



The Spoonbill

A Publication of the Ornithology Group
Of the Houston Outdoor Nature Club

February 2001

March Program

Spring Birding— High Island and Beyond

Boy Scout Woods and Smith Oaks offer great birding during spring migration but are often crowded during the peak times. Fortunately, there are other locations on High Island and other areas on the Upper Texas Coast to enjoy spring migrants. Winnie Burkett will introduce the group to some of the lesser known sites to enjoy spring migration.

Winnie Burkett started birding when she was 4 (according to her grandmother) and has been involved with birds all her life. She continued her education on birds at Florida State University. Before moving to Texas, she was a naturalist with the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and ran a bird banding station. Her love for birds has inspired her work for bird conservation as bird populations decline. She is currently employed by Houston Audubon as a

7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 5, 2001

Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet

sanctuary manager and by Texas Audubon as the Upper Texas Coast Colonial Waterbird Steward.

Learning Corner: 6:30 p.m.

Duck Identification

David Bradford will continue his class on duck identification tips. Please bring your field guide.



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OG Website

www.ornithologygroup.org

To add your name to the e-mail list, send a message to Listserv@listserv.uh.edu.

On the first line of the message, put "subscribe HOUSTON-OG first-name last-name". You will receive a confirmation within a few minutes.

About the Ornithology Group

The Ornithology Group (OG) is a member of the Outdoor Nature Club (ONC), a non-profit organization dedicated to greater knowledge about the environment and wildlife of the Upper Texas Coast. The OG is a club of individuals interested in all aspects of birding, including bird identification, listing bird sightings, competing in birding events and preserving bird habitat. Some members study bird behavior, biology, distribution and migration, while others just enjoy watching birds. The organization is designed to accommodate these diverse birding interests. Monthly meetings and field trips provide an opportunity to interact with and learn from experts in local and international birding. Officers:

Chair	David Sarkozi	713-520-5906
Vice-Chair	Skip Almoney	713-524-4285
Secretary	Pat Pease	713-789-3306
Treasurer	Bob Simmons	713-776-2511
Clearinghouse	David Sarkozi	713-520-5906
SB Editor	MP Haddican	281-589-0005

For membership information,
see the back cover.

Volunteers Needed!

The OG needs volunteers to fill the slate of new officers for 2001. Please contact David if you can serve as **Vice Chairman** or **Secretary** of the OG this year.

David Sarkozi 713-743-5906
dsarkozi@flash.net

Clearinghouse submissions:

David Sarkozi
dsarkozi@flash.net

Newsletter submissions:

Mary Pat Haddican
mphdd@worldnet.att.net
(by the 10th of the month)

2001 dues are due now!

Minutes of the February OG Meeting February 5, 2001

Learning Corner: Identifying Ducks (Diving Ducks)
conducted by David Bradford.

Chairman David Sarkozi conducted the meeting.

Announcements:

Next month will be election of officers. We are still looking for a candidate for Vice Chairman and for Secretary. Anyone with ideas or interested in the job should contact David Sarkozi.

February 25 birding field trip to Brazos Bend State Park will have Ron Windingstead from Eagle Optics. He will bring several binoculars and scopes for field testing.

Several field trips and events are coming up at Russ Pitman Park. Copies of their newsletter were Available for those interested.

Bird Sightings:

Semi-albino American robin; ferruginous hawk at Warren Ranch Lake; peregrine falcon at Texas City Dike on tower; Oregon junco at Sam Houston State Forest; a flock of 600+ cedar waxwings.

Rob Thacker showed a slide of one of the long-eared owls being seen in an oak tree on Amber Lane in Carrollton, Texas.

Program: "Birding Southeastern Arizona" with slides and commentary by David Bradford.

Pat Pease
Recording Secretary

Chairman's Message

David Sarkozi

This is my last Chairman's message. We'll elect a new OG Chairman at the March Meeting who will take over after this. I'll still be around doing the Clearinghouse every month and I'll be at most of the meetings.

It has been a great two terms as Chairman. I think we've finally started to see some growth again in the OG. At the February meeting I think we had more first timers than I've ever seen at a meeting.

I would like to extend special thanks to Skip Almony, who has been Vice-chairman these two terms and who has done a great job getting programs for the meetings. He sure made being Chairman a lot easier and I think we can thank him for a large part of the growth we're beginning to see.

I would also like to thank Don Richardson, who saved the day and filled in a few months as Spoonbill editor when we needed someone in the worst way. The Spoonbill is the heart and soul of the OG and I think without it we would quickly wither away as a vital organization.

I should thank all those who filled offices while I was chairman, Mike Gremillion, Pat Pease, Bob Simmons, D.K. Smith, David Bradford, and Glen Olsen.

I am moving on to other projects. I've been nominated as vice-president of the Texas Ornithological Society. I've also got lots of ideas for projects we can work together on in the OG and I hope to work with a lot of you in the very near future.

Thanks for all the support and please give your next Chairman as much support. Good officers are very important to an organization, but it's the members who participate in everything the organization does who really make an organization great.

Field Trips Glenn Olsen

Please wear weather-appropriate outdoor clothes and shoes and bring water, insect repellent and lunch. If you have special needs, plan accordingly. For further information, contact Glenn Olsen at 281-345-4151 or hgolsen8@hal-pc.org.

February 25 (Sunday 9:00am)

Brazos Bend State Park

Ron Windingstead from Eagle Optics of Wisconsin will join us and bring binoculars and scopes from different manufacturers for us to field test. If you are considering the purchase of binoculars or a scope, this will be an excellent opportunity to evaluate the different optics available. Many of us bought our optics from Eagle Optics, and Ron will probably have extras available for purchase. Check out his web site at www.eagleoptics.com.

March 4 (Sunday 7:30am)

Stephen F. Austin State Park

Meet at the entrance to the park. Bob Ohmart will lead the trip to look for lingering winter birds and early migrants.

Directions: From Houston, go west on I-10 through Katy and Brookshire to FM 1458. Look for signs that read "San Felipe." Go north on FM 1458 through the small town of San Felipe. Look for signs to the Park. Cross over the Brazos River and KEEP LEFT when 1458 veers to the right.

March 31 (Saturday 7:00am)

Sabine Pass Area

Mike Austin will lead this trip to see rails and waders at Texas Point; migrants in Sabine Woods; and swallows, gulls and terns in Sea Rim Park. Meet at the McDonalds in Winnie, Texas.

Directions: Go east on I-10 to Winnie and take the 829 Exit. The McDonald's is on the north (left) side. Meet in the west parking lot.

24th BUFFALO BAYOU, TX, CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

BOB HONIG

SPECIES REPORTED COUNT DAY: 121 (PLUS 1 ADDITIONAL SPECIES DURING COUNT WEEK)

TOTAL INDIVIDUAL BIRDS REPORTED COUNT DAY: 44,478

PARTICIPANTS: 117 (50 IN THE FIELD + 67 AT FEEDERS)

The 24th Buffalo Bayou CBC (TXBF CBC) held December 30, 2000, attracted a record high number of observers. The 117 total participants also appears to be this year's highest on the upper Texas coast. The 66 feeder watchers indicates we may finally be starting to attract the number of stay-at-home observers this densely-populated count circle deserves.

Several often hard to find winter species were widespread and in some cases numerous: Brown Creeper 17, Golden-crowned Kinglet 28, Wilson's Warbler 9, and Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco 46. We recorded all-time high numbers for Neotropical Cormorant 42, Great Blue Heron 83, Great Egret 433, Black Vulture 355, Black-bellied Whistling-Duck 95, Snow Goose 4149, Canada Goose 350, Merlin 3, Laughing Gull 13, Rock Dove 1810, Mourning Dove 1301, Black-chinned Hummingbird 2, Red-headed Woodpecker 31, Red-bellied Woodpecker 189, Downy Woodpecker 132, Brown Creeper 17, Pine Warbler 166, Ovenbird 1 (new to the TXBF CBC -- and the most unexpected bird on the count), Field Sparrow 46, Savannah Sparrow 675, Swamp Sparrow 156, Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco 46, blackbird sp. 10438, and House Sparrow 1043. We equaled highs for Ruby-throated Hummingbird 2, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 1, White-eyed Vireo 5, Wilson's Warbler 9, and House Finch 18. Several other species had high though not record numbers. Some of these high numbers undoubtedly are due to the cold winter driving birds farther south than usual.

A single Peregrine Falcon is wintering at the Galleria shopping center in the eastern portion of circle (only the second time for this species on the TXBF CBC -- last year, 2 Peregrines were at the Galleria, plus 2 in other parts of circle.) Neotropic Cormorant and Laughing Gull have been relatively easy to find in Houston this winter; the TXBF CBC results reflect that. Cattle Egret, often hard to find on the upper Texas coast in winter, was seen again in good numbers, as has been rule in recent years on TXBF CBC. Other species of interest for right here within the Houston city limits were Anhinga 10, Bewick's Wren 1, Eastern Towhee 2, Grasshopper Sparrow 2, and Harris's Sparrow 7.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (ECDO) was reported again for only the 2nd year (only 2 observed, despite known abundance in the southeast portion of circle). Ringed Turtle-Dove (RTDO), a regular on the TXBF CBC (15 out of 24 years), was not reported. Recent experience indicates ECDO populations are rising, and RTDO getting harder to find. More definitive assessment may result as nesting season arrives and birds are more vocal and thus more easily detected and identified. Some observers (including the Compiler) were not even aware of the possibility of ECDO before 100th CBC season (1999-2000); before that could ECDO have been present but reported mistakenly as RTDO?

Thanks again to the record number of participants; to the Houston Arboretum & Nature Center for hosting our early morning organizational meeting; and to Harris Count Precinct 3 Parks Department and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Addicks and Barker Dam Projects Office for providing access to usually restricted areas of Addicks and Barker Reservoirs.

Complete results can be viewed at <http://birdsource.tc.cornell.edu/CBC>.

Beginning Birding

BIRD IDENTIFICATION USING THE GISS TECHNIQUE

By Don Richardson

There is a term often used by birders to explain how they identified a bird. The term is "GISS," or "Jizz" as written by most folks. It is my understanding that the term derives from the British system for identifying aircraft in the Second World War. This system was called the General Identification Silhouette System (GISS) and was pronounced like "jazz" with an "i," or "jizz." For this article, I'll use the word "jizz," because that's how I see it most often.

To me, jizz is the use of a characteristic that is subconsciously recognizable and that leads to an identification. Examples of this are common in everyday life. For example, imagine you have gone to the mall with your best friend. You have gone your separate ways, and now you want to locate and rejoin your friend. Climbing to a balcony at one end of the mall, you begin to search the crowd. Finally, you see someone several hundred yards away at the other end. Although this person is too far away to see facial characteristics, you still recognize your friend—from the walk, the way the arms move, or the way the head is carried. You have used the jizz to recognize your friend.

As you become more experienced in birding, you develop a sense for more of these characteristics. You see a bird fly across the road in front of you and note that it has black, white and a lot of gray. You see it light on a fencepost in the corner of your eye as you speed by and say aloud, "Loggerhead shrike." "Why wasn't that a mockingbird," your friend asks. "It's the jizz," you reply. But what did you see that told you this was a loggerhead shrike?

Watch a loggerhead shrike fly to and land on a perch, then watch a mockingbird do the same thing. Usually, you will see the loggerhead shrike fly toward the perch at an elevation lower than the perch. When close, it glides up to the spot and plops itself onto it. The mockingbird, on the other hand, will approach from above the perch, make a parachute out of its body, tail and wings, and float down to its landing. When you have seen enough loggerhead shrikes and mockingbirds land, you will begin to recognize these movements, just as you recognized your friend at the mall.

Woodpeckers have a characteristic flight which is often called a "swooping" pattern. In flight, they rise to a peak, glide downward, and flap and glide to a new peak. If you were to trace the pattern on paper, it would look like the crests and troughs of waves in the ocean. A quick glimpse of this in the wild might draw the comment, "I don't know what it was, but I think it was a woodpecker"—the woodpecker's jizz.

A tiny brown bird flies from high up on the trunk of a tree in the woods. It lands near the bottom of a nearby tree and begins to move in spiral fashion upward, feeding on insects as it goes. As it gets quite high, it leaves that tree, flies to the bottom of another and begins again. Even though you are too far to see any brown and white patterns or the shape of its little curved bill, you know this is a brown creeper. Its feeding behavior gives it away.

Orange-crowned warblers and ruby-crowned kinglets are often found near each other, but you know that the bird that keeps flipping its wings is the kinglet. The brown thrasher and the hermit thrush both like to scratch in the leaves as they feed, have warm brown in the tail, and spots or streaks on the front. But the pudgier build and more vertical posture quickly tells you that this is the thrush.

There are many aspects of behavior and appearance not mentioned or only briefly mentioned in field guides that are included in the tag of jizz. Having said all that, I would rather not use the word. If you think about it, all these jizz things are describable characteristics. In my opinion, if you can identify a bird and can verbalize how you identified it, you have done a better job than if you say, "I don't know what I saw that makes it a goldfinch, but there's something about it and I know it's a goldfinch."

As you watch birds, certainly do try to identify them using the field marks you have read about in field guides. Also, though, watch their flight, how they move, and how they stand. As you write these observations in your field notes or journal, you'll build an ever more helpful tool kit for identifying birds. The tool kit will be filled with well described characteristics and not just a bunch of jizz jazz.

Don is a regular writer and lecturer about birds and teaches a beginning birding field course in conjunction with the Houston Audubon Society. Contact him at (281)997-0485 or cdplace@concentric.net.

Clearing House January 2001

David Sarkozi

The format this month is Species, date, County(location), # of birds, Observer.

Birds in **Bold** are very rare by the checklist and those underlined are new to the checklist for that week. Notes are requested for those species listed in **bold**. Not all notes received are printed here because of space limitations.

County Key: BR = Brazoria, CH = Chambers, CO = Colorado, FB = Fort Bend, GA = Galveston, HA = Harris, JE = Jefferson. Location Key: ANWR = Anahuac NWR, ABNC = Armand Bayou Nature Center, BCP = Bear Creek Park, EB = East Beach, PI = Pleasure Island, RPP = Russ Pittmann Park, SP = Sabine Pass, SJSP = San Jacinto Battleground State Park, WHC = West Harris County

Observer Key: AM = Art MacKinnon, BSH = Barbara & Sam House, BH = Barbara House, BJ = Bernice Jackson, BMH = Bob & Maggie Honig, Bho = Bob Honig, BLS = Bob Honig Shawn Lixey Peter Samuels, DS = David Sarkozi, DF = Debra Finch, DLR = Don and Lee Richardson, DR = Don Richardson, JH = Jim Hinson.

Common Loon birds=64 reports=6
Pied-billed Grebe birds=74 reports=14
American White Pelican birds=376 reports=10
Brown Pelican birds=231 reports=9
Double-crested Cormorant birds=144 reports=12
Neotropic Cormorant birds=181 reports=10
American Bittern birds=2 reports=2
Great Blue Heron birds=96 reports=18
Great Egret birds=70 reports=16
Snowy Egret birds=77 reports=17
Little Blue Heron birds=19 reports=8
Tricolored Heron birds=9 reports=8
Reddish Egret birds=1 reports=1
Cattle Egret birds=20 reports=3
Black-crowned Night-Heron birds=56 reports=7
White Ibis birds=199 reports=9
White-faced Ibis birds=86 reports=12
Plegadis Ibis species birds=16 reports=1
Roseate Spoonbill birds=34 reports=8
Black Vulture birds=71 reports=8
Turkey Vulture birds=105 reports=13
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck birds=24 reports=3
Greater White-fronted Goose birds=408 reports=5
Snow Goose birds=2,684 reports=6
Snow Goose (White phase) birds=900 reports=1
Snow Goose (Blue phase) birds=100 reports=1
Ross's Goose birds=3 reports=2
Wood Duck 1/22 CH() 9 DLR, 1/26 HA(BCP) 30 JH
Gadwall birds=463 reports=13
American Wigeon birds=11 reports=7
Mallard birds=48 reports=5
Mottled Duck birds=40 reports=7
Blue-winged Teal birds=293 reports=8
Cinnamon Teal birds=7 reports=3
Northern Shoveler birds=1,030 reports=10
Northern Pintail birds=686 reports=2
Green-winged Teal birds=1,147 reports=6
Greater Scaup birds=99 reports=4
Lesser Scaup birds=122 reports=8
Bufflehead birds=4 reports=2
Common Goldeneye birds=2 reports=2
Hooded Merganser birds=1 reports=1
Red-breasted Merganser birds=281 reports=5
Ruddy Duck birds=6 reports=2
Osprey birds=9 reports=5
White-tailed Kite birds=24 reports=10
Bald Eagle birds=2 reports=2
Northern Harrier birds=70 reports=15
Sharp-shinned Hawk birds=3 reports=3
Cooper's Hawk birds=4 reports=4
Red-shouldered Hawk birds=20 reports=11
Red-tailed Hawk birds=67 reports=16
Crested Caracara birds=4 reports=2
American Kestrel birds=67 reports=17

Merlin birds=3 reports=3
Peregrine Falcon birds=8 reports=7
Greater Prairie-Chicken 1/15 GA(TNC)
3 DR
Clapper Rail birds=2 reports=2
Virginia Rail birds=1 reports=1
Common Moorhen birds=193 reports=7
American Coot birds=494 reports=9
Sandhill Crane birds=43 reports=4
Black-bellied Plover birds=48 reports=3
Snowy Plover 1/15 GA() 2 KR
Semipalmated Plover birds=1 reports=1
Piping Plover 1/15 GA() 1 KR
Killdeer birds=112 reports=12
American Oystercatcher birds=13 reports=2
Black-necked Stilt birds=40 reports=8
American Avocet birds=334 reports=7
Greater Yellowlegs birds=43 reports=6
Lesser Yellowlegs birds=22 reports=4
Willet birds=44 reports=5
Spotted Sandpiper birds=6 reports=3
Whimbrel 1/18 GA(EB) 1 BSH
Long-billed Curlew birds=1 reports=1
Marbled Godwit birds=12 reports=1
Ruddy Turnstone birds=2 reports=1
Red Knot 1/15 GA() 6 KR
Sanderling birds=60 reports=2
Western Sandpiper birds=7 reports=2
Dunlin birds=46 reports=2
Short-billed Dowitcher birds=41 reports=3
dowitcher sp. birds=736 reports=4
Long-billed Dowitcher birds=92 reports=3
Jaeger sp. 1/7 JE(SP) 1 AM
Laughing Gull birds=1,020 reports=10
Franklin's Gull 1/20 JE(PI) 7 AM
Bonaparte's Gull birds=43 reports=2
Ring-billed Gull birds=936 reports=11
Herring Gull birds=463 reports=9
Lesser black-backed gull 1/11 GA() 1 BH,
1/11 GA() 1 BH, 1/18 GA(EB) 1 BSH
gull species birds=1 reports=1
Gull-billed Tern birds=4 reports=3
Caspian Tern birds=74 reports=6
Royal Tern birds=29 reports=8
Sandwich Tern 1/7 JE(SP) 1 AM, 1/20 JE (SP) 1 AM
Common Tern 1/7 JE(SP) 1 AM, 1/20 JE (SP) 4 AM
Forster's Tern birds=44 reports=6
Black Skimmer birds=38 reports=2
Rock Dove birds=1,565 reports=11
Ringed Turtle-Dove 1/14 HA() 2 Bho
Eurasian Collared-Dove birds=56 reports=2
Streptopelia Dove sp. birds=25 reports=1
White-winged Dove birds=256 reports=4
Mourning Dove birds=201 reports=16
Inca Dove birds=31 reports=4
Monk Parakeet 1/28 GA() 3 MA
Eastern Screech-Owl birds=1 reports=1
Great Horned Owl birds=1 reports=1
Barred Owl birds=5 reports=1
Black-chinned Hummingbird 1/28 HA(RPP)
2 MA

Broad-tailed Hummingbird 1/14 HA() 1 BMH, 1/14 HA() 1 BMH, 1/27 HA() 1 BMH
Belted Kingfisher birds=27 reports=14
Red-headed Woodpecker birds=6 reports=1
Red-bellied Woodpecker birds=46 reports=12
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker birds=6 reports=4
Downy Woodpecker birds=10 reports=5
Northern Flicker birds=12 reports=7
Pileated Woodpecker birds=10 reports=6
Eastern Phoebe birds=45 reports=13
Loggerhead Shrike birds=86 reports=17
White-eyed Vireo birds=2 reports=2
Blue-headed Vireo birds=4 reports=3
Red-eyed Vireo 1/20 JE(SP) 1 AM
Blue Jay birds=75 reports=8
American Crow birds=110 reports=15
Tree Swallow birds=224 reports=5
Northern Rough-winged Swallow 1/7 JE(PI) 1 AM,
1/7 JE(SP) 9 AM, 1/20 JE(SP) 2 AM, 1/21 FB (BBS) 1 KR
swallow species 1/15 GA() 1 KR
Carolina Chickadee birds=70 reports=12
Tufted Titmouse birds=74 reports=9
Brown Creeper birds=5 reports=3
Carolina Wren birds=76 reports=13
Sedge Wren birds=16 reports=8
Marsh Wren birds=8 reports=5
Golden-crowned Kinglet birds=7 reports=4
Ruby-crowned Kinglet birds=112 reports=11
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher birds=1 reports=1
Eastern Bluebird birds=43 reports=9
Hermit Thrush birds=13 reports=6
American Robin birds=737 reports=15
Gray Catbird birds=4 reports=3
Northern Mockingbird birds=84 reports=15
Brown Thrasher birds=11 reports=5
European Starling birds=521 reports=12
American Pipit birds=53 reports=9
Sprague's Pipit birds=1 reports=1
Cedar Waxwing birds=239 reports=4
Orange-crowned Warbler birds=25 reports=9
Yellow-rumped Warbler birds=511 reports=16
Pine Warbler birds=22 reports=4
Common Yellowthroat birds=14 reports=7
Wilson's Warbler birds=1 reports=1
Eastern Towhee birds=3 reports=2
Chipping Sparrow birds=59 reports=5
Field Sparrow birds=7 reports=2
Vesper Sparrow birds=2 reports=2
Lark Sparrow birds=3 reports=3
Savannah Sparrow birds=231 reports=15
Henslow's Sparrow 1/20 HA() 1 DF
Le Conte's Sparrow birds=2 reports=1
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow birds=53 reports=1
Seaside Sparrow birds=31 reports=3
Fox Sparrow 1/28 HA(SJSP) 1 MA
Song Sparrow birds=32 reports=7
Lincoln's Sparrow birds=6 reports=4
Swamp Sparrow birds=97 reports=11

Continued on back cover...

Texas Ornithological Society Spring Meeting in Corpus Christi

The spring meeting of TOS, hosted by the Audubon Outdoor Club, will convene in Corpus Christi on April 26, 27 and 28. The meeting schedule and field trip descriptions will be posted at www.texasbirds.org.

The Holiday Inn Padre Island Drive (5549 Leopard Street, Corpus Christi) has a block of rooms reserved for TOS *until April 1, 2001* at a rate of \$69.00 + tax. Phone 361-289-5100 for reservations.

Spring migration will be in full swing at the end of April. Field trips will take in the coast, the local hot spots and unexpected treats at several private ranches. Field trip sign-up will be during registration on Thursday, April 26. Early breakfast and box lunches (vegetarian available) can be arranged during registration.

To register for the Spring Meeting, send the registration form and a check made out to Audubon Outdoor Club to:

Audubon Outdoor Club
P.O. Box 3352
Corpus Christi TX 78463

TOS Spring Meeting Registration Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____

Daytime phone _____

Registration Fees:

_____ Members @ \$28.00	_____
Late fee (after Apr. 1) \$5.00	_____
Student discount (subtract \$10.00)	_____
New Membership (1 yr.) \$20.00	_____
New Family Membership \$30.00	_____
Upgrade to family membership \$10.00 (for spouse attending meeting /field trips)	_____
_____ Banquet tickets @ \$22.00	_____
Total	_____

Make checks payable to: Audubon Outdoor Club

CLEARINGHOUSE SUBMISSIONS

Bird sightings can be sent to:

David Sarkozi
111 Welch Street, Apt. B
Houston TX 77706

Or e-mailed to dsarkozi@flash.net using the following format:

species,date,county,location,count,observer.

Clearinghouse submission forms are available at monthly meetings or can be downloaded from the OG web page.

Although not all sightings are published because of space, please continue to send them in. They do get used and are very important to updating the regional checklist.

SPARROW QUIZ ANSWERS

David Bradford summed up his Learning Corner series on sparrow identification with the sparrow quiz printed in the January newsletter. Here are the answers.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Savannah | 11. Harris' |
| 2. White-throated | 12. Field |
| 3. Nelson's sharp-tailed | 13. Henslow's |
| 4. Chipping | 14. White-crowned |
| 5. LeConte's | 15. Swamp |
| 6. Song | 16. Seaside |
| 7. Grasshopper | 17. Vesper |
| 8. Song | 18. Lincoln's |
| 9. Savannah | 19. Bachman's |
| 10. Vesper | 20. Savannah |

SOLICITED MAIL

Outdoor Nature Club
Ornithology Group
P.O. Box 270894
Houston TX 77277-0894

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Houston, Texas
Permit No. 1063

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

Clearinghouse continued:

White-throated Sparrow birds=131 reports=9
Harris' Sparrow 1/28 HA(SJSP) 1 MA
White-crowned Sparrow birds=32 reports
Dark-eyed Junco birds=35 reports=4
sparrow sp. birds=12 reports=1
Northern Cardinal birds=317 reports=13
Black-headed Grosbeak 1/13 HA() 1 BJ
Red-winged Blackbird birds=1,429 reports=14
Eastern Meadowlark birds=62 reports=6
Brewer's Blackbird birds=36 reports=3
Common Grackle birds=517 reports=8
Great-tailed Grackle birds=1,013 reports=15
Brown-headed Cowbird birds=195 reports=4
blackbird species birds=2,012 reports=2
Purple Finch birds=8 reports=2
House Finch birds=6 reports=2
American Goldfinch birds=218 reports=7
House Sparrow birds=371 reports=10

TO START OR RENEW A MEMBERSHIP:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

eMail: _____

Send \$22.00 (dues for ONC and OG) to

Outdoor Nature Club
PO Box 270894
Houston TX 77277-0894

You can also join at www.ornithologygroup.org