



THE SPOONBILL

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MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING, ORNITHOLOGY GROUP, APRIL 13, 1972

Sarah Gordon, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the February 3, 1972, meeting were approved as corrected.

The Treasurer's Report for February 1 through April 1, 1972, was accepted as read. It showed receipts of \$90.81, disbursements of \$103.90, and balance on hand of \$222.70.

Miss Gordon reported that Station KTRH had made an announcement of our meeting, telling of the program, and giving the time and place.

She also reported that John Tveten's picture of the Jaeger had appeared in the February issue of American Birds.

Marilyn Crane announced that 98 species were seen on the March Corpus Christi field trip. Twenty-five people turned out for the trip. Highlights were the wildflowers at Welder; the sighting of the Olive Sparrow - a lifer for many of us; and sighting the Pauraque Saturday night. The April trip to High Island coincided with a cold front, resulting in 27 species of warblers being seen.

Miss Crane also announced that results of the Big Day Run, April 22, were to be sent to Dan Hardy, who had accepted the newly created position of Editor of the Clearing House. Dan has worked up a procedure which he hopes we will follow when turning in material to him. Details will be in THE SPOONBILL.

Margaret Anderson reported that the Hermit Warbler has been sighted at High Island and the Eskimo Curlew at Galveston.

The Chairman called our attention to the following: the ceremony by the County at Armand's Bayou on April 16 to be addressed by Robert Vines; the Yellow Rail trips at Anahuac; and the 2nd Annual Big Thicket Nature Pilgrimage April 21-22. She announced that the last load of aluminum had brought in \$27.56, bringing the total for aluminum to almost \$135.00. Miss Gordon mentioned the letter from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department requesting information on nesting of the Bald Eagle and the Osprey, which many of us have received. She asked for our cooperation on this project. Dorothy Sorrells has donated a book, "Bird Finding in Interior and South Central Alaska," to our library and Miss Gordon has thanked her on behalf of O.G. In addition, Sarah has an order blank for "A Field Guide to the Birds of Mexico" by Ernest P. Edwards, if anyone is interested.

The latest item for the Good News Department, according to Sarah, is that South Houston has been declared a Bird Sanctuary.

The Lefkovitses and the Joneses were given a round of applause for the work the former have done and the latter are now doing on THE SPOONBILL.

George Goloby volunteered to write a bird column for THE HOUSTON POST, which has agreed to pay for and publish an occasional column. Miss Gordon, who worked out this arrangement with George Christian of THE POST, has not yet been able to contact anyone with THE CHRONICLE.

Margaret Jones again recommended the use of the Travelers' Checklist, especially during vacations, and said that she had some on hand for sale. Several other members present also endorsed their use.

Miss Gordon then thanked the officers and committee chairmen who had served with her during the past year and turned the meeting over to the incoming chairman, Miss Marilyn Crane.

Miss Crane recognized Miss Gladys Galbreath who extended the Group's sincere appreciation to Sarah Gordon as an outstanding chairman of O.G.

Marilyn then introduced the rest of the new officers and those who had accepted appointment to other positions.

John Tveten reported that Amoco, which owns considerable property on High Island, is disposing of some of it to employees. However, he has learned that Amoco officials have agreed to give a lot of this land to the Biology Department of Lamar Tech. and may give some more to the Nature Conservancy. Local people, he said, were responsible for persuading Amoco officials to make these gifts.

The meeting was then turned over to the Program Chairman, Margaret Jones, who thanked those who had put on the programs during the past year. Margaret called upon Maxine Wenger and Dorothy Lefkovits to present the last program for the year, which was an explanation of sonagrams followed by individual tape recorded bird songs. In addition slides were shown of various birds, synchronized with their calls. Maxine and Dorothy credited Marilyn Crane, John Tveten, Harry Brister and Margaret Jones for the help they had given them on this presentation.

Following the program, David Marrack reviewed the hearing he attended in Corpus Christi relative to the plans for Padre Island.

Dr. Pat Sullivan recommended that an official letter of condolence be sent to Mrs. Katrina Ladwig by OG. The chairman requested the secretary to prepare such a letter for her signature.

Miss Crane announced that Dorothy Lefkovits had invited us to her house for the June picnic, details to be published in THE SPOONBILL.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Louise Rogers, Secretary.

BREWSTER'S WARBLER AT ROCKPORT - by Charlotte Johnson

At Rockport, Texas, April 10, 1972, about 1 p.m. I sighted and identified a Brewster's Warbler. It sat on the end of a dead branch about 30 feet from me in good sunlight and sang a five-note song over and over, and turned and turned so that I could identify and study all of the diagnostic markings. The top of head was yellow. There was a dark distinct strip through the eye and pale gray on the cheek. The back was gray and the wings a darker gray with yellow wingbars. The breast had a yellow band. The throat, upper breast, and all underparts were white, except for the yellow band on the middle breast. The song was similar to that of the Golden-winged warbler but more melodious than that on my Peterson record. It opened its small beak quite wide when it sang and I could look down its mouth. Its actions might almost be described as "prissy". This was on Rowan Street near the railroad tracks. Bausch & Lomb Zephyr 7 x 35 binoculars were used.

About 1-1/2 hours later Ella Anderson (Rockport) and I were watching migrants bathe in a garden on King Street about 200 feet from where I had sighted and identified the Brewster's Warbler when a Brewster's (supposedly the same one) appeared and took a quick bath. On this date there were a number of Blue-winged warblers at this spot, as well as numerous other species of warbler, Grosbeaks, Buntings, Tanagers, Orioles, and several other species of Spring migrants.

JACANA (JACANA SPINOSA) - MANOR LAKE, WEST COLUMBIA, TEXAS - from R. J. Fleetwood, Refuge Manager, Brazoria Natl. Refuge

All bird-watchers visiting Manor Lake Club must be cleared through Mr. George Rayburn, Jr., Brown & Root, Inc., P. O. Box 3, Houston, Texas 77001 - Telephone A.C. 713 672-4237. When guides and boats are needed, the charge is \$10.00.

Manor Lake is located off SH 35 - 2-1/4 miles east of West Columbia, or 11 miles west of Angleton. Turn north off SH 35 approx. 300 feet west of the Brazos River Bridge onto County Road 25. Proceed approx. 6 miles north on County Road 25 to Eagle Nest Lake on the left side of the road. There is a small wooden bridge with water-hyacinth on both sides of the road. The Jacanas have been observed on the wide strip of hyacinth on the right. Prior approval is not necessary from this location.

If they are not seen here, those with clearance from Mr. Rayburn should continue on County Road 25 approx. 850 feet and turn right onto a dirt road to Manor Lake Club.

Mr. John J. Jones is custodian of this club and lives at the headquarters Lake Road Telephone 713 - 345-9913 West Columbia. Jacanas were present at this headquarters sight last year. Mr. Jones usually knows where the Jacanas are located at any given time.

THE YELLOW RAIL - WINTER HOME IS ANAHUAC NATL. WILDLIFE REFUGE -

The Yellow Rail is an elusive little critter which is high on the birder's list of "hard-to-find" species. Because this bird is so shy and secretive and very little is known about its natural history, the Anahuac Refuge has undertaken a wildlife management study on it. The study began last spring and will be carried on for at least another year and one-half.

Many facets of information have come to light since the study began, one being that the Yellow Rail is a difficult bird to study because it is very hard to locate. The study has also shown that this bird, in its wintering grounds, prefers a fairly dry prairie of Gulf Coast Marsh Hay (*Spartina patens*), although he is sometimes found in areas where there are one to two inches of standing water. The number of Yellow Rails that can be located in suitable habitat depends upon the time of year, but when they are plentiful (early fall and late spring) their numbers can be as high as five per acre. Yellow Rails begin arriving in the Anahuac area in very late September or early October. Their numbers peak in November and then thin down in December and January. It is believed that the bulk of the population moves farther south in midwinter, but this has not been proven yet. The population begins to pick up in February and peaks in March and April. The last birds depart in late April or the first part of May.

To date, the refuge has not found a reliable way to age and sex Yellow Rails, but it is believed that a solution is close at hand and should be mastered by the end of the year. The refuge bands, measures and weighs all Yellow Rails captured. To date, thirty-three birds have been banded and released. There have been no band returns yet.

The above is a very brief summary of the Yellow Rail Study on Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge. In the interest of birdwatchers, the refuge has conducted guided marsh tours to observe this bird in its habitat with a great degree of success. This policy will continue in the future. Any persons interested in an interpretive two-hour tour of the marsh are invited to come to the refuge. A special effort is made to find Yellow Rails during the trip. Many other birds are also seen on these trips, and on a few lucky trips, a "Grand Slam" (seeing all six species of North American Rails) is accomplished. For further information on the Anahuac Refuge and its interpretive marsh tours, write: Refuge Manager, Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, P. O. Box 278, Anahuac, Texas 77514.

NORTH AMERICAN NEST RECORD CARD PROGRAM - by Wallace C. Mebane, Jr.

A few years ago the Outdoor Nature Club was designated as a Regional Center by Cornell University. The purpose is to observe nesting birds and record the important information such as location, latitude, longitude, elevation, habitat, identity of plants used as nesting sites, dates of observation, and other data.

Some interesting nests have been reported, including the Red-cockaded Woodpecker in San Jacinto County, the Western Kingbird in Harris County, and the Black Vulture nest in the Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary.

The most consistent bird nest recorder has been Mr. Bill McClure. Every year Bill turns in the most cards on the most species. Now is the time of year to do it again. It is a chance for everyone to make a contribution to the scientific knowledge in the field of ornithology. It provides a useful purpose to the sport of bird-watching. It increases our individual knowledge of birds and our ability to identify the young of each species. It broadens our nature study to include the identity of plants and makes us more aware of our own surroundings by causing us to learn map-reading for such information as latitude, longitude, and elevation.

I have a supply of nest record cards. They can be picked up at my office at Room 1414 in the Cullen Center Bank Building in Houston, or at my home at 11811 Bloomington Lane in Stafford.

SORA IN HOUSTON BACKYARD - by Maxine Davis

The old adage about looking for something in far places, then finding it in your own backyard, is really true. Having made two trips to Anahuac Refuge to see the rails, we were somewhat startled to look out in our backyard and see a Sora rail wandering around. Somehow, one just doesn't expect to see a rail in a densely populated area of a city. The sprinkler had flooded a section of the yard and he seemed quite pleased and proceeded to make himself at home. He arrived on Tuesday April 18 and remained until the 29th. There is a large water tray on the ground, which he enjoyed. We provided bird seed and he ate mulberries that had dropped on the ground. He may have found small snails in the grass and some insects. Anyway, he was an interesting guest and we miss him.

CLEARING HOUSE April, 1972

Pelican, White: (100+)4, (9)22, (15)29, Cove, AKM.

Cormorant, Double-crested: (7)4, (2)7, Cove, AKM.

Olivaceous: (2)2, (3)4, (1) 29, Cove, AKM.

Heron, Green: (3+)29, Anahuac Ref., P&PN; (10)5, Galveston I., NC&MA; (2)22, 29, (1)24, Cove, AKM ("The foot of one was released from a turtle.

It was too exhausted to fly. Foot did not appear broken.")

Little Blue: (no number)29, Anahuac Ref., P&PN.

Egret, Snowy: (25+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN.

Heron, Louisiana: (no number)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN.

- Nightheron, Black-crowned: (5)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (1)22, Cove, AKM.
 Bittern, Least: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Ibis, White-faced: (2)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN. (50)5, Galveston I., NO&MA.
 Spoonbill, Roseate: (2)5, Galveston I., NO & MA; (50+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN;
 (5)1, (8)4, 22, Cove, AKM.
Goose, Canada: (4, Greater)29, Cove ("the first in several years; not Canada
 but Greater Canada") AKM.
 Snow: (8)30, Anahuac Refuge, Party "A".
 Blue: (1)30, Anahuac Refuge, Party "A".
 Duck, Mottled: (30+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (1-10)13 days, (30+)5, 7, Cove, AKM.
 Teal, Green-winged: (6+)7, Cove, AKM.
 Blue-winged: (no number)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (40)5, Galveston I.,
 NO & MA; (125[±])7, (23)13, (2)20, (1)21, (7)22, (31)24,
 Cove, AKM.
 American Widgeon: (10[±])7, Cove, AKM.
 Shoveler: (10[±])7, Cove, AKM.
 Scaup, Lesser: (1)4, Cove, AKM.
 Vulture, Turkey: (1)18, Cove, AKM.
Kite, Swallow-tailed: (1) no date, near Lake Houston, JR.
 Mississippi: (6 or 7) no date, near Lake Houston, JR.
 Hawk, Sharp-shinned: (1)2, 17, 1601 Woodlawn, Bayton, D&DL.
 Red-tailed: (1)4, (1, very dark)15, Cove, AKM.
 Red-tailed or Red-shouldered: (1) about mid-April, near San Jacinto- Albino,
 but no pink eyes - Peting.
 Broad-winged: (1)5, 9, Cove, AKM.
 Marsh: (2)1, (3)5, (1)13, 28, Cove, AKM.
 Osprey: (1)9, Cove, P. (?); (about 1)12, Cove, Arnold F. McKay.
 Rail, King: (3 + 2 chicks)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (5)8, Anahuac Refuge, P & MJ.
 Clapper: (2)29, Cove, AKM.
 Virginia: (5+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (8 or 9)8, Anahuac Refuge, P&MJ.
 Sora: (12+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (1)22, 28, Cove, AKM; (1)8, Anahuac
 Refuge, P&MJ.
Yellow: (4)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (4)8, Anahuac Refuge, P&MJ; (2)30,
 Anahuac Refuge, Party "A".
 BLACK: (1)8, Anahuac Refuge, P&MJ; (1)30, Anahuac Refuge, Party "A".
 Gallinule, Purple: (2)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN.
 Common: (5+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN.
 Coot, American: (5+)7, (1)29, Cove, AKM.
 Plover, Semipalmated: (1)7, 21, (7)24, Cove, AKM.
 Wilson's: (1)22, (4, 2 pair)29, Barrow's Point, ("the first record so far
 up the bay. One doing broken-wing act.") AKM.
 Golden, American: (125)5, Galveston I., NO & MA; (52)4, (25[±])5, (200[±])16,
 (6)13, (NC)20, Cove, AKM.
 Black-bellied: (15)5, Galveston I., NO & MA; (1)4, 24, (2)22, 29, Cove, AKM.
 Turnstone, Ruddy: (9)29, Cove, AKM.
 Snipe, Common: (1)7, Cove, AKM.
 Curlew, Long-billed: (15)5, Galveston I., NO & MA; (2)7, Cove, AKM.
 Whimbrel: (10)5, Galveston I., NO & MA; (3)4, (1)7, 29, Cove, AKM; (5)1, Galveston,
 DM.
CURLEW, ESKIMO: (1)1, Galveston, DM; (1)4, Galveston, Linda Snyder, et al - Details
 will appear in next issue.
 Plover, Upland: (25)5, Galveston I., NO & MA; (5)7, (3)13, Cove, AKM.
 Sandpiper, Spotted: (1)7, (3)22, 24, (2)29, Cove, AKM.
 Willet: (2-4)4, 22, 24, (20[±])15, (4)29, Cove, AKM.
 Yellowlegs, Greater: (1-5) 6 days, (30[±])5, 7, Cove, AKM.
 Lesser: (1-20)8 days, (30-75)4 days, (300[±])7, (1000[±])22, Cove, AKM.
 Sandpiper, Pectoral: (2-5)11, 14, 22, 24, (100[±])4, (75[±])5, (3000[±])12, (50[±]) 13,
 Cove, AKM.
 White-rumped: (5)22, Cove, AKM.
 Dowitcher sp.: (3-50)7, 13, 20, 22, (150[±])21, Cove, AKM.
 Sandpiper, Stilt: (5)22, Cove, AKM.
 Buff-breasted: (1)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (5-6)4, 5, 7, 14, (1)22, Cove,
 AKM.
 Godwit, Hudsonian: (9)22, Cove, AKM; (6+)30, Highway 1985, Chambers Co., Party "A".
 Sanderling: (6)29, Cove, AKM.
 Stilt, Black-necked: (no number)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN.
 Phalarope, Wilson's: (3)22, Cove, AKM.
 Tern, Least: (100)5, Galveston, NO & MA.
 Caspian: (no number)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN.
 Skimmer, Black: (2)29, Cove, AKM.
 Dove, Inca: (2 + 2 young)4, (3)11, 7702 Westview, P&PN.
 Cuckoo, Black-billed: (1)9, High Island, P&MJ.
 Ani, Groove-billed: (2)9, High Island, P&MJ.
 Owl, Barn: (2)30, High Island, Party "A".
 Great Horned: (1)7, Cove, AKM.
 Chuck-Will's-Widow: (1 heard)9, 17, (2 heard)18, 7702 Westview, P&PN; (1)5, 6, 8,
 10, (2 heard)9, (1)16, 1601 Woodlawn, P&DL; (1)22, 29, Cove, AKM;

- (1)2, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Nighthawk, Common: (1)14, N. of Hobby Airport (Broadway & Rockmill), SE Houston, NP; (1 heard)18, Rice U., (1)25, downtown Houston, P&PN; (3)21, 22, (1)28, 29, Cove, AKM.
- LESSER: (1)8, Anahuac Refuge, P&MJ.
- Swift, Chimney: (1)1, 7702 Westview, P&PN; (6)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Hummingbird, Ruby-throated: (3)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)6, 7, 25, 26, 28, 29, Cove, AKM.
- Kingfisher, Belted: (1)14, (2)24, Cove, AKM.
- Woodpecker, Pileated: (3)22, Cove, AKM.
- Red-bellied: (1)22, (2)29, Cove, AKM.
- Red-headed: (1)14, (2)24, Cove, AKM.
- Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied: (2)5, Galveston I., NO & MA.
- Woodpecker, Hairy: (1)26, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (2+)30, Lake Charlotte, Party "A".
- Kingbird, Eastern: (25+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (15)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)5, 20, 22, 29, (2)28, Cove, AKM.
- Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed: (10)5, Galveston, NO & MA.
- Great Crested: (1)23, 7702 Westview, P&PN; (1)4, Cove, AKM.
- Flycatcher, Empidonax sp.: (1)22, (2)27, 29, Cove, AKM; (1) 28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Acadian: (1)5, Galveston, NO & MA.
- Wood Pewee, Eastern: (2+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (1)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (2)22, (4)28, (5)29, Cove, AKM; (2)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Swallow, Tree: (50+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (10)5, Galveston, NO & MA.
- Barn: (40+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (50)5, Galveston, P&PN.
- Martin, Purple: (no number)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (11)30, 6414 Culmore
- Jay, Blue: (12)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Chickadee, Carolina: (1)7, 28, Cove, AKM.
- Titmouse, Tufted: (4+)24, Cove, AKM.
- Nuthatch, Brown-headed: (2)30, White Memorial Park, Party "A".
- Wren, House: (3)4, Cove, AKM.
- Mockingbird: (15)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Catbird: (1)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (1-2)9 days from 10-29, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)5, (9)22, (75+)28, (50+)29, Cove, AKM; (2)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Thrasher, Brown: (2)9, 7702 Westview, P&PN; (1)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Robin: (5)5, Galveston - one on nest, NO & MA.
- Thrush, Wood: (1)9, 11, 20, 25, 26, (2)10, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (30)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (75+)28, (30+)29, Cove, AKM; (2)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Swainson's: (1)26, 27, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (2)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Gray-cheeked: (2)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (1)29, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL.
- Swainson's and Gray-cheeked: (150+)28, (100+)29, Cove, AKM.
- Veery: (1)25, 26, (5)27, (2+)28, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (2)29, Cove, AKM.
- Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray: (1)1, (2+)9, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (5)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (7)1, (1)6, 29, Cove, AKM.
- Kinglet, Ruby-crowned: (1)2, 7, 10, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)26, 10215 Chatterton, DHH (diminutive size, eye-ring, nervous wing-flick).
- Pipit, Water: (8)29, Hobby Airport, SE Houston, NP; (2)7, (1)22, Cove, AKM.
- Waxwing, Cedar: (20)7, (15+)8, 15, (4)25, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (8)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (6+)each day, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Vireo, White-eyed: (1)6, (5)29, Cove, AKM; (2)4, 7702 Westview, P&PN; (1)1, 7, 10, 27, 28, 29, (1+)9, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (7)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)3, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Yellow-throated: (1)25, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (4)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)29, Cove, AKM.
- Solitary: (1)17, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)5, Galveston, NO & MA.
- Red-eyed: (10)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (2)6, (4+)28, (1)29, Cove, AKM.
- Philadelphia: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
- Warbling: (1)28, 29, Cove, AKM; (no number)15, 26, 28, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL.
- Warbler, Black and White: (1)28, Bellaire, P&MJ; (1)9, 26, 27, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (4)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)22, (3)28, Cove, AKM.
- Prothonotary: (10)5, Galveston, NO & MA.
- Swainson's: (3)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (2)9, High Island; (1)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- Worm-eating: (1)9, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (8)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)1 Cove, AKM.
- Golden-winged: (1)22, Cove, AKM.
- Blue-winged: (1+)9, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (2)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1) 10, 28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
- LAWRENCE'S: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
- Tennessee: (3)28, Bellaire, P&MJ; (5)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1+)22, (8+)28, 29, Cove, AKM.
- Orange-crowned: (1)7, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)5, Galveston, NO & MA.
- Parula: (1)7, 8, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (4)5, Galveston, NO & MA.
- Yellow: (2)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (4+)28, (1)29, Cove, AKM; (1)26, (5)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.

- Warbler, Magnolia: (1)26, 28, 29, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (2)28, Cove, AKM.
 Myrtle: (2)4, 7702 Westview, P&PN; (10)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1-3)
 6 days through 10th, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)1, (5+)22, Cove, AKM.
 Black-throated Green: (1)29, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)22, (10[±])28, 29,
 Cove, AKM; (1)27, (6)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
 Cerulean: (21)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
 Yellow-throated: (1)5, Galveston, NO & MA.
 Chestnut-sided: (1)27, (2)28, Bellaire, P & MJ.
 Bay-breasted: (1)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (1)25, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL;
 (1)27, (8)28, Bellaire, P&MJ; (1)27, 10215 Chatterton, DHH.
 Palm: (2)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)4, Cove, AKM.
 Ovenbird: (1)5, Galveston Island, NO & MA; (1)26-30, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL;
 (2)22, Galveston, P&MJ.
 Waterthrush, Northern: (1)28, 29, Cove, AKM.
 Louisiana: (1)30, Lake Charlotte - probable nester - Party "A".
 Warbler, Kentucky: (15)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)9, 27, 28, 29, (3)10, 1601 Woodlawn,
 D&DL; (2)28, (1)29, Cove, AKM.
 Yellowthroat: (1)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Chat, Yellow-breasted: (1)7, 9, 10, 11, 25, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)28, Bellaire,
 P&MJ.
 Warbler, Hooded: (3)1, (1)4, 7702 Westview, P&PN; (40)5, Galveston, NO & MA;
 (1-2) 7 days, 7-29th, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)22, (3+)28, (1)29,
 Cove, AKM.
 Wilson's: (1) 6 days through 10th, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL.
 Redstart, American: (1)6, 10, (1+)9, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (2)22, (1)29, Cove, AKM.
 Blackbird, Yellow-headed: (2)22, Galveston, DH.
 Oriole, Orchard: (60+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (40)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (2-4)9,
 10, 19, 26, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)6, 7, 20, Cove, AKM; (2)28,
 Bellaire, P&MJ.
 Baltimore: (2)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (2-4)15, 28, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)
 6, 22, Cove, AKM; (1)27, Bellaire, P&MJ.
 Grackle, Boat-tailed: (12)28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
 Tanager, Scarlet: (2)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (1)26, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)28,
 (3)29, Cove, AKM; (20[±])30, High Island, Party "A".
 Summer: (4+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (12)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (2)9,
 10, (1)25, (2+)26, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (5)28, (10)29, Cove, AKM;
 (1)27, 28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
 Cardinal: (6) all month, Bellaire, P&MJ.
 Grosbeak, Rose-breasted: (5)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (1)9, 28, (3+)25, 26, 1601
 Woodlawn, D&DL; (4)22, (50+)28, (10+)29, Cove, AKM; (7)
 26, 27, 28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
 Black-headed: (1)27, 28, Bellaire, P&MJ.
 Grosbeak, Blue: (1)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (4)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (1)6, 7, 9,
 25, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (1)6, (1)9, P (?), Cove, AKM.
 Bunting, Indigo: (50+)29, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN; (50)5, Galveston, NO & MA; (5-10)
 7 days, 9th-26th, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL; (NC)6, P (?), (15[±])7, (2)22,
 (50[±])28, (25[±])29, Cove, AKM.
 Painted: (1)10, 1601 Woodlawn, D&DL.
 Dickcissel: (2)29, Cove, AKM.
 Sparrow, White-crowned: (8 est.)1, 4, (3+)20, Cove, AKM.
 White-throated: (NC)1-19 (See Clearing House Notes)D&DL; (NC)7, Cove, AKM.
 Lincoln's: (3+)1, (1)6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 21, Cove, AKM.
 Swamp: (no number) no date, Anahuac Refuge, P&PN.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE CLEARING HOUSE:

MA	Margaret Anderson
DH	Dirk Hagemeyer
DHH	Dan H. Hardy
P&MJ	Paul & Margaret Jones
D&DL	Dorothy and David Lefkovits
DM	David Marrack
AKM	Arlie K. McKay
P&PN	Paul and Phyllis Nimmons
NO	Norma Oates
NP	Noel Pettingell
JR	June Rushing
Party "A"	Victor Emanuel, Dan Hardy, Jim Lane, Noel Pettingell

CLEARING HOUSE NOTES

From Lefkovits: We reported some of the winter residents which are shown on the Field Check List as being common through April and on into May, but this year (possibly due to the unseasonably warm late winter and early spring), they seemed to leave our area earlier than usual.

From Arlie McKay: Correction - I reported a Spotted (subsp) Towhee as the first in several years. The past season is the first ever not to have any Eastern Towhees.

A REMINDER - ARTICLES FOR PUBLISHING IN THE SPOONBILL

Articles and announcements for THE SPOONBILL should be sent to the new editor, Mrs. Maxine Wenger, 14302 Lantern, Houston 77015.

Information for the Clearing House should be sent to the Clearing House Editor, Dan Hardy, 10215 Chatterton, Houston 77043.

COMING EVENTS

Sat. & Sun. ONC field trip - "Scratching the Devil's Backbone" led by Clayton
May 20 & 21 Gilman. Plans are to proceed with this trip, despite recent
 flooding in the general area.

Saturday ONC Board Meeting at the Gilmans' home, 10:00 a.m. ALL WELCOME.
May 27 Bring lunch and chairs.

Sunday OG field trip to explore a section of the Trinity River bottoms.
May 28 Meet behind the Dayton State Bank in Dayton at 8:00 a.m. The bank
 is on the north side of Highway 90 across from the high school.
 Leader will be Marilyn Crane. Bring lunch and insect repellent.

Saturday OG annual meeting and picnic will be at the Lefkovits home in Baytown,
June 3 beginning at 3:00 p.m. Bring picnic supper, chairs, and repellent,
 as they don't spray for mosquitoes. Directions: From Interstate 10
 take N. Main exit to Baytown, go south 5 miles to Fayle St. (5th or
 6th traffic light). Turn left, cross Highway 146 (1st traffic light),
 go 3 blocks to 2nd stop sign, turn right on Woodlawn to 1601, 7th
 house on right. From Baytown-La Porte tunnel, stay on Highway 146
 to 3rd traffic light at E. Fayle, turn right and proceed as above.

BIRD SANCTUARY DONATED BY AMOCO

Good News! A 10-acre grove^{of} trees just outside the town of High Island has been turned over to Lamar University, Beaumont, by Amoco Production Company as a bird sanctuary. Known to local birders as Boy Scout Woods, the area is a bird haven during migration times and a favorite spot of birders in the coastal area. Dr. John E. Gray, president emeritus of Lamar and president of the Lamar Regents' Development Council, accepted the sanctuary from Amoco officials and stated that it will be open to birders and the public at all times. The grove is situated on the top of a subsurface salt dome which rises some 20 to 30 feet above sea level several hundred feet from the coast line. This is considerably higher than most of the surrounding treeless coastal plains. THANKS TO AMOCO FROM ALL OF US!

OFFICERS

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- Vice-Chairman: Mrs. T. Paul (Margaret) Jones, 4902 Fern, Bellaire 77401
- Secretary: Miss Louise Rogers, 2315 Kipling, Apt. 77, Houston 77006
- Treasurer: Miss Melba Drake, 1746 Wroxton Court, Houston 77005
- Editor of The Spoonbill: Mrs. Alan G. (Maxine) Wenger, 14302 Lantern, Houston 77015
- Editor of Clearing House: Dan H. Hardy, 10215 Chatterton, Houston 77043
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668-6405
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- Librarian: Dr. Pat Sullivan, 5353 Institute Lane #23, Houston 77005
- Aluminum Chairman: Mrs. Charles F. (Jerry) Baker, 6430 Jefferson, Houston 77023
- Christmas Bird Count
Chairman: Mr. T. Paul Jones, 4902 Fern, Bellaire 77401



Outdoor Nature Club
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 1746 Wroxton Court
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