



# The Spoonbill

A Publication of the Ornithology Group (OG)  
of the Houston Outdoor Nature Club

September 2011  
Vol. 60 No. 7

## **MONTHLY MEETING MONDAY**

**SEPTEMBER 12**

**Bayland Community Center**

**6400 Bissonnet, Houston**

**LEARNING CORNER 6:30**

**GENERAL MEETING 7:00**

### **EVENING PROGRAM SPEAKER: STEVE GROSS**

**President of the Texas Ornithological Society  
Takes us to a higher state:**

### **BIRDING IN IDAHO**

Steve Gross leads birding tours and field trips throughout the US, placing special emphasis on Texas, Idaho, and Arizona. He particularly enjoys working with beginning birders. In the Houston area, Steve has led trips and given presentations to the Houston Outdoor Nature Club Ornithology Group and the Houston Audubon Society. He is currently the President of the Texas Ornithological Society. Steve lives in Northwest Houston and works as a Special Education teacher for Klein ISD.

**SEPTEMBER OG FIELD TRIP**

**SMITH POINT HAWK WATCH**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH**

## **INTRODUCING THE OG BOARD SECRETARY**

**Marie Asscherick:** I have enjoyed birds at feeders ever since I was little. I became more interested in birds when I took a series of Master Naturalist classes at Armand Bayou Nature Center with the Gulf Coast Chapter in 2000. Later, I transferred to the Galveston Bay Area Chapter. I am a Life Member of TOS (Texas Ornithology Society) and Friends of the Trinity River NWR. I took the birding classes taught by Don Richardson and also completed a series of classes taught at ABNC in conjunction with University of Houston and received my Texas Birding Certification on July 5, 2001. I am now retired from the U.S. Postal Service. I spend most of my birding time at El Franco Lee Park and Armand Bayou Nature Center. My husband, Odie, and I also volunteer for Texas Parks and Wildlife and talk to the public about bats at the Waugh Drive Bridge once a month.

### **About the Ornithology Group**

The Ornithology Group (OG) is a division 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.

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OG website: <http://www.ornithologygroup.org/>

ONC website: <http://www.outdoornatureclub.org/>

### **Feather Pillow Field Trip**

Giving in to Houston heat, which chases us inside midday, limits summertime city bird watching opportunities. So prop up the pillows with the fan going and travel by book page.

The book *Chasing Birds Across Texas, A Birding Big Year* by Mark T. Adams came to me as a thank-you gift. Reading it has turned into a way to continue to learn new places to bird in Texas and an opportunity to study the birds he lists. As these birds are often the Texas rare bird sightings that he traveled to see I kept *Sibley's* nearby to look them up, and a Texas map to make note of interesting birding spots. I might never get to see a Black-legged Kittiwake at Lake Balmorea, but I will remember to stop there, and I will remember that the hummingbird diversity in the Davis Mountains during July and August is one of Texas best kept secrets.

*Vicki Sims*

# FOCUS ON SEPTEMBER

**WILLOW WATERHOLE BIRD COUNT  
SEPTEMBER 17 ( 3<sup>rd</sup> SATURDAYS )**

**SMITH POINT HAWK WATCH  
COUNTING ON VOLUNTEERS**

## **Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary September 17-18**

Focus Topic Lepidoptera & service project 8AM  
Quarterly Trash Pick-up event along 945 fronting LTNS  
2001 FM 945 Cleveland, Tx.  
Look for brown sign near Hwy  
**October 22-23**  
Annual Halloween Visitor's Day  
Focus Bugs and Spiders

## **ANNUAL XTREME HUMMINGBIRD XTRAVAGANZA GULF COAST BIRD OBSERVATORY IN LAKE JACKSON SATURDAY SEPT 10 and SATURDAY SEPT 17 8:00 A.M. UNTIL NOON!**

Autumn is hummingbird season in Texas as thousands of these tiny creatures move through the state on their southward migration to Mexico and Central America. Come on out and watch the banding, adopt a hummingbird, walk the nature trails, browse the Nature Store, or buy a plant to attract hummingbirds and butterflies.

Your attendance will support coastal bird conservation.

Each week will include an informative lecture:

September 10 - Gardening for Hummingbirds - Barbara Burkhart

September 17 - Bird Photography - Mike Gray and Dick Barrett

Cost is \$2 for adults and youth of all ages are free.

Go to [www.gcbo.org](http://www.gcbo.org) for a printable map to the Sanctuary  
or call (979) 480-0999 for directions.

## **Texas Parks and Wildlife Magazine**

[http://www.tpwmagazine.com/archive/2011/aug/ed\\_2\\_birdingcalendar/index.phtml](http://www.tpwmagazine.com/archive/2011/aug/ed_2_birdingcalendar/index.phtml)

August Issue (print or via the internet)

A wonderful article WING IT gives us a 2011 fall/winter birding calendar listing a number of September events within driving range of Houston.

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, San Antonio [www.mitchelllakeaudubon.org](http://www.mitchelllakeaudubon.org)

Rockport Hummer/Bird Celebration [www.rockporthummingbird.com](http://www.rockporthummingbird.com)

Kleb Woods Hummingbird Festival [www.pct3.hctx.net/parks/klebwoodsnaturepres.aspx](http://www.pct3.hctx.net/parks/klebwoodsnaturepres.aspx)

## Local Birding Spot Offers Interesting Perspectives

Sheldon Lake State Park and Environmental Learning Center is an often overlooked local birding spot, but just a twenty minute drive from downtown Houston it offers a unique perspective. The state park has just opened a new 75-foot wildlife observation tower (accessible by stairs or elevator) shown in the photo. From the tower you can view many different areas of this 2800-acre park that are hidden or inaccessible from ground level.

To the east is Sheldon Lake, with 800 acres of permanent water surface, and another 400 acres of marsh and swamp habitat. From the tower you can see that the lake is dotted with Anhingas spreading their wings to the sun. Great and Snowy egrets decorate the trees like Christmas ornaments. Ibis and others hunt throughout the flats on the north end of the lake. In the winter, this area serves as a spectacular refuge for visiting waterfowl.

To the north, the high perspective of the tower reveals naturalists, unseen from the ground, working to remove invasives from the area they are seeking to reclaim as coastal prairie. Next to the prairie area, Master Naturalists are busy growing an inventory of over 5,000 native prairie plants to be used both in the park's restoration project and other prairies on the gulf coast. One truck bed is loaded with small plants destined for Horseshoe Marsh.

Also nearby, toward the east, are the tops of the buildings used in the Environmental Learning Center area of the park. Inside, park staff and volunteers welcome school children, youth groups, summer campers and adult education groups, all interested in learning about the outdoors. Each group has its own perspective. Some come to learn about the prairies, some about fishing, some canoeing, some for hunter education, and yes, some to learn about the birds of the area.

To the south, all that is visible of the state park is a wooded area. Underneath though, is a whole different world. Several ponds, formerly a fish hatchery, are aquatic study stations. Taking advantage of these are many species of birds –herons and egrets, small passerines, a Solitary Sandpiper, a Louisiana Waterthrush, and even a Great Kiskadee that has found his way to the area. During spring and fall migrations this area will reveal many more.

During my visit there, as I stood on the top level of the tower, looking over this remarkable area, a small dark figure darted over the top of the canopy and landed on a dead tree not far away. A Cooper's hawk. It looks so different from above. Then another human visitor came to the tower, looking out over the area. As I often do, I offered my binoculars to give her a better look at the wonders the park has to offer. She gladly took them, gazed out and said to her friend, "Yep, that thing over there is gravel mound," and handed them back.

I guess it's all a matter of perspective.

*Marcy Brown OG Chair*

### **OG BOARD FIELD TRIP POSITION IS STILL VACANT**

HOUSTON AREA HAS A WEALTH OF DAY TRIP OPPORTUNITIES  
UNTIL THE POSITION IS FILLED  
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST A MONTHLY FIELD TRIP  
PLEASE CONTACT DEBBIE VALDEZ OR MARCY BROWN

### **YOU CAN BE THE INSPIRATION TO GO BIRDING !**

VICTOR EMANUEL CREDITS HOUSTON OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB  
AS A TRUE BEGINNING TO HIS BIRD WATCHING CAREER  
READ THE GREAT ARTICLE IN MAY TEXAS MONTHLY



Sheldon Lake State Park - wildlife observation tower

Photo by Marcy Brown

## Mark Bartosik “Nature is the art in itself”

Humbly said when his photos truly capture a moment in time shown in exquisite detail. Those who attended the August OG meeting came away with more than an appreciation of this award winning photographer’s skill with the camera. Shots taken of Skimmers, Terns, Osprey, Least Bitterns... registering in fascinating detail behaviors of feeding, flying, courting, raising young, and so on.

The personal mission Bartosik shared with our group is certainly greater than a quest for a winning photo. This gifted individual is driven by a passion to learn, and a heart for the subjects. A scientist who studies the details known about a subject bird before going into the field, who then goes in pursuit of additional knowledge of their behavior using the craft of photography.

Mark has been able to bring to light unique details that will forever change and enhance the understanding of a species. With the art of digital photography lies the benefit of capturing multiple moments of behavior. He states a picture can tell you 10,000 words. A series of pictures tells him intimate details about the life of each subject because he is observant. In the field and when analyzing the pictures, his observations add to current knowledge, prove and disprove birders theories.

A passion, care and concern for birds and nature is displayed when he lectures on his discoveries. “People miss too much when they only go for the numbers”, quality time spent watching and focusing on individual subjects has given him the deeper perspective he shared.

How amazing to observe that the Bittern is 90% accurate in strikes to catch dragonflies.



Wing stretch display Least Bittern

Photo by Mark Bartosik

His observation on the Skimmers raises the alarm that Rockport is losing its Skimmer population. People and cars on the beaches are disturbing Skimmers in areas where they are nesting. When startled the Skimmers fly off their nest, this leaves their eggs and chicks vulnerable to the waiting predatory gulls.



Photo by Mark Bartosik

How lucky we are that in this time with many difficult environmental issues and stresses to animals that so much knowledge can be gained by a method other than death and specimens. Mark Bartosik has certainly amassed a wealth of data through his observations. Because English is his second language he has need of help to edit and publish his on-going collective achievements. As special as the photos are, they are only a part the story he has to tell.

*Vicki Sims*

Windland Smith Rice International Awards: Natures Best Photography

Mr. Bartosik has been the 2007 recipient of an award in this competition in the Wildlife Category. The NBPWSRI is considered to be one of the most prestigious photo contests in the world. It is a competition and exhibition that involves seasoned pros as well as amateurs and young photographers, 10 and younger. Rarely do you find such a prestigious and compelling exhibition that offers opportunities for the public to participate. The winners are displayed at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. View via the internet at [www.naturesbestphotography.com](http://www.naturesbestphotography.com)



Photo by Mark Bartosik

Viewing Mark Bartosik's stunning pictures is enough to take your breath away. For a larger sample of his photo's go via the Internet to [pbase.com/mbb/images](http://pbase.com/mbb/images)

As editor of The Spoonbill I am extremely grateful to Mr. Bartosik for allowing me to use the three photographs in this September newsletter.

Vicki Sims

Coming in the October issue Harlan Evans shares a wonderful photo of Pileated Woodpecker behavior. Does anyone have a Pileated story?

***The Spoonbill*** Wants Your Help...

Stories, notes, trip reports, or other materials for future issues are always welcome. Send to the Editor by email at

**[oncspoon@gmail.com](mailto:oncspoon@gmail.com)**

**Read on for the Minutes of our August Meeting and back from a summer break: The Clearing House by David Sarkosi...**



**Ornithology Group Houston Outdoor Nature Club**  
**Minutes of Meeting Monday, August 01, 2011**  
**Bayland Community Center**  
**Number of Attendees: 48**

1. Learning Corner: Aaron Stoley passed out a checklist of the birds of the LTNS (Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary). He went over some of the birds that nest there such as Pine Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Worm-eating Warbler, Swainson's Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Acadian flycatcher, Eastern Wood-Pewee. Sparrows winter at LTNS. Red-tailed Hawks, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, and Owls nest there, also. The White-eyed Vireo used to say, "Step to the rear, Chick!" but has been updated to say, "Give me a beer, quick!"
2. Sightings: Birds recently seen include: 1,500-2,000 Purple Martins @ Beltway 8 & Sabo Rd (77089); 10,000 @ 59 & Kirkwood; Red-cockaded Woodpecker & Brown-headed Nuthatch @ Jones State Forest; Swallow-tailed Kites & Wood Storks @ Warren Ranch; Swainson's Warbler at Mercer Arboretum; Sharp-shinned Hawk; a Mississippi Kite on Gessner; and a Swainson's Hawk.
3. Minutes: No Report.
4. Library: Email Deborah Valdez and she will bring the books you need.
5. Treasure's Report: Harlan Evans reported that the OG balance is \$10,842.76.
6. Membership: Joann Raine reminded everyone to sign in.
7. The Spoonbill: Vicki Sims will need material for the September issue by August 10<sup>th</sup>. Please send any notes, stories or photos.
8. Announcements: Joann Raine said that we have new nametags. GCBO will have a Porta Pottie at the Hawk Watch. The Board recommends that we give GCBO \$1000.00 to help with expenses. Moved, seconded, and passed. Stephan Lorenz wants people to write and give feedback about El Franco Lee Park. Please write Harris County Precinct One, general superintendent of parks, Paul Maurico. The wetland is drying up and Harris County has not been pumping water from Clear Creek like they used to do. Swift Night Out: Pershing & Whole Foods, Tues., Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>, 7pm; Sugarland @ Lakeview Elementary, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, 7pm. David Bradford is putting together a trip to Alaska: room for one male; there can be a waiting list. \$8000 or \$9000 including airfare in Alaska, but not to Alaska. The OG still needs a Vice Chair for programs & to greet speakers. The OG also needs a Field Trip Coordinator. Waugh Bat special presentations at the Observation Deck at Allen Parkway & Waugh Dr., Aug. 26 & 27 at 7 pm.
9. Future Field Trips: Lakeview Elementary in Sugarland, Monday, Aug.29<sup>th</sup>, old Alternate 90 & Main @ 7:45pm. Willow Waterhole on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. Smith Point Hawk Watch.
10. Program: Marcy Brown introduced Mark Bartosik who spoke on the topic: Field Photography as an excellent tool to enhance notes and documentation as well as an important source of data for further analyses. Mark Bartosik showed wonderful photos that he had taken of Osprey showing close-ups of their face and eyes. Female had 3 pigment spots eye and the male had 2 pigment spots – could identify the individual bird by these. He also showed photos of leucistic Red-tailed Hawk near Mason Rd. and a leucistic Stilt in Brazoria. Other photos included Whooping Cranes eating Wolf Berries; and Osprey getting a Blue Crab (1<sup>st</sup> Record); various speeds and angles of Osprey dives; a Green Heron

catching a dragonfly; courtship of the Osprey breaking branches and showing them to the female; Osprey eating seaweed (never before recorded!); Osprey stealing material from other Osprey nests; Anhingas do have oil glands! Mark Bartosik uses a Canon 70; 500 lens; 1.4 conversions. He believes in hand held and does not use a tripod. He was born and raised in Poland and is part Austrian. He showed Youtube photos that he took of a gull stealing a Skimmer egg. In addition, he showed a Youtube photo that he took of Black Skimmers attacking and killing a Laughing Gull. *Marie Asscherick, OG Secretary*

**Clearing House July 2011**  
**David Sarkozi**  
[david@sarkozi.net](mailto:david@sarkozi.net)  
**713-412-4409**

This is a summary of birds reported to eBird.org. Rare and very rare birds are in bold. There were 187 species reported for the Upper Texas Coast (Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Jefferson Counties) for July 2011 from 645 checklists from 97 observers. Rare and very rare are listed in this format:  
County:location(date)[Observer]

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck reports=153 total= 319

Fulvous Whistling-Duck reports=23 total= 202

Muscovy Duck (Domestic type) reports=2 total= 10

Wood Duck reports=20 total= 42

Mallard (Domestic type) reports=24 total= 31

Mottled Duck reports=93 total= 170

Blue-winged Teal reports=3 total= 4

**Northern Shoveler reports=2 total= 0 Harris:San Jacinto Battleground (UTC 041)(17)[michael kuzio], Harris:San Jacinto Battleground (UTC 041)(17)[sarah kuzio],**

**Green-winged Teal reports=2 total= 1 Harris:El Franco Lee Park(11)[Judy Behrens], Harris:El Franco Lee Park(12)[Mark Westelev]**

**Lesser Scaup reports=1 total= 1 Harris:El Franco Lee Park(11)[Judy Behrens], Harris:El Franco Lee Park(12)[Mark Westelev]**

duck sp. reports=2 total= 30

Northern Bobwhite reports=37 total= 21

**Least Grebe reports=1 total= 1 Harris:El Franco Lee Park(11)[Judy Behrens], Harris:El Franco Lee Park(12)[Mark Westelev]**

Pied-billed Grebe reports=35 total= 26

Wood Stork reports=46 total= 282

Magnificent Frigatebird reports=23 total= 11

Neotropic Cormorant reports=105 total= 241

Double-crested Cormorant reports=14 total= 17

cormorant sp. reports=6 total= 47

Anhinga reports=11 total= 12

American White Pelican reports=10 total= 48

Brown Pelican reports=96 total= 1,235

Least Bittern reports=14 total= 6

Great Blue Heron reports=173 total= 164

Great Egret reports=253 total= 311

Snowy Egret reports=208 total= 255

Little Blue Heron reports=135 total= 88

Tricolored Heron reports=121 total= 77

Reddish Egret reports=44 total= 54

Cattle Egret reports=180 total= 484

Green Heron reports=112 total= 42

Black-crowned Night-Heron reports=24 total= 17  
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron reports=92 total= 116  
 White Ibis reports=154 total= 685  
 White-faced Ibis reports=69 total= 177  
 Roseate Spoonbill reports=125 total= 138  
 Black Vulture reports=119 total= 180  
 Turkey Vulture reports=153 total= 83  
 Osprey reports=7 total= 5  
 Swallow-tailed Kite reports=3 total= 1  
 White-tailed Kite reports=1 total= 1  
 Mississippi Kite reports=35 total= 20  
 Bald Eagle reports=1 total= 1  
 Northern Harrier reports=3 total= 2  
 Cooper's Hawk reports=25 total= 12  
 Accipiter sp. reports=1 total= 1  
 Red-shouldered Hawk reports=49 total= 21  
 Broad-winged Hawk reports=2 total= 1  
 Swainson's Hawk reports=14 total= 7  
 White-tailed Hawk reports=7 total= 7  
 Red-tailed Hawk reports=51 total= 15  
 Crested Caracara reports=54 total= 21  
**Peregrine Falcon reports=2 total= 1 Harris:Katy Prairie- Warren Ranch Lake (UTC 099)(22)[Mark Westelev], Harris:Katy  
 Prairie- Warren Ranch Lake (UTC 099)(22)[Dan Coleman]**  
 diurnal raptor sp. reports=1 total= 1  
 Clapper Rail reports=15 total= 10  
 King Rail reports=4 total= 2  
 Purple Gallinule reports=11 total= 30  
 Common Gallinule reports=26 total= 112  
 American Coot reports=34 total= 32  
 Black-bellied Plover reports=38 total= 35  
 Snowy Plover reports=3 total= 13  
 Wilson's Plover reports=40 total= 106  
 Semipalmated Plover reports=30 total= 53  
 Piping Plover reports=18 total= 31  
 Killdeer reports=157 total= 253  
 American Oystercatcher reports=21 total= 28  
 Black-necked Stilt reports=162 total= 640  
 American Avocet reports=32 total= 53  
 Spotted Sandpiper reports=18 total= 5  
 Solitary Sandpiper reports=19 total= 13  
 Greater Yellowlegs reports=48 total= 25  
 Willet reports=83 total= 223  
 Lesser Yellowlegs reports=36 total= 28  
**Whimbrel reports=5 total= 1 Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(2)[John O'Brien],  
 Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(2)[Frank Farese], Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird  
 Sanctuary (UTC 058)(2)[Margaret Farese], Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(2)[William  
 Tarbox], Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(2)[Ellen Baker]**  
 Long-billed Curlew reports=24 total= 17  
 Marbled Godwit reports=34 total= 52  
 Ruddy Turnstone reports=24 total= 47  
**Red Knot reports=3 total= 6 Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(4)[Drew Dickert], Galveston: Bolivar  
 Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(6)[Mark Westelev], Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC  
 058)(8)[J Berner]**  
 Sanderling reports=26 total= 83  
 Semipalmated Sandpiper reports=43 total= 170  
 Western Sandpiper reports=42 total= 301  
**Red-necked Stint reports=3 total= 2 Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(2)[Frank Farese],  
 Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(3)[Tom SoRelle], Galveston: Bolivar Flats Shorebird  
 Sanctuary (UTC 058)(6)[Mark Westelev]**  
 Least Sandpiper reports=59 total= 642

**Baird's Sandpiper reports=6 total= 3 Brazoria:Bryan Beach (Freeport)(UTC 123)(31)[Joe Fischer], Harris:El Franco Lee Park(30)[Mike Austin], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(25)[Greg Page], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(25)[susan orwig], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(26)[sarah kuzio], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(26)[michael kuzio]**  
**Pectoral Sandpiper reports=2 total= 9 Harris:El Franco Lee Park(20)[Mike Austin], Harris:San Jacinto Battleground (UTC 041)(26)[Chuck Davis]**  
**Dunlin reports=3 total= 2 Galveston:Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(9)[Blaine Carnes], Galveston:Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(10)[Cin-Ty Lee], Galveston:Galveston(9)[Marcin Kojtk]**  
 Stilt Sandpiper reports=21 total= 26  
 peep sp. reports=7 total= 138  
 Short-billed Dowitcher reports=12 total= 39  
 Long-billed Dowitcher reports=18 total= 38  
 Short-billed/Long-billed Dowitcher reports=13 total= 24  
**Wilson's Phalarope reports=1 total= 0 Chambers:Anahuac NWR (UTC 049)(27)[Blaine Carnes]**  
 Laughing Gull reports=213 total= 2,373  
 Ring-billed Gull reports=11 total= 10  
 Herring Gull reports=7 total= 7  
 Least Tern reports=69 total= 545  
 Gull-billed Tern reports=24 total= 41  
 Caspian Tern reports=27 total= 106  
 Black Tern reports=64 total= 479  
 Common Tern reports=7 total= 16  
 Forster's Tern reports=65 total= 271  
 Royal Tern reports=59 total= 1,483  
 Sandwich Tern reports=57 total= 212  
 tern sp. reports=1 total= 1  
 Black Skimmer reports=52 total= 267  
 Rock Pigeon reports=129 total= 422  
 Eurasian Collared-Dove reports=96 total= 41  
 White-winged Dove reports=228 total= 1,082  
 Mourning Dove reports=384 total= 438  
 Inca Dove reports=18 total= 10  
 Monk Parakeet reports=9 total= 16  
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo reports=26 total= 10  
 Barn Owl reports=5 total= 8  
 Eastern Screech-Owl reports=11 total= 6  
 Great Horned Owl reports=1 total= 1  
 Barred Owl reports=7 total= 5  
 Common Nighthawk reports=91 total= 27  
 nighthawk sp. reports=1 total= 4  
**Chuck-will's-widow reports=1 total= 1 Galveston:Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(3)[Tom SoRelle]**  
 Chimney Swift reports=139 total= 133  
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird reports=66 total= 24  
**Rufous Hummingbird reports=1 total= 1 Jefferson:Residence(7)[Harlan Stewart]**  
 hummingbird sp. reports=1 total= 1  
 Belted Kingfisher reports=3 total= 2  
 Red-headed Woodpecker reports=29 total= 16  
 Red-bellied Woodpecker reports=191 total= 40  
 Downy Woodpecker reports=156 total= 38  
 Northern Flicker reports=6 total= 4  
 Pileated Woodpecker reports=51 total= 19  
 Acadian Flycatcher reports=17 total= 17  
**Least Flycatcher reports=2 total= 0 Harris:Kleb Woods Nature Preserve(20)[sarah kuzio], Harris:Kleb Woods Nature Preserve(20)[michael kuzio]**  
 Empidonax sp. reports=1 total= 0  
 Great Crested Flycatcher reports=24 total= 14  
 Western Kingbird reports=12 total= 15  
 Eastern Kingbird reports=59 total= 63  
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher reports=96 total= 53  
 Loggerhead Shrike reports=114 total= 36  
 White-eyed Vireo reports=30 total= 21

Yellow-throated Vireo reports=11 total= 13  
 Red-eyed Vireo reports=13 total= 7  
 Blue Jay reports=267 total= 60  
 American Crow reports=102 total= 78  
 Fish Crow reports=2 total= 5  
 Horned Lark reports=16 total= 14  
 Purple Martin reports=195 total= 10,276  
**Tree Swallow reports=4 total= 5 Harris:El Franco Lee Park(1)[Judy Behrens], Harris:El Franco Lee Park(2)[Greg Page],  
 Harris:El Franco Lee Park(12)[Mark Westelev], Harris:El Franco Lee Park(17)[Judy Behrens]**  
 Barn Swallow reports=207 total= 341  
 Cliff Swallow reports=38 total= 222  
 Cave Swallow reports=33 total= 77  
 Cliff/Cave Swallow reports=3 total= 6  
 swallow sp. reports=10 total= 55  
 Carolina Chickadee reports=200 total= 84  
 Tufted Titmouse reports=79 total= 54  
 Brown-headed Nuthatch reports=2 total= 0  
 Carolina Wren reports=187 total= 37  
 Marsh Wren reports=2 total= 2  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reports=7 total= 4  
 Red-vented Bulbul reports=1 total= 5  
 Eastern Bluebird reports=36 total= 72  
 Wood Thrush reports=1 total= 1  
 American Robin reports=54 total= 75  
 Gray Catbird reports=4 total= 35  
 Northern Mockingbird reports=409 total= 115  
 European Starling reports=186 total= 294  
**Louisiana Waterthrush reports=4 total= 4 Fort Bend:Riverpark (Sugar Land)(15)[Mark Scheuerman], Harris: Bear Creek  
 Park (UTC 097)(28)[Greg Page], Harris: Bear Creek Park (UTC 097)(29)[Tony Frank], Harris: Bear Creek Park (UTC  
 097)(31)[Greg Page]**  
 Black-and-white Warbler reports=4 total= 9  
 Prothonotary Warbler reports=4 total= 4  
 Common Yellowthroat reports=10 total= 28  
 Hooded Warbler reports=1 total= 1  
 Northern Parula reports=4 total= 2  
**Yellow Warbler reports=1 total= 1 Harris:Spring Valley(30)[Nina Rach]**  
 Pine Warbler reports=20 total= 13  
 Yellow-throated Warbler reports=5 total= 3  
 Seaside Sparrow reports=20 total= 24  
 sparrow sp. reports=1 total= 1  
 Summer Tanager reports=12 total= 15  
 Northern Cardinal reports=307 total= 149  
**Blue Grosbeak reports=2 total= 2 Fort Bend:Plantation Wood Lane(28)[Robert Opperman], Harris:Katy Prairie- Warren  
 Ranch Lake (UTC 099)(17)[Greg Page]**  
 Indigo Bunting reports=7 total= 7  
 Painted Bunting reports=14 total= 36  
 Dickcissel reports=4 total= 3  
 Red-winged Blackbird reports=133 total= 205  
 Eastern Meadowlark reports=85 total= 47  
 Common Grackle reports=81 total= 173  
 Boat-tailed Grackle reports=25 total= 51  
 Great-tailed Grackle reports=176 total= 261  
 Bronzed Cowbird reports=3 total= 9  
 Brown-headed Cowbird reports=62 total= 63  
 Orchard Oriole reports=43 total= 38  
 oriole sp. reports=1 total= 2  
 blackbird sp. reports=3 total= 15  
 House Finch reports=153 total= 74  
 House Sparrow reports=200 total= 226  
 Nutmeg Mannikin reports=7 total= 33

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

**TO START OR RENEW A MEMBERSHIP:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

	<i>Individual</i>	<i>Family</i>
ONC Annual Dues:	\$ 8.00	\$ 15.00
OG Annual Dues:	\$ 14.00	\$ 19.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 22.00</b>	<b>\$ 34.00</b>

Additional contributions are welcome in any amount.

Send to:  
 Outdoor Nature Club  
 PO Box 270894  
 Houston TX 77277-0894

**Discount for Electronic *Spoonbill***

Members who do not wish to receive a printed copy of *The Spoonbill* can save \$4 off their dues:

	<i>Individual</i>	<i>Family</i>
ONC	\$ 8.00	\$ 15.00
<b>OG</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>	<b>\$ 15.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 18.00</b>	<b>\$ 30.00</b>

Membership questions  
 Contact Margret Simmons  
 Phone 713-776-2511  
[msimmons@compassnet.com](mailto:msimmons@compassnet.com)