

# The Spoonbill

Published by The Ornithology Group, Outdoor Nature Club, Houston

## Chairman's Message

BY DAVID BRADFORD

*"As a Christmas Count participant, you can improve your identification skills and you may see new birds. ...Count participants do not need to be able to identify all or even most of the birds they see. ...there will always be someone in your group to show you the ropes and the birds."*

The Houston Christmas Bird Count, **our** count, will be held December 17, 1994 in the Baytown area. Richard Uzar and P. D. Hulce are the count compilers and are responsible for organizing area leaders and compiling data after the count. A Christmas Count is held in a 15-mile diameter circle divided into smaller areas to which area leaders are assigned. Area leaders recruit participants to count birds in their areas. The more people an area leader recruits to cover an area betters the chances are of finding a greater variety and number of birds.

Count participants do not need to be able to identify all or even most of the birds they see. Difficult identifications are the responsibility of the area leader. Most area leaders want more people in the field on count day, regardless of experience. The area leader will arrange a meeting place and time to meet on the morning of the count. At this time maps will be consulted and participants will carpool to their assigned areas. The good news for newcomers is there will always be someone in your group to show you the ropes and the birds.

One of the most important features of the Houston count is the countdown dinner held at a restaurant in Baytown. Here, old friends and new friends gather to rehash the day's events and talk "birds." After a good warm dinner, the countdown begins. The compiler calls out the names of birds hoped for during the day. Area leaders will respond with a "yes" if the species was seen and "silence" if the bird was not sighted in their areas during the 24-hour count period. Often the silence is followed by a groan indicating a species that should have been seen went unobserved.

In 1992, 43,588 people participated in over sixteen hundred counts throughout North, South and Central America, the Pacific and the Caribbean. The Houston area has counts from along the coast to well inland. The most avid Christmas Count participant could probably do a count every day for two weeks straight, though it would be a bit strenuous. I strongly encourage those who have never participated in a Christmas Count to call either Richard Uzar (527-0454) or P. D. Hulce (863-1142).

As a participant you can improve your identification skills and you may see new birds. The first two years I participated in the Freeport Count, the area leader found a life bird for me. As an area leader myself last year, I showed a lifer Sprague's Pipit to participants in my area on the Houston Count. If you need Sprague's Pipit, ask Richard or P. D. to assign you to my area. I need participants and have seen the pipits the last five years in a row.

## Calendar of Events

### December

**Saturday, December 3: OG Field Trip to the Barker Reservoir area.** Meet trip leaders, Ed LeBeau and Peggy Bailey, at 8:00 a.m. for this half-day trip next to the Diamond Shamrock gas station/convenience store on the west side of Highway 6 at Briar Forest (parking lot for the reservoir is on the north side of the store).

Over 10 species of sparrows are possible, as well as hawks, woodpeckers and a variety of songbirds. Common Ground Dove, Pyrrhuloxia, Bewick's Wren and Grasshopper Sparrow have been seen here. Be prepared for wet and muddy walking. For more information, contact Peggy Bailey at (713) 975-1378 or Ed LeBeau at (713) 436-9953.

**Monday, December 5: OG Membership Meeting.** 7:00 p.m. John Tveten will talk about the making of his new book, The Birds of Texas. Learning Corner begins at 6:30 p.m. David Bradford will begin his two-part series on identification of sparrows...a great review in preparation for Christmas counts.

### January

**Saturday, January 7: OG FIELD TRIP TO WEST HARRIS COUNTY.** Join this all-day field trip to look for geese, ducks, hawks and sparrows. Meet David Bradford at the jogging trail parking lot in Bear Creek Park at 7:30 a.m. (From Houston take I-10 west to Highway 6. Turn north onto Highway 6, then turn right or east on Clay Road. Continue past the golf course to the jogging trail parking lot.) Bring a sack lunch.

**Sunday, January 8: "Beginners" OG FIELD TRIP TO WEST HARRIS COUNTY.** This trip is designed for beginners and will go slow and easy. Leader, Dave Bradford, will help the beginner identify and find sparrows. We will also see geese, ducks and hawks. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in Bear Creek Park at the jogging trail parking lot. (See directions in Saturday, January 7th field trip description.) Bring lunch.

**Monday, January 9: OG Membership Meeting.** 7:00 p.m. Bill Goloby will present a program on the Purple Martin. Learning Corner begins at 6:30 p.m.

### February

**Saturday and Sunday, February 11 and 12: OG FIELD TRIP TO LAKE TAWOKONI** near Dallas. The main object of this trip will be to see Smith's Longspur, but the Lake Tawokoni and Dallas areas have many good birding opportunities. Many species of waterfowl and sparrows are likely. This trip will be limited to the first 20 people who sign up. For more information and to sign up, call Dwight Peake at (409) 740-4621.

### Membership Meeting

**Speaker:** John Tveten

**Date:** Monday, December 5

**Location:** Harris County Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, just west of Hillcroft.

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. Pre-meeting Learning Corner to hear David Bradford discuss identification of sparrows at 6:30 p.m.

John Tveten will discuss the making of his new book, The Birds of Texas. Using his slides, Mr. Tveten, will tell us about his travels around the state in pursuit of specific birds, the "fun" he had with the birds he was photographing for the book, and the stories involved in getting the photos he needed.

John writes the "Nature Trails" column for the *Houston Chronicle*, and has authored and co-authored books on the birds, butterflies and wildflowers of Houston. In addition to his writing and photography, John has led natural history tours for the Smithsonian Institution and the Robert A. Vines Environmental Science Center. Most of us have had the pleasure to hear him speak and know an evening spent with John is educational and entertaining. You don't want to miss his program.

## Newsbriefs

.....**BEGINNING BIRDING CLASSES** for the late winter, spring and early summer 1995 will be conducted as a joint venture by the Houston Audubon Society and Don Richardson. These classes are learning field trips, packed with identification, technique, discussion about birding materials and lots of personal experience to build confidence. The cost is \$125 per person. There are four series (five classes each) scheduled. Call Don Richardson for dates and to sign up. Phone/Fax: (713) 661-1365.

.....**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 7 OG MEETING:** For the Learning Corner, Karen Beekman presented a discussion on pelagic birds. Chairman David Bradford opened the meeting and noted that we have received many good suggestions for new books for the library.

As published in October's *Spoonbill*, Bob Luckner was asked to and agreed to take over for Gail Luckner as Interim Vice Chairperson. A vote was taken, and Bob was approved to fill the position.

We need to get our dues in as soon as possible (dues are \$20 for the year--January-December--and include membership in the ONC as well as the OG). This will make it easier for the person(s) who need to process the dues and membership information. Pat Wight, ONC Membership Chairperson, has tendered her resignation effective in May of 1995. Mary Dodson has volunteered to take over her responsibilities.

David Bradford announced that the Brazoria Christmas Bird Count is no more; it was a 10-year project to generate a bird list for the refuge. Bob Honig announced that the May field trip to Trinidad is now full.

Steve Bennett introduced Don Richardson who presented a program on sparrow identification. Covering birds by habitat, Don covered the sparrows of the salt marsh, fresh marsh, meadows, and woodlands.

(Correction to the October 3, 1994 OG minutes: Peggy Milstead, not Peggy Boston, is the one to talk to about getting a copy of the yearbook. You may call Peggy Milstead at 729-0433.) *Maggie Honig, Secretary*

## NOEL'S NICHE

BY NOEL PETTINGELL

### 30 AND 10 YEARS AGO/FROM NOVEMBER 1954 & 1984

**SPOONBILLS:** "Harry C. Oberholser (Head of Bureau of Biological Survey and author of *Bird Life of Louisiana* and forthcoming *Bird Life of Texas*; Cleveland)...I hope that you can furnish me with all the (*Spoonbill* numbers so far published and will enter my name as a subscriber (as) anything concerning birds in Texas is of interest to me, and I am trying to keep up to date...efforts are now being made to secure the funds necessary for the publication of my work on Texas birds, which lack is the only reason this has not been printed."

Postscript: Some 20 years were to elapse before Harry Oberholser's manuscript was at last published, 11 years after his death on December 25, 1963. The story behind the eventual publication: "After a period of unsuccessful search for financial support, the break came. A lecture given by Dr. Oberholser on Texas birds to a Texas audience early in the history of the project bore fruit. The audience included Mrs. Joseph Lamar Hooks of Beaumont, Texas, whose interest in birds was so great that she furnished data to Dr. Oberholser and hoped to see the book eventually published. This interest resulted many years later in the establishment by her daughter, Mrs. Marris McLean of San Antonio, of the Corrie Herring Hooks Fund at the University of Texas for the publication of *The Bird Life of Texas*."

## The Spoonbill

Published 11 times a year by  
Ornithology Group,  
of the Houston Outdoor Nature Club.

EDITOR: Judy Boyce  
668-5359

CLEARINGHOUSE: Phyllis and Tony Frank

PRINTING: Downtown Duplicating

MAILING: Gregg Mueller and Liz Dear

MAILING LABELS: Pat Wight



CHAIRMAN: David Bradford  
855-2615

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Bob Luckner

TREASURER: Mike Gremillion

SECRETARY: Maggie Honig

FIELD TRIPS: Dwight Peake

(409) 740-4621

PROGRAMS: Steve Bennett

LIBRARY/RESOURCES: M. A. Correll

LEARNING CORNER: Karen Beekman

MEMBERSHIP: Mary Pat Haddican

241-5315

ALUMINUM RECYCLING: Bob Schwartz

BIRDING MAPS: P. D. Hulce



### CLEARINGHOUSE REPORTS

Ornithology Group

P.O. Box 271374

Houston, Texas 77277



### TEXAS RARE BIRD ALERT TAPE:

Houston Audubon Society

992-2757



### 1994 Area Christmas Counts

SAT. DEC. 17

**Houston**, P.D. Hulce (713) 863-1142 or  
Richard Uzar (713) 527-0454

**Armand Bayou**, George Regmund  
(713) 474-2551

**Turkey Creek**, David Baker (409) 899-1878

SUN. DEC. 18

**Freeport**, Jim Morgan (713) 461-3080 or  
Houston Audubon (713) 932-1639

MON. DEC. 19

**Welder Wildlife Refuge**, Terry Blankenship  
(512) 364-2643

**Mad Island Marsh** (near Bay City)  
Jim Bergan (512) 972-2559 or  
Karen Cornelius (713) 853-5634

TUE. DEC. 20

**San Bernard NWR**, Mike Lange (409) 849-6062

WED. DEC. 21

**Attwater NWR**, Winnie Burkett (713) 992-5640

MON. DEC. 26

**Bolivar**, Bill Graber, home (409) 866-5452

TUES. DEC. 27

**Old River**, Jonelle Buckles (713) 576-2504

WED. DEC. 28

**Galveston**, Arch Dillard (713) 482-9251 or  
Dwight Peake (409) 740-4621

SAT. DEC. 31

**Brazos Bend S.P.**, Lynne Aldrich or Peter  
Gottschling (713) 996-1109

**Beech Creek**, David Baker (409) 899-1878

**Spring Creek**, John Jones (713) 444-8369 or  
Calvin Blakely (713) 358-5407

SUN. JAN. 1

*MON* **Cypress Creek**, Ted Eubanks (713) 666-2669

SUN. JAN. 2

**Buffalo Bayou**, Bob Honig (713) 665-6963

## Clearing House OCTOBER 1994

EDITORS: PHYLLIS AND TONY FRANK

A total of 205 species were reported for the month. Interesting records for gulls, cuckoos and tanagers can be found in the reports.

We hope to see you during the Christmas counts. If you've never participated in one, you'll be welcome at any of the area counts.

Reports for next month are due by December 3rd, but early reports are welcomed. Readers are reminded that all decisions regarding checklist status are made by the checklist committee. Publication of a rarity does not imply acceptance of the record by the editors or the committee. The CH format remains the same this month. The listing uses the following format: bird name, early late dates, reports/total and summary by county or detailed listing. The format of the county summary is as follows: county designation - number of reports/number of birds. The detailed listing format is as follows: county-(number of birds) day, observer code. Very rare birds are underlined. Birds with no previous record on date or vagrant status appear in bold. Birds new to the checklist are capitalized and underlined. Please remember to submit notes on all those good birds. And with all the reminders completed - on to the birds.

Grebe, Least	2-2	1/6	CO-ATW(6)2, DB
Grebe, Pied-bill	2-30	13/183	U-1/15 CH-3/15 CO-2/65 GA-3/73 JE-4/15
Grebe, Eared	28-28	1/2	CO-ATW(2)28, DB
Pelican, Amer Wht	1-30	13/2168	U-1/40 CH-2/27 GA-7/1885 JE-3/216
Pelican, Brown	1-30	9/1043	U-1/12 BR-1/3 CH-1/1 GA-5/999 JE-1/28
Corm, Dbl-crested	1-30	12/231	U-2/25 CH-2/4 GA-5/36 JE-3/166
Corm, Neotropic	1-30	13/156	U-2/44 CO-1/8 GA-7/78 JE- 3/26
cormorant, sp.	31-31	1/3	HA-1/3
Anhinga	1-27	7/23	CH-3/17 GA-2/4 JE-2/2
Bittern, American	14-14	1/1	U-(1)14, X
Heron, Great Blue	1-30	18/101	U-2/14 CH-4/23 CO-2/7 GA-6/45 JE-4/12
Egret, Great	1-30	23/189	U-2/11 CH-5/66 CO-1/3 GA-6/26 HA-1/1 JE-8/82
Egret, Snowy	1-31	24/455	U-2/7 CH-5/244 CO-2/22 GA-6/96 HA-1/6 JE-8/80
Heron, Little Blu	1-30	12/31	U-2/4 CH-4/15 CO-1/1 GA-2/6 JE-3/5
Heron, Tricolored	2-30	15/83	U-2/6 CH-4/48 CO-2/5 GA-3/13 JE-4/11
Egret, Reddish	1-30	9/76	U-2/6 GA-6/69 JE-1/1
Egret, Cattle	2-30	17/1035	U-2/400 CH-4/156 CO-2/256 FB-1/20 GA-3/162 JE-5/41
Heron, Green	1-15	3/3	CH-1/1 GA-1/1 JE-1/1
Nt-Heron, Blk-crn	1-30	4/7	GA-3/6 HA-1/1
Ibis, White	1-30	17/613	U-2/90 CH-5/92 GA-6/139 JE-4/292
Ibis, White-faced	2-30	14/373	U-2/45 CH-5/180 CO-2/108 GA-2/3 JE-3/37

Spoonbill, Roseate	1-30	14/125	U-1/2	CH-4/22	GA-6/79	JE-3/22
Stork, Wood	9-16	2/691	CH-(191)9,JW;	FB-(500)16,JWR		
Whsl-Duck, Fulvs	28-30	2/6	CO-ATW(1)28,DB;	GA-HI(5)30,JW		
Goose, Gr Wht-frn	9-30	3/713	CH-2/113	CO-1/600		
Goose, Snow	28-30	2/420	CH-AW(220)30,JW;	CO-ATW(200)28,DB		
Goose, Canada	9-9	1/118	CH-(118)9,JW			
Teal, Green-wing	29-30	3/120	CH-1/19	JE-2/101		
Duck, Mottled	2-30	13/166	U-2/28	CH-3/39	GA-3/28	JE-5/71
Pintail, Northern	21-21	1/2	GA-HI(2)21,JW			
Teal, Blue-winged	2-30	10/569	CH-3/38	CO-2/400	GA-1/5	JE-4/126
Teal, Cinnamon	28-29	2/32	CO-ATW(5)28,DB;	CO-ATW(27)29,JWR		
Shoveler, Northrn	2-30	9/428	U-1/10	CH-2/40	CO-2/285	GA-2/72
Gadwall	28-30	3/44	CH-1/9	CO-1/20	GA-1/15	
Wigeon, Amer.	15-30	3/17	CO-ATW(6)28,DB;	GA-BF(1)15,PD;	GA-HI(10)30,JW	
Duck, Ring-necked	28-30	2/6	CO-ATW(5)28,DB;	GA-HI(1)30,JW		
Duck, Ruddy	2-30	5/47	CH-1/1	CO-2/31	GA-1/2	JE-1/13
Duck, Masked	2-28	2/2	CO-ATW(1)2,DB;	CO-ATW(1)28,DB		
Vulture, Black	2-30	6/19	U-1/4	CH-4/14	CO-1/1	
Vulture, Turkey	1-30	16/152	U-1/20	CH-4/73	CO-2/28	FB-1/4
Osprey	1-30	13/32	U-1/1	CH-1/5	GA-7/17	JE-4/9
Kite, White-tailed	2-30	15/62	U-2/9	BR-1/4	CH-1/6	GA-6/29
Harrier, Northern	1-30	21/107	U-2/14	BR-1/2	CH-5/33	CO-2/20
Hawk, Sharp-shin	2-15	5/678	U-1/1	CH-3/676	GA-1/1	
Hawk, Cooper's	2-29	3/24	CH-2/23	HA-1/1		
Hawk, Harris'	2-2	1/1	CO-ATW(1)2,DB			
Hawk, Red-shouldr	2-30	5/8	CH-1/2	CO-1/1	GA-1/1	JE-2/4
Hawk, Broad-wingd	2-9	4/584	CH-3/583	GA-1/1		
Hawk, Swainson's	2-28	3/6	CH-1/4	CO-1/1	FB-1/1	
Hawk, White-taild	28-28	1/1	FB-(1)28,JW			
Hawk, Red-tailed	2-30	17/89	U-2/6	CH-5/29	CO-2/18	FB-1/6
buteo, sp.	16-16	1/1	HA-1/1			
Caracara, Crested	2-28	2/4	CO-ATW(1)2,DB;	CO-ATW(3)28,DB		
Kestrel, American	1-30	27/412	U-2/22	BR-1/15	CH-5/222	CO-2/12
Merlin	1-21	6/10	CH-2/5	GA-3/4	JE-1/1	
Falcon, Peregrine	2-22	4/29	CH-2/27	GA-2/2		
Bobwhite, Northrn	2-2	1/6	CO-ATW(6)2,DB			
Rail, Clapper	1-29	5/11	U-1/1	GA-3/5	JE-1/5	
Gallinule, Purple	2-7	2/3	CH-AW(2)2,JW;	CH-AW(1)7,JW		
Moorhen, Common	2-30	11/317	U-1/10	CH-3/124	CO-2/42	GA-1/5
Coot, American	2-30	9/984	CH-3/63	CO-2/910	GA-2/6	HA-1/4
Crane, Sandhill	28-28	1/7	CO-ATW(7)28,DB			
Plover, Blk-belli	1-30	9/531	U-2/85	GA-5/434	JE-2/12	
Plover, Snowy	1-30	9/39	U-1/2	GA-6/34	JE-2/3	
Plover, Wilson's	1-30	7/22	U-1/1	GA-6/21		
Plover, Semipalm	1-30	8/520	U-1/60	GA-6/450	JE-1/10	
Plover, Piping	1-30	9/313	U-2/21	GA-6/284	JE-1/8	
Killdeer	1-31	17/169	U-2/55	CH-3/37	CO-1/8	GA-5/30
Oystercatcher, Am	1-30	5/124	GA-5/124			
Stilt, Black-neck	1-30	9/182	U-1/12	GA-3/40	JE-5/130	
Avocet, American	1-30	8/6524	U-1/500	GA-6/5870	JE-1/154	
Yellowlegs, Great	21-30	4/13	GA-2/6	JE-2/7		
Yellowlegs, Less	2-15	3/9	U-1/2	GA-1/2	JE-1/5	
Willet	1-30	11/1094	U-2/30	GA-6/1025	JE-3/39	
Sandppr, Spotted	1-29	2/7	GA-(1)1,DM;	JE-(6)29,JW		
Whimbrel	1-30	4/6	GA-BF(3)1,DM;	GA-YBR(1)7,JW;	GA-YBR(1)21,JW;	GA-YBR(1)30,JW
Curlew, Long-bill	1-30	7/105	U-1/20	GA-6/85		
Godwit, Marbled	1-30	7/295	U-1/35	GA-6/260		
Turnstone, Ruddy	1-30	7/103	U-1/6	GA-6/97		
Knot, Red	2-30	7/33	GA-5/31	JE-2/2		
Sanderling	1-30	11/6422	U-2/350	GA-6/6012	JE-3/60	
Sandppr, Western	1-30	10/8646	U-1/250	GA-5/8125		
Sandppr, Least	1-30	5/45	U-1/6	GA-3/14	JE-1/25	
Dunlin	1-29	6/338	U-1/20	GA-4/316	JE-1/2	
Dowitcher, S-bill	1-30	6/875	U-1/35	GA-5/840		
Dowitcher, L-bill	15-30	3/522	JE-3/522			
Snipe, Common	9-29	2/7	CH-(6)9,JW;	JE-(1)29,JW		
jaeger, sp.	8-8	1/1	GA-BF(1)8,JWR			
Gull, Laughing	1-30	12/8831	U-2/6000	CH-1/1		GA-6/2210
Gull, Bonaparte's	14-14	1/1	JE-(1)14,X			
Gull, Ring-billed	1-30	9/287	U-2/135	GA-5/136	JE-2/16	
Gull, Herring	1-30	7/23	GA-4/13	JE-3/10		
Gull, Lsr Blk-bck	18-18	1/1	GA-BF(1)18,JWR			
Tern, Gull-billed	2-30	4/5	U-1/1	CH-2/3	JE-1/1	
Tern, Caspian	1-30	10/222	U-2/32	GA-5/184	JE-3/6	
Tern, Royal	1-30	12/4404	U-2/650	CH-2/60		GA-6/3610
Tern, Sandwich	1-30	7/146	U-1/25	GA-6/121		
Tern, Common	2-30	5/6	U-(2)15,PD;	GA-BF(1)2,JW;	GA-(1)27,JW;	GA-YBR(1)30,JW
Tern, Forster's	1-30	9/608	U-1/100	GA-6/379	JE-2/129	
Tern, Least	15-15	1/6	U-(6)15,PD			
Tern, Black	2-21	3/49	GA-(15)2,JW;	GA-(30)7,JW;	GA-YBR(4)21,JW	
Skimmer, Black	1-30	6/1300	U-1/200	GA-5/1100		
Dove, Rock	1-29	10/358	U-2/55	FB-1/42	GA-3/29	HA-2/200
Dove, White-wingd	15-15	1/3	GA-(3)15,PD			
Dove, Mourning	1-30	25/504	U-2/28	BR-1/20	CH-4/142	CO-2/32
Dove, Inca	1-30	6/42	U-1/4	GA-4/36	HA-1/2	
Parakeet, Monk	31-31	1/16	HA-(16)31,PM			
Cuckoo, Blk-billd	9-9	1/1	CH-SP(1)9,JW			
Cuckoo, Yel-billd	1-30	2/2	CH-AW(1)30,JW;	GA-HI(1)1,DM		
Owl, Barn	15-15	1/1	U-(1)15,PD			
Owl, Great Horned	16-30	2/2	GA-HI(1)30,JW;	JE-SW(1)16,JW		
Nighthawk, Common	9-29	4/4	U-(1)15,PD;	GA-HI(1)9,JW;	HA-(1)28,NP;	HA-(1)29,X
Chuck-wills-widow	14-14	1/1	JE-SW(1)14,X			
Swift, Chimney	1-9	3/11	CH-1/3	GA-1/3	JE-1/5	
Hummer, Ruby-thrt	1-27	12/66	U-2/21	CH-2/2	GA-5/33	HA-1/1
Hummer, Rufous	1-1	1/2	HA-(2)1,JWR			
Kingfisher, Beltd	1-30	21/85	U-2/10	BR-1/1	CH-5/25	FB-1/1
Wdpeckr, Red-head	15-15	1/1	GA-HI(1)15,PD			
Wdpeckr, Red-bell	1-8	3/4	HA-3/4			
Sapsuck, Yel-bell	17-17	1/1	HA-(1)17,X			
Wdpeckr, Downy	1-18	3/6	GA-1/1	HA-1/2	JE-1/3	
Flicker, Northern	9-30	4/8	CH-1/1	GA-2/5	HA-1/2	
Flycatch, Olv-sid	15-15	1/1	JE-SW(1)15,PD			
Wood-Pewee, East	1-18	4/12	U-1/5	GA-1/2	JE-2/5	
Flycatch, Acadian	16-18	2/2	JE-SW(1)16,JW;	JE-SW(1)18,JW		
Flycatch, Least	12-15	3/4	U-(2)14,X;	U-(1)15,PD;	HA-(1)12,X	
Phoebe, Eastern	2-30	8/35	CH-2/25	CO-1/3	GA-2/2	HA-1/1
Flycatch, Vermiln	15-22	2/2	GA-(1)22,EV;	JE-(1)15,JW		
Flycatch, Gr Crst	14-14	1/1	JE-SW(1)14,X			
Kingbird, Eastern	7-7	1/2	GA-(2)7,JW			
Flycatch, Ss-tail	1-30	19/387	U-1/20	CH-4/192	CO-2/37	FB-1/2
Lark, Horned	1-30	6/44	GA-6/44			
Swallow, Tree	7-30	10/557	U-1/2	CH-2/149	GA-1/35	JE-6/371
Swallow, N R-wing	2-21	6/163	U-1/6	CH-3/99	GA-1/55	JE-1/3
Swallow, Cave	29-29	1/1	CO-ATW(1)29,JWR			
Swallow, Barn	1-30	12/211	U-2/100	CH-2/2	CO-2/37	GA-4/35
Jay, Blue	1-30	17/135	U-2/16	CH-2/3	CO-1/12	GA-5/45
						HA-3/24
						JE-4/35

Crow, American 1-28 9/58 U-2/11 BR-1/4 CH-1/2  
CO-2/30 FB-1/2 HA-1/6 JE-1/3

Chickadee, Carol 28-29 2/4 CO-ATW(3)28,DB; JE-SW(1)29,JW

Wren, Carolina 1-30 8/13 U-1/4 GA-3/5 HA-3/3 JE-1/1

Wren, House 28-30 2/3 CO-ATW(2)28,DB; GA-YBR(1)30,JW

Wren, Sedge 30-30 1/1 GA-BF(1)30,JW

Kinglet, Ruby-crnl 1-30 8/25 CH-1/1 CO-1/2 GA-2/17  
HA-1/1 JE-3/4

Gnatcatch, Blu-gra 1-29 12/54 U-2/4 CH-1/5 CO-1/1  
GA-5/33 JE-3/11

Veery 1-1 1/2 GA-HI(2)1,DM

Thrush, Swainsons 1-18 2/27 GA-HI(26)1,DM; JE-SW(1)18,JW

Thrush, Wood 15-22 2/4 U-(3)15,PD; GA-HI(1)22,EV

Robin, American 24-24 1/40 HA-(40)24,X

Catbird, Gray 1-29 9/191 U-2/8 GA-4/82 JE-3/101

Mockingbird, N 1-30 24/167 U-2/20 CH-4/14 CO-2/26  
FB-1/1 GA-6/28 HA-1/6 JE-8/72

Thrasher, Brown 2-30 14/73 U-2/25 CH-1/1 GA-7/32  
HA-1/1 JE-3/14

Pipit, Sprague's 30-30 1/1 CH-AW(1)30,JW

Shrike, Loggerhed 2-30 26/260 U-2/6 BR-1/17 CH-5/83  
CO-2/16 FB-1/4 GA-5/22 HA-2/2 JE-8/110

Starling, Euro 1-30 22/3760 U-2/150 CH-4/400  
CO-2/450 FB-1/50 GA-5/1850 HA-3/200  
JE-5/660

Vireo, White-eyed 1-22 7/39 U-2/5 GA-3/27 JE-2/7

Vireo, Yell-thrtd 1-18 2/3 GA-(1)1,DM; JE-SW(2)18,JW

Vireo, Philadelph 1-22 3/7 U-(3)15,PD; GA-HI(1)1,DM;  
GA-(3)22,EV

Vireo, Red-eyed 1-18 3/29 U-1/1 GA-1/26 JE-1/2

Warb, Blue-winged 1-18 3/6 GA-HI(1)1,DM; JE-SW(2)16,JW;  
JE-SW(3)18,JW

Warb, Gold-winged 1-1 1/4 GA-HI(4)1,DM

Warb, Tennessee 1-15 3/19 U-(2)15,PD; GA-(15)1,DM;  
GA-HI(2)9,JW

Warb, Nashville 1-9 3/8 GA-(5)1,DM; GA-HI(1)7,JW;  
GA-HI(2)9,JW

Parula, Northern 1-22 3/4 U-(2)15,PD; GA-HI(1)1,DM;  
GA-(1)22,EV

Warb, Yellow 1-1 1/2 GA-(2)1,DM

Warb, Chstnt-side 1-18 4/20 GA-2/17 JE-2/3

Warb, Magnolia 1-30 10/89 U-2/12 CH-1/1 GA-5/56 JE-  
2/20

Warb, Blk-thr Blu 22-22 1/1 GA-(1)22,EV

Warb, Blk-thr Grn 1-22 6/27 U-2/18 CH-1/1 GA-2/6 JE-1/2

Warb, Blackburn 1-14 3/4 GA-HI(2)1,DM; GA-HI(1)7,JW;  
JE-SW(1)14,X

Warb, Blk-and-wht 1-22 8/29 U-2/6 GA-4/18 JE-2/5

Redstart, Amer 1-30 10/102 U-2/31 CH-1/1 GA-3/18  
HA-1/1 JE-3/51

Warb, Worm-eating 18-18 1/1 JE-SW(1)18,JW

Ovenbird 1-22 6/16 GA-4/12 JE-2/4

Warb, Kentucky 1-1 1/1 GA-HI(1)1,DM

Yellowthroat, Com 1-18 4/8 U-1/1 CH-1/1 GA-1/5 JE-1/1

Warb, Hooded 1-22 6/24 U-1/2 GA-3/7 JE-2/15

Warb, Wilson's 1-15 3/26 U-1/3 GA-2/23

Warb, Canada 1-1 1/3 GA-(3)1,DM

Chat, Yellow-brst 1-1 1/1 GA-(1)1,DM

Tanager, Summer 1-22 4/10 U-1/4 GA-2/5 JE-1/1

Tanager, Scarlet 1-1 1/9 GA-HI(9)1,DM

Cardinal, Northrn 2-30 12/51 U-1/6 CH-2/3 CO-1/2  
GA-4/18 HA-1/2 JE-3/20

Grosbeak, Ros-brs 1-30 5/18 GA-(4)1,DM; GA-HI(2)21,JW;  
GA-(1)30,JW; JE-SW(1)16,JW;  
JE-SW(10)18,JW

Grosbeak, Blue 7-29 4/20 U-(12)14,X; U-(4)15,PD;  
CH-(2)7,JW; JE-SW(2)29,JW

Bunting, Indigo 1-30 10/77 CH-3/23 GA-4/13 JE-3/41

Bunting, Painted 15-15 1/2 U-1/2

Dickcissel 1-1 1/2 GA-(2)1,DM

Sparrow, Field 30-30 1/1 JE-(1)30,JW

Sparrow, Vesper 28-28 1/2 CO-ATW(2)28,DB

Sparrow, Lark 2-2 1/1 GA-(1)2,JW

Sparrow, Savannah 21-30 6/50 CH-1/32 CO-1/12 GA-2/4 JE-2/2

Sparrow, Le Conte 27-27 1/1 GA-BF(1)27,JW

Sparrow, Shp-tail 1-30 4/12 GA-4/12

Sparrow, Seaside 1-30 6/34 GA-5/32 JE-1/2

Sparrow, Song 28-28 1/1 CO-ATW(1)28,DB

Sparrow, Lincolns 7-28 2/7 CO-ATW(5)28,DB; GA-BF(2)7,JW

Sparrow, Swamp 28-28 1/2 CO-ATW(2)28,DB

Sparrow, Wht-thrt 26-26 1/1 HA-(1)26,X

Sparrow, Wht-crnl 28-28 1/1 CO-ATW(1)28,DB

Blackbird, Red-wg 2-30 12/3275 U-2/900 CH-4/1105  
CO-2/1000 JE-4/270

Meadowlark, East 2-30 17/149 U-2/55 BR-1/3 CH-2/17  
CO-1/20 FB-1/1 GA-4/32 JE-6/21

Grackle, Gr-tail 1-30 16/3480 U-1/50 CH-2/100  
CO-2/400 GA-5/198 HA-2/62 JE-4/2670

Grackle, Bt-tail 2-30 11/345 U-2/225 CH-1/1 GA-5/47  
JE-3/72

Grackle, Common 1-30 7/315 U-1/100 HA-2/110 JE-4/105

Cowbird, Brn-head 2-30 6/606 U-1/50 CH-2/56 CO-2/400  
JE-1/100

blackbird, sp. 16-16 1/16 HA-1/16

Oriole, Northern 1-1 1/2 GA-HI(2)1,DM

Sparrow, House 1-30 10/165 U-2/45 CH-3/66 GA-3/33  
HA-1/20 JE-1/1

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS: 73155. One species was submitted with no notes: Cerulean Warbler

LIST OF OBSERVER CODES: David Bradford (DB); Derek Muschalek, Rob Thacker, Jim Day (DM); Bill Eley, David Veselka (EV); John Whittle (JW); Jan & Will Risser (JWR); Noel Pettingell (NP); P. D. Hulce, HAS Field Trip (PD); Peggy Milstead (PM); P. D. Hulce (X);

LIST OF LOCATION CODES: Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR (ATW); Anahauc NWR (AW); Bolivar Flats (BF); High Island (HI); Smith Point (SP); Sea Rim St. Park (SR); Sabine Woods (SW); YachtBasin Road (YBR);

LIST OF COUNTY CODES: Brazoria (BR); Chambers (CH); Colorado (CO); Fort Bend (FB); Galveston (GA); Harris (HA); Jefferson (JE); Upper Texas Coast (U)

Masked Duck - D Bradford October 2, 1994

One alternate plumaged male within 60 meters in Teal Marsh at Attwater. Face was black with a warm brown head. The back and sides were warm brown with some black spotting.

Masked Duck - D. Bradford October 28, 1994

One basic plumaged Masked Duck with basic plumaged Ruddy Ducks in Teal Marsh at Attwater. A stiff tailed duck with erect tail. The crown was a solid dark brown. Through the eye and below the eye were two solid, dark brown lines. Overall the bird was a darker, warmer brown than the nearby Ruddy Ducks.

Least Grebe - D. Bradford October 2, 1994

6 adults with slim pointed dark bills. Eyes were yellow. Numerous Pied-billed Grebes were present during observation.

Harris Hawk - D. Bradford October 2, 1994

One adult within 30 meters of the top of a telephone pole. Dark buteo with red on the shoulders. White at base of tail and a white terminal tail band. Bird did not fly.

Lesser Black-backed Gull - J.&W. Risser

This bird caught our attention because of its dark gray back and its size, somewhat smaller than nearby juvenile and adult Herring Gulls, but significantly larger than adjacent Laughing Gulls. Also noteworthy was its long rear profile, with wings projecting far beyond its tail tip. Its bill was rather thin, without a noticeable bulge at the tip. Bill was light gray with dark tip. Legs were light yellow. In flight, the noteworthy characters were its dark wing without light areas. The outer wing was black. The back was dark gray, the rump and tail were white, and there was a subterminal dark tail band. Sketch submitted.

Bonaparte's Gull - P.D. Hulce October 14, 1994

Small light gull with fairly buoyant flight. Smaller than Laughing Gulls. Bright white primary feathers. Slightly rounded wings with no apparent black in tips or elsewhere. White head with small dark dot behind the eye. Thin dark bill. Flying above surf off Hwy. 87 between High Island and Sabine.

Black Tern - J. Whittle October 21, 1994

Intracoastal Waterway at end of Yacht Basin Rd. Small tern, smaller than the accompanying Forster's Terns. These birds were easily picked out in the flock by the uniformly gray upper wings, body and upper tail. The underwings were uniformly pale gray. There was a dark spot behind the eye, and a dark bar on the side on the breast, from the join of the wing leading edge and body down. Tail was forked. Bill was dark.

Black-billed Cuckoo - J. Whittle October 9, 1994

Candy Abshier WMA. Typical cuckoo shape and size. The back was brown, including the upper surface of the outer wings, observed both at rest and in flight. The underparts were white. The eye and eye-ring were carefully studied; the eye appeared dark, the eye ring was a dark brown. The under surface of the tail was a very pale gray, with a hint of brown, with essentially no markings. The bill was seen very clearly and both mandibles were completely dark gray.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo - J. Whittle October 30, 1994

At willows on Shoveler Pond Rd. Anahuac NWR. Typical cuckoo. Brown above, white below, with red on

primaries as seen on the upper wing. Long dark tail above; below had white spots on dark gray. Dark upper mandible; yellow lower mandible.

Cave Swallow - J.&W. Risser October 29, 1994

One at Attwater over Teal Marsh. Dark, blue-backed swallow with square tail. Buffy rump. Dark forehead. Buffy throat and side of face. No black in throat - color pale buff. White underparts.

Veery - D. Muschalik October 1, 1994

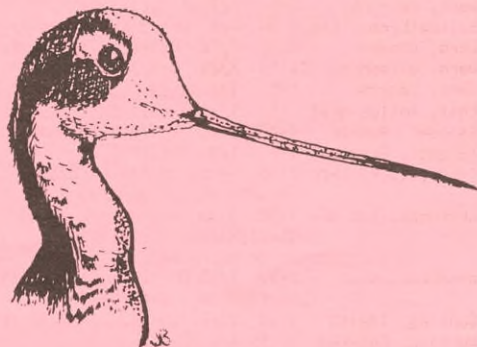
Two russet-backed thrushes located at Smith Oaks Sanctuary. Birds were much redder on their backs than the nearby Swainson's Thrush. Birds had very indistinct spotting on upper breast, and had no buffy cheeks or eyerings.

Worm-eating Warbler - J. Whittle October 18, 1994

Sabine Woods. Relatively large warbler with long pointed bill. The bird appeared to be a dull buff below. The upper parts were brownish. The head and crown showed two black stripes through the buff of the crown and a black stripe through each eye, all four stripes extending through the nape, ending sharply at the upper back.

Scarlet Tanager - D. Muschalek October 1, 1994

Nine birds seen at Smith Oaks Sanctuary at High Island. Male birds had black wings with greenish backs and yellowish underparts. Females and immatures had brownish wings with greenish backs and dull yellow underparts. Feeding actively in mid canopy of oaks and hackberries.



Houston Outdoor Nature Club  
ORNITHOLOGY GROUP  
P. O. Box 270894  
Houston, Texas 77277-0894

SOLICITED MAIL

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

DO NOT DELAY

Nonprofit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Houston, Texas  
Permit No. 1063

**1995 Dues are due!**