



THE SPOONBILL

Volume XXX, No. 2
June, 1981

COMING EVENTS

- Saturday
June 20 Henslow Sparrow banding with Dr. Arnold. Meet in the shell-paved lot on the corner at Telephone Road and Brisbane (across from Hobby Airport) at 7:00 a.m.
- Thursday
June 25 Deadline for THE SPOONBILL announcements, articles, etc.
- Friday
July 3 Clearing House deadline for observations for June. Please send early.
- Saturday
July 11 Henslow Sparrow banding with Dr. Arnold. Meet at 7:00 a.m.
- Sunday
July 12 Family picnic at Dodge-Duryea bay house just outside La Porte. Information sheet will be mailed to all ONC members.
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DYNAMICS OF A SPRING MIGRATION

by Tony Gallucci

During the months of April and May I had the fortunate opportunity to be either birding or banding on the UTC for a total of 24 days. Because of the generosity of Mr. Andrew Johnson of Port Bolivar, some 14 of those days were spent on his family's property on Bolivar Peninsula. Banding and birding in the isolated patch of tall oaks and salt-cedar and oleander lined yards during the peaks of this spring migration offered a unique perspective on this phenomenon. Banding totals from that location and from Bolivar Flats during this same period are presented below. The banding totals include the combined data of Greg Lasley and myself.

About eleven o'clock on 23 April, though the south winds died, the air cooled and then suddenly out of the northwest came the brisk wind that, unknown to me, had already caused widespread damage across the coastal area. Torrential rains were soon falling and falling with it were birds. Here was the classic fallout I had been waiting for.

A second squall line hit the area about 2 o'clock. This was perfect timing according to Ben Feltner's timetable of migration. Ben says landfall in our area for migrants will be highest at 2 p.m. because the bulk of the migrants depart the Yucatan at dusk and need 18 hours for their trans-gulf journey. In the woods proper there was no obvious "fallout" with this storm. However, about 40 minutes after the storm passed there suddenly were swarms of orioles, buntings, grosbeaks, and warblers coloring the trees and dewberry patch. My best guess is that these birds had already hit the previous storm at sea, and exhausted upon hitting the second, made their fallout near the beach. It took them the additional forty minutes to work the half-mile from the beach up to Johnson's.

A most surprising aspect of this fallout was the fat contents of the birds coming in. Almost 80% of them registered a four or five, indicating heavy fat content. A few individuals had lower fat contents.

For the purpose of comparison this is an explanation of the scale of measuring fat content. The scale runs from zero to five, with zero meaning no fat. The content is measured in the furcular area, that spot above the breast where the breastbone or wishbone lies. When this area fairly bulges with fat the content is recorded as a five. Thus zero and one indicate a depleted fat store, two and three indi-

cate about half-store and four and five indicate fat birds. During the first two days at the site, the measured fat covered a rather wide range, i.e., many birds in each class. Generally this probably shows a slow, constant migration of passerines, some arriving as others are leaving, etc.

Just how much fat is used by birds crossing the Gulf of Mexico in migration and how is it affected by weather and distance traveled and how long does it take before the birds have regained a full fat store and are ready to continue? Collecting this data would be simple in this location where, during a fallout, one could be sure of the immediate origin of the birds being examined. Such migrants are frequently recaptured during ensuing days and rechecking the weights and fat contents of these repeats might shed light on this question.

Theories were not hard to come by. The one that best stood the test of time after discussions with Ben Feltner, Greg Lasley, Kelly Bryan, and Jim Morgan was as follows: Because of the very strong south winds that had been blowing all spring the birds were getting a free ride-- they had to use very little energy of any kind to cross the gulf. Thus birds hitting the coast would still retain a hefty fat store. It would remain to be seen if, after the passage of the storms, birds making landfall would be carrying less fat.

Derivative theories include these: if birds are able to detect such storms at a great distance (studies have shown that migrant passerines are able to detect storms up to 1500 miles away because of ultrasound frequencies caused by the storms), it seems rather logical that they would steer for a coast least likely to be affected by turbulent weather and, if so, one would expect the largest fallout during a storm preceded by long periods of calm weather or south winds; and the first heavy storms of the season, if preceded by very strong south-east winds, would be most likely to produce larger numbers of the rarer eastern coast migrant warblers such as Cerulean, Black-throated Blue, Cape May and Blackpoll. Both of these would eventually be tested.

The canopy feeding warblers were not often caught in the nets. Note the high numbers banded of waterthrushes, Kentuckys, Ovenbirds, Hoodeds, etc., over the several day period, but the small number of Bay-breasteds, Chestnut-siders and Tennessees. At the Johnson's this is because there are very high oaks in which the canopy species can feed. When banding in a fallout in a salt-cedar grove or low-canopied area many more of the canopy feeders are caught.

Species Banding Totals for Johnson's Place, Bolivar Peninsula, April 18 to May 25

Species	April									May				
	18	19	22	23	25	26	27	28	29	4	5	6	20	25
Yellow-b. Cuckoo					1	1								
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	8	8	18	9	24	34	25	12	14	9	7	3		2
Belted Kingfisher					2				1					
Yellow-bell. Sapsuck'r.						1								
Eastern Kingbird									1					
Great Crested Flyc.				2										1
Yellow-bell. Flyc.														6
Acadian Flycatcher				2		1		1	1	1	9	4		3
Traill's Flyc. (Willow/Alder)														2 4
Eastern Wood Pewee				1	1		2	6	4		3	2	1	2
Blue Jay											1			
House Wren	1													
Gray Catbird	2	1	7	8	82	44	27	6	12	5	8	14		
Brown Thrasher	1													
Wood Thrush				1	13	3	1							1
Swainson's Thrush					17	5	2		2	5	1	2		
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1				12	2	2	3		5	1	4	5	
Veery				1	3	6	6	3	3	1	3	5	3	

Species	April									May				
	18	19	22	23	25	26	27	28	29	4	5	6	20	25
Ruby-crowned Kinglet														1
White-eyed Vireo				1	7	1	1			1				1
Yellow-thr. Vireo									1					
Solitary Vireo				1										
Red-eyed Vireo				2	2	5					2	1	2	7
Philadelphia Vireo										3			1	
Warbling Vireo			1		1									
Black-and-white Warbler				2	2	1				3	2	6	9	
Swainson's Warbler						1								
Worm-eating Warbler			1	1			1							
Golden-winged Warbler				1	1						1			
Brewster's Warbler													1	
Blue-winged Warbler	1		2	7	1	1	1				1			
Tennessee Warbler				9	1	1	1			6	1	1		
Northern Parula					1									
Yellow Warbler	1		1	2	2	2	1	1	1					
Magnolia Warbler				2	6	3	1	1	9	15	19	16	1	1
Black-thr. Green Warbler				1		1			1	1		2		
Cerulean Warbler				1		1								
Blackburnian Warbler					1									
Chestnut-sided Warbler				6		1							1	
Bay-breasted Warbler						1						1	1	
Blackpoll Warbler	1					1	1	1						
Ovenbird			2	6	5	6	2		6	10	11	9		
Northern Waterthrush	3		9	35	14	17	10	2	9	3	2	2		
Louisiana Waterthrush				2	1	2								
Kentucky Warbler			3	1	6	2			1	1		4		
Mourning Warbler														1
Common Yellowthroat	5		7	1	6	5	2	1	4	2	11	9	1	1
Yellow-breasted Chat				3										
Hooded Warbler		1	4	3	14	4		1		2	6	4		
Wilson's Warbler	1								1	1				
Canada Warbler									1		2			2
American Redstart				1	1	1	1	1	2	3	4	6	1	
Red-winged Blackbird					1				1					
Orchard Oriole	4		10	5	1		1		1	4				
Northern (Balt.) Oriole			19	3	3									
(Bullock's) Oriole			1											
Brown-headed Cowbird			1	1										
Scarlet Tanager					1	1								
Summer Tanager	1			2	3				3					
Cardinal	6					1								
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3		1	2	4	3			3					1
Black-headed Grosbeak														1
Blue Grosbeak										2				1
Indigo Bunting	7		8	12	5	4	2		10		2			
Fainted Bunting	11		8		2	1								1
Rufous-sided (E.) Towhee	1													
White-crowned Sparrow	1													
White-throated Sparrow	2													
Lincoln's Sparrow	7	1	1											
Swamp Sparrow				1										

*** Hummingbirds were not banded

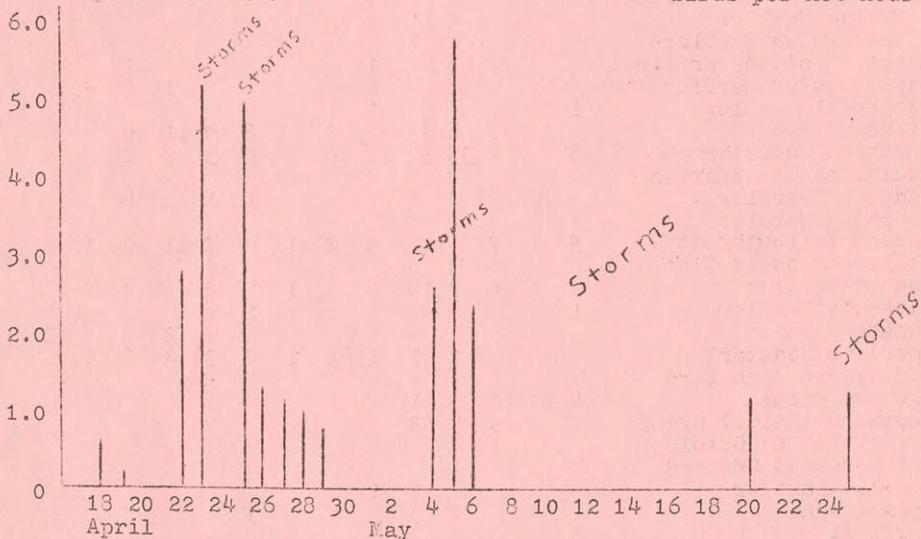
Species Banding Totals for Bolivar Flats

Species	April			May		
	18	27	28	6	20	25
Semipalmated Plover			1	1		
Piping Plover			1			
Wilson's Plover			1		1	
Black-bellied Plover				2		
Ruddy Turnstone				5	10	1

Species	April			May		
	18	27	28	6	20	25
Willet	1	1	3			
Red Knot		2	10		1	1
Least Sandpiper	6	17				
Western Sandpiper	6				1	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	1	17	7	4		
Dunlin	20	32	79	22		2
Sanderling		14	50	6	6	3
Short-billed Dowitcher			2	1		
White-rumped Sandpiper					1	
Stilt Sandpiper				1		
Common Tern		8	14			
Royal Tern			1			
Sandwich Tern		1				
Black Skimmer		1	2			
Savannah Sparrow		1				
Sharp-tailed Sparrow		1				

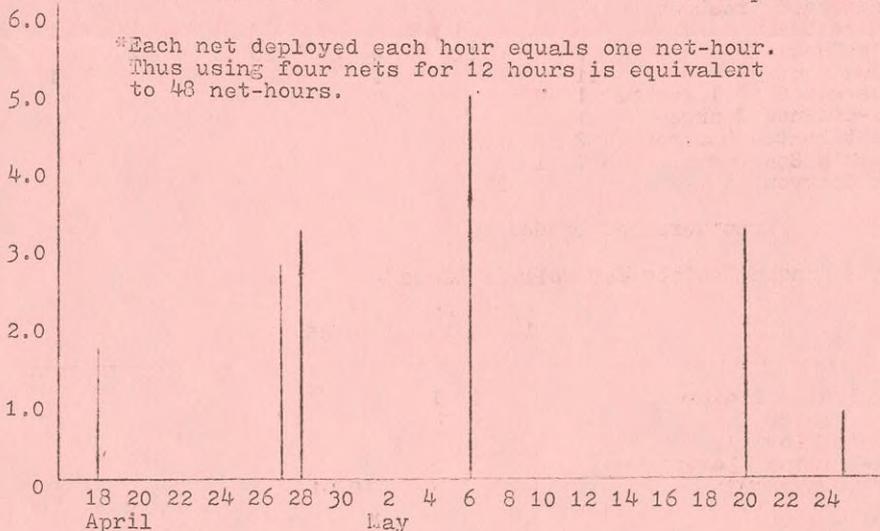
Banding at Johnson's

Birds per net-hour*



Banding at Bolivar Flats

Birds per net-hour*



VISIT TO THE GILCHRIST ROOKERY by Tony Gallucci

On May 5, David and Linda Ferry, and I, took a boat to the rookery islands visible from Rollover Pass, for the express purpose of counting nests and individual birds present and to determine the state of their nesting there.

There are actually four spoil islands in the rookery. They range in size from 32 X 60 meters to 80 X 200 meters. Among the more interesting discoveries on the islands include several Yellow Warblers (two were found in an egested heron pellet) and a Bay-breasted Warbler. There were present also a Herring Gull in molt and an adult White-faced Ibis under heavy siege by Forster's Terns. The terns were defending their young, many of which were floating on grassy vegetation due to an extremely high tide. This same tide was responsible for the drowning of many Laughing Gull, Forster's Tern and Snowy Egret nests still with eggs.

Following is a listing of the species found breeding on the island. The numbers that follow indicate the number of nests (n), the number of individual birds (i) when nests were not accurately counted, and then follows a statement of the conditions of the nests.

White Pelican 60i, non-breeding birds -- either migrants or lingering summer birds.
 Olivaceous Cormorant 11n, all with eggs -- one egg seen pipping.
 Great Blue Heron 2n, both with very large young
 Cattle Egret 25n, all with eggs
 Reddish Egret 10n, most with young, some very large
 Great Egret 324n counted, another 500i in areas where nests were not counted, most with small to medium-sized young
 Snowy Egret 175n + 190i, most with large young
 Louisiana Heron 135n + 150i, most with medium-sized young
 Black-crowned Night Heron 15n, most with medium to large young
 White-faced Ibis 1i, in breeding plumage but not associated with any nest
 White Ibis 1i, Holly Hobart expected us to find these breeding since they breed early and he had not previously found any when he did later summer Spoonbill surveys. Nevertheless there was only a single bird present and not associated with a nest
 Roseate Spoonbill 183n + 135i, most with medium to large young
 American Oystercatcher 2 pair present though apparently not yet nesting
 Herring Gull 1i, non-breeding
 Laughing Gull 3075i, all nests in eggs, many drowned
 Royal Tern 1200i, all nests in eggs
 Sandwich Tern 1i, probably with eggs although nest not specifically found
 Forster's Tern 120n + 290i, about equally split between eggs and very small young
 Black Skimmer 5i, 2n Only two nests were found with eggs, another 5 nest scrapes were located; There was actually very little available shell and sand for nesting by skimmers and we suspect that the high tide may have covered many nests

ANOTHER RARE BIRD, ANOTHER RACE AGAINST TIME by T. Ben Feltner

The canyons of Southeastern Arizona are thick with birders in the spring and at least four major tour companies are present there at that time. Linda Roach and I were just tailing-out our Peregrine tour at Cave Creek Canyon, birding hotspot of the Chiricahuas, when the rumor reached us that a Black-capped Gnatcatcher had been found nesting in the Santa Rita Mountains.

We had done extremely well on "good birds" having seen six species of owls including Elf, Spotted, Flammulated, and Whiskered. Earlier on we had discovered a beautiful Goshawk guarding her eggs in the Huachuca

Mountains. A pair of Zone-tailed Hawks were photographed at nest in the Dragoon Mountains and all the sparkling Arizona warblers had been observed on our first day at Mount Lemmon. To this we had added Five-striped Sparrow at Patagonia, the first seen there in two years, and a Coppery-tailed Trogon nestside in Cave Creek Canyon plus all the Arizona regulars.

Now with only hours to go we hear of the Black-capped Gnatcatcher, the third U.S. record. What a lagniappe that would be if we could only find it.

An old friend, Kenn Kaufman, was also leading a tour in the canyon and after an evenings owling, we got together for an exchange of information. Kenn knew about the bird. The presence of which had been hushed up for fear of too much disturbance (i.e. the second U.S. record, a breeding pair and young at Patagonia, had been collected in it's entirety). After an hour or so of conference I found myself armed with an excellent map and approximately six hours of daylight in which to find the quarry.

Flight connections etc. precluded our using a full day so we set off in our minibus at 5:00 a.m. May 24, from the Chiricahuas heading for the upper end of Chino Canyon in the Santa Ritas, about 4½ hours drive. It was difficult to maintain a legal speed limit, but somehow we did, reaching Tucson at 8:40 a.m. where I stopped to find out from local birders if there was any status change on the birds, which were expected to fledge young any day. The latest word was about a week old. Unable to discover any recent information we fled south as fast as possible reaching the access road to Chino Canyon at about 9:15 a.m. It took us an hour to negotiate the next 20 miles by minibus. Fortunately our vehicle had a high clearance and an equally high abuse tolerance. Years of driving in Mexico and Central America have prepared me for bad roads, but for this one a U.S. marine obstacle course would have been more adequate preparation. I swear that at times the front and rear of the van were listing in opposite directions. At one point one of the passengers asked if she might help by getting out and removing "that rock". This brought a roar of laughter from the rest of us as the van was crawling through a boulder field at the time, and no one could discern which particular rock was the most offensive.

Perseverance and sweat paid-off, however, and we finally found ourselves at the last gate to the entrance of the canyon. Here we found a note fastened to the right-hand gate post with this brief pencil-scribbled message: "Black-capped Gnatcatchers fledged 23 May". What a disappointment we had less than two hours to find the birds in acres of canyon.

Parking the van about 150 yards from the grove of hackberries in which the birds had nested, we spread out over the wash in search of "the bird". In the process we found two more of the rare and elusive Five-striped Sparrows and several groups of Black-tailed Gnatcatchers but alas no Black-capped Gnatcatchers.

Finally our attention was drawn to a group of four or five young people high up on the canyon-side. On putting my binoculars on them I noticed that they were watching us via the same method. One young lady was hand-signalling us to come to them. I immediately started running through the mesquite fearing I would arrive too late. Several of us negotiated the distance in about five minutes to find that they had been watching both parent birds feeding in a deep ravine canyon-side. We now signalled the rest of our group, who straggled up the hill behind us. Within a minute or two we located the female about 60 yards away, not very satisfactory, but at least it was contact. By watching the actions of this tiny mite, we were soon able to discern a pattern in her behavior. No matter where she was on the canyon floor below us, she kept disappearing into the same Hackberry bush.

Back down we clambered and working our way around the thick thorn-

bushes, I eventually arrived at the bush in question. Immediately I was assaulted by the peevish whine of an angry male gnatcatcher, but this one was different from any I had ever seen. Th's was our Black-capped Gnatcatcher. We soon located the three fledglings sitting quietly in a row within the shade of the bush. Despite our appearance there was no break in the family routine and no apparent apprehension on the part of the parents as long as we maintained a two yard distance. We had found our birds with forty minutes to spare and were permitted the time to watch while both parent birds hopped and flitted about virtually at our feet and fingertips. Linda promptly blew a whole roll of film in an effort to catch the dancing mites on film. Our elation was complete.

The Black-capped Gnatcatcher bears a superficial resemblance to the Black-tailed Gnatcatcher but differs markedly in several ways. Peterson's Mexican Guide is woefully inadequate in separating these two birds which are both nesting in Chino Canyon. If you decide to look for it the following notes may help:

Black-capped Gnatcatcher (Polioptila nigriceps)

Male: Black-capped. Two outer rectrices fully white giving underside of the tail an all white appearance. Wings have a pronounced brownish appearance. The bill is remarkably large for a gnatcatcher.

Female: No black cap. Tail as male, wings noticeably brownish. Large bill. More closely resembles Blue-gray Gnatcatcher but eye-ring very faint or lacking.

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (Polioptila melanura)

Male: Black-capped. Only the outer web of the outer rectrix is white. Underside of the tail appears decidedly black, not white. Wing color less brownish and bill normal-sized.

Female: No black cap. Undertail as male Black-tailed. Wings brownish but not to the degree of female Black-cap. The bill is normal-sized.

Note: Both species lose the black-cap in fall.

AROUND AND ABOUT

The area surrounding Eckert's Bayou, directly across from Nottingham Ranch Road, will fall to development without your letters of support. Why save the area? It is a rich biological asset including unique fresh and saltwater marshes, a live oak motte (great for spring migrants), and shoreline habitats. Write soon: Ray Holbrook, County Judge, County Commissioners Court, 722 Moody, Galveston 77550 and Frank Carmona, same address.

From Grus Americana June, 1981 (newsletter of The Whooping Crane Conservation Association, Inc.): GOOD NEWS of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service report of 25 migrating Whooping Cranes in the two flocks of wild birds. Seventy-eight headed for Wood Buffalo National Park from Texas this spring, and 17 birds are accounted for in the Rocky Mountain population (foster-parent flock). The article adds, "Perhaps the greatest threat to these birds is the loss of habitat to development and irrigation withdrawals. The Canadian Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service need our continued support in providing philosophical pressure where it is needed."

All reports of observations to the Clearing House must be in A.O.U. order. Follow the UTC check-list or any field guide. Thanks.

Stories About Birds And Bird Watchers, from Bird Watcher's Digest and edited by Mary Beacom Bowers, was sent to us this month by the publisher (Atheneum, New York). With a forward by Roger Tory Peterson,

the book contains selected articles covering topics from philosophical reflections on birds to freeway birding and big sits. It will be placed in the OG library.

Your editor compiled a set of notes on gull identification from the program presented by Bret Whitney at the January 1981 OG meeting (see THE SPOONBILL, April 1981). An amendment is necessary at the bottom of page 3 ("Plumage Sequences"). Large gulls acquire full adult plumage in their 4th winter, i.e. when they are just older than 3 years. Similarly, medium gulls become adult at just over 2 years, and small gulls at just over 1 year.

The April issue of this newsletter ended with a question concerning bird distributions. More specifically, we asked you to try and name the seven extant species which are endemic to the U.S. Two months have passed and the correct answers are as follows: Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Carolina Chickadee, Brown-headed Nuthatch, and Bachman's Sparrow (all southeastern U.S.); Brown-capped Rosy Finch (central and northern Rockies); Yellow-billed Magpie (California); Lesser Prairie Chicken (central prairie states).

THE SILENT KILLERS: DISEASES OF BIRDS by B. C. Robison, D.V.M.
Part 5: AVIAN TUBERCULOSIS

Every historical era, it seems, is afflicted at one time or another with a disease that is both unique to the times and that is looked upon with an especial sense of dread. In biblical times, it was leprosy; the Middle Ages had the Black Death; the twentieth century might well be remembered as the Age of the Coronary Occlusion; and in the nineteenth century it was tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis is a chronic debilitating disease found in numerous species of animals; it is caused by three species of the micro-organism Mycobacterium, each of which affects a particular host: man and sub-human primates (M. tuberculosis), cattle (M. bovis), and birds (M. avium).

Intensive eradication efforts have eliminated bovine TB (formerly a source of human infection, in pre-Pasteurization days, through contaminated milk), but chicken TB (turkeys are resistant) still persists to the economic detriment of the poultry industry. Affected birds are unthrifty and unfit for use as food, and produce fewer eggs; they are also a source of infection in sheep and especially swine, and, in rare cases, humans.

Among wild birds, TB is uncommon under ordinary open field conditions; among zoo birds, however, it is more common due to the unnatural conditions of confinement. Certain gregarious species, such as starlings, have shown to be an important factor in the dissemination of avian TB.

In 1963, an Indiana pig farm had an outbreak of TB that was shown to be caused by the avian agent; the farm had also been heavily populated with roosting starlings, and 125 of these birds were subsequently collected and examined. Six percent were found to have TB lesions in the liver, spleen, and intestines. The nature of these lesions, interestingly enough, suggested that this species of bird is relatively resistant to the mycobacteria. One-half mile away, a poultry farm was hit with a TB outbreak about a month earlier, and it, too, had many starlings on the premises. It was demonstrated that the starlings contracted TB at the poultry farm, and then transferred it to the swine operation. Such epidemiologic findings hardly enhance the reputation of this nuisance bird.

The clinical symptoms of avian TB are non-specific. Affected birds are lethargic, underweight, and suffer pectoral muscle atrophy and loss of color in the comb and wattles. Often a tuberculous bird will hop around with a jerky, one-sided lameness because of infection in the bone marrow of the leg. Occasionally a wing will droop due to tuberculous infiltration of the humeral-scapuloacromioclavicular joint (dat means de shoulder). Paralysis may occur in advanced cases. Diarrhea results from infection along the intestinal tract, further aggravating

the bird's weakened condition.

As is the case with many bird diseases, diagnosis of TB depends on postmortem examination. Lesions occur regularly in the liver, spleen, intestines, and bone marrow, but they can occur in most other tissues except the central nervous system. (Avian TB is not primarily a respiratory condition as it is in humans.)

The classic TB lesion is the grayish-yellow nodule that is found in varying sizes and numbers throughout infected tissue. The nodule is composed of a central core of necrotic (dead) tissue, surrounded by a thick layer of connective tissue. The widespread distribution of lesions throughout the body suggests that a septicemia occurs at least for a time during the course of the disease. The presence of different sized nodules indicates that already established lesions can produce new lesions elsewhere. An infected bird can therefore undergo several episodes of self-reinfection.

Transmission of avian TB is by contaminated fecal material. The nodules in the intestinal tract shed massive numbers of the TB bacilli (a bacillus is simply a micro-organism that is rod-shaped); lesions in the liver and gall bladder (organs anatomically connected to the intestinal tract) add more bacilli to the fecal discharges. In densely populated situations, such as a poultry operation or a starling roost, the potential hazard for contamination of the premises and infection of susceptible birds is considerable.

In the U.S., avian TB is practically non-existent in the South and West; the greatest incidence of it is in the North Central and North Eastern part of the country, due no doubt to climatic conditions. Enough is known about avian TB to eradicate it, but greater efforts are needed so that, as in the case of bovine and human TB, it can become a desirable endangered species.

A NEW SPECIES FOR THE UTC CHECKLIST

by Tony Gallucci

Controversy has swirled in every path followed by the Thayer's Gull ever since the A.O.U. acceded to ornithological opinion and split it from the Herring Gull and added it to the North American Checklist.

Problems have centered around the bird's occurrence in any given area, the ability to recognize the bird in the field and even the identification of specimens. This latter difficulty has now resulted in the discovery of two specimens accreditable to the UTC checklist area.

Charlie Clark, an ornithologist, now retired and residing in Rockport, recently visited the American Museum of Natural History to examine the Thayer's Gull specimen collected at Rockport by Warren Pulich. In examining the tray of Thayer's Dr. Clark found a specimen from the late 1880's collected on Galveston Island.

Dr. Keith Arnold has also informed me that a Thayer's Gull specimen, also from Galveston Island, is at the University of Texas at Austin. This specimen is listed in Oberholser but is improperly considered a California Gull. There remains a Nov. 29 specimen of California Gull from Brazoria County.

Pictures taken by Greg Lasley of a probable Thayer's Gull on the UTC were turned down recently by gull experts answering queries for Dr. Arnold. But the pictures, combined with extensive written details by Lasley and Bret Whitney are yet to be acted upon by the Texas Bird Records Committee. This might provide a third, more recent, record for the area.

CLEARING HOUSE, May, 1981

The Clearing House is a monthly record of bird sightings made on the Upper Texas Coast. How to read the CH: Species: Location--(how many) date, observers. Those common species which can be easily identified and are widely distributed in the UTC will also be listed, followed by the number of reports, with the lowest and highest number of individuals seen in parenthesis, i.e. (1-40). Noteworthy sightings will be underlined, capitalized, or both, according to their status. Observations affecting the checklist will be published under the "Special Report" heading pending their acceptance by the checklist committee.

Change!

Loon, Common: Galveston--(1) 2,AD; (1) 4,RP; (1)9,R; Rollover Pass--(1)14,B
 Grebe, Eared: Galveston--(3)4,RP; Pelican Island--(1)30,H
 Grebe, Pied-billed: 10 reports (1-6)
 Pelican, White: 12 reports (1-100)
 GANNET, NORTHERN: Bolivar Flats--(1)10,M...see notes
 Cormorant, Double-crested: Galveston--(7)2,AD; (1)30,H; Bolivar--(1)3,F; (1)14,B;
 (3)4,RP; (7)2,D&LF; San Jacinto Park (uc)10,GS
 Cormorant, Olivaceous: 12 reports (1-30)
 Anhinga: Baytown Tunnel--(1)17,GS
 Frigatebird, Magnificent: Bolivar Ferry--(1)April 19,Keith Arnold; N. of High
 Island--(1)3,J&NS, Jan Acker, Doug Stine
 Heron, Great Blue: 26 reports (1-35)
 Heron, Green: 25 reports (1-45)
 Heron, Little Blue: 18 reports (1-15)
 Egret, Cattle: 29 reports (1-300)
 Egret, Reddish: 20 reports (1-25)
 Egret, Great: 26 reports (3-850)
 Egret, Snowy: 24 reports (1-400)
 Heron, Louisiana: 26 reports (1-350)
 Night Heron, Black-crowned: 13 reports (1-40)
 Night Heron, Yellow-crowned: 13 reports (1-22)
 Bittern, Least: Anahuac--(3)9,J; (1)14,B; (3)3,F; (1)24,S; Galveston--(1)9,G;
 (1)30,H; Sea Rim--(4)24,S; Bolivar--(2)2,D&LF
 Ibis, White-faced: 20 reports (1-50)
 Ibis, White: 20 reports (1-40)
 Spoonbill, Roseate: 24 reports (1-200)
 Goose, Canada: Warren Lake--(7)3,P,TG
 Goose, White-fronted: Warren Lake--(8)3,P,TG; (3)19,RP
 Goose, Snow: Warren Lake--(18+7 blue geese)3,P,TG; (5+1 blue goose)12,TG; (4)19,RP;
 San Bernard Refuge--(2)21,TG
 Whistling Duck, Black-bellied: Ft. Bend Co--(2)3,P; W.Harris Co--(2)8, (1)10,JE;
 (1)19,RP; Brazoria Co--(4)22,G; Anahuac--(3)15,RS
 Whistling Duck, Fulvous: Freeport--(2)9,J; Anahuac--(15)3,F; W.Harris Co--
 (6)8, (30)10,JE; (4)19,RP
 Duck, Mottled: 18 reports (2-20)
 Gadwall: Bolivar--(2)3F; (1)2,D&LF; San Bernard Refuge--(8)20; Baytown--(2)3,GS
 Pintail, Common: Galveston--(3)24,KW
 Teal, Green-winged: W. Galveston--(6)3, (4)6, Jane Hamilton
 Teal, Blue-winged: 14 reports (2-26)
 Shoveler, Northern: Freeport--(16)2,BB
 Duck, Wood: Buckhorn Lake--(2)3,P; Lake Charlotte--(12)3,F; (4)20,MAU
 Duck, Ring-necked: Galveston--(1)4,RP; (1)10,M,J&NS
 Canvasback: Anahuac--(1)9,J
 Scaup, Lesser: Anahuac--(1)9,J; Pelican Island--(1)30,H; Freeport--(2)2,BB
 Merganser, Red-breasted: W. Galveston--(1)3,F; (1)4,D
 Vulture, Turkey: Galveston--(2)10,J&NS; 8 other reports (1-15)
 Vulture, Black: 4 reports (1-12)
 Kite, White-tailed: 10 reports (1-3)
 Kite, Mississippi: Houston--(2)2,JM; (1)23,N; Ft. Bend Co--(1)15,S; Lake Jackson--
 (6)30,L&MB
 Hawk, Cooper's: Galveston--(1)2,AD
 Hawk, Red-tailed: Ft. Bend Co--(1)3,P; Brazoria Co--(1)22,G; (1)31,RP; (2)21,TG
 Hawk, Red-shouldered: 6 reports (1-2)
 Hawk, Broad-winged: Bolivar--(5)9,J; (1)4, (1)6,TG; (20)10,M; (3)2,D&LF;
 White Park--(1)3,F; High Island--(3)10,SC
 Hawk, Swainson's: Anahuac--(2)3,F; W.Harris Co--(1)19,RP; (1)3,TG;
 Houston--(1)23,RP; Webster--(1)8,MAU; Alvin--(1)10,MAU
 Hawk, Marsh: 12 reports (1-3)
 Osprey: Lake Charlotte--(1)3,F; W. Galveston--(1)6,E; Brazoria Co--(1)22,G
 Falcon, Peregrine: Bolivar Flats--(1)10,M
 Merlin: Gilchrist--(1)April 24,DEW
 Kestrel, American Galveston--(1)2,AD; Houston--(1)2,JM

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Bobwhite: 12 reports (1-80)
 Pheasant, Ring-necked: Anahuac--(1 m.)3,F
 Rail, King: 9 reports (1-5)
 Rail, Clapper: 8 reports (1-20)
 Rail, Virginia: High Island--(1)3,F; Galveston--(1)9,G; Freeport--(1)3,L&MB
 Sora: Anahuac NWR--(1)3,F; Bolivar--(1)2,D&LF
 Rail, Black: Freeport Marsh--(1)3,L&MB
 Gallinule, Purple: Anahuac--(19)9,J; (4)3,F; (10)15, RS; Manor Lake--(1)24, KW;
 W. Galveston--(1)3,L; (1)4,D; (1)4,RP; (2)30,H; Brazoria Co--(12)22,G
 Gallinule, Common: 15 reports (1-18)
 Coot, American: 12 reports (1-25)
 Oystercatcher, American: Bolivar--(1)4,6,25,30,RP,TG,H; (4)5,K
 Plover, Semipalmated: 15 reports (1-50)
 Plover, Piping: 3 reports (2-10)
 Plover, Snowy: Bolivar Flats--(5)15, RS
 Plover, Wilson's: 11 reports (1-30)
 Killdeer: 25 reports (2-50)
 Plover, American Golden: Anahuac--(6)2,SC; (35)3,F,SC; W. Harris Co--(1)8,JE;
 Bolivar Flats--(1)20,TG; (1)2,D&LF
 Plover, Black-bellied: 20 reports (1-200)
 Turnstone, Ruddy: 21 reports (2-150)
 Snipe, Common: Galveston--(3)2,AD; (1)3,A; (2)4,RP; (1)9,G;Sheldon
 Reservoir--(1)3,P
 Curlew, Long-billed: 7 reports (1-8)
 Whimbrel: Galveston--(1)2,AD; (6)9,J; (1)14,B; (2)4,D,RP; (1)6,E; (3)3,A; (5)20,TG;
 (1)16,LG; Anahuac--(20)3,F; Bolivar Flats--(2)20,TG; (1)2,D&LF; Freeport--(1)3,
 L&MB; High Island--(1)9,N
 Sandpiper, Upland: Bolivar--(1)4,TG
 Sandpiper, Spotted: 10 reports (1-30)
 Sandpiper, Solitary: Chambers Co--(1)2,3,SC
 Willet: 25 reports (1-400)
 Yellowlegs, Greater: Ft. Bend Co--(1)3,P; Anahuac--(3)3,F,SC; Galveston--(1)3,L;
 (4)9,B; Freeport--(1)3,L&MB
 Yellowlegs, Lesser: Mercury Dr--(5)16,WC; Freeport--(1)20,TG; 9 earlier
 reports (1-150)
 Knot, Red: San Bernard Rfg--(3)20,TG;UTC--(80)30,H; 15 earlier reports (2-1400)
 Sandpiper, Pectoral: Galveston--(1)2,AD; (1)9,G; (4)4, RP; (2)16,LG; Chambers
 Co--(150)3,F,SC; (2)9,J; W. Harris Co--(15)19,RP; Houston--(30)9,RP;
 Freeport--(14)3,L&MB; Bolivar--(1)2,D&LF
 Sandpiper, White-rumped: Chambers Co--(100)9,J; (200)14,B; (1200)3,F,SC;
 W.Harris Co--(6)8, (50)10,J.E.; (75)19,RP; Galveston--(9)9,G,M; (2)4, RP;
 (3)11, J&NS; UTc--(30)30,H; Bolivar--(5)15,RS; Freeport--(2,000)20,TG; San
 Bernard Rfg--(200)20, (400)21,TG; Mercury Dr--(10)16,WC
 Sandpiper, Baird's: Galveston--(1)2,AD; (1)9,M; (16)11,J&NS; Ft. Bend Co--(4)3,P;
 San Bernard Rfg--(10)20, (2)21,TG; Freeport--(12)2,BB; Bolivar--(3)15,RS
 Sandpiper, Least: 12 reports (1-30)
 Dunlin: Bolivar Flats--(5000)6, (700)20, (40)25,TG; (2)30,H; Galveston--(15)20,TG;
 Freeport--(60)20,TG; San Bernard Rfg--(100)20, (200)21,TG; 14 other reports
 (6-1000)
 Dowitcher, Short-billed: Bolivar--(3)3,F; (5)9,J; (5)6,TG; (20)2,D&LF;
 Galveston--(100)4,RP; (2)30,H
 Dowitcher, Long-billed: 6 reports (8-200)
 Dowitcher Species: Chambers Co--(2)24,S; 4 earlier reports (10=1500)
 Sandpiper, Stilt: Galveston--(1)2,AD; (2)9,G; Chambers Co--(4)9,J; (15)14,B;
 (3)13,F; (1)2,SC; (5)9,N; Freeport--(100)17,S; (150)20,TG; (2)2,BB; San Bernard
 Rfg--(10)21,TG; Mercury Dr--(50)16,WC
 Sandpiper, Semipalmated: San Bernard Rfg--(20)20, (10)21,TG; Bolivar--(2)25,TG;
 10 earlier reports (1-250)
 Sandpiper, Western: Bolivar--(1)20,TG; Freeport--(5)20,TG; San Bernard Rfg--
 (5)20, (1)21,TG; 8 earlier reports (4-50)
 Sandpiper, Buff-breasted: Ft. Bend Co--(15)3,P; Chambers Co--(10)3,F; (1)2,N;
 W.Harris Co--(750)10,JE; Bolivar--(1)6,TG; San Bernard Rfg--(1)20,TG
 Godwit, Marbled: W. Galveston--(1)2,AD; (2)30,H; Chambers Co--(2)9,N;
 Bolivar--(1)2-5, 14, D&LF, F, RP, K, B; (4)6,TG
 Godwit, Hudsonian: Harris & Ft. Bend Co--(37)3,P; Chambers Co--(25)9,J,N;
 (1)14,B; (500)3,F,SC; (225)5,C; (3)2,SC; W.Harris Co--(5)8, (6)10,JE; (1)3,TG;
 Freeport--(1)2,L&MB
 Sanderling: 17 reports (3-3000)
 Avocet, American: 12 reports (6-300)
 Stilt-Black-necked: 25 reports (2-250)
 Phalarope, Wilson's: Ft. Bend Co--(5)3,P; Anahuac--(5)9,J; (9)3,F; Bolivar--
 (35)14,B; (1)20,TG; (1)10,M; Freeport--(1)17,S; (10)20,TG; (4)12, (17)3,BB;
 W. Harris Co--(1)19,RP; San Bernard Rfg--(1)20,TG; Mercury Dr--(10)16,WC

Gull, Glaucous: Bolivar Flats--(1)4,6,14,21, RP,TG,B,S; (2)9,10,20,J,M,TG
 Gull, Herring: 17 reports (1-200)
 Gull, Ring-billed: 18 reports (1-60)
 Gull, Laughing: 27 reports (8-7000)
 Gull, Franklin's: Warren Lake--(7)3,P; Lake Charlotte--(10)3,F
 Tern, Gull-billed: 8 reports (1-30)
 Tern, Forster's: 16 reports (1-330)
 Tern, Common: 11 reports (1-25)
 Tern, Least: 19 reports (2-250)
 Tern, Royal: 24 reports (2-1200)
 Tern, Sandwich: 10 reports (1-50)
 Tern, Caspian: 11 reports (1-10)
 Tern, Black: 21 reports (1-75)
 Skimmer, Black: 21 reports (2-1300)
 Dove, Rock: 13 reports (2-50)
 Dove, White-winged: Bolivar (1)20,TG; Galveston--5 reports (1-4)
 Dove, Mourning: 28 reports (2-50)
 Dove, Ground: Bolivar--(1)April 24,DEW; Galveston--(1)2,AD
 Dove, Inca: 13 reports (1-20)
 Cuckoo, Yellow-billed: 30 reports (1-8)
 Cuckoo, Black-billed: W.Harris Co--(1)3,P; Anahuac--(1)3,F; (1)9,J; Bolivar--
 (1)14,B; (1)1,D&LF; Galveston--(2)6,E; (1)16,PH; High Island--(1)2,J&BH; Algoa--
 (1)5,DW; San Bernard Rfg--(1)20,TG; Freeport--(1)3,L&MB; White Oak Bayou--
 (1)1,2,6,WC; Sabine--(2)7,TE
 Owl, Barn: Galveston--(2)2,AD; (3)4,RP; (4)4,(6)5,(1)20,TG; High Island--(1)14,B;
 Dickinson--(1)14B; Bolivar--(1)25,TG; Houston--(1)16,LG
 Owl, Screech: Lake Charlotte--(1)3,F; Algoa--(ad.,3 fledglings)all month,DW
 Owl, Great Horned: Lake Charlotte--(1)3,F; Houston--(2)6,RP; San Bernard Rfg--
 (1)21,TG
 Owl, Barred: Lake Charlotte--(3)3,F; San Bernard Rfg--(1)20,TG
 Chuck-will's-widow: High Island--(1)2,JBH; (1)10,SC; Galveston--(1)2,AD;
 (1)11,J&NS; Bellaire--(1)8,RP
 Nighthawk, Common: 28 reports (1-500)
 Swift, Chimney: 24 reports (1-150)
 HUMMINGBIRD, GREEN VIOLETEAR: Lake Jackson--(1)26-31,Fay Humphreys...see notes
 Hummingbird, Ruby-throated: 27 reports (1-75)
 HUMMINGBIRD, BLUE-THROATED: Quintana--(1)2,BB...see notes
 Kingfisher, Belted: W.Harris Co--(3)3,P; Galveston--(1)3,L; (1)20,TG; Algoa--
 (1)9,20,DW; Brazoria Co--(1)31,RP; Bolivar--(1)5, TG
 Flicker, Common (Yellow-shafted): Houston--(1)20,21,RB; (1)all month,T&E;
 (1)all month,WC
 Woodpecker, Pileated: 6 reports (1-5)
 Woodpecker, Red-bellied: 9 reports (1-4)
 Woodpecker, Red-headed: Deussen Park--(1)3,P; W.Harris Co--(1)3,P; Chambers Co--
 (3)9,J; White Park--(16)3,F; (1)20,MAU; Houston--(1)22,HAS, (1)20,25,RB; (2)all
 month,T&E; Baytown--(1)20,25,MAU
 Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied: Galveston--(1)2,AD; Bolivar--(1)2,D&LF
 Woodpecker, Downy: 5 reports (2-3)
 Kingbird, Eastern: 34 reports (1-38)
 Kingbird, Western: Galveston--(1)9,J; (2)14,B; Bolivar--(1)14,B; (2)9;
 Houston--(1)6,RP; Freeport--(3)3,L&MB
 Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed: 29 reports (1-50)
 Flycatcher, Great Crested: 18 reports (1-6)
 Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied: Bolivar--(1)14,B; (10+6 banded)25,TG; Houston--
 (2-3)3-12,PH; (1)2,N; Sabine--(3 banded)10,TE
 Flycatcher, Acadian: High Island--(1)4,10,16,SC; Bolivar--(14)14,B; (30)4,(25)5,
 (10)6,(5)25,TG; (2)2,D&LF; Chambers Co--(15)3,F; (3)20,MAU; Clear Lake City--
 (4)10,MAU; Freeport--(2)3,L&MB; Sabine--(2 banded)7,(16banded)10,TE;
 White Oak Bayou--(1 calling)2,4,WC
 Flycatcher, Willow: Galveston--(1)2,AD; High Island--(1)3,F; Bolivar--
 (2)20,(5)25,TG...see notes
 Flycatcher, Least: Houston: (1 calling)6,7,11,WC; (2)10,RP; Bolivar--(1)20,
 (3)25,TG; Freeport--(1)3,L&MB
 Empidonax Species: 15 reports (1-45)
 Pewee, Eastern: Galveston Co--(100)14,B; 32 other reports (1-30)
 Flycatcher, Olive-sided: Houston--(1)6,10,RP; (1)7,11,14,25,WC; Bolivar--(2)25,TG
 Lark, Horned: High Island--(1)3,F; (1)9,J; Brazoria Co--(1)31,RP; Pelican Island--
 (3)30,H; Freeport--(1)20,TG; Bolivar--(2)9,N
 Swallow, Tree: Galveston--(60)2,AD; (5)9,J; (20)14,B; (8)20,TG; Anahuac--(200)3,F;
 Bolivar--(30)2,S,D&LF; Freeport--(10)17,S; San Bernard Rfg--(3)21,TG;
 San Jacinto Park--(10)10,GS; White Oak Bayou--(2)11,WC
 Swallow, Bank: Anahuac--(40)3,F; Bolivar--(100)2,(50)21,S; (8)4,TG; Freeport--
 (20)17,S; (4)3,L&MB; Galveston--(40)4,RP; Houston--(20)9,RP; Clear Lake City--
 (1)10,MAU

Swallow, Rough-winged: Galveston--(3)2,AD; (4)6,E; Anahuac--(1)3,F; (10)15,RS;
Houston--(1)10,RP; Bolivar--(1)4,5,TG; Freeport--(5)3,L&MB
Swallow, Barn: Galveston--(3000)9,J; 23 other reports (1-200)
Swallow, Cliff: W. Harris Co.--(1)3,P; Chambers Co--(1)9,J; Anahuac--(1)3,F;
Galveston Co--(25)4,(1)30,H; (1)20,TG; Houston--(125)9,(5)10,RP; (1)11,WC;
Bolivar--(3)6,TG; Freeport--(2)2,L&MB
Martin, Purple: 25 reports (2-250)
Jay, Blue: 16 reports (1-25)
RAVEN, WHITE-NECKED: W. Galveston--(1)10,M...see notes
Crow, Common: West Galveston--(2 seen&heard)11,J&NS; 13 other reports (2-20)
Crow, Fish: Galveston--(1)3,4,6,9,20(heard), L, RP,E,G,TG; (1 seen&heard)9,M;
(2)2,AD
Chickadee, Carolina: 10 reports (2-20)
Titmouse, Tufted: 10 reports (1-30)
Nuthatch, Brown-headed: Deussen Park--(2)3,P; Houston--(1)2, 23,JM; White Park--
(2)3,F
Wren, Carolina: 12 reports (1-25)
Mockingbird, Northern: 29 reports (1-45)
Cathbird, Gray: Galveston--(60)2,AD; (50)3,L; (50)4,D,RP; (10)6,E; (8)3,A;
Sabine--(24)7,(10)9,TE; High Island--(15)3,F,SC; (10)9,J; (15)5,C; (60)2,J&BH,S,
SC; (5)10,16,SC; Alcoa--(1-7)3-10;DW; Houston--(1)1,6,HAS; (15)6,(2)8,RP;
Bolivar--(15)4,(20)5,6,(3)20,TG; (40)2,D&LF; Freeport--(9)2,(5)3,BB
Thrasher, Brown: High Island--(1)9,10,J,SC; Houston--(1)19,26,HAS; (1)11,16,WC;
Bolivar--(1)20,TG; 15 earlier reports (1-2)
Thrasher, Curve-billed: High Island--(1)April 23,DEW...see notes
Robin, American: Galveston--(1)3,F; Houston--(1-5)18-25,RE; (30)all month,T&ME
Thrush, Wood: 17 reports (1-5)
Thrush, Swainson's: Galveston--(28)2,AD; (100)14,B; (6)3,L; (5)4,D; (4)6,E;
(20)3,A; (5)9,G,N; (15)2,S,N; High Island--(15)9,J; (6)5,C; (50)2,J&BH,S;
(1)3,(5)4,16,(4)10,SC; UTC--(20)3,F; Alcoa--(2)4,DW; Houston--(2)1,(1)6,HAS;
Bolivar--(6)4,(1)5,(2)20,TG; (55)2,D&LF; Freeport--(9)3,L&MB; Sabine--(3)7,(14)
10,TE
Thrush, Gray-cheeked: Galveston--(1)2,AD; (2)3,L;(1)4,RP; UTC--(4)3,F; High Island
--(1)14,B; (10)2,J&JH,N; (1)4,16,SC; Bolivar--(4)4,(8)5,(6)6,TG; (9)2,D&LF;
Freeport--(1)2,BB; Pasadena--(1)6,GS; Sabine--(5)7,(2)10,TE; Houston--(1)10,WC
Veery: Galveston--(3)2,AD; (22)14,B; (3)3,L; (2)6,E; (3)3,A; (15)4,RP; High
Island--(1)9,J; (3)2,J&BH,N; (1)3,(3)4,(2)10,16,SC; (1)9,N; Clear Lake City--
(1)10,MAU; UTC--(40)3,F; Alcoa--(2)4,DW; Houston--(1)6,HAS; (1)3,4,5,6,WC;
Bolivar--(10)4,(6)5,(5)6,TG; (8)2,D&LF; Freeport: (11)2,BB; (3)9,BC;
Sabine--(4)7,(3)10,TE
Bluebird, Eastern: Lake Charlotte--(1)3,F; Brazoria Co--(4)22,G; (1)21,TG
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray: Bolivar--(1)14,B; High Island--(1)2,J&BH; Galv.--(1)8,M
Kinglet, Ruby-crowned: Houston--(1)2,JM; (1)4,RP; (1)11,WC; Bolivar--(2)6,TG;
High Island--(3)10,SC
Waxwing, Cedar: High Island--(5)16,SC; Bolivar--(15)25,TG; Brazoria Co--(2)21,TG;
15 other reports (3-35)
Shrike, Loggerhead: 19 reports (1-44)
Starling: 24 reports (1-485)
Vireo, White-eyed: 22 reports (1-10)
Vireo, Yellow-throated: 9 reports (1-2)
Vireo, Solitary: Freeport--(2)2,BB; Houston--(1)8,10,RP; Bolivar--(1)2,D&LF
Vireo, Black-whiskered: Nottingham Ranch Rd--(1)April 30,G;(1)3,M...see notes
Vireo, Red-eyed: 32 reports (1-20)
Vireo, Philadelphia: Galveston--(1)2,AD; (4)14,B; (1)4,D; (2)3,A; (6)9,G;
Friendswood--(1)7,MAU; High Island--(30)9,JM; (6)14,B; (1)5,C; (1)2,J&BH,SC;
(1)3,10,(2)4,SC; (15)9,N; W.Harris Co--(1)8,JE; Houston--(2)6,RP; (2)2,(1)6,(3)
16,WC; Bolivar--(1)4,(2)5,TG; Freeport--(4)3,L&MB; Pasadena--(3)11,GS;
Sabine--(3)7,(3)10,TE
Vireo, Warbling: High Island--(2)2,J&BH; Houston--(1)8,RP; Bolivar--(1)4,TG;
Friendswood--(1)7,MAU; Freeport--(2)3,L&MB
Warbler, Black-and-white: 35 reports (1-33)
Warbler, Prothonotary: Buckhorn Lake--(1)3,P; Lake Charlotte--(2)3,F; (2)10,MAU;
Galveston--(1)3,A; High Island--(1)4,RP,SC; (1)2,N
Warbler, Swainson's: Clear Lake City--(1)10,MAU; White Park--(1)20,MAU;
High Island--(1)2,N
Warbler, Worm-eating: W. Galveston--(1)6,E; High Island--(1)2,J&BH,S,SC,N;
Freeport--(1)2,BB
Warbler, Golden-winged: Galveston--(2)2,AD; (2)14,B; (2)4,D; (1)3,A; (2)11,J&NS;
Bolivar--(1)9,J; (2)4,(1)5,TG; (2)2,D&LF; High Island--(2)2,J&BH,N; (2)14,B;
(2)3,(1)4,10,SC; Freeport--(2)2,(1)3,BB; White Oak Bayou--(1)5,WC
Warbler, Blue-winged: Galveston--(1)2,AD; (2)6,E; (2)3,A; Bolivar--(10)4,(1)6,TG;
High Island--(1)9,N

Poor Notes

Wrong Design 5/8 CAPS

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- Warbler, Brewster's: Galveston--(1)8,J&JH...see notes; Bolivar--(1)April 24,DEW;
(1)4-6,K
- Warbler, Tennessee: Galveston--(15)3,AD; (50)4,B,RP; (15)3,L; (6)4,D; (11)6,E;
(20)3,A; Pasadena--(1)6,GS; High Island--(3)9,J; (10)5,C; (21)2,J&BH,SC,N;
(11)3,4,(25)10,(4)16,SC; Clear Lake City--(12)10,MAU; UTC--(100)3,F; Houston--
(1)6,HAS; (2)6,(7)8,RP; Bolivar--(4)4,(5)5,(1)6,(3)20,(2)25,TG; (14)2,D&LF;
Lake Charlotte--(1)20,MAU; Freeport--(3)2,(1)3,BB
- Warbler, Orange-crowned: 4 reports (1-2); W. Galveston--(1)6,E
- Warbler, Nashville: Galveston--(1)2,AD; (1)3,A; Houston--(3)6,RP; (1)1,(2)11, WC;
Clear Lake City--(1)10,MAU
- Parula, Northern: 10 reports (1-3)
- Warbler, Yellow: Galveston--(14)2,AD; (3)9,J; (20)14,B; (20)4,D,RP; (16)6,E;
(8)3,A; UTC--(35)3,F; High Island--(4)2,J&BH,S,SC; (2)3,(1)4,16,SC; Algoa--
(1)3,DW; W. Harris Co--(1)10,JE; Houston--(2-3)3-12,PH; (1)2,HAS; (5)6,(2)10,RP;
Bolivar--(2)4,(6)5,TG; Clear Lake City--(2)10,MAU; Freeport--(4)2,(17)3,BB
- Warbler, Magnolia: Galveston--(40)2,AD; (175)14,B; (10)3,L; (25)4,D,RP; (20)6,E;
(6)3,A; High Island--(5)9,J,N; (15)5,C; (20)2,J&BH,S,SC,N; (20)3,(150)4,(70)10,
(9)16,SC; (6)15,RS; Clear Lake City--(9)10,MAU; UTC--(50)3,F; Algoa--(2-15)3-11,DW;
Houston--(8-12)3-12,PH; (1)6,HAS; (35)6,(25)10,(8)8,RP; Bolivar--(80)4,(60)5,
(25)6,(3)20,(2)25,TG; (2)12,D&LF; Freeport--(1)2,(3)3,BB; Sabine--(26)10,TE
- Warbler, Cape May: Galveston--(1)9,M; (1 m)16,PH; Bolivar--(1 m)April 24,DEW;
(1)4,TG
- Warbler, Black-throated Blue: Bolivar--(1 m.,1 fm.)April 22,TG
- Warbler, Yellow-rumped (Myrtle): White Oak Bayou--(1)1,2,WC
- Warbler, Black-throated Green: High Island--(10)9,J,N; (8)5,C; (4)2,J&BH,S;
(1)4,(4)10,(2)16,SC; Alvin--(1)10,MAU; Houston--(3)11,JM; (10)6,(3)10,(1)12,RP;
Galveston--(30)14,B; (12)4,D,RP; (3)3,A; (1)9,G; Clear Lake City--(1)10,MAU;
UTC--(15)3,F; W.Harris Co--(1)10,JE; Bolivar--(1)4,(2)5,(8)6,TG; (3)2,D&LF
- Warbler, Cerulean: White Park--(1)3,F; High Island--(3)2,J&BH,SC,N; Clear Lake
City--(1 fm)10,MAU; Bolivar--(2)2,D&LF;
- Warbler, Blackburnian: Galveston--(9)2,AD; (45)14,B; (4)3,L; (2)4,D,RP; (2)6,E;
(8)3,A; (3)16,LG; High Island--(25)9,J,N; (2)5,C; (5)2,J&BH,S,SC,N; (1)3,4,
(20)10,SC; Clear Lake City--(8)10,MAU; UTC--(3)3,F; Houston--(1-2)3-12,PH;
(5)6,(1)10,RP; Friendswood--(2)11,MAU; W.Harris Co--(1)19,RP; Bolivar--
(4)4,(2)20,(3)25,TG; (9)2,D&LF; Freeport--(2)2,BB; Pasadena--(1)11,GS
- Warbler, Chestnut-sided: Galveston--(6)2,AD; (35)14,B; (6)3,L; (5)4,D,RP;
(10)6,E; (9)3,A; (1)16,LG; High Island--(20)9,J,N; (6)5,C; (8)2,N,J&BH,S,SC;
(3)3,(14)4,(55)10,(1)16,SC; Clear Lake City--(11)10,MAU; UTC--(6)3,F; Algoa--
(1-10)2-10,DW; Houston--(2)3-12,PH; (1)1,2,6,(10)6,(8)10,(5)8,RP; Bolivar--
(10)4,(5)5,(4)6,TG; (9)2,D&LF; Freeport--(5)2,BB; (2)9,BC; Sabine--(3)10,TE
- Warbler, Bay-breasted: Galveston--(60)2,AD; (60)14,B; (20)3,L; (75)4,D,RP;
(15)6,E; (12)3,A; High Island--(15)9,J,N; (20)5,C; (40)2,N,J&BH,S,SC; (14)3,
(125)4,(45)10,(5)16,SC; Friendswood--(1)7,MAU; UTC--(75)3,F; Algoa--(15)3,(30)4,
DW; Houston--(15-20)3-12,PH; (20)6,(5)10,RP; Bolivar--(12)4,(9)5,(4)6,(2)20,TG;
(40)2,D&LF; Clear Lake City--(8)10,MAU; Freeport--(4)2,BB; Sabine--(2)10,TE
- Warbler, Blackpoll: High Island--(5)2,J&BH,N; White Park--(1)3,F;
Bolivar--(1)5,TG
- Warbler, Pine: Lake Charlotte--(1)3,F; White Park--(1)20,MAU
- Warbler, Palm: Galveston--(1)3,A; Kempner Park--(1)4,D
- Ovenbird: Galveston--(13)2,AD; (1)14,B; (4)3,L; (40)4,D,RP; (8)6,E; (6)3,A; (6)9,G;
(2)2,S; (1)16,LG; High Island--(5)9,J; (2)14,B; (8)5,C; (3)2,J&BH,S,SC; (1)3,(25)4,
(3)10,(2)16,SC; Clear Lake City--(1)10,MAU; UTC--(10)3,F; Algoa--(2)4-5,DW;
Houston--(1)6,HAS; (1)6,RP; (1)16,WC; Bolivar--(45)4,(35)5,(25)6,(2)20,TG;
(9)2,D&LF; Freeport--(2)2,(1)3,BB Pasadena--(1)13,GS; Sabine--(3)7,(1)10,TE
- Waterthrush, Northern: High Island--(3)9,J; (3)2,(1)4,16,SC; Bolivar--(20)4,(6)5,
(8)6,TG; (2)2,D&LF; Galveston--(15)14,B; (1)3,A; (30)4,RP; UTC--(10)3,F;
Houston--(5)6,RP; (2)1,(1)5,14; Freeport--(1)2,3,BB; Pasadena--(1)7,GS
- Warbler, Kentucky: 14 reports (1-6)
- Warbler, Mourning: Houston--(1)10,RP, (1)10,WC; Bolivar--(1)20,25,TG; Clear Lake
City--(1)10,MAU; Bellaire--(1)9,TE; Friendswood--(1)11,MAU
- Yellowthroat, Common: 28 reports (1-100)
- Chat, Yellow-breasted: Bolivar--(1)20,TG; White Oak Bayou--(1)1,WC
- Warbler, Hooded: 25 reports (1-15)
- Warbler, Wilson's: High Island--(7)14,B; Galveston--(1)14,B; Bolivar--(1)4,20,TG;
Freeport--(3)2,BB; White Oak Bayou--(1)7,WC
- Warbler, Canada: High Island--(5)9,J; (105)14,B; (2)10,SC; (2)2,N; Bolivar--
(2)5,25,TG; (1)2,D&LF; Galveston--(10)14,B; (2)16,LG; W.Harris Co--(1)8,JE;
Houston--(2)1,(1)6,HAS; (2)6,(1)10,(2)8,RP; (1)14(3)16,WC; Clear Lake City--
(3)10,MAU; Pasadena--(1)6,GS
- Redstart, American: Galveston--(7)2,AD; (80)14,B; (30)3,L; (10)4,D,RP; (11)6,E;
(12)3,A; (4)9,G; (1)16,LG; High Island--(10)9,J; (20)2,N,J&BH,S,SC; (1)3,(10)4,
(50)10,(11)16,SC; Bolivar--(50)4,(25)5,(15)6,(3)20,TG; (42)D&LF; UTC--(30)3,F;
Algoa--(1-7)2-17,DW; Houston--(1)2,6,HAS; (10)6,(20)10,RP; (2)16,WC; Clear Lake
City--(8)10,MAU; Freeport--(9)2,(7)3,BB; Sabine--(14)10,TE

*Wrong design
SFB caps*
 Redstart, Painted: Smith Woods--(1)15,RS...see notes
 Sparrow, House: 18 reports (3-250)
 Bobolink: W.Galveston--(5)3,F; (6)6,E; (30)4,RP; Bryan Beach--(2)3,L&MB
 Meadowlark, Eastern: 22 reports (1-55)
 Blackbird, Yellow-headed: Bryan Beach--(1)3,L&MB
 Blackbird, Red-winged: 26 reports (1-400)
 Oriole, Orchard: 21 reports (1-30)
 Oriole, Northern (Baltimore): Galveston--(30)2,AD; (5)3,F; (10)3,L; (6)4,D,RP;
 (15)6,E; (10)3,A; (3)9,G; High Island--(5)9,J,N; (45)2,N,J&BH,S,SC; (2)10,SC;
 Algoa--(1)4,DW; W.Harris Co--(6)10,JE; Houston--(3)1,HAS; (8)6,RP; Bolivar--
 (8)4, (11)5, (2)6,TG; (70)2,D&LF; Freeport--(19)2, (17)3,BB
 Grackle, Boat-tailed: 17 reports (1-50)
 Grackle, Great-tailed: 19 reports (1-250)
 Grackle, Common: 14 reports (1-100)
 Cowbird, Brown-headed: 18 reports (1-100)
 Cowbird, Bronzed: Galveston--(5)4,RP; (4)22,G; (1)20,TG; (2m.,2fm.)9,M; (1)11,J&NS;
 San Bernard Rfg--(3)21,TG; W.Harris Co--(2)22,TG; Texas City--(2)23,N; Rice
 University--(1m)26-29,WR; Bellaire--(1)16,TE
 Tanager, Western: Bolivar--(1)April 24,DEW; Bellaire--(1)8,RP
 Tanager, Scarlet: Galveston--(24)2,AD; (7)14,B; (10)3,L; (7)4,D,RP; (8)6,E;
 (12)3,A; (1)9,G; UTC--(10)3,F; High Island--(3)5,C; (20)2,J&BH,S,SC,N; (1)9,N;
 Bolivar--(1)4,5,TG; (7)2,D&LF; Algoa--(1-4)2-4,DW; Houston--(1)6,HAS; (1)6,RP;
 (2)4,16, (1)6,WC; Clear Lake City--(2)10,MAU; Freeport--(5)2, (2)3,BB;
 Sabine--(1)10,TE
 Tanager, Summer: 26 reports (1-15)
 Cardinal: 24 reports (1-50)
 Grosbeak, Rose-breasted: Galveston--(60)2,AD; (20)4,D,RP; (4)6,E; (30)3,A;
 (1)9,G; Sabine--(1)7,TE; High Island--(9)9,J,N; (10)14,B; (4)5,C; (30)2,J&BH,
 S,SC,N; (10)3, (30)4,SC; Clear Lake City--(3)10,MAU; UTC--(30)3,F; Algoa--
 (3)3, (1)20,DW; Houston--(8)6,RP; Bolivar--(25)4, (5)5, (2)20, (4)25,TG;
 (115)2,D&LF; Freeport--(25)2, (35)3,L&MB
 Grosbeak, Black-headed: Bryan Beach--(1)2,BB; Bolivar--(1)25,TG...see notes
 Grosbeak, Blue: 18 reports (1-15)
 Bunting, Indigo: 25 reports (1-125)
 Bunting, Painted: 21 reports (1-15)
 Dickcissel: Bolivar--(80)4,TG; San Bernard Rfg--(80)20-21,TG; 16 other reports
 (1-30)
 Siskin, Pine: Houston--(1)6,RP; (1)12,J&NS
 Sparrow, Savannah: Galveston--(2)2,AD; (10)4,RP; Anahuac--(2)3,F; (2)9,J;
 W.Harris Co--(5)19,RP
 Sparrow, Henslow's: Hobby Airport--(12)9,23,RP
 Sparrow, Sharp-tailed: Bolivar Flats--(1)20,TG...see notes
 Sparrow, Seaside: High Island--(6)3,F; Sea Rim--(6)24,S; Galveston--(1)30,H
 Sparrow, Lark: W.Galveston--(1)7,JH; Quintana--(3)3,L&MB
 Sparrow, Chipping: Kempner Park--(1)4,D
 Sparrow, White-crowned: Bolivar--(2)2,D&LF; Anahuac NWR--(1)3,F; Houston--
 (2)6,RP
 Sparrow, White-throated: Clear Lake City--(1)10,MAU
 Sparrow, Lincoln's: Houston--(1)5,WC; (30)6,RP
 Sparrow, Swamp: Anahuac NWR--(2)3,F

Clearing House Contributors, May 1981: A-Bill & Jean Harwell, Ann Booth; AA-Ann
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 BC-Brazosport College birding class; C-Jane Hamilton, Martha Micks; D-John &
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 Gallucci; T&ME-Ted & Mary Eubanks; WC-Wesley Cureton; WR-Will Risser

Field notes, May, 1981:

GANNET, NORTHERN: Adult above flats on May 10. Heavy pale bill, long nec k,
 long narrow wings with black primaries but not secondaries, long pointed white

tail. Looked pointed at both ends. Larger than gulls, smaller than white pelicans.

--Will Risser--

HUMMINGBIRD, GREEN VIOLETEAR: At feeder in yard of Mr. & Mrs. Wade Humphrey in Lake Jackson, Brazoria Co. and other nearby feeders. First seen by neighbors on May 26 but not seen by Mrs. Humphrey until June 4. Originally reported as a Rivoli's, but was re-identified as a green violetear after the bird was clearly seen. Large blue-green hummer with violet patch behind eye and on breast. Tail long with dark subterminal band. Lower belly and crissum dark gray. Beak dark and relatively short. When bird is at feeder, wings beat slowly enough to distinguish individual wingbeats. Much larger than ruby-throats which come to same feeders. Makes a chipping noise, which is sometimes heard before the bird appears. Sometimes perches on electric line near feeder. Feeds only very briefly at feeders, usually at about one-hour intervals. Another yard where it often feeds is adjacent to a wooded bayou with a steep bank, which some observers think that this species favors. First record for Upper Texas Coast, about the 7th for Texas. Seen by many observers, some of whom have seen it before in Texas and Mexico. Still present as of June 10.

--Wesley Cureton--

HUMMINGBIRD, BLUE-THROATED: Seen on May 2, 1981, from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m. along Quintana Rd. between spoil banks covered with shrubs, grass, cacti, and wildflowers. Rainy, windy, overcast. Seen from 30-40 ft., 5-6 minutes the first time, 4-5 minutes about 20 minutes later. Feeding at large yellow cactus flowers, perching on dead twigs about 2 ft. off ground, flying, trying to feed at primrose. About twice as long and 3 times as fat as nearby ruby-throat. Immediately noticed large female hummer with dark tail and huge white tail corners. Top of head dark, back dark green, wings more brownish than black, white line through or over eye. Throat, breast, belly, sides, crissum, underside of tail white rather than gray. Legs and bill black. A barn swallow flew by, which seemed smaller than this hummer. While it fed at cactus flower, the wings extended about 3 inches above the bird. I spotted the bird first and alerted the other members of the party--Ann Adkins, Joyce Norman, Matt Robinson, Leslie Chamness, and Larry and Martha Ballard. The Ballards and I have seen both sexes of this species in Arizona and Big Bend a number of times. 10 x 50 binoculars.

--Shirley Wright--

Flycatcher, Willow/Alder: Listed as very rare for the 20th, no status given for the 25th. Both birds on the 20th and four on the 25th were identified in the hand, banded and released. Characteristics used were as follows: orange mouth, black legs, no emargination on 6th primary, 10th primary intermediate in length between 5th and 6th primaries, distance between tip of 6th and 9th primaries equal to or less than 6 mm., back olive to gray-green, throat white.

-- Tony Gallucci--

Thrasher, Curve-billed: April 23, 1981. Discovered about 5:45 p.m. in a grove of salt cedars about 5 miles up the coast from High Island. The bird was sitting on a dead branch in full view when first seen, at a distance of 30 feet. We watched it for 5 minutes, from the front and rear. Field marks noted: medium-gray underparts with the tail a darker gray and with indistinct light tips to the outer tail feathers. Underparts light gray with a medium-gray mottling across the breast--quite noticeable but not distinct streaks. Undertail coverts light buffy. Eye bright orange. Bill distinctly curved. No white in wings. The bird was seen shortly after the rain had ceased as a front moved out over the Gulf; it was quite wet and bedraggled looking. We both observed it with 10 x 40 Zeiss binoculars and are both thoroughly familiar with this species and the other North American Mimidae.

--David Wolf--

RAVEN, WHITE-NECKED: one on May 10. Crow-sized black bird flying resolutely west down Galveston beach at Sea Isle. Did not call, but had distinctly wedge-shaped--not rounded--tail, which it displayed by eluding pursuit by a blackbird.

--Will Risser--

Vireo, Black-whiskered: Seen on April 30 on Nottingham Ranch Road on Galveston Island. Overall a very drab-appearing bird. Base color of back and mantle was a smooth grayish brown with little or no contrast with bird's crown. Vireo bill readily apparent. Bird closely resembled red-eyed vireo but 2 black whisker or malar stripes were highly visible, outlining a very white throat. Ear patch was a duller brown. Eye was a dark reddish brown, with a thin dark eyeline, more distinct than red-eyed vireo. Yellow undertail coverts but no trace of yellow on sides. Other birds present in area were Tennessee warbler plus 4 other warbler

species. Bird was calm, almost sluggish--leisurely eating caterpillars, primarily in Hercules club trees along road. Would perch on bare limbs while eating, apparently watching us. Over 15 minutes of actual observation. Warm, partly cloudy, good light. 7 x 35, 8 x 40 binoculars, as close as 15 ft. Also seen by Steve Schultz. Bird was unmistakable. I am familiar with the bird from Florida and the Tortugas.

--P. D. Hulce--

Vireo, Black-whiskered: Seen on May 3 on Nottingham Ranch Road. In a small flock of passerines moving up and down road were 3 red-eyed vireo types. One had distinct dark malar stripes, most noticeable when head was turned toward observer.

--Will Risser--

Warbler, Brewster's: Bird was very close (5 ft.). We were viewing it out of window in young mulberry tree. We thought it was a golden-wing as we saw gold on wings first, then realized there was no black on throat; in fact, bird was completely white underneath except for a small patch of yellow on breast. Yellow on top of head and black line through eye.

--Jane & John Hamilton--

Redstart, Painted: Seen for 30-40 seconds at 1:30 p.m. on May 15 at Smith Woods, High Island. Weather was fair, east wind. No optical equipment, but seen from 15-20 ft. on branch of live oak and in canopy. Warbler size, black body, black breast, red belly, white outer tail feathers. No vocalization. Also seen by Mr. & Mrs. Josiah Perocho II. We have not seen the species before.

--Robert L. Sylvester, Jr.--

Grosbeak, Black-headed: No status on checklist for this date (5/25). Female (probably in its second year), basically a typical female grosbeak with these definitive characteristics--very broad cinnamon-buff band across breast, fading to buffy wash along sides with tinge of lemon-yellow. Underwing linings yellow, belly and crissum off-white, unstreaked. Thin streaks on flanks, with wider but very few streaks on breast. Crown with broad olive stripe, eye-stripe pure white, back sparsely striped in dark brown, rump olive-brown, one full wingbar white, second wingbar only half-length. Bird was not compared directly with a rose-breasted, but a female rose-breasted was caught less than 30 min. after the black-headed was released, so there was a good opportunity to compare the differences. The black-headed was not seen again but the female rose-breasted was later seen in the company of a second female and 2 male rose-breasteds.

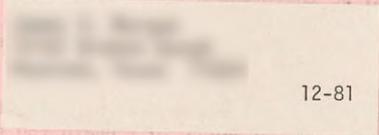
--Tony Gallucci--

Sparrow, Sharp-tailed: Several birds were heard singing at Bolivar Flats through late April. On the early morning of April 20 I heard the same voice at the Flats. I chased the bird down to be sure that I was not mistaking another voice. The bird was a sparrow with narrow pointed tail. The plumage pattern was reminiscent of a long-billed marsh wren--dark solid cap, white streaks on back, rusty patches on wings--otherwise, the bird had a bright buffy-orange eyeline extending onto the neck, a dark triangular face patch, orange cheek patch, white throat, buffy unmarked breast band.

--Tony Gallucci--

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