



# THE SPOONBILL

VOLUME XIV, No. 8

December, 1965

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\* As we look around us this Christmas season, we \*  
\* see many gifts in the out-of-doors. These gifts are \*  
\* gaily wrapped in living packages of beautiful colors \*  
\* for our enjoyment and well-being. The silky fur on \*  
\* the rabbit, the playfulness of the otter, the soft \*  
\* feathers of the duck, the strength of the old oak \*  
\* tree, the serenade and brilliance of the woodland \*  
\* bird, and the nourishment of the land are few exam- \*  
\* ples. \*  
\* In this festive season, let us not forget God's \*  
\* greatest gift to us, His Son, whose birth we are cele- \*  
\* brating. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

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

## COMING EVENTS

- December 26 (Sunday) Freeport Christmas Bird Count. All who have not been volunteered and wish to participate in this, the largest bird count in Texas in 1964, should immediately call Jerry Strickling, FA 3-5394. After the count, all the hearty, dedicated bird watchers, who have been looking forward to this day of hard work and birding enjoyment, will gather for the "count-down" at our our Census Central, the Colonial Inn Restaurant in Rosharon.
- December 28 (Tuesday) cocoa christmas count. Let's all show up on December 26, 31, and January 2; No reason at all why cocoa can't be NUMBER FOUR.
- December 31 (Friday) Galveston Christmas Bird Count. This is your last chance to go birding this year. Join the hunt for the "Texas Mangrove Cuckoo" and call Jim Ellis, NA 2-5724.
- January 2 (Sunday) Houston Christmas Bird Count led by Dr. David Marrack. See announcement, map, and area boundaries later in this issue.
- January 11 (Tuesday) Regular ONC meeting at Garden Center, 1500 Hermann Drive, 8 PM. Robert E. Barnett will speak on "Mosquito Control", a subject of interest to all Houstonians.
- January 15 (Saturday) ONC Field Trip: "Between the Tides" led by Harold Geis.
- January 19 (Wednesday) Audubon Wildlife Film: "Inherit the Wild". Houston Home Builders Assn. Auditorium, 2710 W. Alabama, 8 PM.
- January 29 (Saturday) Regular OG Field Trip to Cinco Ranch, led by Harvey Patten. We hope to see the many species of sparrows which we saw on last year's trip. Meet at 9 AM at the intersection of Beeler Road and Westheimer, just East of Barker Dam.
- February 19,20 (Saturday & Sunday). OG Field Trip to Aransas Wildlife Refuge, led by Jim O'Neill. This trip is in three parts: (1) Saturday - The Refuge. Meet at Refuge Headquarters at 8 AM SHARP. Bob Shields and Gordon Foltzenloger will lead us to areas of the Refuge that are off limits to the public. Bring picnic lunch to be eaten at the picnic grounds. In the afternoon we will be free to bird elsewhere on the Refuge. (2) Sunday morning - Rockport. There will be a field trip for birds in the Rockport area. (3) Sunday Afternoon - 33 Whooping Crane. Meet at the Sea Gun Marina at 1:00 PM for a cruise up the Intra-Coastal Canal to the Refuge. Last February 22 the O'Neill's saw 23 of the 42 Whoopers while on this boat. Tickets are \$5.00 and RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY FEBRUARY 1 with Mr. or Mrs. James H. O'Neill, 1815 Effie Lane, Pasadena, GR 3-7855. The Refuge and the boat operator must be notified as to how many our group will comprise, so please observe this deadline if you plan to make the trip.

## NOVEMBER OG FIELD TRIP by Sarah Gordon

We missed all of you who couldn't be with us on the O.G. field trip on November 20th. This was a fun trip led by Betty and Paul Caillet and enjoyed by Peggy and Jack Smith, Jane Robinson, Edna Miner, Sue Bohn, Louise Rogers, Dirk Hagemeyer, Gerry Baker, Hardin Craig, Louise and Henry Hoffman, Chris Jordon, Roy Turner, Nell Ray, Milbrey Dugger, a guest from Nashville, Tennessee club, Mr. and Mrs. W. Erwin, Betty Williams, Tess Barry, Betty Cornellius, Mary Belle and Frank Kokesh, Sarah Gordon, and five alert and interested Scouts from Paul Caillet's troop.

The early morning was quite foggy, but soon the weather cleared and we had a warm, sunny day. In addition to 69 species of birds, among them several lifers for some of the group, one of the Scouts found a copperhead! When we met at the public beach of Deussen Park at Lake Houston there were a number of water pipits and killdeers in the field near the parking lot. One of the early pleasures was seeing three vermilion flycatchers on the fence which encloses the east part of the park. We considered ourselves fortunate indeed to see three of these beautiful little birds. As we progressed along the edge of the woods we saw the goldfinches, chickadees, titmice, ruby and golden crowned kinglets. In a more open spot there were the bright yellow-throat warbler, also the pine and orange-crowned warblers, the brilliant bluebirds, the brown creepers, the white-throated and chipping sparrows among the many birds seen. At lunch from the beach we saw the cormorants perched on pilings in the lake, earlier having seen a flock overhead.

On the road to Sheldon Reservoir -- thanks to Peggy Smith's practiced eye -- the groove-billed and was seen by many of the group; this a lifer for several folks. Exciting numbers of various species of ducks including the bufflehead, canvasback, gadwall, mallard, mottled, pintail, ring-necked, ruddy, scaup, shoveler, widgeon, and the pied-billed grebe were sighted. Part of the group ended the trip at Buckhorn Lake where they were rewarded with an excellent view of the aninga.

P.S. The following Friday morning Melba Drake and I saw brown-headed nuthatches on Mt. Houston Road near the entrance to Deussen Park.

### CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT NEWS

#### Freeport

Jerry Strickling has received the following note in response to the Freeport Christmas Count invitation he sent to Allan Cruickshank:

"Dear Jerry:

"I am sorry I will not be able to join the big Christmas Bird Count at Freeport, Texas. It would be great fun to be afield with lovely Nancy!

"If anyone beats Cocoa I hope it will be Victor Emanuel's Battalion... he is a great guy, quite different from most Texans.

"How is it your Houston Astros have to come to Cocoa, Florida for their spring baseball training... and your Astronauts have to come here too to get anywhere?"

Love to lovely Nancy, only hi to u.

Allan

PS "Maybe Houston would like to move their X-mas circle here."

Anyone who has not seen one of these invitations should call Jerry Strickling and ask for theirs. Lovely Nancy's number is PA 3-5394.

#### Houston

Sunday - January 2, 1966

Leader: David Marrack, MO 7-1397

If you have not already received an assignment and are able to support this annual cause please contact Dr. Marrack as soon as possible.

Tentative party arrangements are listed below. Please note the alterations in area numbering, this conforms with the society's request last year and it will help the compiler and long term record keeping. A description of the area boundaries appeared in the November, 1965 issue of the Spoonbill and a map is appended.

Attention is drawn to the fact that significant habitats in several areas have not been covered in recent years because it was not appreciated that they were in the count area. Check your area on the map and boundary descriptions carefully.

For those partaking of the Snyder's generous hospitality after the count bring a dish of food and clean light foot wear. Navigate out of central LaPorte on Old Main South N.E., 0.8 mile to Blackwell and turn right, at the end turn left, and just after the first bend (Rt) is the Snyder's drive on the Rt of the next bend.

PLEASE - Do NOT drive your car on their fine lawns.

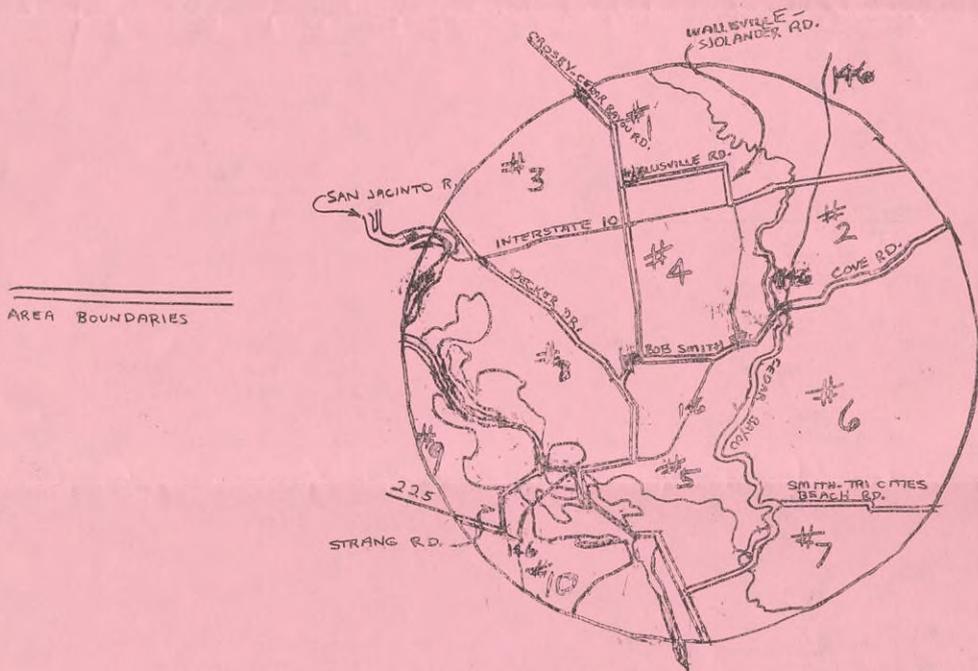
Revised Field Check Lists will be provided to facilitate recording species in the field and tabulating the final results. The following are responsibilities of all members participating in the counts:

1. Make sure your name appears in the upper right-hand corner of your party check list. It serves two purposes: compiling an accurate alphabetical listing of participants for the "Audubon Field Notes"; and determining who identified or listed any rare or unusual species.
2. Return the check lists to your area leader at the meeting following the count. They will subsequently be returned to the coordinator.
3. Each person records an estimate of their total mileage covered on foot and by car, record times "in" and "out" of your area.

4. Pay 50¢ per person to your area leader. This is to help defray the cost of publishing our count in "Audubon Field Notes". (Note: The latest issue of the AFN contains the following: "This year only Christmas Counts accompanied by a \$.50 fee for each and every participant will be accepted." (italics ours. Eds.)

Area leaders should:

1. Obtain permission to enter all private property for the purpose of the count from the landowners and keep a record of person, address, and area covered to be returned to the club secretary for use in future years.
2. Familiarize yourself with your area, its habitat, bird locations, roads and tracks.
3. Introduce the members of your party to the area before the count.



Area Boundaries

- 1: From the intersection of the circle circumference and Crosby-Cedar Bayou Rd. Southeast to Garth Rd., south on Garth to Wallisville Rd., then east and south on Wallisville to IH 10 and east to edge of circle. All area north and east of above.
- 2: Area in northeast part of circle south of IH 10, east of Cedar Bayou and north of Cove Rd.
- 3: Area in northwest part of circle northwest of Crosby-Cedar Bayou Road, west of Garth Rd., and north of Decker Dr. The southeast portion of this area is defined as north of Goose Creek and portion of Bob Smith Road.
- 4: Area in north central part of circle east of Garth Rd., south of Wallisville Rd. and IH 10, west of north-south branch of Wallisville Rd. and Cedar Bayou and north of Bob Smith Rd.
- 5: Baytown proper in South central part of circle. Bordered on the east by Cedar Bayou (Dr. Fayle's Island is included) on the north by Bob Smith Rd., on the west by Goose Creek, Decker Dr., Lee Dr., and Hwy 146 west. The southwest boundary begins at the outlet to Black Duck Bay, extends south-eastward along the west side of Hog Island, thence eastward between Hog Island and Atkinson Island to a point about midway between Atkinson Island and the shoreline near Cedar Bayou. The boundary then extends southeastward parallel to and one mile east of Atkinson Island to intersect the circle circumference.
- 6: Area in eastern portion of circle, bounded on the north by Cove Rd., on the west by Cedar Bayou and on the south by the Smith-Tri-Cities Road.
- 7: Area in southeast portion of the circle. Bounded on the north by the Smith-Tri-Cities Rd. and on the west by Cedar Bayou.
- 8: Area in western portion of circle. Bordered on the east by Decker Drive and Lee Drive, on the south by Highway 146, and on the southwest by the Houston Ship Channel. This area covers both sides of IH 10 where it crosses the San Jacinto River.

- 9: Area in the southwest portion of circle. Bordered on the northeast by the Houston Ship Channel, on the east by Strang Road, and on the south by Hwy 225.
- 10: Area in the southern portion of the circle. Bordered on the northeast as described for the southwest of Area #5. Bordered on the northwest by Hwy 225, Strang Rd, a line  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile northwest of and parallel to Hwy 146, to intersect the ship channel, and Hwy 146 northeast to the Black Duck Bay outlet.

Tentative List of Area Leader and Associates to Date:

Area	Leader's Names (underlined)	Area	Leader's names
1.	<u>Mr. Joe Farrell</u> D. Hagemeyer (+ others)	6.	<u>Mr. Victor Emanuel</u> Archie McKay John I. Schmidt
2.	<u>Mr. La A. Barnette</u> Mrs. Barnette Mr. and Mrs. Mebane Louise Rogers	7.	<u>Mr. Clayton Gilman</u> Mrs. Gilman Mr. and Mrs. Kokesh Joanna Grabbe Ella Wolfer
3.		8.	<u>Mr. Trevor Feltner</u> Maurine Busby Dudley Beades Elric McHenry Mr. and Mrs. Caillet
4.	<u>Mrs. C. F. (Jerry) Baker</u> Josephine Wilkins Mary Sears Pat Sullivan	9.	<u>Mr. Harvey Patten</u> Dr. and Mrs. Harwell Bobby Dugan Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith Mr. and Mrs. O'neill
5.	<u>Mr. Jerry Strickling</u> Bill Wright Irving Greenbaum Neil Bay Melba Drake Sarah Gordon	10.	<u>Mrs. Linda Snyder</u> Clint Snyder Noel Pettingell Marjorie Susie John Tveten

LETTERS

"The November Spoonbill was of particular interest to me, especially with reference to the Gray Francolin which was released on selected portions of the Fort Hood reservation.

"On November 15th I had a Gray Francolin visit my yard and one of my feeders. I searched through all my bird books and could find nothing resembling the bird in my yard, so I began calling some of my birding friends here. Mrs. Aline Bachman, who had seen the bird previously, came and took a look and identified it as a Francolin. I have since seen a picture of same in the World Book of Birds. The call of this bird is the same as a guinea hen.

"The bird is in my yard each morning when I feed it grain. After eating, it disappears and I don't generally see it again until the next morning. It is a mystery where the bird came from and how it got to my yard. Up to this writing it is still here."

Mrs. Tess Barry

Mr. H. W. Goodall has sent us an ad announcing the publication of The Giant Canada Goose by Harold C. Hanson and published by the Southern Illinois University Press. This is "the fascinating story of the author's rediscovery and identification of the giant Canada goose - the largest race of North America's largest game bird - believed to be extinct for over thirty years."

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Those wishing to contribute to the PRAIRIE CHICKEN FUND may send their contributions to our treasurer, Miss Ella B. Wolfer, 3707 Reveille Road, Houston, Texas 77017 or directly to Texas Wildlife, 105 Oil and Gas Building, Houston, Texas 77002.

PLEASE NOTE

All information regarding changes of address and subscriptions to the Spoonbill should be sent to Miss Helen L. Wolfer, 3707 Reveille Road, Houston, Texas 77017. Please do not send this information to the Co-editors.

CLEARING HOUSE, NOVEMBER, 1965

- Common Loons (1)7,25 Cove AKM; (1)16,19 Bayshore, (1)18 Anahuac LS; (50+)27 Texas City Dike SMJ.  
 Horned Grebes: (7)15, (2-3)16,18, (50+)17, (6)22, (20)27,29 Bayshore LS; (1 albino)27,29 Bayshore LS.  
 Eared Grebe: (2)15, (1)15, (2)27 Cove AKM; (100)30 Texas City MAM RBM.  
 Western Grebe: 1 bird at small lake 4.4 mi. NW of Arcoola (jct. Texas Rt 288 & 6), NE Fort Bend Co.  
 on following dates: 1 BF, DMC, EMC, NP, LS; 2 HH, LH, MA, PS; 3 CG, EG; 6 DDM, HP; 7 JB, DM.  
 Pied-billed Grebe: 11 days, (64)15, (20)6,18,27 Cove AKM; (2-10)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref LS.  
 White Pelicans (50-1000) daily Bayshore LS.  
 Double-crested Cormorants 9 days, (6)17, (10)27 Cove AKM; (2-30)most days Bayshore LS.  
 Anhinga: (15)1 Highway 6 LS.  
 Green Herons: (1)28 Anahuac Ref LS.  
 Little Blue Herons: (1-2)7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Cattle Egrets (nc) 8 days, Cove AKM; (25-50)3,7,10,18,28 Chambers Co. LS.  
 Reddish Egret: (1)9 Cove AKM; (1)17 Bayshore LS.  
 Black-crowned Night Heron: (2)15,18,27 (3)17 Cove AKM.  
 White-faced Ibis: (75)17, (15)25, (55)28, (300)29 Cove AKM; (100-400)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref LS.  
 White Ibis: (200)25,27 Cove AKM; (50-100)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Roseate Spoonbill: 11 days, (19)2, (125)15, (150)28 Cove AKM; (7)28 Anahuac Ref LS.  
 Canada Geese: (30)18 Anahuac Ref. LS; (6 greater)23 Cove AKM.  
 White-fronted Goose: (5-25)11,15,23,27, (50)25 Cove AKM; (500)3,7,18,28 (1 albino)28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Snow and Blue Geese: (1,000-5,000)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Fulvous Tree Ducks: (2)27 Cove SLG; (3-25)18,28 Anahuac Ref LS.  
 Mallards: (1-50)12 days Cove AKM; (6-10)3,7,18, (200)28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Mottled Ducks: 14 days, (15-40)9,11,15,25, 27 Cove AKM; (25-100)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Gadwall: 11 days (150-800)15,17,18,21,23,27,28 Cove AKM; (50-100)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Pintails: 15 days, (100)6,9,15,18,23 Cove AKM, (1000+)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref, (500-1000)17,22,27,29 Bayshore LS.  
 Green-winged Teal: 11 days, (25)15, (50)27 Cove AKM; (300-1000)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Blue-winged Teal: (1)11 Cove AKM; (2-30)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Cinnamon Teal: (1)18, (2)28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 American Widgeon: 11 days (100-2,500)15,18,23,28, Cove AKM; (15-100)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Shovelers: 11 days, (14-50)15,17,21,25,27 Cove AKM; (1000+)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref, (1,000-2,000)17,22,27,29 Bayshore LS.  
 Wood Ducks: (4)12,18 (14)25 Cove AKM.  
 Redheads: (3)9,18 (25)15, (2)23 Cove AKM; (1)7, (3)28 Anahuac Ref.  
 Ring-necked Duck: (6-20)6,17,18,21,23,27, (100)15 Cove AKM; (3-8)18,28 Anahuac Ref LS; (5)27 Bayshore SMJ  
 Canvasbacks: (8)28 Anahuac Ref. LS; (4-10)17,22,27 Bayshore LS; 7 days, (100)15, (300)18 Cove AKM.  
 Lesser Scaup: (26)15, (2+)18, (1)27 Cove AKM; (nc)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref., (25-100)17,22,27,29 Bayshore LS  
 (see notes).  
 Common Goldeneye: (1)25, (12)27 Cove AKM;  
 Buffleheads: (4)17, (1)25, (24)27 Cove AKM; (4)17 Bayshore LS; (2)22 Bayshore LS.  
 Ruddy Duck: 8 days, (53)15, (60)27 Cove AKM; (500-1000)17,22,27,29 Bayshore LS.  
 Hooded Merganser: (1)17 Bayshore LS.  
 Red-breasted Merganser: (35)25, (48)27 Cove AKM; (10-50)22,27,29 Bayshore LS; (200)27 Texas City Dike SMJ  
 Black Vulture: (1-20)6,12,15,26,27 Cove AKM; (1)1 Highway 6 LS.  
 Sharp-shinned Hawk: (1)17,29 Cove AKM; (1)10 High Island LS.  
 Cooper's Hawk: (1)16 Cove AKM.  
 Red-tailed Hawk: (1 dark phase, for 5th or 6th yr.)27, (less than usual) Cove AKM; (8-10)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. & Area LS.  
 Krider's Red-tailed Hawk: (1)27 Seabrook SMJ.  
 Harris's Hawk: (1 light phase)18 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Red-shouldered Hawk: (1-2)12 days, (3)25 Cove AKM.  
 Bald Eagles: (6)29 Katy-Hockley Rd. MAM, RBM; (1 imm.)3 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Marsh Hawk: (8-12)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref & Area LS.  
 Peregrine Falcon: (1)18,28 Anahuac Ref LS.  
 Pigeon Hawk: (1)3 Anahuac Ref. LS, (1)27 Hwy 146 LS.  
 Sparrow Hawk: (5-10)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Area LS.  
 Clapper Rail: (1)17 Cove AKM; (1-5)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Purple Gallinule: (2)7 Anahuac Ref LS.  
 Common Gallinule: (1)18, Cove AKM; (8-30)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 American Coot: 12 days, (2000-5000)6,15,18,21,27 Cove AKM; (1000+)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 American Oystercatcher: (5)27 Galveston SMJ.  
 Semipalmated Plover: (1)9, (1)15,27, (3)17 Cove AKM.  
 Black-bellied Plover: (1-10)5 days, (35)23 Cove AKM; (1-2)daily Bayshore LS.  
 Ruddy Turnstones: (8)27, Cove AKM; (10)27 Galveston SMJ.  
 Common Snipe: (2)15, (1)21, Cove AKM. (5)18, (2)28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Long-billed Curlew: (10-34)17,20,27, (130)25, (150)29, Cove AKM. (2-10)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Spotted Sandpiper: (1)6 days, (2)9 Cove AKM; (1-2)daily Bayshore LS.  
 Willet: (1-6)9,15,17,25,27 Cove AKM; (1-3)most days Bayshore LS.  
 Greater Yellowlegs: (5-10)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS; (1-7)7 days Cove AKM.  
 Lesser Yellowlegs: (1)9,25 Cove AKM; (10-30)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.  
 Least Sandpiper: (2-5)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS; (nc)6 days Cove AKM.

- Dunlin: (nc)7 days Cove AKM; (2-12)most days, Bayshore, (2-10)3,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Dowitcher (sp): 7 days, (250)15, (200)23 Cove AKM; (15)28 Anahuac Ref. LS; (30)27 Texas City Dike SMJ.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper: (nc)5 days Cove AKM; (10-25)most days Bayshore; (10-25)3,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Western Sandpiper: (nc)5 days, Cove AKM; (10-25)most days Bayshore, (10-25)3,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Marbled Godwit: (10)27 Texas City Dike, SMJ.
- Sanderling: (5-30)most days Bayshore LS.
- American Avocet: (1)27 Cove AKM; (4-15)10,17,22,27,29 Bayshore LS.
- Black-necked Stilt: (1)30 Loop 197, SW of Texas City, MAM RBM
- Herring Gull: (2)9,18,27, (5)23 Cove AKM.
- Franklin's Gull: (1)3, (25)8, (nc)9, (1+)11 Cove AKM; (61)1 Lake Northwest of Arcola NP; (100+)1:Fort Bend and Brazoria County, (10)4 Bayshore LS.
- Bonaparte's Gull: (1)23,28 Cove AKM.
- Common Tern: (10+)11, (2+)17, (1)27 Cove AKM; (1)27 Texas City Dike SMJ.
- Sandwich Tern: (2)27 Galveston SMJ.
- Black Skimmer: (200)27 Texas City Dike SMJ.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo: (1)11 Cove AKM.
- Barn Owl: (1-2)5,12,14,20,24,29 Cove AKM.
- Screech Owl: (1-2)6,15 Cove AKM.
- Great Horned Owl: (1)4 Cove AKM.
- Common Nighthawk: (5)1, (8)3, (4)5, (1)14, (1)17, (1)23, (2)28 Downtown Houston, NP.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird: (1)18 Houston MAM; (2-8) thru 5th, Bayshore, (3)10 High Island LS.
- ~~RUFBELLIED HUMMINGBIRD~~: (1)17,18 Brownwood, Baytown NE. (no other details, Ed.)
- Rufous Hummingbird: (1)10 Houston MAM; (1)12 Houston MAM. (All were in yard, 11926 Broken Bough).
- Belted Kingfisher: (2)2,15,18, (1)28,30 Cove AKM; (1-3)3,7,10,18,28 Anahuac Area, (1)20 Bayshore LS.
- Yellow-shafted Flicker: (1-8)19 days Cove AKM, (1-2)daily Bayshore,LS; (1)10 Allen Pky & Waugh Dr. BW.
- Pileated Woodpecker: (1)6,30 Cove AKM; (1-2)most days Old River AB, JB; (1)28 Double Bayou LS.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker: (1-2)daily at feeder, Old River AB, JB.
- Red Headed Woodpecker: (1)11 Cove AKM.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: (1-6)14 days Cove AKM; (1)most days, Old River AB,JB; (2)10 High Island, (1)17,19 Bayshore LS.
- Downy Woodpecker: (1)24 Cove AKM; (1)most days Old River, AB, JB.
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: (1)2, (2)9 Cove AKM; (1)2 Highway 225 LS.
- Eastern Phoebe: (1-6)20 days Cove AKM; (1-2)3,10,28 Anahuac & High Island Areas LS.
- Vermilion Flycatcher: (1-3)9 days Cove AKM;
- Horned Lark: (3-50)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Tree Swallow: 5 days, (12)18, (5)27 Cove AKM; (25)28 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Bank Swallow: (2)28 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Rough-winged Swallow: (20)6, (5)23 Cove AKM.
- Barn Swallow: (20)6, (2)18, (1)21,23 Cove AKM.
- Fish Crow: (1)28 Turtle Bayou LS.
- Carolina Chickadee: (1-4)daily at feeder, Old River AB, JB.
- Tufted Titmouse: (1-4)1,17,26,30 Cove AKM; (1-2) daily at feeder, Old River, AB, JB.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch: (1)10 High Island LS.
- Brown-headed Nuthatch: (1-2)28 Turtle Bayou LS.
- Brown Creeper: (1)11, (9)30 Cove AKM; (1-2)3,28 Turtle Bayou, (1)10 High Island, (1-2)10,19,22,29 Bayshore LS.
- House Wren: (1-2)6 days, (4)30 Cove AKM; (1)daily, Old River AB,JB; (1-2)most days Bayshore LS.
- Winter Wrens (1)1,3,4,5,8, (2)6 Cove AKM. \*\*\*\*Bewick's Wren: (1)27 Cove AKM.\*\*\*\*
- Long-billed Marsh Wren: (1)28 Cove AKM; (6)7 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Short-billed Marsh Wren: (1)9,28 Cove AKM; (2-3)3,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Catbird: (1)30, Cove AKM.
- Brown Thrasher: (1-2)daily Bayshore LS.
- Robins (1)30 Cove AKM; (1)10 High Island, (2)28 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Hermit Thrush: (1)8,11,25 Cove AKM; (1)24 Old River, AB, JB.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: (5)24 Old River AB,JB; (1-3)most days Bayshore LS.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet: (2-5)8,11,12,27,30 Cove AKM; (3)24 Old River AB,JB; (3-6)most days Bayshore, (25-30)10 High Island, (6)28 Turtle Bayou LS.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet: (5)24 Old River AB,JB; (1-5)most days Bayshore; (10)10 High Island LS.
- Water Pipit: (1-3)8 days, (33)23 Cove AKM; (nc)most days Bayshore & Anahuac, LS.
- Sprague's Pipit: (2)11, (13)17, (3)27 Cove AKM.
- Cedar Waxwing: (15)28 Cove AKM.
- Starling: See notes, Cove AKM. (nc)most days Bayshore and Anahuac LS.
- Solitary Vireo: (1)30, (3)11,29, (1)5 days Cove AKM; (1)17 Old River AB,JB.
- Orange-crowned Warbler: (2)24 Old River AB JB; (1-3)most days Bayshore, (5)10 High Island LS.
- Magnolia Warbler: (1)10 High Island LS.
- Myrtle Warbler: (2)10, (40)17, (20)27 Cove AKM; (1-5)most days Bayshore, (15)10 High Island, (15)28 Turtle Bayou LS.
- Pine Warblers: (1-2)10 High Island LS; (25)30 Cove AKM.
- Yellowthroats: (1)3,15,25,28 Cove AKM; (1)24 Old River AB,JB; (1)most days Bayshore, (1-3)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.
- Wilson's Warbler: (1)25 Cove AKM.
- American Redstart: (2)10 High Island LS.
- Brewer's Blackbird: (nc)28 Cove AKM; (nc)27 Galveston SMJ.
- Common Grackle: (1-200)12 days, (10,000)23, (2,000)30 Cove AKM.

Cardinal: High Count of 11 eating at feeders, Old River AB, JB.

Black-headed Grosbeak: (1)10 High Island LS.

Indigo Bunting: (1)1,6 Cove AKM.

American Goldfinch: (1)24, (7)27,28,30, (35)29 Cove AKM; (8)18 Old River AB JB; (4-5)28 Turtle Bayou LS.

Rufous Sided Towhee: (1)27 Cove AKM; (3)24 Old River AB, JB; (1) Spotted 6 Cove AKM.

Savannah Sparrow: (5-50)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.

Grasshopper Sparrows: (1)27 Cove AKM.

LeConte's Sparrow: (1)28 Cove AKM.

Sharp-tailed Sparrows: (1)17 Cove AKM.

Seaside Sparrows: (10)18, (7)25, (5)23 Cove AKM; (5-50)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.

Vesper Sparrow: (1)7 Anahuac Ref. LS.

Chipping Sparrow: (1)10 High Island LS.

Field Sparrows: (1)10,17,25, (5)23 Cove AKM.

White-crowned Sparrow: (6)15,25 Cove AKM.

White-throated Sparrow: (5-15)daily Bayshore LS.

Lincoln's Sparrows (1+)1, (6)30 Cove AKM; (1-2)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.

Swamp Sparrows: (1-6) 8 days, (20)30 Cove AKM; (5-10)3,7,18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS.

Song Sparrows: (1)11,24 Cove AKM; (1-2)daily Bayshore, (1-2)18,28 Anahuac Ref. LS

#### Clearing House Contributors

AKM	Arlie K. McKay	RBM	Robert B. Moore	SMJ	Linda Snyder, David
AB	Arthur Buckels	NB	Netty Busby (Mrs. E.H.)		Marrack, & Mrs. Johns (Okla.)
JB	Jonell Buckels	NP	Noel Pettingell	EW	Bill Wright
MAM	Mary Ann Moore	LS	Linda Snyder	SLG	S. L. Griffith
MA	Margaret Anderson	JB	Jerry Baker	BF	Ben Feltner
CG	Clayton Gilman	EG	Eva Gilman	HH	Henry Hoffman
LH	Louise Hoffman	DDM	Dr. David Marrack	DM	Darris Massingill
DMc	Doris McHenry	EMc	Elric McHenry	HP	Harvey Patten
PS	Peggy Smith				

#### Clearing House Notes

I observed 148 species in November, 258 in 31 years; 115 species in the first half, 149 in 1959, 242 in 31 years; 136 in last half, 143 in 1959(peak year), 223 in 31 years.

The scarcity of the lesser scaup is one of the surprises of by birding life. A few years ago thousands could be seen from the bay shore and great clouds seen far out over the bay as they were flushed. A few years back my brother Arnold, a commercail fisherman, saw a three day flight to the northeast, millions, more than he had ever seen of all species of ducks combined. They have not returned to Galveston Bay in mass. They may have gone to Louisiana. Why? Did the birdshot-sized snails on which they feed disappear? Or were they driven out? The year before they left Arnold observed them over thousands of acres, flushing just ahead of his boat, then they appeared to have left but were noticed to be flushing over a mile ahead of his boat, showing they had been harassed from high speed boats with high powered rifles.

Starlings: the least in 35 or more years. Last year many who had little interest in birds were commenting on their decline. There are even fewer this winter.

Arlie K. McKay

A neighbor of ours called us to his house to identify an "owl" he had caught in his barn. The "owl" was a sparrow hawk, but the unusual thing was that the sparrow hawk was eating cow feed when he found it. That's a new one for us, "Cow feed-eating sparrow hawk."

Arthur and Jonell Buckels

The Stilt Record may be a new late date for this area.

Mary Ann and Robert B. Moore

(Stew Williams, Checklist of the Birds of the Upper Texas Coast gives a late date of Nov. 9, 1947, with five winter records, Dec 14-Feb. 4. - Ed.)

#### 1965 WHOOPING CRANE GAIN: ONE PAIR PLUS ONE STUFFED BIRD

The final count of whooping cranes arriving at Aransas is forty-four as compared to 42 that departed last spring for Canada.

From one conspicuous tragedy, involving the Kansas high-line death of one of the 1964 young enroute back south, has come a definite gain for the refuge trade. The crane was perfectly preserved, according to Gordon Folzenlogen, assistant refuge manager, and is being mounted in a good study skin already available. Then the rare specimen will be exhibited in a refuge lobby glass case so that spectators may study a true model to augment the present illustrations. The overall effect, he said, would be improved public aid in noting Whooper travels.

A tracking conquest came in tracing four late-season migrants from distant Saskatchewan southward through Kansas where the group was reduced to three by the fatal mishap, on into the Texas Panhandle and down to the refuge. The last leg took three days. However, the ancient migration mystery of Whooper movements, mainly at high altitudes, remains.

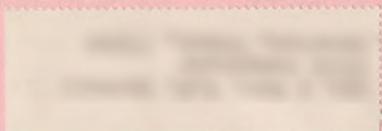
Folzenlogen said the makeup of the Whooper colony, now comprising eight 1965 young and at least some of the ten young of 1964, reflects studies that indicate the flock "turns over every seven and one-half years is the average life span of the huge birds in their natural sphere.

CORRECTION OF NAME IN OG ROSTER

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Program Chairman:	Dr. Pat Sullivan, 5353 Institute Lane, #23, Houston 77005
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