



THE SPOONBILL

VOLUME X No. 22

February 1962

* From: Mexican Birds - First Impressions
* by George M. Sutton
*
* What an illusion of purposelessness in the Turkey
* Vulture's flight! Everyone of these birds was
* hungry, everyone of them on the alert, everyone
* of them hunting as only a vulture can hunt, its
* round, bright wart-encircled eyes searching the
* gray-brown wilderness beneath it for the dead.
* Yet, contemplating them, we might have believed
* them all half asleep.
*
* Carcass hunting! Not only were these soaring
* vultures watching the ground. They were watching
* every hawk, every raven, every coyote, perhaps
* even the very flies and scarlet-spotted scavenger
* beetles, on the chance that one of these might
* lead them to a meal. In particular did they keep
* their eyes on all other vultures, least one of
* these swing suddenly earthward, flop into the
* thicket, and alight undetected. A sharp coasting
* downward, a wingbeat abruptly changing the course
* of flight; no more than this was needed and the
* secret was out, the hunt for the moment was over,
* the invitation to the feast extended. Almost never
* did one of these vultures dine alone.
*

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

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES: Non-members are invited.

- Feb. 24 (Saturday) O.G. Field Trip led by Prof. George Williams, FAOU, of Rice University. Meet at 2:00 P.M. outside the Museum of Natural History Building, Hermann Park Zoo.
- Feb. 25 (Sunday) Mr. Victor Emanuel has yielded to the appeals of a group of Austin "Scientists" to lead an ornithological expedition into western Harris County on Feb. 25. An invitation has been cordially extended to members of the Houston Ornithological Group to participate. Further details concerning the time and meeting place of this exploration may be obtained by calling your Co-editors, JA 2-5453, after Feb. 21.
- March 5 (Monday) Audubon Wildlife Film "Ranch and Range" by Albert J. Wool at Lamar High School Auditorium, 8:00 P.M. Dinner at 6:00 o'clock in Suzanne's cafeteria.
- March 11 (Sunday) O. G. Field Trip led by Thelma Smith to SHANGRI-LA, the Lucher Stark estate in Orange, Texas. Meet at the Cherry Street entrance at 10:00 a.m. Nesting herons, egrets, and anhingas; camellias and azaleas. Bring your camera and plenty of film (and loads of food, of course!).

Letters to the Editors

Dear B & M

Nancy, G. W. Foster, Jr. of Madison, Wisconsin, and I visited McMullen County, near George West, Texas on Sunday, January 14, 1962. This was after the freeze. The weather was clear, 10-15 MPH wind from the South, and the temperature range was 45 to 70 degrees.

Things of interest we saw were: Parakee (1) (at the same location where we found the nest in March, 1959. Saw another or the same one 30 yards away.) Olive Sparrow (2); Black-headed (Audubon) Oriole (4), mature adults; Sage Thrasher (1); Long-billed Thrasher (4); Cassin's Sparrow (1).

The regular birds in good numbers were: Curve-billed Thrashers, common to abundant; Pyrrhuloxia, abundant; Cardinal, abundant; Cactus and Bewick's Wren, common; Black-throated, Vesper, Savannah Sparrows, abundant; Bobwhite and Blue Quail, common; Horned Owl, common; Harris, Red-tailed and Marsh Hawks, common.

Jerry S.

Dear Editors:

On Jan. 17 my husband and I identified 45 species of birds in approximately 2 hours. This is a record for us in this length of time. We were thrilled to see the Roadrunner.

On our way home we rounded a curve to see a Bobcat standing in the middle of the road, the first time for us to see a live one.

Sincerely yours,
Arthur & Janice Buckels
Dayton, Texas

Back Yard Bird Count

I had a field day Sunday, January 28th. Mild and sunny after almost three weeks of rain and cold, the feeders were very well patronized. A liberal supply of chicken scratch and bread crumbs were sprinkled on the ground. The feeders were filled with sunflower seed and crumbs.

The fare offered evidently pleased the customers. Within a period of fifteen to twenty minutes, there were thirty or more birds representing fourteen species lunching in one way or another in an area approximately 100 by 125 feet.

Represented were the following: Yellow-shafted Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Sapsucker, Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmouse, Cardinals, Brown Thrashers, Hermit Thrush, Red-breasted Nuthatch, many Myrtle Warblers, Pine Warbler, Mourning Dove and Blue Jays.

A little previously, before the influx, I had also seen in the same yard, Carolina Wren, White-throated Sparrows, Cedar Waxwings, Robins, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and American Goldfinch.

I have seldom, if ever, done better in a lawn chair in my own back yard - twenty species without moving ten feet.

Conrad Deats
46 Saddlebrook
Houston

1961 Houston Christmas Count, December 23, 1961 - Compiled by Harvey Patten

Part I - Participants and Exclusives (birds)

Area 1A - Trevor Ben Feltner, Anne Lettner, James Ellis, Robert Anderson, William Anderson, Dudley Deaver, Billy C. Petit, Gene Petit,
Exclusives - White-eyed Vireo, Eastern Wood Pewee.

Area 1B - L.A.M. Barnette, Mrs. L.A.M. Barnette, Sid Barnette, Joe Heiser, Edna Miner.
Exclusives - Henslow's Sparrow, Hairy Woodpecker, Yellow-throated Warbler.

Area 2 - Clayton B. Gilman, Eva B. Gilman, John O'Neill, Ella Wolfer, Helen Wolfer.

Exclusives - Common Snipe, Anhinga, Woodcock, Yellow-breasted Chat, Purple Finch, Black Tern, Bewick's Wren.

Area 3A - Henry S. Hoffman, Louise Hoffman, Mary Sears, Paul Corneil, Irving Greenbaum.

Area 3B - Harvey L. Patten, S. G. Kershner, Ruth Kershner, Jonell Buckels, Frankie Daves, Mrs. Henry G. Corey.

Exclusives - Sandhill Crane, Stilt Sandpiper.

Area 4 - Vic Emanuel, Carl Aiken, Arlie McKay, David Marrack.

Exclusives - American Bittern, Long-billed Curlew, Ring-necked Duck, White-faced Ibis, Common Loon, Great Horned Owl, Sanderling, LeConte's Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Roseate Spoonbill, Blue-winged Teal, Cattle Egret, Peregrine Falcon, Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow, Ruddy Turnstone, Palm Warbler.

Area 5 - Steve Williams, Charlie McIntire, Hardin Craig.

Exclusives - Sprague's Pipit.

Area 6 - Jerry B. Strickling, Nancy Strickling, Tony Hayday, Billy Harwell, Jean Harwell, Doug. Stine, Jack N. Smith.

Exclusives - Caracara, Long-billed Dowitcher, White-tailed Hawk, Red-breasted Nuthatch.

Area 7 - Linda Snyder, Clinton Snyder, Drew Snyder, Clifton Garvin, Mrs. Clifton Garvin, Maurine Jarrell.

Exclusives - Avocet, Ruddy Duck, Bonaparte's Gull, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Clapper Rail, Dunlin, Black Skimmer, Horned Grebe, Hooded Merganser, White-winged Scoter, Audubon's Warbler.

Part II - Vital Statistics

Species	Party Number										Total
	1A	1B	2	3A	3B	4	5	6	7		
Anhinga	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Avocet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Bittern, Am.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Blackbird, Brewer's	37	254	1	1	-	23	-	68	52	-	436
Redwinged	4031	65	15	7000	402	4616	1	242	6	-	16,378
Bluebird, Eastern	2	7	-	26	2	5	3	-	-	-	45
Bobwhite	41	7	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	8	64
Caracara	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Cardinal	376	16	65	96	55	106	41	56	17	-	828
Catbird	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Chat, Yellow-Breasted	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chickadee, Carolina	63	26	29	98	28	21	16	6	12	-	299
Coot, American	4	-	-	-	2	241	-	-	-	-	247
Cormorant, D-cr.	-	-	-	-	6	22	16	-	4	-	48
Cowbird, Br.-headed	:18000	:2100	:518	: 3:	-:	22:	:2000	:250	: 15	: 44,886	
Crane, Sandhill	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Creeper, Brown	8	4	-	11	3	-	1	-	1	-	28
Crow, Common	41	11	55	28	23	33	19	166	15	-	391
Curlew, Long-billed	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Dove, Mourning	9	32	113	88	29	114	3	62	1	-	451
Dowitcher, Long-billed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Dowitcher	-	-	-	-	15	826	-	-	-	-	841
Duck, Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Canvasback	1	-	-	-	381	171	2	4	1110	-	1669
Gadwall	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: 4:	-	: 1	: 10	: -	15
Golden Eye	-	-	-	-	8	17	-	-	21	-	46
Mallard	7	-	-	-	2	950	-	-	10	-	969
Mottled	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: 66:	2	: -	: 3	: -	71
Pintail	-	-	-	-	6	634	1	15	500	-	1156
Redhead	2	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	11
Ring-necked	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: 5:	-	: -	: -	: -	5

Species	Party Number										Total
	1A	1B	2	3A	3B	4	5	6	7		
Duck, Ruddy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500	500
Scaup, Lesser	246	10	5	-	220	3842	3500	489	1300	-	9612
Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	320	-	6	58	-	384
Widgeon, Am.	-	-	-	-	-	737	-	8	2	-	747
Wood	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	6
Eagle, Bald	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Egret, Cattle	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Common	9	-	10	-	4	206	49	8	1	-	287
Snowy	-	-	56	-	6	356	71	6	4	-	499
Falcon, Peregrine	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Finch, Purple	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Flicker, Yellow-sh.	11	6	7	7	6	13	3	16	8	-	77
Flycatcher, Vermilion	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray	11	18	16	8	31	35	3	43	35	-	200
Goldfinch, Am.	437	14	76	49	31	195	26	117	50	-	975
Goose, Blue	2000	50	30	25	8	524	7	62	150	-	2856
Canada	7	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	82
Snow	5047	1150	80	50	69	1004	130	183	150	-	7863
White-fronted	38	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	43
Grackle, Boat-tailed	15	-	-	-	-	170	-	1	-	-	186
Common	15	40	7	-	-	1000	1000	8	-	-	2070
Grebe, Eared	-	-	-	-	6	2	-	-	25	-	33
Horned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Pied-billed	1	-	-	-	2	21	-	-	2	-	26
Gull, Bonaparte's	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	-	24
Herring	-	-	1	1	34	18	15	22	15	-	106
Laughing	1	-	4	-	32	312	250	84	250	-	933
Ring-billed	-	5	8	50	83	575	30	478	2000	-	3229
Hawk, Cooper's	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	1	-	5
Marsh	23	9	10	4	1	22	-	4	6	-	79
Red-shouldered	3	-	3	7	4	3	2	3	5	-	30
Red-tailed	7	12	8	5	11	22	4	7	3	-	79
Rough-legged	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sparrow	3	5	7	10	16	33	5	16	13	-	108
White-tailed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Heron, Great Blue	3	1	5	1	9	62	8	19	20	-	128
Little Blue	-	-	-	-	41	29	16	13	-	-	99
Louisiana	-	-	10	-	12	75	18	-	14	-	129
Black-cr.Night	-	-	-	-	5	53	25	-	5	-	88
Yel.-cr.Night	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Ibis, White-faced	-	-	-	-	-	550	-	-	-	-	550
Jay, Blue	17	5	62	7	24	36	12	38	16	-	217
Junco, Slate-colored	-	-	5	1	-	10	-	17	-	-	33
Killdeer	38	40	42	24	80	229	-	76	74	-	603
Kingfisher, Belted	-	2	2	-	2	6	-	7	5	-	24
Kinglet, Golden-crowned	155	15	24	12	5	5	4	5	18	-	243
Ruby-crowned	63	24	62	32	21	74	16	32	34	-	358
Lark, Horned	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Loon, Common	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Meadowlark, Eastern	150	14	52	28	45	142	35	63	41	-	570
Merganser, Hooded	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Red-breasted	-	-	-	-	2	11	-	-	17	-	30
Mockingbird	18	9	96	11	52	52	8	61	28	-	335
Nuthatch, Red-breasted	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Owl, Barn	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	5
Barred	1	-	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	-	7
Great Horned	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Screech	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Pewee, Eastern Wood	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pelican, White	1	-	4	-	17	225	84	151	142	-	624
Phoebe, Eastern	65	9	9	25	10	49	8	14	3	-	192
Pipit, Sprague's	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pipit, Water	500	18	12	163	30	188	65	11	105	-	1092
Plover, Black-bel.	-	-	-	-	2	4	2	-	10	-	18
Semipalmated	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	15	-	18

Species	Party Number										Total
	1A	1B	2	3A	3B	4	5	6	7		
Rail, Clapper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Virginia	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
Robin	113	80	20	5	30	3	-	165	3	-	419
Sanderling	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
Sandpiper, Dunlin	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: 5	: 5
Least	-	-	-	-	21	34	-	31	1	-	87
Semipalmated	-	-	-	-	-	12	6	125	15	-	158
Spotted	-	-	-	-	1	4	1	2	3	-	11
Stilt	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Western	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: 120	: 75	: -	: -	: 5	: 200
Sapsucker, Yellow-bel.	-	6	7	8	4	9	4	4	1	-	43
Scoter, White-winged	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Shrike, Loggerhead	: 29	: 12	: 23	: 15	: 29	: 40	: 3	: 31	: 20	: -	: 202
Skimmer, Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Snipe, Common	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sparrow, Chipping	: 2	: -	: 1	: 10	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: 13
Field	1	-	9	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	13
Fox	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	4
Henslow's	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
House	: 3	: 2	: 178	: 13	: 7	: 10	: 3	: 2	: 80	: -	: 298
LeConte's	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Lincoln's	-	2	2	5	2	7	4	26	2	-	50
Savannah	-	108	26	2	2	27	-	3	5	-	173
Seaside	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	1	-	14
Sharp-tailed	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Song	: -	: 2	: 8	: -	: 1	: 10	: 8	: 1	: -	: -	: 30
Swamp	3	-	6	5	5	7	-	1	3	-	30
Vesper	-	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	6
White-cr.	: -	: -	: 5	: -	: -	: 5	: -	: 52	: -	: -	: 62
White-th.	2103	3	150	81	140	356	32	206	86	-	3157
Spoonbill, Roseate	-	-	-	-	-	106	-	-	-	-	106
Starling	: 1432	: 5000	: 172	: 606	: 425	: 703	: 363	: 187	: 500	: -	: 9388
Swallow, Barn	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Tree	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Teal, Blue-winged	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	27
Green-winged	-	-	-	-	1	1236	-	1	-	-	1238
Tern, Black	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Caspian	-	-	-	-	8	19	2	-	4	-	33
Forster's	: -	: -	: 1	: -	: 64	: 1096	: 3	: 11	: 50	: -	: 1225
Gull-billed	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	17	1	-	48
Royal	: -	: -	: -	: -	: 3	: 41	: -	: -	: 4	: -	: 48
Thrasher, Brown	22	1	1	10	28	52	3	41	10	-	168
Thrush, Hermit	7	2	14	-	2	3	1	2	1	-	32
Titmouse, Tufted	: 66	: 8	: 25	: 45	: 11	: 28	: 20	: 8	: 9	: -	: 220
Towhee, Rufous-sided	1	-	7	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	12
Turnstone, Ruddy	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Vireo, Solitary	: 3	: -	: 2	: 5	: 3	: 2	: -	: 4	: 1	: -	: 20
White-eyed	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vulture, Black	9	10	-	2	7	35	-	3	4	-	70
Turkey	17	8	7	2	8	49	-	28	2	-	121
Warbler, Audubon's	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Myrtle	: 200	: 8	: 18	: 9	: 93	: 45	: 1	: 21	: 50	: -	: 454
Orange-cr.	37	1	36	13	23	17	7	21	54	-	209
Palm	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Pine	80	10	2	50	1	36	15	6	6	-	206
Yellow-th.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Yellowthroat	: -	: 1	: -	: -	: 1	: 1	: -	: 1	: 1	: -	: 5
Waxwing, Cedar	-	-	3	-	-	37	-	-	10	-	50
Willet	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	5
Woodcock, American	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Woodpecker, Downy	2	5	7	13	2	1	1	2	2	-	35
Hairy	: -	: 1	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: -	: 1
Pileated	14	1	1	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	24
Red-bellied	10	7	4	8	4	4	1	11	7	-	56
Red-headed	: 2	: -	: 1	: -	: -	: 1	: 1	: -	: -	: -	: 5

Species	Party Number										Total
	1A	1B	2	3A	3B	4	5	6	7		
Wren, Bewick's	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Carolina House	81	15	16	22	8	5	1	23	11		182
Marsh, Long-b.	-	-	4	6	3	5	1	4	8		31
Marsh, Short-b.	1	-	-	-	2	5	2	-	-		10
Winter Yellowlegs, Gr.	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	5	-		10
Lesser	-	-	-	-	1	63	-	-	-		64
	-	-	-	1	30	7	3	-	-		41
Individual Areas	35,					45,					167,962
	758	9357	2288	8816	2897	386	8067	4003	7923		
Total Species	74	62	78	57	89	123	69	85	101		168

CLEARING HOUSE - JANUARY 1962

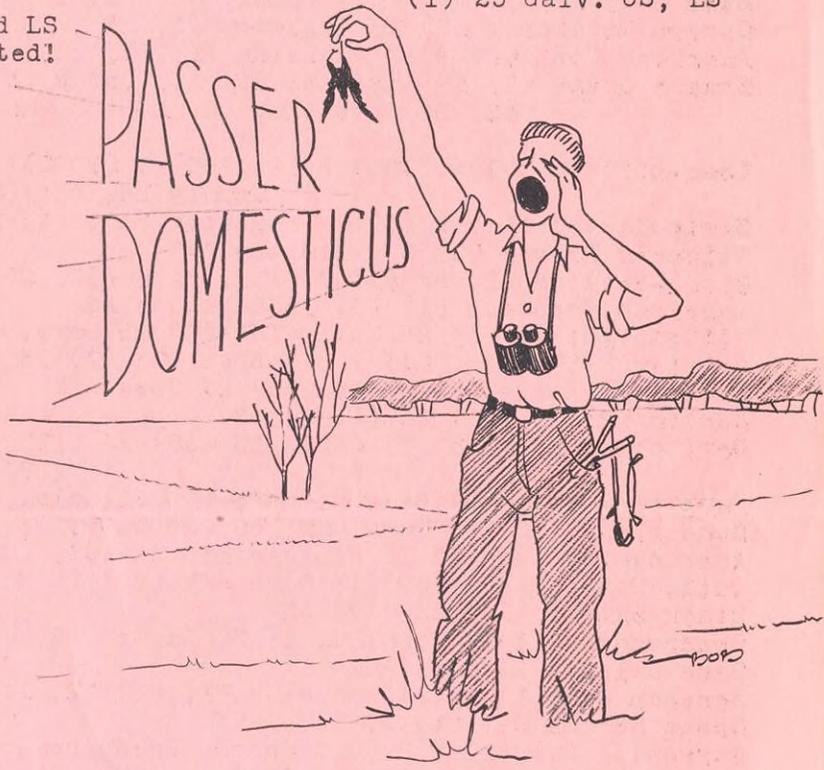
Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of birds seen. Other numbers indicate the day of the month.

Common Loon (18) 20 Galveston HP; (1) 25 Galv. LS, CS
 Grebe, Eared (2) 13 Angleton JE, PE; (1) 25 Cove AKM
 Grebe, Horned (2) 2,7 San Jacinto Bay LS
 Grebe, Pied-billed (6) 13 Angleton JE, PE; (6) 22 Cove AKM; (3) 24 Sheldon CS, LS; (7) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Pelican, White (15) 12 (5) 15 (1) 29 Cove AKM; (2) 13 Longenbaugh LH, HH
 Cormorant, D.-Dr. (1) 25 Cove AKM (1) 17,24, 25 Bayshore LS
 Anhinga (4) 13 Angleton JE, PE
 Heron, Little Blue (20) 27 Cove AKM; (3) 24 Sheldon CS, LS; (50) 29 Highway 73 LS
 Heron, Bl.-C. Night (50) 15 (35) 25 (2) 29 Cove AKM
 Egret, Cattle (5) 3 (1) 13,14,30,31 Cove AKM; (1) 11 W.Harris County CS, PC, LS
 Bittern, American (1) 24 Sheldon CS, LS
 Ibis, White faced (15) 4 (1) 12 Cove AKM
 Ibis, White (8) 13 Angleton JE, PE
 Roseate Spoonbill (1) 29 Cove AKM; (58) 7 Galv. "A"; (8) 24 Highway 73 CS, LS
 Whistling Swan (3) 21 Sugarland PS
 Goose, Greater Canada (7) 12, 13 (25) 29 Cove AKM
 White-fronted (300) 29 Cove AKM; (500) 11 W.Harris County CS, PC, LS; (150) 24 Mt. Belview CS, LS
 Duck - Mallard (200) 5 (150) 29 Cove AKM
 Mottled (38) 19 (30) 23,27 Cove AKM; (7) 24 Sheldon PC, LS
 Gadwall (2) 5, 22 (30) 15,25 Cove AKM; (2) 7 (25) 12 CS; (1) 16, 26 Bayshore LS
 Pintail (1000) 5,13 Cove AKM
 Green-winged Teal (3000) 29 Cove AKM; (15) 24 Sheldon CS, LS (6) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Blue-winged Teal (3) 13 Angleton JE, PE; (4) 12 (1) 13 (8) 27 Cove AKM; (5) 24 Sheldon (10) 25 Galv. LS, CS
 Cinnamon Teal (1) 12,13 Cove AKM
 Am. Widgeon (100) 15 Cove AKM; (25) 11 Bayshore (50) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Shoveler (100) 12 (50) 27 Cove AKM; (100) 24 Hwy. 73 (50) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Wood Duck (19) 12 Buckhorn Lake BF
 Redhead (8) 15 (4) 25 Cove AKM
 Ring-necked (4) 12 Buckhorn Lake BF; (2) 14 (1) 15 Cove AKM; (1) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Canvasback (3) 13,27 (300) 15 (62) 25 Cove AKM
 Lesser Scaup (100) 15 (6) 22,23 (11) 25 Cove AKM
 Common Goldeneye (3) 15 (1) 25 Cove AKM
 Bufflehead (2) 12 (47) 18 Sheldon BF; (2) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Ruddy Duck (13) 13 Cove AKM
 R.-breasted Merganser (2) 25 Galv. CS, LS (1) 29 (5) 31 Bayshore LS
 Vulture, Black (2) 8 (7) 10 (8) 29 Cove AKM; (4) 24 Mt. Belview CS, LS

Hawk, Sharp-shinned (1) 22 Cove AKM
 Cooper's (1) 5, 18 Cove AKM; (1) 20, 26, 28 Bayshore LS
 Red-tailed (3) 13 Angleton JE, PE; (12) 15 Cove AKM; (1) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 **HARLAN'S (1) 20 West Bay Fishing Camp Rd. and Groove-billed Ani
 Corner Galv. BF
 Red-shouldered (4) 21 Westheimer JE, PE; (3) 15 (1) 22 Cove AKM
 Broad-winged (1) 12 Sheldon BF
 White-tailed (1) 7 Gulf Freeway "A"; (2) 25 Hwy. 146 & Galv. CS, LS
 Bald Eagle (3) 12 Sheldon BF (1) 20 Longenbaugh BF; (2 plus a nesting pair
 near Wallisville) 8 AKM; (18) 13 Longenbaugh (5) 17 Western Harris
 County LH, HH; (5) 11 Longenbaugh CS, PC, LS
 Marsh Hawk (3) 13 Angleton (1) 21 Westheimer JE, PE; (2) 10 Tomball BH
 Caracara (2) 13 Longenbaugh LH, HH
 Sparrow Hawk (7) 13 (2) 21 Angleton JE, PE
 Sandhill Crane (50) 28 Western Harris County LH, HH; (200) 11 W. Harris County
 CS, PC, LS

 King Rail (2) 11 W. Harris County CS, PC, LS
 Common Gallinule (2) 13 Angleton JE, PE
 American Coot (200) 13 Angleton JE, PE; (30) 5 (1) 4 (1) 22 Cove AKM
 Common Snipe (1) 13 Angleton JE, PE; (5) 2 (3) 10 (6) 12, 25 (1) 13, 15
 (2) 30 Cove AKM: (2) 13 Longenbaugh LH, HH; (2) 11 (3) 24
 Sheldon CS, LS
 Long-billed Curlew (300) 3, 12 (350) 5 (1000) 15 Cove AKM: (35) W. Harris
 County LH, HH; (3) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Semipalmated Plover (3) 8 Galveston "A"; (4) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Wilson's Plover (2) 8 Galveston "A"
 Black-bellied Plover (1) 7 Galv. "A"; (50) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 American Woodcock (1) 15, 19 Bayshore LS
 Willet (15) 15 (3) 25 Cove AKM; (3) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Greater Yellowlegs (4) 2 (1) 5 (2) 13 (7) 15 (3) 25 Cove AKM; (4) 12 Seabrook
 LS
 Lesser Yellowlegs (10) 15 (58) 29 Cove AKM
 Dunlin (2) 13 (10) 25 (4) 26, 29 Bayshore LS
 Dowitcher (sp.) (3) 12 (101) 15 (30) 25 (150) 28, 29 Cove AKM; (100) 12 Seabrook
 (29) 25 Galv. (200) 24 Hwy. 73 CS, LS
 Marbled Godwit (6) 8 Galv. "A"; (4) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Sanderling (17) 15 Cove AKM; (6) 25 Galv. CS, LS (8) 29 Boliver LS
 American Avocet (1) 26 San Jacinto Bay CS, LS
 Gull, Bonaparte's (32) 15 Cove AKM (50) 12 Bayshore LS
 Black Skimmer (4) 25 Cove AKM
 Roadrunner (1) 17 Farm Rd. 1413, Dayton AB, JB; (1) 21 Western Harris Co. LH, HH
 Barn Owl (1) 14 Cove AKM
 Screech Owl (1) 18 S.J. Monument BF; (1) 12, 17, 30 Cove AKM
 Great Horned Owl (1) 27 Cove AKM
 Burrowing Owl (1) 5 Bryant Beach, Freeport JS, NS
 Barred Owl (1) 2, 24, 30 (2) 29 Cove AKM
 Belted Kingfisher (3) 13 Angleton JE, PE; (2) 17, 22 Cove AKM; (2) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Yellow-shafted Flicker (5) 21 Westheimer JE, PE; (7) 11 (6) 22, 25 Cove AKM
 Pileated Woodpecker (2) 25 Cove AKM; (1) 24 Bayshore CS LS (1) 29 Bayshore LS
 Red-headed Woodpecker (7) 13 Angleton JE, PE
 Yellow-b. Sapsucker (2) 21 Westheimer JE, PE; (3) 12, 29 Cove AKM
 Downy Woodpecker (2) 1, 21 Westheimer JE, PE; (1) 4, 25 (3) 15 (2) 22 Cove AKM
 Eastern Phoebe (6) 13 Angleton JE, PE; (5) 15 (3) 29 Cove AKM
 Vermilion Flycatcher (1) 5, 12 Cove AKM; (1) 10 Spring-Cypress Rd. BH
 Horned Lark (3) 21 Sugarland PS; (4) 25 Cove AKM; (10) 11 W. Harris Co. CS, PC, LS
 Tree Swallow (2) 22 Cove AKM; (25) 12 Seabrook CS, LS
 Red-br. Nuthatch (2) 17 San Jacinto Battleground BF
 Brown-h. Nuthatch (3) 22 Cove AKM
 Brown Creeper (3) 18 S.J. Monument BF; (2) 17 Old River, Dayton, AB, JB;
 (1) 1, 5 Cove AKM
 House Wren (1) 12, 15, 17, 25, 26 (3) 22 Cove AKM
 Winter Wren (1) 12, 22 Cove AKM
 Long-billed Marsh Wren (1) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Short-billed Marsh Wren (1) 25 Cove AKM
 Catbird (1) 18 S.J. Monument BF
 Robin (10) 13 Angleton (2000) 24 Westheimer JE; (2500) 25 (300) 27 Cove AKM
 (200) 17 LH, HH
 Wood Thrush (1) 12 Cove AKM
 Hermit Thrush (1) 21 Westheimer JE, PE; (1) 15 Cove AKM; (4) 24 Cove CS, LS;
 (2) 10 Tomball BH
 Swainson's Thrush (1) 15 (my first winter record) Cove AKM

- Eastern Bluebird (10) 13 Angleton (15) 21 Westheimer JE, PE; (5) 24 Sheldon
 (20) 6, 21 Memorial (3) 10 Tomball BH, JH CS,LS
 Golden-cr Kinglet (1) 5, 22 Cove AKM; (10) 24 Cove CS, LS; (2) 7 Spring
 Valley BH, JH
 Ruby-cr. Kinglet (1) 13 Angleton (1) 21 Westheimer JE, PE;
 Water Pipit (40) 15, 27 Cove AKM
 Cedar Waxwing (30) 21 Westheimer JE, PE; (100) 20 Bellaire PS; (40) 18 S.J.
 (200) 25 Cove AKM; (200) 17 Longenbaugh LH, HH Monument BF
 Solitary Vireo (1) 10, 24 Bayshore LS
 Warbler, Orange-cr. (3) 5, 15 (1) 22, 25 Cove AKM
 Myrtle (35) 29 Cove AKM
 Audubon's (1) 24 Sheldon CS, LS
 Pine (8) 22 Cove AKM; (24) 10 Memorial (cold) LH, HH
 Yellowthroat (1) 13 Angleton JE, PE; (1) 15 Cove AKM; (1) 24 Sheldon
 (1) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Wilson's (1) ²⁹High Island LS
 House Sparrow - Never reported!
 Bullock's Oriole
 (1) 1, 10 Bellaire
 JD; (1) 25 Toddville
 Rd. CS, LS
 Rusty Blackbird
 (11) 15 (5) 25
 Cove AKM
 Brown-headed Cowbird
 (5000) 22 Downtown
 Houston BH
 Purple Finch (2) 17,19 22
 Memorial LH, HH;
 (2) 18 (5) 29
 Bayshore LS
 American Goldfinch (12)
 21 Westheimer JE,PE;
 (4) 6 Memorial BH,JH
 (150) 10 Tomball Rd.BH
 Rufous-sided Towhee
 (1) 18 S.J.Monument BF;
 (6) 15 (1) 25 Cove AKM
 Sparrow, Savannah
 (1) 21 Westheimer JE,PE;
 (15) 11 W.Harris Co.
 CS, PC, LS
 Sparrow, Grasshopper
 (2) 28 W. Harris Co.
 LH, HH
 Sparrow, LeConte's
 (1) 25 Cove AKM
 Sparrow, Seaside
 (3) 25 Galv. CS, LS
 Sparrow, Vesper
 (20) 15 Cove AKM
 Slate-colored Junco (8) 17 Old River, Dayton AB, JB; (15) 24 Cove AKM;
 (12) 11 Spring Cypress Rd. BH, JH
 Field Sparrow (4) 16 Old River, Dayton AB, JB; (12) 15 Cove AKM
 White-crowned Sparrow (1) 18 S.J.Monument BF; (15) 25 Cove AKM
 White-thr. Sparrow (8) 21 Westheimer JE, PE
 Fox Sparrow (2) 14,15 Cove AKM; (3) 11 W.Harris County CS, PC, LS;
 (4) 29 High Island LS
 Lincoln's Sparrow (1) 5,22 (3) 25 Cove AKM
 Swamp Sparrow (1) 14, 24, 26 (2) 15,22 (15) 25 Cove AKM
 Song Sparrow (2) 18 S.J.Monument BF; (1) 14,22 (2) 25 Cove AKM
 Lapland Longspur (1) 21 W. Harris Co. LH, HH; (20) 11 W.Harris Co. CS,PC,LS
 Horned Lark (4) 25 Cove AKM; (12) 21 W. Harris Co. LH, HH



"I TOLD YOU THIS VERIFICATION BUSINESS
 WOULD GET OUT OF HAND."

*Harlan's Hawk Seen under excellent conditions: Flying and perched at ranges of from 20 to 60 yards. Bird was under observation for approximately 5 minutes. The plumage was spoty-black except for the tail which was pure white at the base, shading to brownish black at the tip. (The tail showed no pink or red from either above or below). Possible confusion with Black Phase Rough-legged Hawk was allayed with dark under-wing primaries and the indistinct blending of white and dark on the tail. As far as I know this represents a 7th record for the area.

T.B.F.

CREDITS:

JE	Jim Ellis	AKM	Archie K. McKay	JD	Jane Dodge
PE	Pat Ellis	HP	Harvey Patton	AB	Arthur Buckels
PS	Peggy Smith	BH	Bill Harwell	JB	Janice Buckels
BF	Ben Feltner	JH	Jean Harwell	LS	Linda Snyder
JS	Jerry Strickling	(LH)	Louise Hoffman	CS	Clinton Snyder
NS	Nancy Strickling	"A" (HH)	Henry Hoffman	PC	Paul Corneil
		(Virginia Parker		
		(Evelyn & Alfred Sullivan (Toronto, Canada)		

Report on January Field Trip - By David Marrack

Twenty-six members of the Ornithological Group of the Houston Outdoor Nature Club gathered on Sunday, January 28, 1962, outside Kitzman's Garage at Cypress in bright sunshine and in a very optimistic frame of mind. A ten-car chain, Chevrolets predominating, left at about 8:30 to investigate bird life on properties in the direction of Magnolia. Unfortunately, the last link fell off and this was not noticed for some time. However, the search car, ably led by Mrs. Margaret Kitzman, located the wayward one and a full complement arrived at the Nicholas property. This features two lakes, mixed woodland, and some dense thicket. The lake was dominated in the eyes of this party by a Bald Eagle, immature, perched on a dead tree. A second immature was also present. This find put Mr. John Kitzman's stock, as leader of the tour, at a very high level, where it remained for the rest of the day. Later, many members saw five of these birds, 2 adults and 3 immatures wheeling in the sky and several vultures conveniently hung around for us to make a good comparison.

For the convenience of members, several parties of small birds displayed under a stand of pine trees, darting in and out in the bright sunshine. Particularly prominent were Bluebirds, Pine Warblers and Juncos. Many came so close to us that binoculars were a hindrance. Further along the path around the lake, a good view was had of Red-headed Woodpeckers and a Yellow-shafted Flicker. Unfortunately, most of the ducks originally on the lake left by the time we were in a position to look at them with the sun behind us; however, most members had an excellent view of a Ring-necked Duck. The more adventurous ignored the thorns to visit various thickets which were very rewarding. Even they were unable to locate Red-cockaded Woodpeckers amongst the fine stands of timber. Interestingly, the Cedar Waxwings and Robins which had been seen in these woods the previous week-end when the weather was cold and cloudy were conspicuous by their absence.

After lunch in a clearing used by deer hunters in some woods off the road, the party moved on to Cam Wood hoping to find Wood Ducks but they had disappeared. However, three Pied-billed Grebes played hide-and-seek with us, and several members saw a Vermilion Flycatcher. In all, 59 species of birds were seen during the day as well as several mammals.

The party broke up about 4:30 and several members used the remaining daylight to make side trips on the way home. Several cars converged at the lakes on the Hockley-Katy Cutoff and we were rewarded by fine views of Curlew, and Shoveler, Mallard and Pintail Duck, and later, by a large group of Sandhill Cranes, as well as many geese.

The following species of birds were seen during the main trip: Brewer's and Redwinged Blackbird, Eastern Bluebird, Bobwhite, Cardinal, Chickadee, Brown-headed Cowbird, Brown Creeper, Common Crow, Mourning Dove Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Am. Widgeon, Bald Eagles, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Vermilion Flycatcher, Am. Goldfinch, Snow Goose, Boat-tailed Grackle, Common Grackle, Pied-billed Grebe, Marsh, Red-shouldered, Red-tailed and Sparrow Hawks, Great Blue Heron, Blue Jay, Slate-colored Junco, Kildeer, Belted Kingfisher, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, E. Meadowlark.

Mockingbird, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Eastern Phoebe, Robin, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Loggerhead Shrike, Chipping, House, Lincoln's Song, Vesper, White-crowned and White-throated Sparrow, Starling, Blue-winged Teal, Brown Thrasher, Hermit Thrush, Tufted Titmouse, Turkey Vulture, Myrtle Warbler, Pine Warbler, Downy, Red-bellied and Red-headed Woodpecker, Carolina and House Wren.

Members saw the following birds on their way home: Cedar Waxwing, Sandhill Crane, Long-billed Curlew, Snipe, Water Pipit, Roadrunner, Grasshopper, Vesper and Savannah Sparrow, large numbers of Snow/Blue and White-fronted Geese, Pintails, Shovelers, Gadwalls and Mallards.

The chain links included: George Sibley, Luta Buchanan, Darris Massingill, Mary Sears, Louise and Henry Hoffman, Pat Sullivan, Edna Miner, Margaret and John Kitzmann (the leaders), Rickey Gallager, Katrina Thompson, Virginia Parker, Ralph Hunter, Clayton and Eva Gilman, Jerry Baker, Pat and Jim Ellis, Jean and Bill Harwell and Bill, Jr., Dagmar Rieders, Frank and Mary Belle Kokesh, Irving Greenbaum, Thelma Smith, David Marrack.

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Secretary: Miss Katrina Thompson

Treasurer: Miss Ella Wolfer

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