



The Spoonbill

A Publication of the Ornithology Group (OG)
of the Houston Outdoor Nature Club

September 2005
Vol. 54 No. 7

August Meeting

Monday, September 12, 2005 -- 7:00 p.m.
Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet, Houston

Learning Corner, 6:30 p.m.

Program:

Texas Pelagics with John Arvin

John Arvin has lived in Texas all his life and has been studying birds since childhood. After a 20-year career of leading bird-watching tours to all parts of the hemisphere, especially Central and South America, he retired to continue to study and write about birds. John's special interests include the study of bird voices through tape recording, and the nocturnal migration of small land birds. In addition, he has participated in migration studies on offshore petroleum platforms in the Gulf of Mexico involving the use of computers to record and analyze the flight calls given by migrating birds at night. John has served as resident naturalist for a total of 40 months in Manu National Park and Biosphere Reserve in Peru. Current projects include a book on the status and distribution of south Texas birds, and a set of audio CDs of the voices of Peruvian birds and mammals.

John has participated in pelagic trips off the Texas coast since their inception, and arranged the trips out of South Padre Island for several years before leaving TPWD to work as Research Coordinator for GCBO.

Other Events

Saturday, September 10:
Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza
Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, Lake Jackson

Wednesday, September 14:
Midweek Field Trip, Hermann Park

Fri.-Sun., September 16-18 (Quarterly Trip)
Pelagic Trip from South Padre Is.

Saturday, September 24:
Field Trip to Smith Point Hawk Watch

October 3: OG meeting
Chris Godfrey, Grouse Partners

October 15: OG field trip
Jones State Forest

Inside this issue:

About the OG	2
August Meeting Minutes	2
Chairman's Message	3
Hummingbird Xtravaganza	3
Field Trips	4
TOS Winter Conference	5
Clearing House	5
Membership Form	8

Minutes of the August 1, 2005 Meeting

Bayland Community Center

Attendance: 50

About the Ornithology Group

The Ornithology Group (OG) is a division of the Outdoor Nature Club (ONC), a non-profit organization dedicated to greater knowledge about the environment and wildlife of the Upper Texas Coast. The OG is a club of individuals interested in all aspects of birding, including bird identification, listing bird sightings, competing in birding events, and preserving bird habitat. Some members study bird behavior, biology, distribution and migration, while others just enjoy watching birds. The organization is designed to accommodate these diverse birding interests. Monthly meetings and field trips provide an opportunity to interact with and learn from experts in local and international birding.

Chair:	Michael Williams	713-228-9064
Vice-Chair:	Bernice Hotman	713-782-7889
Secretary:	Shirley & Raymond Mondshine	713-774-1413
Treasurer:	Jim Winn	713-464-8057
Clearing House:	David Sarkozi	713-412-4409
Library:	Andy Scott	281-537-9690
Membership:	Margret Simmons	713-776-2511

Spoonbill: Al Shultz 281-829-0970
Email: og_spoonbill@earthlink.net

OG website: <http://www.ornithologygroup.org/>
ONC website: <http://www.outdoornatureclub.org/>

1. Learning Corner: Don Richardson gave a lively and descriptive presentation on dichotomies of "The Lord of the Rings," these lords being the Snowy, Piping, Wilson's, and Semipalmated Plovers, using marks including the color of the legs, the color on the backs, the markings around the neck and head, and their bills. The remainder of the time was spent on the three "peeps," Semipalmated, Western and Least Sandpipers. White-rumped and Baird's Sandpipers were also discussed as to coloration, body shapes and stances, and length and color of legs. What time of year these birds are seen is crucial to identifying them.
2. Chairman Michael Williams called the meeting to order at 7:10. He noted that the delivery of *The Spoonbill* August issue was delayed, but that it would be in the mail tonight.
3. No review of minutes until next month.
4. Bird Sightings: Many Robins are being seen; Red-headed Woodpeckers in Memorial and Hermann Parks, Magnolia, Spring Branch area, and Trinity River area; immature Ruby-throated hummer and Rufous hummer; Swallow-tailed Kite on highway between Liberty and Dayton; and Purple Martin roost in Sharpstown. A report was given on the awesome birds seen on Trinidad --180 species were viewed at Asa Wright Nature Centre and elsewhere. A report was given on the birds of Panama---225 species seen by the group. A Brazilian Cardinal was seen in Hawaii. "March of the Penguins" was said to be a must-see movie.
5. Margret Simmons, new Membership officer, stated that the OG website has the year's field trips. She also reminded everyone to sign in so we have a count of members attending meetings.
6. No report from Library.
7. Newsletter submissions are due August 10. Al Shultz stated that members may receive their *Spoonbill* on e-mail, and he is looking into whether this can save the club money in printing and postage. Anyone interested should let Al know.
8. Environmental issues: Mary Dodson stated the federal energy bill has passed; however, it is 1700 pages and has to be deciphered. A jetport has been proposed 5000 ft. from the old West Airport--an environmental impact affecting not only birds but humans as well.
9. Field trips; Bill Saulmon spoke for Adam Wood, OG Field Trip Coordinator, about the upcoming trip to Mad Island Marsh Preserve on Aug. 29, and the Quarterly Field Trip, Pelagic Birds off South Padre Island Sept.16-18. There are still openings; see *The Spoonbill* for details. Bill also commented on the great trip in May to Brazos Bend Park--all target birds were seen. Skip Almoney will begin monthly mid-week birding trips inside the Loop at 8:00a.m. starting in September.
10. Yearly treasury report was given by Jim Winn. Members were given handouts presenting the budget for 2005-2006. The club had \$6,825 which increased by approximately \$1300 as stated by Kathy Farr, during the meeting. The funds are from the TOS Conference.
11. Don Richardson, well-known birder in the Houston area, was introduced by Bernice Hotman. He presented a program on "What Makes a Bird a Bird?" emphasizing what makes them tick and what they need in order to fly. Their biggest assets are their hollow bones, air sacs throughout the body, very efficient metabolism and reproduction, feathers, excellent eyesight and other senses, flexible necks, and instinctive ability to navigate long distances by stars, sun, magnetic fields and memory. Some interesting facts: birds legs lock into place when they roost; owls fly silently; homing pigeons find their way home by smell; Peregrine Falcons can dive at tremendous speeds. It was "billed" as "OOOOOOOO--That's Neat!" but it was more "Birding 101."
12. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

--Shirley Mondshine

Chairman's Message

Dear Fellow OG members,

I hope that the August meeting was enjoyable for those in attendance. It was reminiscent of my first series of meetings with the OG. Don Richardson exhibited a talent for reanimating knowledge that is probably common to OG members. His program was presented in such a fashion as to appear as new information to the listener. I didn't look around as he was speaking because, like rest of you, I felt as if I was spellbound by a master storyteller. I certainly want to thank Bernice Hotman for securing him for the program. I would encourage OG members to invite their friends to our meetings. It is my belief that the success will be repeated, if you refer to our program schedule.

I would also like to thank Jim Winn for presenting the budget to the membership. I look forward to more discussion about budget items at future meetings. If you have any questions about budget issues, please do not hesitate to contact me or Jim Winn by e-mail or telephone.

I'm looking forward to the TOS conference in January. This conference will bring many working ornithologists to Houston. This opportunity should be appreciated by birders old and new. Many thanks to Kathy Farr for the work she is doing in preparation for the conference. It is my sincere wish that OG members be willing to help make this event a success. This conference and the events that accompany it will take place in our back yard. Who could be a better host than the OG and the Katy Prairie Conservancy? This event will be a big feather in the cap of the OG.

--Michael Williams

GCBO Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza September 10, 2005

See migrating Ruby-throated Hummingbirds fueling up on garden flowers and feeders as they prepare for their southbound journey to the tropics. Visit the Nature Store, listen to speakers on hummingbird biology and gardening, watch Hummingbird banding and join Adopt-A-Hummingbird activities. Hours: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. \$2.00 per adult and youth under 18 free.

OG will again have a booth at this event. Skip Almoney is unable to attend this year, and I have agreed to coordinate volunteers to "person" our booth. Shifts will be 2 hours each, with two people per shift. If you are planning to attend this great event, why not spend two hours of your time educating folks about OG? Call me at 713-939-9375. Or send me an e-mail at kafarr@hal-pc.org. Volunteers get in free!!

--Kathy Farr

Directions to GCBO

From Houston, take 288 south to Lake Jackson. As soon as you arrive in Lake Jackson, take a right onto 2004 west. Continue on 2004 west to the 2nd traffic light, which will be HWY 332, turn west (right). On 332 you will see the Girl Scout camp on the left, then just before you get to the bridge over Buffalo Camp Bayou take a left onto a semi-paved road. Look for the large white sign with our name in blue letters. Drive down through the red gate and through the woods to our building on the right. You cannot see the building from the road. Also you can check out the map at www.gcbo.org.

September Hawk Watch Field Trip

Our second monthly field trip is our annual Hawk Watch trip to Smith Point. Dick Benoit, the Senior Hawk Watch counter, will lead us through the hawk-watching process. John Arvin is planning on lining up some additional activities for us while we are there, such as: banding, rehabbed raptor demonstrations, etc.. So come and join us for a day of looking up at not the stars but kettles of hawks soaring overhead. It should be a memorable experience that you don't want to miss.

Meet at the hawk watch tower at Smith Point at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 24, 2005. From Houston, take I-10 east to exit 812. (Coming from the east on I-10, take exit 813.) Turn south on Highway 61, go to the 4-way stop. Proceed through the 4-way where the road becomes FM 562. Follow FM 562 until a fork (Y) in the road. Follow to the right at the Y. After approximately 14 miles you will arrive in the small village of Smith Point. Continue straight towards the bay and follow the black and white Hawk Watch signs, turning left to reach the tower. It will take approximately 1½ hour to 2 hours to get there from Houston, so I suggest leaving around 6:30 a.m.. Make sure to bring binoculars, a hat, sunscreen, raingear (in case it rains, but we will bird rain or shine), water, and snacks if you would like (there is a gas station nearby with a food mart).

--Adam Wood, OG Field Trip Coordinator 713-515-1692 Birdman_570@yahoo.com

OG Mid-Week Birding Trips

The OG will sponsor a mid-week birding trip the second Wednesday of each month from September through May. These will be informal birding trips with Skip Almoney as the leader. Skip will be at the site at 8:00 P.M. and the trip will not last beyond 12 noon. Depending on the birds and the number of participant the trip may not be a full 4 hours. Each location listed below is near the city of Houston with only a few outside the Beltway 8. Anyone is welcome and we will meet unless the weather is seriously inclement. Directions to the meeting places at these sites will be listed in the Spoonbill for the month of the trip.

OG Mid-Week Birding Trips

September 2005	Hermann Park
October 2005	Houston Arboretum
November 2005	Cullinan Park
December 2005	Timbergrove Park
January 2006	Sims Bayou Nature Center
February 2006	Russ Pittman Park
March 2006	Addicks Reservoir
April 2006	Herman Brown Park
May 2006	Hermann Park

September 2005 Midweek Birding Trip: September 14 at Hermann Park

The leader for this trip will be Skip Almoney. He will be at the designated meeting point at 8:00 a.m. and the trip will not last beyond 12 noon. We will be birding several habitats including open oaks, a small prairie, along Brays Bayou and a wooded forest. The meeting place will be the parking lot in the Bayou Parkland portion of Hermann Park. This parking area is on the west side of Almeda Road between Holcombe Boulevard and South Macgregor Way. Look for the Bayou Parkland Pavilion adjoining the parking area.

TOS-OG-KPC Winter Conference January 13 – 15, 2006

Several times a year TOS (Texas Ornithological Society) partners with birding groups around Texas for a birding conference. OG and Katy Prairie Conservancy (KPC) have been asked to co-sponsor the Winter 2005-6 conference. This is an exciting opportunity to join TOS and expose the Texas birding community to the wonders of the Katy Prairie. It will also be great to have a birding event at home. Our participation will result in positive exposure for OG, as well as add a portion of profits to our coffers.

There will be field trips to the Prairie (including several on private KPC land), several local State Parks, and an evening of owl prowling. Mary Anne Piacentini will speak on the history of KPC and its conservation efforts Friday night, and Fred Collins has agreed to give us a history of the Prairie and its birds at the Saturday night banquet.

Put these dates on your calendar! In the not too distant future there will be more specific information and a call for volunteers to help with administrative duties, lead field trips, and to act as trip liaisons.

--Kathy Farr

Clearing House

by David Sarkozi -- david@sarkozi.net -- 713-412-4409

Species that are listed as abundant to uncommon for the whole month are summarized. Records for rare to vagrant status are listed in full. Those records that are very rare for that week of the year are in bold; those that are new for that week of the year are bold and underlined.

Please enter your reports via the OG website at www.ornithologygroup.org You can also send reports to me via regular mail and e-mail.

May 2005

Observers: Al Shultz, Allyson Marceau, Art Mackinnon, Bob Honig, Carole Hughes, Carolyn Dill, Charlie Bower, Cin-Ty Lee, Dave Stewart, David Sarkozi, Don Richardson, Don Verser, Dwayne Litteer, John & April Cocanower, John Berner, Johnnie Greene, Kathy Reiser, Lalise Mason, Linda Scott, Mary Dodson, Mike Austin, Paul Fagala, Ron Weeks, Steve Gross, Steve Gross, Nick Wallisch, Howard Smith, Tracy Keltonic, Winnie Burkett

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck birds=92 reports=8

Fulvous Whistling-Duck birds=29 reports=3

Wood Duck birds=5 reports=3

Mottled Duck birds=28 reports=4

Blue-winged Teal birds=39 reports=2

King Eider 5/3 Galveston(East Beach) 1 Dwayne Litteer,

5/4 Galveston(East Beach) 1 John & April

Cocanower, 5/8 Galveston(East Beach) 1 Carole

Hughes, 5/9 Galveston(East Beach) 1 Carolyn Dill

Northern Bobwhite birds=3 reports=1

Pacific Loon 5/22 Offat's Bayou (61st St. @ I-

45)(Galveston) 1 Steve Gross, Nick Wallisch, Howard

Smith

Least Grebe 5/17 Sea Center Texas(Brazoria) 1 Ron

Weeks

Pied-billed Grebe birds=3 reports=2

Masked Booby 5/28 Galveston(East end of East Beach) 1

Mary Dodson

American White Pelican birds=3 reports=1

Brown Pelican birds=170 reports=1

Neotropic Cormorant birds=25 reports=1

Anhinga birds=4 reports=3

Magnificent Frigatebird birds=1 reports=1

American Bittern 5/15 Chambers(Anahuac NWR) 1 Don

Verser, **5/30 Chambers(Anahuac NWR) 1 Don Verser**

Great Blue Heron birds=149 reports=12

Great Egret birds=348 reports=11

Snowy Egret birds=348 reports=11

Little Blue Heron birds=19 reports=9

Tricolored Heron birds=43 reports=5

Reddish Egret birds=17 reports=1

Cattle Egret birds=303 reports=10

Green Heron birds=8 reports=7

Black-crowned Night-Heron birds=7 reports=3

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron birds=19 reports=10

White Ibis birds=485 reports=8

Glossy Ibis 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 3 Art Mackinnon,

5/22 Anahuac NWR, Shoveler Pond(Chambers) 1 Steve

Gross, Nick Wallisch, Howard Smith

White-faced Ibis birds=223 reports=7

Roseate Spoonbill birds=201 reports=6

Wood Stork 5/15 Harris(Jones State Park) 2 Kathy Reiser,

5/17 Harris(West Houston) 8 Tracy Keltonic, 5/30

Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 12 Mike Austin

Black Vulture birds=25 reports=7

Turkey Vulture birds=27 reports=8

Osprey 5/2 Harris(West Houston) 1 Dave Stewart

Swallow-tailed Kite 5/17 Chambers(Lake Charlotte Road) 1

Don Richardson, 5/20 Chambers(Cove) 1 Paul Fagala

White-tailed Kite birds=1 reports=1

Mississippi Kite 5/1 Chambers(my yard, Anahuac) 3 Linda

Scott, 5/1 Harris(west Barker Reservoir) 1 Al Shultz, 5/9

Chambers(my yard, Anahuac) 2 Linda Scott, 5/14 Fort

Bend(Brazos Bend SP) 1 Kathy Reiser

Northern Harrier 5/1 FM 1985 at SH124(Chambers) 1 David

Sarkozi, 5/22 Retillon Rd. (road to Bolivar

Flats)(Galveston) 1 Steve Gross

Cooper's Hawk 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 1 Art Mackinnon

Red-shouldered Hawk birds=8 reports=5

Swainson's Hawk birds=2 reports=2

Red-tailed Hawk 5/1 Brazoria(Peach Pt. WMA) 2 Kathy

Reiser, 5/1 Harris(west Barker Reservoir) 1 Al Shultz,

5/14 Fort Bend(Brazos Bend SP) 2 Kathy Reiser, 5/16

Waller(Katy Prairie) 4 Kathy Reiser

Crested Caracara birds=4 reports=2

Clapper Rail birds=4 reports=1

King Rail birds=1 reports=1

Purple Gallinule birds=34 reports=4

Common Moorhen birds=110 reports=6

American Coot birds=1 reports=1

Black-bellied Plover birds=80 reports=4

American Golden-Plover 5/11 Brazoria(CR 171 e. of FM 523)

4 Mike Austin, 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 2

Bolivar Bird Count

Snowy Plover 5/29 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 2 Cin-Ty Lee

Wilson's Plover birds=11 reports=1

Semipalmated Plover birds=17 reports=5

Piping Plover 5/4 Brazoria(Folletts Island) 15 Mike Austin,

5/4 Galveston(San Luis Pass) 3 Mike Austin

Killdeer birds=40 reports=6

American Oystercatcher birds=6 reports=2

Black-necked Stilt birds=161 reports=5

American Avocet birds=140 reports=3

Greater Yellowlegs 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 1

Bolivar Bird Count, 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 1 Art

Mackinnon, 5/29 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 1 Cin-Ty Lee,

5/30 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 1 Mike Austin

Lesser Yellowlegs 5/11 Brazoria(CR 171 e. of FM 523) 2 Mike Austin, 5/16 Waller(Katy Prairie) 1 Kathy Reiser, 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 15 Art Mackinnon, 5/29 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 10 Cin-Ty Lee, 5/30 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 2 Mike Austin

Solitary Sandpiper 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 2 Art Mackinnon

Willet birds=125 reports=3
Spotted Sandpiper birds=4 reports=3
Whimbrel 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 7 Bolivar Bird Count

Hudsonian Godwit 5/16 Waller(Katy Prairie) 1 Kathy Reiser, 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 140 Art Mackinnon, **5/29 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 2 Cin-Ty Lee**

Marbled Godwit 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 15 Bolivar Bird Count

Ruddy Turnstone birds=297 reports=3
Red Knot 5/4 Galveston(San Luis Pass) 38 Mike Austin, 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 2 Bolivar Bird Count

Sanderling birds=188 reports=1
Semipalmated Sandpiper birds=966 reports=3
Western Sandpiper birds=4 reports=1
Least Sandpiper 5/4 Brazoria(Quintana Spoil Area) 300 Mike Austin, 5/11 Brazoria(CR 171 e. of FM 523) 10 Mike Austin, 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 2 Bolivar Bird Count

White-rumped Sandpiper birds=2,732 reports=5
Baird's Sandpiper 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 18 Art Mackinnon

peep sp birds=8 reports=1
Pectoral Sandpiper 5/11 Brazoria(CR 171 e. of FM 523) 50 Mike Austin, **5/29 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 1 Cin-Ty Lee**

Dunlin 5/11 Brazoria(CR 171 e. of FM 523) 150 Mike Austin 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 170 Bolivar Bird Count

Stilt Sandpiper 5/4 Brazoria(Quintana Spoil Area) 20 Mike Austin, 5/11 Brazoria(CR 171 e. of FM 523) 10 Mike Austin, 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 77 Art Mackinnon, **5/29 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 1 Cin-Ty Lee**

Short-billed Dowitcher 5/4 Brazoria(Quintana Spoil Area) 2 Mike Austin, **5/29 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 20 Cin-Ty Lee**

Long-billed Dowitcher birds=65 reports=2
Wilson's Phalarope 5/4 Brazoria(Quintana Spoil Area) 62 Mike Austin, 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 12 Art Mackinnon, 5/29 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 20 Cin-Ty Lee

Laughing Gull birds=203 reports=3
Ring-billed Gull birds=1 reports=1
Herring Gull birds=7 reports=2

Lesser Black-backed Gull 5/4 Brazoria(Folletts Island) 250 Mike Austin

Glaucous Gull 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 1 Johnnie Greene

Caspian Tern birds=3 reports=2
Royal Tern birds=27 reports=1
Sandwich Tern birds=21 reports=1
Forster's Tern birds=43 reports=1
Least Tern birds=55 reports=1
Black Tern birds=8 reports=1
Black Skimmer birds=4 reports=1
Rock Pigeon birds=13 reports=2
Eurasian Collared-Dove birds=31 reports=2
White-winged Dove birds=8 reports=3
Mourning Dove birds=79 reports=16
Inca Dove birds=2 reports=1
Black-billed Cuckoo 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 1 Kathy Reiser

Yellow-billed Cuckoo birds=30 reports=20
Eastern Screech-Owl birds=2 reports=1
Barred Owl birds=5 reports=2
Common Nighthawk birds=12 reports=8
Chimney Swift birds=13 reports=3
Ruby-throated Hummingbird birds=22 reports=11
hummingbird sp birds=1 reports=1
Red-headed Woodpecker birds=11 reports=5
Red-bellied Woodpecker birds=49 reports=16
Downy Woodpecker birds=15 reports=8

Northern Flicker 5/17 Harris(EL Moore) 1 Winnie Burkett
Pileated Woodpecker birds=7 reports=6
Olive-sided Flycatcher birds=2 reports=2
Eastern Wood-Pewee birds=47 reports=18
Acadian Flycatcher birds=8 reports=4
Alder Flycatcher 5/29 Brazoria(Quintana Island) 1 Ron Weeks
Empidonax sp. birds=3 reports=2
Great Crested Flycatcher birds=8 reports=4
Great Kiskadee 5/5 Brazoria(Damon) 1 Charlie Bower Couch's Kingbird 5/5 Brazoria(Damon) 2 Ron Weeks

Eastern Kingbird birds=11 reports=5
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher birds=54 reports=14
Loggerhead Shrike birds=19 reports=6
White-eyed Vireo birds=24 reports=9
Yellow-throated Vireo birds=2 reports=2
Blue-headed Vireo 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 1 Kathy Reiser, 5/2 Harris(Edith L Moore Sanctuary) 1 Johnnie Greene

Philadelphia Vireo 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 1 Kathy Reiser, **5/15 Jefferson(Sea Rim SP Willows) 2 Don Verser**

Red-eyed Vireo birds=34 reports=14
Blue Jay birds=28 reports=11
American Crow birds=47 reports=10
Fish Crow birds=8 reports=1
Homed Lark birds=4 reports=2
Purple Martin birds=15 reports=4
Tree Swallow 5/1 Brazoria(Peach Pt. WMA) 6 Kathy Reiser, 5/14 Fort Bend(Brazos Bend SP) 1 Kathy Reiser

Cliff Swallow birds=6 reports=1
Barn Swallow birds=85 reports=8
Carolina Chickadee birds=68 reports=10
Tufted Titmouse birds=31 reports=8
Carolina Wren birds=61 reports=13
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 5/1 Harris(west Barker Reservoir) 1 Al Shultz

Eastern Bluebird birds=5 reports=1
Veery 5/9 Harris(Russ Pitman Park) 1 Kathy Reiser, 5/15 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 2 Don Verser, **5/30 Galveston(Dos Vacas Muertas) 1 Mike Austin**

Gray-cheeked Thrush birds=4 reports=3
Swainson's Thrush birds=30 reports=10

Hermite Thrush 5/1 Chambers(my yard,Anahuac) 1 Linda Scott

Wood Thrush birds=4 reports=4
American Robin birds=1 reports=1
Gray Catbird 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 6 Kathy Reiser, 5/1 Harris(west Barker Reservoir) 3 Al Shultz, 5/2 Harris(Edith L Moore Sanctuary) 1 Johnnie Greene, 5/4 Brazoria(Quintana Neo. Sanctuary) 5 Mike Austin, 5/9 Harris(Edith L Moore Sanctuary) 2 John Berner, 5/15 Jefferson(Sea Rim SP Willows) 1 Don Verser, 5/15 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 2 Don Verser, 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 5 Bolivar Bird Count, 5/21 Jefferson(Cattail Marsh) 2 Art Mackinnon, 5/29 Brazoria(Quintana Island) 1 Cin-Ty Lee, 5/29 Brazoria(Quintana Island) 2 Ron Weeks, 5/30 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 3 Don Verser

Northern Mockingbird birds=71 reports=14
Brown Thrasher 5/15 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 3 Don Verser, **5/27 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 1 Don Verser, 5/29 Bolivar Flats(Galveston) 1 Cin-Ty Lee, 5/30 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 1 Don Verser**

European Starling birds=154 reports=4
Cedar Waxwing 5/2 Harris(Edith L Moore Sanctuary) 7 Johnnie Greene, 5/15 Jefferson(Sea Rim SP Willows) 6 Don Verser, 5/15 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 30 Don Verser, 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 35 Bolivar Bird Count, 5/27 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 40 Don Verser, 5/30 Galveston(High Island) 6 Don Verser, 5/30 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 8 Don Verser

Blue-winged Warbler 5/2 Harris(Edith L Moore Sanctuary) 1 Johnnie Greene

Tennessee Warbler 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 1 Kathy Reiser, 5/9 Chambers(my yard, Anahuac) 1 Linda Scott, 5/9 Harris(Russ Pitman Park) 4 Kathy Reiser, 5/15 Chambers(Anahuac NWR) 1 Don Verser, 5/15 Jefferson(Sea Rim SP Willows) 2 Don Verser, 5/30 Galveston(High Island) 1 Don Verser, 5/29 Brazoria(Quintana Island) 1 Ron Weeks

Blackpoll Warbler 5/15 Jefferson(Sea Rim SP Willows) 1 Don Verser, 5/15 Jefferson(Pilgr Road) 1 Don Verser, 5/15 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 1 Don Verser, **5/30 Galveston(High Island) 1 Don Verser**

Black-and-White Warbler birds=10 reports=6
American Redstart 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 2 Kathy Reiser, 5/9 Harris(Edith L Moore Sanctuary) 3 John Berner, 5/10 Harris(Russ Pitman Park) 1 Kathy Reiser, 5/15 Chambers(Anahuac NWR) 4 Don Verser, 5/15 Jefferson(Sea Rim SP Willows) 8 Don Verser, 5/15 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 12 Don Verser, 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 2 Bolivar Bird Count, **5/27 Jefferson(Sea Rim SP Willows) 2 Don Verser, 5/30 Galveston(High Island) 1 Don Verser**

Prothonotary Warbler birds=18 reports=6
Ovenbird 5/2 Harris(Edith L Moore Sanctuary) 1 Johnnie Greene, 5/9 Harris(Edith L Moore Sanctuary) 3 John Berner

Northern Waterthrush 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 2 Kathy Reiser, 5/15 Chambers(Anahuac NWR) 2 Don Verser, 5/15 Jefferson(Sea Rim SP Willows) 1 Don Verser

Kentucky Warbler birds=2 reports=2
Common Yellowthroat birds=7 reports=3
Hooded Warbler birds=5 reports=2
Canada Warbler 5/1 Harris(west Barker Reservoir) 1 Al Shultz, **5/30 Jefferson(Sabine Woods) 1 Don Verser**

Summer Tanager birds=14 reports=9
Scarlet Tanager 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 1 Kathy Reiser, 5/1 Chambers(my yard,Anahuac) 1 Linda Scott

Seaside Sparrow birds=1 reports=1
Crimson-collared Grosbeak 5/6 Galveston(West Galveston Island) 1 Laise Mason, 5/9 Galveston(Lafite's Cove) 1 Allyson Marceau

Northern Cardinal birds=96 reports=16
Rose-breasted Grosbeak 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 4 Kathy Reiser, 5/1 Chambers(my yard,Anahuac) 1 Linda Scott, 5/1 Harris(west Barker Reservoir) 1 Al Shultz, 5/4 Brazoria(Quintana Neo. Sanctuary) 3 Mike Austin, 5/9 Harris(Russ Pitman Park) 1 Kathy Reiser

Blue Grosbeak birds=4 reports=2
Indigo Bunting birds=19 reports=8
Painted Bunting birds=8 reports=6

Dickcissel birds=85 reports=5
Red-winged Blackbird birds=409 reports=9
Eastern Meadowlark birds=40 reports=4
**Western Meadowlark 5/21 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula)
2 Bolivar Bird Count**
Common Grackle birds=70 reports=7

Boat-tailed Grackle birds=52 reports=3
Great-tailed Grackle birds=248 reports=10
Bronzed Cowbird 5/19 Hardin(Braes Bayou at Buffalo
Speedway) 2 Bob Honig
Brown-headed Cowbird birds=24 reports=4
Orchard Oriole birds=6 reports=3

Baltimore Oriole 5/1 Brazoria(Quintana NBS) 2 Kathy Reiser,
5/1 Chambers(my yard,Anahuac) 6 Linda Scott, 5/4
Brazoria(Quintana Neo. Sanctuary) 1 Mike Austin
**American Goldfinch 5/1 Chambers(my yard,Anahuac) 1
Linda Scott**
House Sparrow birds=86 reports=7

June 2005

Not a lot of data, but some really interesting reports. Early/late shorebirds dominated. Wood Storks made an early appearance. Mississippi Kites are unusually abundant this year for the UTC. 128 species were recorded.

Observers: Bolivar Bird Count, Cin-Ty Lee, David Sarkozi, John Berner, Kathy Reiser, Mike Austin, Wayne Wendel, Dorothy Cooney, Bob & Maggie Honig, Gerald and Dee Little, Bill Saulmon, Harry Elliott, Joseph Kennedy.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck birds=47 reports=3
Fulvous Whistling-Duck birds=20 reports=2
Mute Swan 6/6 Waller(Katy Prairie) 1 Wayne Wendel
Mallard 6/5 Galveston(Texas City Dike) 2 John Berner
Mottled Duck birds=38 reports=1
Northern Bobwhite birds=21 reports=1
Pied-billed Grebe 6/3 Brazoria(BBS Route:Brazoria NWR-
Alvin) 2 Mike Austin, 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 1
Dorothy Cooney
American White Pelican birds=1 reports=1
Brown Pelican birds=30 reports=1
Neotropic Cormorant birds=136 reports=3
**Double-crested Cormorant 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 3
Dorothy Cooney**
cormorant sp birds=1 reports=1
Anhinga birds=4 reports=3
Magnificent Frigatebird birds=2 reports=1
Least Bittern birds=3 reports=2
Great Blue Heron birds=36 reports=6
Great Egret birds=204 reports=5
Snowy Egret birds=215 reports=7
Little Blue Heron birds=14 reports=5
Tricolored Heron birds=44 reports=5
Reddish Egret birds=58 reports=3
Cattle Egret birds=80 reports=2
Green Heron birds=8 reports=4
Black-crowned Night-Heron birds=5 reports=2
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron birds=6 reports=4
White Ibis birds=187 reports=5
White-faced Ibis birds=178 reports=3
Roseate Spoonbill birds=168 reports=3
**Wood Stork 6/5 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 2 Gerald and Dee
Little, 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 100 Dorothy
Cooney**
Black Vulture birds=40 reports=1
Turkey Vulture birds=7 reports=1
White-tailed Kite birds=2 reports=2
**Mississippi Kite 6/3 Brazoria(BBS Route:Brazoria NWR-
Alvin) 2 Mike Austin, 6/22 Brazoria(Pearland) 2 Mike
Austin, 6/3 Galveston(Friendswood) 5 Mike Austin,
6/10 Galveston(Friendswood) 1 Mike Austin**
Red-shouldered Hawk birds=9 reports=2
**Broad-winged Hawk 6/5 Harris(Houston near Bissonnet &
Edloe) 1 Bob Honig**
Swainson's Hawk 6/3 Brazoria(BBS Route:Brazoria NWR-
Alvin) 3 Mike Austin, 6/28 Harris(Beltway 8 & Hwy 290)
2 Bill Saulmon
Red-tailed Hawk 6/3 Brazoria(BBS Route:Brazoria NWR-
Alvin) 1 Mike Austin, 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 1
Dorothy Cooney
Crested Caracara birds=2 reports=1
Clapper Rail birds=24 reports=2
Purple Gallinule birds=15 reports=1
Common Moorhen birds=61 reports=4
Black-bellied Plover birds=78 reports=2
Snowy Plover 6/12 Galveston(East Beach) 3 John Berner

Wilson's Plover birds=10 reports=2
Semipalmated Plover birds=176 reports=2
Killdeer birds=78 reports=6
American Oystercatcher birds=10 reports=2
Black-necked Stilt birds=159 reports=5
American Avocet 6/5 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 10 Gerald and
Dee Little, 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 40 Cin-Ty Lee,
6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 1 Bolivar Bird Count
**Greater Yellowlegs 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 40 Cin-
Ty Lee, 6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 1 Bolivar
Bird Count**
**Lesser Yellowlegs 6/3 Brazoria(BBS Route:Brazoria
NWR-Alvin) 5 Mike Austin, 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria
NWR) 20 Cin-Ty Lee**
Willet birds=93 reports=3
**Whimbrel 6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 2 Bolivar
Bird Count**
Long-billed Curlew birds=40 reports=1
Marbled Godwit 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 2 Cin-Ty Lee,
6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 55 Bolivar Bird
Count
Ruddy Turnstone birds=13 reports=3
Sanderling birds=60 reports=1
Semipalmated Sandpiper 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 50
Cin-Ty Lee, 6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 1
Bolivar Bird Count
Western Sandpiper 6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 2
Bolivar Bird Count
**Least Sandpiper 6/12 Galveston(East Beach) 3 John
Berner**
White-rumped Sandpiper 6/3 Brazoria(BBS Route:Brazoria
NWR-Alvin) 11 Mike Austin, 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria
NWR) 200 Cin-Ty Lee, 6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Flats) 1
**Bill Saulmon, 6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 1
Bolivar Bird Count**
**Baird's Sandpiper 6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Flats) 1 Bill
Saulmon**
Dunlin 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 4 Cin-Ty Lee
Stilt Sandpiper 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 4 Cin-Ty Lee
Short-billed Dowitcher 6/3 Brazoria(BBS Route:Brazoria
NWR-Alvin) 1 Mike Austin, 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria
NWR) 200 Cin-Ty Lee
**Long-billed Dowitcher 6/10 Brazoria(Brazoria NWR) 2 Cin-
Ty Lee, 6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 18 Bolivar
Bird Count**
Laughing Gull birds=1,028 reports=5
Herring Gull birds=15 reports=1
Gull-billed Tern birds=3 reports=2
Caspian Tern birds=33 reports=3
Royal Tern birds=105 reports=2
Sandwich Tern birds=61 reports=2
Common Tern 6/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula) 80 Bolivar
Bird Count
Forster's Tern birds=31 reports=2
Least Tern birds=131 reports=4
Black Tern birds=2 reports=1

Black Skimmer birds=27 reports=3
Rock Pigeon birds=108 reports=3
Eurasian Collared-Dove birds=64 reports=3
White-winged Dove birds=42 reports=3
Mourning Dove birds=103 reports=6
Inca Dove birds=17 reports=3
Monk Parakeet birds=3 reports=1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo birds=5 reports=2
Great Horned Owl birds=1 reports=1
Common Nighthawk birds=13 reports=3
Chimney Swift birds=15 reports=2
Belted Kingfisher birds=1 reports=1
Red-bellied Woodpecker birds=23 reports=2
Downy Woodpecker birds=4 reports=2
Pileated Woodpecker birds=2 reports=1
Western Kingbird birds=4 reports=4
Eastern Kingbird birds=2 reports=1
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher birds=16 reports=4
Loggerhead Shrike birds=32 reports=6
White-eyed Vireo birds=2 reports=1
Blue Jay birds=13 reports=2
American Crow birds=25 reports=2
Horned Lark birds=11 reports=2
Purple Martin birds=53 reports=4
**Tree Swallow 6/4 Chambers(Anahuac NWR) 1 David
Sarkozi**
Cliff Swallow birds=1 reports=1
Barn Swallow birds=76 reports=4
Carolina Chickadee birds=14 reports=2
Tufted Titmouse birds=3 reports=1
Carolina Wren birds=28 reports=3
Eastern Bluebird birds=2 reports=1
American Robin birds=6 reports=1
Northern Mockingbird birds=174 reports=3
European Starling birds=260 reports=3
Northern Parula birds=3 reports=1
**Chestnut-sided Warbler 6/1 Harris(Houston) 1 Joseph
Kennedy**
Pine Warbler birds=2 reports=1
Prothonotary Warbler birds=6 reports=1
Swainson's Warbler birds=1 reports=1
Common Yellowthroat birds=10 reports=2
Summer Tanager birds=1 reports=1
Seaside Sparrow birds=5 reports=2
Northern Cardinal birds=19 reports=4
Painted Bunting birds=3 reports=1
Red-winged Blackbird birds=96 reports=4
Eastern Meadowlark birds=54 reports=3
Common Grackle birds=92 reports=2
Boat-tailed Grackle birds=15 reports=1
Great-tailed Grackle birds=270 reports=6
Bronzed Cowbird 6/5 Harris(Westpark immed inside
WLoop610) 1 Bob Honig
Brown-headed Cowbird birds=23 reports=2
House Finch birds=14 reports=2
House Sparrow birds=142 reports=3

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