



THE SPOONBILL

VOLUME XXIV, No. 12
April 1971

THE TIME HAS COME!!!!
DUES ARE DUE!!!!

PUBLISHED BY THE ORNITHOLOGY GROUP, OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB, HOUSTON, TEXAS

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF ORNITHOLOGY GROUP, APRIL 1, 1971

by Gladys Galbreath

Chairman Sarah Gordon called the Ornithology Group meeting to order at 7:30 P.M., April 1, 1971, in the Downtown Recreation Center.

Minutes of February 4 meeting were read and approved, after corrections.

Treasurer Melba Drake read Treasurer's Report as of Feb. 1, - March 31, 1971, in detail, showing balance of \$122.80.

Vice Chairman Avis Brister reported 58 present which included 4 new members and 8 guests. Miss Gordon extended a warm welcome to all.

Louise Rogers was thanked for her efforts in collecting glass which benefited the Group by \$2.50. She announced clear, amber and green glass was acceptable without any metal. She mentioned "birders" can now be two-way lockers; up for birds, down for cans and glass.

Field Trip Chairman Marilyn Crane reported a small crowd was on Silsbee outing where 60 species were seen, including Red Cockaded Woodpecker and Bachman's Sparrow. Next Field Trip lead by Linda Snyder is April 25 to High Island to look for Spring migratory birds. Meet at 8:00 A.M. Ed Witte Memorial Park, Highway 61 just south of Interstate 10 off Hankamer exit.

Spring Bird Count Saturday, May 1. Spoonbill will give details.

OG holds its meetings the first Thursday of even months, however, in June there is to be an exception. Gladys Galbreath has invited all to have a picnic at the Family Ranch on June 5 at 2:00 P.M. until--- Bring your supper and chairs. There will be birding, talking, etc. Road directions to be in the Spoonbill.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Gilman gave the OG Library a book entitled "The Birds" which is appreciated. We now have 6 books.

Rare Bird Alert Chairman Margaret Anderson reported on birds in the area, and one of much interest was an Iceland Gull seen in Treasure Island Addition, Galveston. North and South Boulevard offers good birding now.

Outdoor Nature Club will present "Legend of Lobo", as well as a short on "Life Cycle of Butterflies" April 14, 8:00 P.M., 2710 West Alabama. This is a benefit show for Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary.

The Chairman of Schwing Reading Room, Museum of Natural Science requested books on various sciences. Due to finances of OG, no action was taken.

Pat Ridge, Director of Region 8 of TOS, requested that OG sponsor the fall meeting of TOS to be held Thanksgiving weekend. He will be Chairman, and there will be no cost to OG, but will take time and efforts of the members.

A motion was made by Gladys Galbreath and seconded by Irving Greenbaum to assist TOS. 28 voted for, opposed none - carried.

Mr. Gilman announced the chartered bus trip to Fredericksburg area April 17-18. Seats are still available.

Sarah Gordon expressed her appreciation to Gladys Galbreath, Secretary and Marilyn Krog, Program Chairman for their assistance during the year.

Mr. L.A.M. Barnette introduced the speaker of the evening, Robert Dooley, of Houston Zoo, who gave an interesting slide show and narration of a bird expedition to Venezuela.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

OG FIELD TRIP TO THE BIG THICKET by Melba Drake

What is so rare as a day in June? Well, how about a day in March when birders realize a long sought reward of two rarer birds for their life list. For most of us the Bachman's Sparrow and Red-cockaded Woodpecker were lifers.

Due to the extraordinarily busy weekend schedule of events only seven (the Magnificent?) met at the Pines Motel in Silsbee at 7:30 A.M. on March 28th to begin our visit to the big thicket woods.

In the area that is but a short distance from the Smart School fire tower a very obliging Bachman's Sparrow sang sweetly for a long period. The entire group had good viewing at close range. The song of the Bachman's Sparrow is indeed beautiful and varied.

A number of individuals were also seen in the low shrubs and pines surrounding the open, cleared area. A persistent search of the woods finally yielded a pair of the elusive Red-cockaded woodpeckers. They flew around the area of what appeared to be a nesting tree. The nest hole could be recognized by the oozing gum. They were in good view and readily identified. They are very handsome woodpeckers and were a thrilling and gratifying sight indeed! Bluebirds, chipping Sparrows, and a Brown-headed Nuthatch, were counted in the rather sparse but select population.

As an added fillip for the conclusion of our eventful morning while driving along the highway toward Village Mills, a group of four Swallowtailed Kites were seen swirling and soaring in drifting, graceful flight over the highway to, all too soon, disappear from sight.

After lunch we hiked through the truly delightful woods of the Sternberg Tract. It was considerably busier with bird activity. We saw and heard many Parula warblers.

It all added up to a delightful day in the beautiful piney woods of the Big Thicket for the following: Marilyn Crane, Louise Rogers, Neil Ray, Sarah Gordon, Margaret Maxson, her guest, Lou Templeton, and Melba Drake.

NEWS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, SARAH GORDON

JUNE MEETING: We have been cordially invited to hold our June picnic meeting at the country place of Gladys Galbreath. The date is Saturday, June 5th, so please put this on your calendar now. Gladys has said we are welcome to come and spend the afternoon. Bring picnic supper and your chair and enjoy a little birding, a little conversation and lots of good company. There will be a brief business meeting. Directions to Gladys' farm will be found in the Coming Events.

REPORT ON ALUMINUM COLLECTION: Thanks again for your latest collection which amounted to 152.4 pounds and enriched our treasury by \$15.24. In about six months this makes over 500 pounds of aluminum - mostly cans which we have removed from roadsides and city streets - which can be recycled, saving our resources, making our countryside more beautiful and adding over \$50.00 to our treasury. Now that warm weather is here let's take advantage by gathering up all we can for our next deposit.

Also save your bottles and jars which Louise Rogers is collecting to redeem for us. Her first trip netted \$2.50. She reports that bottles should be clean, the labels removed, no wires attached and no table glass.

ICELAND GULL by Margaret Anderson

On March 28th, 1971, Mr. Jerry Smith saw a large all-white gull at the Treasure Island subdivision at the west end of the San Luis Pass bridge. On April 1 Norma Oates, Frances Galloway and I went down there and immediately found the gull at 9:30 A.M. We watched it for one hour in bright overcast lighting at a distance of 100 feet, using two scopes. It was Herring Gull size. The bill was pinkish with a black tip, about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch shorter and slightly more slender than the Herring bill as seen when the two species were side by side. The legs were pink. Its wings extended 1 - $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches beyond the tail at rest.

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The primaries were silvery white. The eye was dark. There was some creamy-buff mottling on the underneath parts with a faint grayish tinge on the mantle. We decided that it was an Iceland Gull, probably at the end of its second winter.

WELCOME! WELCOME! NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Frank C. Hsu
8307 Hazen St.
Houston, Texas 77036

Mark Morton (Junior Member)
13611 Pinerock
Houston, Texas 77024
Ph. 408 - 5371

Mrs. Margaret Maxson
7031 Leader
Houston, Texas 77036

Mr. Dean R. Love
514 West Forest
Houston, Texas 77024
Ph. 497 - 6437

Orlyn Gaddis (Junior member)
4501 Kinglet
Houston, Texas 77035
Ph. 723 - 2755

DUES FOR THE COMING YEAR ARE DUE

Melba Drake wishes to remind everyone that the dues are due. Make the check payable to Ornithology Group and mail it to: Melba Drake, 1746 Wroxtton Ct., Houston, Texas 77005.

ITEMS FROM THE TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE NEWS NOTES

Galveston Island State Park: The 1,920 acre Galveston Island State Park is located about 12 miles east of the downtown area of the City of Galveston with approximately 8,000 feet of beach frontage. Other areas of the park include salt flats, marshes and bayous. According to the department, these areas are suitable only for wildlife and marine life propagation, and no development for these areas is planned. Since adjacent subdivisions have disturbed all the land surface and the marshes, the park will be the only natural area on the island in a few years, according to the department.

WHOOPIING CRANE'S WORTH: "What is a whooping crane worth?" asks Bill J. Van Tries in the March issue of Texas Parks and Wildlife magazine. Van Tries, a biologist for the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, explains that the value of preserving whoopers cannot be accurately expressed by figures and a dollar sign.

"There is no Solomon who can set down the true worth of a priceless painting, or place a dollar value on the actual worth of a large city's public parks. True, market values exist for fine paintings, and real estate may easily be assigned a dollar value by professional realtors," said Van Tries. "However, their true worth, like the whooping crane's, simply does not equate to dollars and cents."

BANDING OF 3,400 GEESE: Texas Parks and wildlife Department biologists netted a record 3,400 snow, blue and Canadian geese for banding in the past few months with a new rocket device along the Texas coast. The rockets are ignited with electric fuses and are powered by gunpowder in small cannisters. The rockets are set up in baited areas where large flights of geese are anticipated. Biologists watch from concealment while the birds congregate, then when enough are in the trap they push a button and the rockets ignite. The nets are hurled from opposite sides over the unsuspecting birds. Many of the birds caught this winter already had been tagged. This is a bonus situation for the biologists, as the re-banded bird usually provides valuable information when recovered the second or third time.

DEFECTOR TO RUSSIA: News of the death of a Texas defector to Russia has come from Moscow. The victim was a female pintail duck that was banded by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department on March 12, 1967, near Port Acres, and was shot near Ossora in Eastern Siberia on May 25, 1968, some 14 months and countless thousands of miles later.

It took almost three years for the band to return to Texas. It was returned by the USSR Academy of Sciences Zoological Institute, the Centre of Ringing and Marking of Birds and Terrestrial Mammals. Biologists say pintails sometimes cross from Alaska to Siberia to nest, but they add that it is extremely rare for a bird to stray that far when tagged in the Central flyway.

WHITewing HABITAT: Texas Parks and wildlife Department officials are hoping that a project to stabilize a section of the Rio Grande will result in the preservation of badly needed white-winged dove habitat in Texas. In relocating a segment of the Rio Grande channel between the Anzaldual Dam and Hidalgo there will be a transfer of about 482 acres.

BIG DAY RUN -APRIL 25, 1970

SPECIES	PARTY NUMBERS						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Loon, Common	X	X	X				
Grebe, Eared		X	X				X
Pied-billed	X	X	X			X	X
Pelican, White	X	X					
Cormorant, Olivaceous	X	X	X				
Anhinga	X				X		
Heron, Great Blue	X	X	X			X	X
Green	X		X		X	X	X
Little Blue		X	X		X	X	
Egret, Cattle	X	X	X		X		X
Reddish	X	X	X				
Common	X	X	X		X		X
Snowy	X	X	X		X	X	X
Heron, Louisiana	X	X	X		X		X
Nightheron, Black-crowned	X						
Yellow-crowned	X			X			
Bittern, Least	X						X
American							X
Ibis, White-faced	X	X	X				X
White		X	X				
Spoonbill, Roseate	X	X	X				X
Goose, White-fronted						X	
Snow	X						X
Blue	X						
Ducks, Mottled	X	X	X		X	X	X
Gadwall	X		X			X	X
Teal, Green-winged	X						X
Blue-winged	X	X	X		X	X	X
Widgeon, American							X
Shoveler	X	X	X				X
Wood	X						
Scaup, Lesser	X	X	X			X	
Ruddy		X					
Merganser, Red-breasted			X				
Vulture, Turkey	X	X			X	X	
Black	X						
Hawk, Red-tailed	X						
Red-shouldered	X				X		
Swainson's						X	
Marsh						X	X
Bobwhite				X	X	X	X
Rail, King	X		X		X		
Clapper	X	X	X				
Virginia	X						
Sora	X						
Yellow	X						
Black	X						
Gallinule, Common	X	X	X				X
Coot, American	X	X	X		X	X	X
Oystercatcher, American	X						
Plover, Semipalmated	X	X	X				
Piping	X						
Wilson's			X				
Killdeer	X	X	X		X	X	
Golden, American		X	X				X
Black-bellied	X	X	X				
Turnstone, Ruddy	X	X	X				
Shipe, Common	X					X	
Curlew, Long-billed	X		X				
Whimbrel	X	X	X				
Plover, Upland					X	X	
Sandpiper, Spotted	X				X	X	

SPECIES	PARTY NUMBERS						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sandpiper, Spotted	X				X	X	
Solitary	X				X		
Willet	X	X	X				
Yellowlegs, Greater	X	X	X		X	X	X
Lesser	X	X	X		X	X	X
Knot		X	X				
Sandpiper, Pectoral	X	X	X		X	X	
Least	X	X	X		X		
Dunlin	X	X	X				
Dowitcher, Short-billed		X	X				X
Long-billed	X	X	X				
Sandpiper, Stilt	X		X				
Semipalmated	X	X	X		X		
Western	X		X				
Sanderling	X	X	X				
Avocet, American	X						
Stilt, Black-necked	X	X	X			X	
Gull, Herring	X	X	X				
Ring-billed	X	X	X				
Laughing	X	X	X				
Tern, Gull-billed	X						
Forster's	X	X	X				X
Common	X						
Least	X	X	X				
Royal	X	X	X				
Sandwich	X						
Caspian	X	X	X				
Black	X						
Skimmer, Black	X	X	X				
Dove, Rock	X	X	X	X		X	
White-winged	X						
Mourning	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Inca	X		X				
Cuckoo, Yellow-billed	X	X	X			X	X
Owl, Barn	X						
Screech	X						
Barred	X	X					
Nighthawk, Common	X	X	X			X	X
Swift, Chimney	X	X	X	X		X	X
Hummingbird, Ruby-throated	X						X
Kingfisher, Belted		X					
Woodpecker, Pileated					X		
Red-bellied	X		X	X	X	X	X
Red-headed	X		X	X			
Downy	X				X		X
Kingbird, Eastern	X	X	X		X	X	X
Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed	X	X	X		X	X	X
Great Crested	X			X	X	X	
Empidonax Species							X
Wood Pewee, Eastern	X	X	X				
Lark, Horned	X	X	X				X
Swallow, Tree	X		X		X	X	X
Bank	X						
Rough-winged	X		X			X	
Barn	X	X	X		X	X	X
Martin, Purple	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jay, Blue	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Crow, Common	X		X		X	X	X
Chickadee, Carolina	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Titmouse, Tufted	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Nuthatch, Red-breasted	X						
Creeper, Brown					X		
Wren, Carolina	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Short-billed Marsh	X						
Mockingbird	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

SPECIES	Party numbers						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Catbird	X	X	X	X	X		X
Thrasher, Brown	X	X	X	X		X	
Robin	X	X	X				
Thrush, Wood	X						
Swainson's	X	X					
Bluebird, Eastern	X				X	X	
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray			X				
Waxwing, Cedar		X	X	X			X
Shrike, Loggerhead	X	X	X		X	X	X
Starling	X	X	X	X		X	X
Vireo, White-eyed	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Solitary				X			
Red-eyed	X		X				X
Warbling				X			
Warbler, Black & White							X
Prothonotary	X						
Swainson's	X						
Tennessee	X		X				
Parula	X		X			X	
Yellow	X		X				X
Magnolia	X	X					
Myrtle		X	X				
Black-throated Green	X	X	X				X
Blackburnian			X				
Chestnut-sided		X	X				
Blackpoll			X				X
Pine	X						
Ovenbird		X					
Waterthrush, Louisiana					X		
Warbler, Kentucky	X						
Yellowthroat	X				X		
Chat, Yellow-breasted	X			X			
Warbler, Hooded	X						
Wilson's		X	X				
Redstart, American	X	X					X
Sparrow, House	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Meadowlark, Eastern	X	X	X		X	X	X
Blackbird, Yellow-headed	X						
Red-winged	X	X	X		X	X	X
Oriole, Orchard	X	X	X	X			X
Baltimore	X	X	X		X		X
Grackle, Boat-tailed	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Common	X		X	X	X	X	X
Cowbird, Brown-headed	X	X	X		X	X	X
Tanager, Scarlet	X						X
Summer	X		X		X	X	X
Cardinal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Grosbeak, Rose-breasted	X	X	X				X
Blue	X				X	X	
Bunting, Indigo	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Painted	X				X	X	
Dickcissel	X			X	X	X	X
Siskin, Pine				X			
Goldfinch, American	X			X			
Sparrow, Savannah	X				X	X	X
LE CONTE'S	X						
SHARP-TAILED	X						
Seaside	X	X	X				
Lark						X	
WHITE-CROWNED						X	
white-throated	X		X			X	
Lincoln's						X	
Swamp					X		
Total Species	152	92	110	31	61	64	74

PARTIES PARTICIPATING IN BIG DAY RUN APRIL 25, 1970

<u>PARTY NUMBER AND NAMES</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>LOCALE</u>
1. Ben Feltner, Noel & Mark Pettingell	4 A.M.-8:45P.M.	Houston, Lake Houston, Anahuac Refuge, High island, Bolivar Penn., Galveston Island
2. John L. & Gloria A. Tveten, Sharon Davis	6½ hours	Galveston County Park, Galveston
3. Norma Oates, Josephine Wilkins, Jerry Baker, Margaret Anderson	7 A.M - 4 P.M.	Galveston County Park, Galveston Island
4. Bill McClure	4 hours	Eureka Junction Woods
5. Hardin Craig, Jr., John C. Barker	7 hours	Missouri City, Dewalt Arcola area
6. Pat Ridge, Dan Hardy	6:30 A.M-6 P.M.	Bear Creek Park, Clay Rd., warren Ranch, Cinco Ranch.
7. David and Dorothy Lefkovits	9 hours	1601 Woodlawn, Baytown, Cove, High Island, Anahuac Refuge.

The weather for the Big Day Run in 1970 was overcast with winds from the southeast 10 to 16 miles per hour in the morning, and south to southeast 14 to 20 MPH in the evening. Temperatures: Houston 72 - 81° F., Beaumont 73 - 80° F., Galveston 72 - 76° F. Total species sighted, 187; Total parties, 7; Total observers, 17, Total party hours, 62½.

CLEARING HOUSE, MARCH 1971

Grebe, Eared: (100+)19, (10)26, (15)29, Cove, AKM.
 Pied-billed: (1-4)6,10,16,29, (6)25, (8)26, Cove, AKM;
 Pelican, White: (less than 50)8 days, (250+)26, Cove, AKM.
 Cormorant, Double-crested: (5-6)19,25, (30)26, (60+)29, Cove, AKM; (15+)14, warren Ranch Lake, DHH.
 Olivaceous: (1)16, (20+)19,26,29, Cove, AKM.
 Anhinga: (1 flock soaring-30+)26, Cove, AKM; (1)14, warren Lake, DHH.
 Heron, Green: (1)2,8, earliest ever by 3 days, Cove, AKM.
 Egret, Cattle: (1-4)6 days, (8)26, Cove, AKM.
 Reddish: (1)26, Cove, AKM.
 Nightheron, Black-crowned: (14-40+)16,26,29, (100+)19, Cove, AKM; (14)14, warren Lake, DHH.
 Spoonbill, Roseate: (1-13)8,16,17,26,29, Cove, AKM.
 Goose, Canada: (1 lesser)30, Cove, AKM.
 White-fronted: (4)5, (15)8, (J. H. Strickling heard a flock on the 21st) Cove, AKM.
 Snow and Blue: (NC) 10 days to 19th, (1 snow with black collar)5, (350+)26, (150+)29, Cove, AKM.
 Ducks: TREBUCK, FULVUS: (2)27, first in about 6 yrs, Cove, AKM.
 Mallard: (1-2)13,19,24,29, (4)25, Cove, AKM.
 Mottled: (2-15)5 days, (25-40)25,26,29, Cove, AKM.
 Gadwall: (2-25)4 days, (250+)16, (150+)29, Cove, AKM.
 Pintail: (2+)4,8, ((1)29, Cove, AKM.
 Teal, Green-winged: (35-60)5 days, (100)8, (300)26, (200)29, Cove, AKM.
 Blue-winged: (1-20)8 days, (75+)29, (40+)30, Cove, AKM.
 Cinnamon: (2)16,25, Cove, AKM.
 Widgeon, American: (1-40)7 days, (50+)13, (200+)26, Cove, AKM.
 Shoveler: (4-35)4 days, (100-150)4 days, (1000+)8, Cove, AKM.
 Redhead: (9)29, Cove, AKM.
 Canvasback: (60+)26, (15+)29, Cove, AKM.
 Scaup, Lesser: (150+)26, (1)29, Cove, AKM.
 Goldeneye, Common: (5+)19, Cove, AKM.
 Ruddy: (50)8, (20)19, (NC)24, (350+)26, (250+)29, Cove, AKM.
 Merganser, Red-breasted: (4)26, (2)29, Cove, AKM.
 Vulture, Turkey: (1-4)9 days, Cove, AKM.
 Black: (1)6,10, Cove, AKM.
 Kite, Swallow-tailed: (1)24, Baytown, D&DL.
 Hawk, Sharp-shinned: (1)3, Cove, AKM.
 Red-tailed: (1-10)17 days, (13)3 days, (28)8, (22)10, (18)26, Cove, AKM.
 Broad-winged: (35+)26, (1)29, Cove, AKM; (50+)25, (300+)26, (20+)27, Baytown, D&DL.
 Swainsons: (1)20, Cove, AKM.

- Hawk, Marsh: (1-10)19 days, (11)8, (19)26, (22)29, Cove, AKM.
 Sparrow: (1-9)22 days, (10)28, Cove, AKM.
- Rail, King: (10)24, (3)29, Cove, AKM.
 Virginia: (1)29, first since 1959, Cove, AKM.
- Gallinule, Common: (1)25, by the Pettings, Cove, AKM.
- Coot, American: (13-45)5 days, (400+)16, (200+)29, Cove, AKM.
- Flover, Semipalmated: (2)26, (1)29, Cove, AKM.
Wilson's: (1)26, 29, Cove, AKM.
 Golden, American: (12-50)7 days, (300+)20, (250+)22, (100+)26, Cove, AKM;
 (7)14, Beckendorf Rd., DHH.
 Black-bellied: (1)19, (10)26, (3)29, 30, Cove, AKM.
- Turnstone, Ruddy: (3)26, (4)29, Cove, AKM.
- Snipe, Common: (1-10)12 days, (14)20, Cove, AKM.
- Curlew, Long-billed: (35+)13, (3-6)4 days, Cove, AKM.
- Flover, Upland: (3)26, (6)29, Cove, AKM; (14) Warren Ranch Lake, (3)no date, 10215 Chatterton, DHH.
- Sandpiper, Spotted: (1)20, (2)29, Cove, AKM.
- Willet: (3-15)3 days, (25+)26, Cove, AKM.
- Yellowlegs, Greater: (1-10)5 days, (25-30)3 days, (40+)26, 30, Cove, AKM.
 Lesser: (1-25)6 days, (30+)25, (100+)25, (50+)30, Cove, AKM.
- Sandpiper, PURPLE: (1)29, Galveston (So. Jetty), BF.
Pectoral: (40)20, 24, (10-20)22, 25, 26, (100+)30, (50)31, Cove, AKM.
- Dowitcher; (5-25+)6 days, (50)26, 31, Cove, AKM.
- Sandpiper, Stilt: (5)22, (3)26, Cove, AKM.
- Avocet, American: (8)19, Cove, AKM.
- Stilt, black-necked: (1)25, (2)29, the Pettings saw: (1)27, (4)28, Cove, AKM.
- Gull, Bonaparte's: (2+)26, (5+)30, Cove, AKM.
- Tern, Common: (1)29, Cove, AKM.
- Owl, Barn: (2)12, Cove, AKM.
 Short-eared: (2)24; (5)26; (3)29, Cove, AKM. The following sighted by the Pettings:
 (17, 1 flock)23, (11)25, (5)27, Cove, AKM.
- Chuck-will's-widow: (1)26, Cove, AKM.
- Swift, Chimney: (4)24, (13)26, by the Pettings, (2-26)no date, (14)29, Cove, AKM; (1)28, 10215 Chatterton, DHH; (6)25, Main Post Office, (401 Franklin)Houston, NF.
- Hummingbirds, Sp.: (1)18, 20, 21, 23, 25, 30, (2)29, Cove, AKM.
 Ruby-throated: (1)20, (2)22, 23, 24, 26, 30, Baytown, D&DL; (1)16-31, Baytown, NB
Rufous: (1)all month, Baytown, D&DL; (1)1-9, Baytown, NB.
ALLEN'S: (1)1-7, Baytown, NB.
- Kingfisher, Belted: (1)9, 26, (2)29, Cove, AKM.
- Flicker, Yellow-shafted: (3)4, (1)8, 16, (5)29, Cove, AKM.
- Woodpecker, Pileated: (1)5, Cove, AKM.
 Red-headed: (1)6, 29, 31, Baytown, NB.
- Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied: (2)4, (1)29, Cove, AKM.
- Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed: (2)26, (4)29, (1)30, 31, Cove, AKM.
- Phoebe, Eastern: (3)4, (1)25, Cove, AKM.
- Swallow, Tree: (2)10, (15)19, (3-10)24, 25, (100+)26, 31, Cove, AKM.
 Rough-winged: (1)21, 25, 29, Cove, AKM.
 Barn: (1-10)13, 15, 24-31, Cove, AKM.
- Martin, Purple: (1)11, Baytown, D&DL.
- Chickadee, Carolina: (4)25, (2)26, 29, Cove, AKM.
- Wren, House: (2)24, 25, 29, (1)26, Cove, AKM.
 Long-billed Marsh: (1)25, by the Pettings, Cove, AKM.
 Short-billed Marsh: (6+)25, the Pettings saw (10)25, (2)26, Cove, AKM; (5-10)6, Cinco Ranch, DHH.
- Catbird: (1)25, Cove, AKM.
- Robin: (2-50)13 days to 19th, (100+)5, 10, (1)29, Cove, AKM.
- Thrush, Hermit: (1)4, 19, 25, 29, Cove, AKM.
- Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray: (10-15)19, 25, 26, Cove, AKM.
- Kinglet, Golden-crowned: (1)17, (2)27, 10215 Chatterton, DHH.
- Pipit, water: (2-4)13, 19, 26, 29, Cove, AKM.
 Sprague's: (2)24, (1)29, Cove, AKM.
- Vireo, white-eyed: (3)25, (2)26, (1)29, 30, Cove, AKM.
BELL'S: (1)25, Cove, AKM (1'st since 1960 and only 2'nd spring record. Other was May 11, 1946).
 Yellow-throated: (1)27, Baytown, D&DL.
 Solitary: (1)25, Cove, AKM.
- Warbler, Black-and-white: (3+)25, (2)26, 30, Cove, AKM; (1)27, 29, Baytown, D&DL.
Prothonotary: (2)27, Baytown, D&DL.
Worm-eating: (1)25, 29, Cove, AKM; (1)30, Baytown, D&DL.

warbler, Orange-crowned: (3)26, Cove, AKM.
 Parula: (1)26, (15+)29, Cove, AKM; (1)27,28, Baytown, D&DL.
 Myrtle: (10+)4,8, (1-2)10,25,26,29,30, Cove, AKM.
 Yellow-throated: (1)26, Cove, AKM.
 Waterthrush, Louisiana: (1)27, Baytown, D&DL.
 WARBLER, KENTUCKY: (1)25, Cove, AKM (earliest ever by 2 days); (3)26, Galveston at
 old house on 13-mile Road, BF; (1)27, Baytown, D&DL.
 Yellowthroat: (1)8,24, (2)29, Cove, AKM.
 warbler, Hooded: (1)25,26,29, Cove, AKM; (1-2)26-30, Baytown, D&DL.
 GROSBEAK, ROSE-BREADED: (1)25,29, Cove, AKM (2nd March record, one March 18, 1959).
 Goldfinch, American: (40+)26, Cove, AKM.
 Sparrow, LeConte's: (2)26, Cove, AKM; (2+)6, Cinco Ranch, DHH.
 Sharp-tailed: (20+)25, (2)29, Cove, AKM.
 Vesper: (1)2, Cove, AKM; (2)14, West Harris Co., DHH.
 Field: (2+)4, (25+)19, (10+)26, 15+)29, Cove, AKM.
 White-crowned: (1+)8,16,19,24, (20+)26, (25+)29, Cove, AKM.
 Lincoln's: (1)8, (3)19, (10-25)25,26,29, Cove, AKM.
 Swamp: (1)8, (50+)25, (6)26, (100+)29, Cove, AKM.
 Song: (1)26, Cove, AKM.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE CLEARING HOUSE

AKM	Arlie K. McKay
DHH	Dan H. Hardy
BF & NP	Ben Feltner, Noel Pittingell
D&DL	David & Dorothy Lefkovits
NB	Nettie Busby

CLEARING HOUSE NOTES

Correction to February Clearing House: On page 3, the listing for Canada Goose seen by AKM should have been Snow and Blue. Mr. McKay also reported that he got into the field a large part of three days. On the 25th he saw 68 species, on the 26th 101 species and the 29th 106 species. On these respective days he saw 11+ warblers of 5 species, 7+ warblers of 5 species and 20+ warblers of 5 species, a total of 38+ warblers of 7 species, including 16+ Parulas.

An interesting point of the sightings for March concerns the Kentucky warbler. According to a note from Noel Pittingell the previous earliest Upper Texas Coast spring record was March 27, 1941. Two sightings were earlier than the old record and one was on the same date.

FOUND

A copy of the Birds of North America field guide was left in the yard at Nettie Busby's by someone who went to see the Allen's Hummingbird. The name on the cover is illegible. Since Nettie has gone to the Phillipines for 18 months, she left the book with the editors to return to the owner.

COMING EVENTS

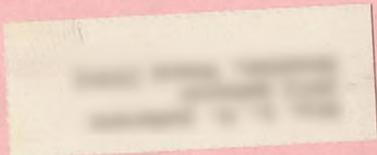
April 25 Sunday	OG field trip to High Island to look for warblers and other migratory birds. Meet at 8:00 A.M. at the entrance to Ed Witte Memorial Park on Highway 61, just south of Interstate 10. Bring lunch. Linda Snyder will be leader for the trip.
May 1 Saturday	Endangered wildlife Forum at the Museum of Natural Science in Hermann Park. Morning session at 9:00 A.M. with a series of 20 minute talks concerning each endangered species to be discussed at the forum. The afternoon session will consist of informal discussion groups. Further details are in last month's Spoonbill.
May 2 Sunday	OG "Big Day" spring count. <u>Note change in date.</u> This was changed from May 1 to avoid conflict with the Wildlife Forum. We need a good turnout to obtain a better count than last year's. Comparison of the last three counts shows 247 species in 1968, seen by 49 observers in 21 parties; in 1969 233 species were seen by 28 observers in 12 parties; 1970 showed a marked drop to 137 species, 17 observers and 7 parties. Rules will be the same as last years. Area 1 will be the Little Thicket Sanctuary. List birds seen anywhere within the boundary of the 652 acres in San

Jacinto County but not outside the boundary line. Area 2 will be the same as the Upper Texas Coast check list area. List all birds seen in Harris, Chambers, Galveston, Fort Bend and Brazoria Counties. This is a count of species only, not numbers of birds. Include route covered, hours spent in the field, car miles, foot miles, boat miles and names of those in the party. Please send reports to Mr. and Mrs. David Lefkovits, 1601 Woodlawn, Baytown 77520. Compiling the reports is much easier if they are sent on Field Check Lists.

May 11
Tuesday Regular meeting of the ONC. Advance Notice: The annual business meeting will be called to order at 7:30. Meeting to be held at the Garden Center 1500 Hermann Drive. The program will be presented by Ella Wolfer.

June 5
Saturday OG picnic meeting to be held at Gladys Galbreath's farm at 2 P.M. Bring a lunch and chairs. Turn right from west Montgomery Road (Highway 149) to Cutten Road and Gladys' place is 8/10 mile from West Montgomery Road on the right. Coming in on Jackrabbit Road (Highway 1960) turn right on Cutten Road, which is the first through road after crossing west Montgomery Rd. Continue south until after crossing a small bridge, and about two blocks from this point her house is on the left.

Editors Note: The list of Officers will be foregone in this issue of the Spoonbill.



Outdoor Nature Club
(Ornithology Group)
1746 Wroxton Court
Houston, Texas 77005
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