plowed field in Ft. Bend Co. The field was rather large, and although I could positively identify only 30 individuals, I'm sure there were many more in the area. The singing males would perch on a telephone line at the front of the field. At one time I observed 8 individuals on the line simultaneously singing their incredibly lyrical songs. Quite remarkable.--Ted Eubanks, Jr.

Junco, Dark-eyed (Slate-colored): These two birds were found at City Hall, first in an oak tree then they flew to the grass. They had gray heads with black around the eyes. Gray back with some rusty on upper back. Light gray underparts with a wash of light salmon color on sides. White outer tail feathers clearly seen in flight. Light, pink bill. Seen at 8:00 a.m. in good light for 3 minutes with 8x40 binoculars. --Jim Morgan

Junco, Dark-eyed (Slate-colored): Three Dark-eyed Juncos observed at City Hall; Slate-colored race; gray heads, backs, and breasts, although some pink noted on sides of one individual (immature); pink bills; dark tails with white outer rectrices; birds first attracted my attention with their characteristic shrill whistle; first time recorded at City Hall by either Wes Cureton or myself. -- Ted Eubanks, Jr.

Sparrow, Clay-colored: Small size; light brown back, unstreaked breast; rump brown not gray; brown cheek or ear patch; crown not visible. Observed about 15 seconds.--Margaret Jones.

SPECIAL REPORT TO THE CLEARING HOUSE

FLYCATCHER, KISKADEE: (1)30, Smith's Woods, W,G&PC. First detected by the loud one- and two-note calls, which sound to me like a teddy bear when squeezed. Penny Cureton and I followed the sound, but never saw more than a heavy-bodied, reddish-winged passerine flying high over the live oaks. Later the bird alit directly over Glenn Cureton and some out-of-state birders, who noted the bright yellow belly, white throat, dark heavy beak and russet tail. We later learned that Ed & Marian Taylor had heard a Kiskadee earlier the same day, and somebody told Jim Morgan that the bird had been seen on April 29. Apparently it was not seen or heard on May 1. A Kiskadee was seen last April at Boy Scout Woods nearby, and has been recorded a number of times in Southwester Louisiana. --Wesley Cureton

HERE'S AN UNUSUAL REPORT by Jerry Strickling

I thought it might be of interest to the Birders in the Houston area that at the present moment, Monday, April 25, 1977, at 9:00 a.m., a Red-Lored Parrot (*Amazoni Autumnalis*--also called Yellow-cheeked) is sitting outside my window on the 7th floor of the S.W. Bell Telephone Company Headquarter's building at 3100 Main. It is a mature adult and obviously doesn't have clipped wings and is not pinioned. The bird is quite common in Northeastern Mexico and is also commonly trapped and imported. I would presume it is an interesting escapee. (Could it have been attempting to apply for some sort of telephone operator's job? --C-H Editor)

CLUB SCOPE AVAILABLE

David Dauphin reminds us that the club scope and tripod is available to members (rental--\$1.00 a day). For you new birders, this is an excellent opportunity to see for yourselves how a scope can enhance your birding. And for all who do not now own a scope, it is a great deal cheaper than buying one! Ted Eubanks, Jr. is custodian of the scope, contact him when you wish to use it.

(And speaking of scopes, the SPOONBILL editor had the privilege of viewing a virtuoso performance with one at Smith's Woods, May 1, when birding in a group including Bob Ringler, a birder from Maryland. Mr. Ringler was finding warblers, as well as unerringly zeroing in on warblers others called out, using nothing but his scope. He had a shoulder harness over one shoulder and under the other, a short shoulder rest, and a hand grip with which he could flip the scope up to his eye with one hand quicker than you could say Blackburnian Warbler! He found more birds than anyone else in the group, some of whom had wide-angle binoculars, and supposedly more viewing area. Impressed? You can bet we were!)

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBER SUBSCRIBERS*

- Lois R. Baker, 10723 Inwood Dr., Houston 77042
- Mrs. Ray Booth (Anne), 14735 Oak Bend, Houston 77079 --497-0227
- Mr. Sheriton Burr, 522 Brawner Parkway, Corpus Christi, 78411 --AC512 853-3287
- Mr. Don S. Cook, 2333 Sunset Blvd., Houston 77005 --527-8091
- Mr. Donald Gray, 5207 Darnell, Houston 77096 --668-5079
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- Mr. David Satzger, 12211A West Village Dr., Houston 77039 --422-8610
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- *Mr. Jon Richert, 122 No. Main, Elizabethtown, Ky. 42701
- *Mrs. James Swartz (Pat) 13618 Burning Tree, Corpus Christi 78410

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- Miss Margaret E. Anderson, 5445 Braes Valley #706, Houston 77098 --721-1107
- Mr. J.R. Emrie, 90706 Gemini, San Antonio 78217
- Mrs. Nelson Jones, 418 Pine Shadows, Houston 77056
- Mrs. Dick Munro, 6580 Windwood, Beaumont 77706
- Mrs. Robert Sabom, 7600 Burgoyne #158, Houston 77063
- Mrs. Kathleen Zinn, 7169 No. Fairlane Ct., Baton Rouge, La. 70812 --AC504 355-1301
- Mrs. E.B. Wehner, 2303 Bonita, Austin, Texas 78703

A JOYOUS POEM

Ellen Red, one of our members, won an Honorable Mention in the recent "Poetry and Nature Con of the Houston Audubon Society. All entries had to be based on a color photograph accompanying an article in an Audubon Magazine. Ellen chose a photograph from an article "The Kittiwakes Have Expanded Their Range", Page 61, of the November, 1976 Audubon Magazine. Because so many of us enjoyed "our" Texas City Dike Kittiwake, we know you will enjoy Ellen's witty little poem.

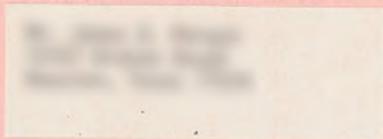
"The Kittiwake is not a cat
It is a gull whose habitat
Is northernmost in arctic clime.
It never knows a summertime.

However on our southern bay
We found this bird the other day.
T'was sitting on a fishing pier
Taking handouts without fear.

And as we birders came to stare,
It glanced around, so debonaire.
"They're listing me," it seemed to boast,
"A bird of the Upper Texas Coast!"

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