

The Spoonbill

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

April 2006
Vol. 55 No. 4

March Meeting

Monday, April 3, 2006 -- 7:00 p.m.

Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet, Houston

6:30 -- Learning Corner with Bob Ohmart
Migration - Birding the Upper Texas Coast

Bring your Lane, Kutac or Wauer birding guides for Texas, or Texas Birding Trail maps, and follow along as Bob Ohmart covers some less well known local hot spots.

Program with Gil Eckrich

Texas Speciality: Golden-cheeked Warbler

The colorful Golden-cheeked Warbler nests only in Central Texas. From early March to mid-July this endangered species can be found nowhere else in the world. With control of so many acres of prime habitat, Fort Hood has been managing that habitat for this warbler and the Black-capped Vireo for some time.

Gil Eckrich is the Outreach Coordinator for the Natural Resources Management Branch of the Environmental Division of the Texas Directorate of Public Works. Join us as he shares his knowledge and experience based on years of working to help this wonderful migrant.

Other Events

March 30 - April 2: FeatherFest
<http://www.galvestonfeatherfest.com/>

April 8: monthly OG field trip,
Jasper County with Tom Kihn

April 8-9: Prairie Chicken Festival,
Attwater PC NWR, Eagle Lake

April 15-16: Quarterly Field Trip,
San Antonio with Mike Creese

April 29: Galveston Migrants
with Dwight Peake

May 13: Big Thicket with Tom Kihn

Inside this issue:

About the OG	2
March Meeting Minutes	2
Field Trips	3
Field Trip Reports	4
Contributors	5
More Owls	5
The Spoonbill's Past	5
Little Green Birds	6
Clearing House	7
Membership Form	8

Minutes of the March 6, 2006 Meeting
Bayland Community Center
Attendance: 81

1. **Learning Corner:** Mary Anne Weber of the Houston Audubon Society spoke on the unique characteristics of owls: their immobile eyes in a large head, fluffy plumage for soundless flight, great hearing, and strength and fearlessness as hunters. Mary Anne brought three captive owls to show and tell of why they are in captivity. Everyone is invited to "Adopt a Bird" by visiting the Audubon website to pledge funds toward feeding the owls.
2. Chairman Michael Williams welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7:11 asking for **bird sightings**. Swallow-tailed Kites seen in Galveston; Blue-footed Boobies seen in Sea of Cortez; Black and White Hawk-Eagle in Panama; Broad-winged and Swainson's Hawks, Houston; Ospreys on Braes Bayou; Lesser Black-backed Gull at Quintana; Brown-headed Nuthatch. Sabine Woods is now open, and Black-and-white, Yellow-throated and Black-throated Green Warblers were seen there. TOS clean-up of High Island will be March 18 at 9:30 am. Michael encouraged all to get a bird index for the back cover of their National Geographic bird books, which makes looking up birds much easier. Kathy Farr welcomed and introduced Clay White, a professor at Cy-Fair College, who teaches some ornithology courses.
3. **Minutes** of the February meeting were approved.
4. **Membership:** Margret Simmons asked everyone to sign in and pay dues.
5. **Library:** Andy Scott reported that several new books were added to the library.
6. **Spoonbill:** All articles for the newsletter are to be in by March 10.
7. **Environmental Issues:** Mary Dodson handed out "Resolution on Texas State Parks" and encouraged all to attend their precinct meetings on Tuesday night and let their voices be heard. Texas spends about \$2.50 per person on its parks, while other states spend around \$10. Sea Rim State Park is still closed due to lack of funding. David Marrack cautioned all to beware of buying mulch from Louisiana because it may have Formosa termites.
8. **Field Trips:** Skip Almoney reported a Pileated Woodpecker and hummers seen at Russ Pittman Park on February 8. A mid-week trip is planned for March 8 for Barker Reservoir. These trips help members become aware of places to bird in and around Houston. The monthly field trip to Anahuac NWR produced 68 species, one being a Black-headed Grosbeak (female). The March 18 monthly trip will start at Bear Creek Park, pavilion 5, at 7:00 a.m. Let Adam Wood know ASAP about going to Jasper County on April 8 -- only 12 people will be accepted. The quarterly field trip to San Antonio will now be April 15-16 (Easter weekend); only a limited number will go, so let Adam know if interested.
9. **FeatherFest** (March 30 - April 2 in Galveston): Skip reported that Kevin Carlson will lead a trip and will bring his new shorebird books. Mike Austin and David Sarkozi will also lead trips. Plenty of activities for spouses, good hotels, and fun evenings are planned. You may register on line at www.galvestonfeatherfest.com.
10. **Program:** Denver Holt, founder and president of the Owl Research Institute and the Ninepipes Wildlife Research and Education Center, was our guest speaker. Denver's program covered the unique appearances and adaptations of owls and described their habitat requirements, vocalizations, and mating habits. His "good" and "bad" photos of owls drew attention to how well they can be camouflaged. Owls are perhaps the most widely recognized group of animals in the world, and owl lore, myth, and stories abound in all cultures.
11. Meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m.

--Shirley Mondshine

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.

Chair:	Michael Williams	713-228-9064
Vice-Chair:	Bernice Hotman	713-782-7889
Secretary:	Shirley & Raymond Mondshine	713-774-1413
Treasurer:	Jim Winn	713-464-8057
Clearing House:	David Sarkozi	713-412-4409
Library:	Andy Scott	281-537-9690
Membership:	Margret Simmons	713-776-2511
<i>Spoonbill:</i>	Al Shultz	281-829-0970
	Email:	og_spoonbill@earthlink.net

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

April 8 Trip to Boykin Springs

Tom Kihn will be leading us to Boykin Springs in Jasper County, in search of the Bachman's Sparrow as well as Brown-headed Nuthatch and Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Tom has spent a lot of time birding in east Texas and has some reliable spots for all the above-mentioned species. He has also been a regular participant in the monthly Bolivar bird surveys.

Parking is limited at Boykin Springs, so this trip is limited to the first 12 people who sign up. The plan is to meet at Tom Kihn's complex at 6:45 and depart by 7:00 am. Tom's complex is at Bayou Park Village at 4400 Memorial; the only entrance is from the westbound lanes of Memorial. Also, if we don't see the target species on the first day, an overnight is possible. There are motels in Jasper -- a Best Western, Ramada, and Super 8 -- but hotel rooms will not be pre-arranged.

Be sure to bring your binoculars, hat, sunscreen, water, camera (if you wish), spotting scope, snacks, and a lunch, because we will not be stopping at a place for lunch and we will be birding all day or at least until all three target species have been seen. So come out and join us for a nice spring day of birding with an experienced guide in east Texas.

April 15-16 Trip to San Antonio

Mike Creese will lead us around suburban San Antonio in search of spring migrants. I know a lot of you have seen Mike's posts on TexBirds and are as impressed as I am by what he has been able to find in suburban San Antonio in areas such as Avenue A. For this trip he plans to take us to spots such as Mitchell Lake (\$2 donation for admission), Avenue A, Fredrich Park (Golden-cheeked Warbler), and Warbler Woods. This should be a great trip and one that you will not want to miss. So come out and join us for a fun spring weekend of birding for everybody's favorites: migrants.

This trip is limited to the first 15 people who sign up. I have 10 rooms reserved at Hampton Inn San Antonio East, Phone: 210-657-1107. Be sure to mention the Houston Ornithology Group when reserving your room. The rate is going to be \$94 per night. The Hampton Inn is at 4900 Crestwind, San Antonio, TX 78239, which is off of I-35 just after the SH 8 intersection. If you get to I-410 you have gone too far.

Be sure to bring your binoculars, spotting scope, hat, sunscreen, water, snacks, and camera. We are planning on breaking for lunch on Saturday so preparing your own lunch will not be necessary.

--Adam Wood, OG Field Trip Coordinator

713-515-1692 Birdman_570@yahoo.com

Midweek Birding Trip: The April 2006 midweek birding trip will be on April 12, 2006, at Herman Brown Park. This spot has pond and wooded habitat and a 1.4 mile bike trail. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. and the trip will not last beyond 12 noon. Skip Almoney will be the leader, and we will explore this park together as this will be first time Skip has birded this area.

To reach the meeting spot, take I-10 east from downtown Houston, cross Loop 610 and take the next exit (Mercury Drive). Go left on Mercury, which ends at the park. Follow road back and to the right to new parking area and pavilion. The lake trail is marked with a sign. There are picnic tables in the park if you wish to bring a lunch along and eat with the birds.

Field Trip Reports

Anahuac -- Six participants braved the elements on a cold and rainy Saturday, February 18, 2006, to bird Anahuac NWR, Candy Abshier WMA and Cedar Hill Park. We started the morning at Anahuac NWR, where we walked the levee and took a quick drive down to the Bay. Highlights included a small flock of Short-billed Dowitchers in the pond off of the levee, and a Common Loon and a raft of Horned Grebes seen on the Bay. We didn't spend too much time at the bay due to the weather.

We then drove over to the Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area to look for Henslow's Sparrows. Unfortunately our trek through the prairie did not yield us a confirmed Henslow's Sparrow but it did warm us up and the rain did break for us. Highlights here included a juvenile White-tailed Hawk, and an *Ammodramus* sp. Sparrow (which was either a Henslow's or LeConte's).

We then ended the day at Cedar Hill Park looking for the Bald Eagle that is regularly seen there. We dipped on the Eagle but did find a female Black-headed or Rose-breasted Grosbeak along the trail around Lake Charlotte, which was the bird of the trip. Another highlight was a Golden-crowned Kinglet.

In spite of the weather we managed to see 68 species of birds in total on the trip. A big thanks goes out to David Sarkozi for leading this trip in the less-than-desirable weather. Also, thank you to the five other participants that were brave enough to join us birding in the bad weather. You all earned Blue Stars in my book.

-- Adam Wood

Barker Reservoir --Four hardy souls made the March Mid-week field trip on March 8, 2006. Bill Saulmon, David Poteet, John Old and yours truly met at the parking lot on Highway 6 across from Briar Forest Drive.

The birding was similar to all of our trips this year as there was a scarcity of birds, but we did manage to see 8 sparrow species during the day's birding. While birding in Barker reservoir we saw Savannah, LeConte's, Swamp, Lincoln's, Song, White-throated, Grasshopper, and Field Sparrows. Our last sparrow species for the day was Vesper Sparrows on the Katy Prairie. Our most interesting sighting while at Barker was a pair of mating Red-shouldered Hawks.

After birding Barker reservoir until about 10:30 a.m., we decided to drive out to the Katy Prairie to look for the Pyrrhuloxia (which we didn't find) and raptors. We saw both male and female Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks, American Kestrels, and a White-tailed Hawk along with a few ducks. Around noon we finished up and went to the Waller County Line Bar-B-Que for some good ol' bar-b-que.

- Skip Almoney

A Follow-up on Owls with Denver Holt (March speaker)

OG-ONC gratefully acknowledges the generous donations of the following members:

Fred Campbell
Bert Du Plessis
John & Nancy Hannan
John & Lynn Old
Bill Saulmon
Bob & Margret Simmons

-- Thank You!

The owl workshop that I attended with Denver was presented by the Institute of Field Ornithology ABA. The 2006 trip has a waiting list. He also does the same trip for a commercial ecotourism company. He also does a Montana Natural History tour in June for that company.

Denver has told me that if we have a group of five - twelve people interested in making a trip to Montana, he will lead it for us. We could go either late April or early May for an owl workshop or mid June for a natural history trip (birds, mammals, plants, herps, etc). That could also be done in September.

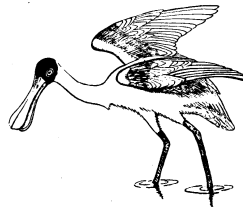
If you are willing to commit to one of these three possibilities, please let me know at bhotman@houston.rr.com. Or, you may get your own group together and contact Denver directly at owlmontana@charlo.net.

--Bernice Hotman

From The Spoonbill's Past

Compiled by Skip Almoney

Thirty Years Ago



THE
SPOONBILL

Calling Out Birds

The use of a tape recorder to call up birds is very tempting, but perhaps our use of it is lessening our birding expertise, and increasing possible harm to the birds. In *BIRDING* (reprinted in *The Prairie Horned Lark*), Mrs. Dickie Bogle, Portal, Arizona, cautions:

"May I respectfully request that you think twice before using a tape recording of the song of the birds you desperately want to add to your life list? My reasons follow:

1. The natural reaction of the male songster is that another male is threatening his territory--at least for territorial males. This must be disturbing to his breeding habits and perhaps even to the success of his mating. Constant recordings, often all through the day by different groups must do harm to the bird's natural patterns. One birder gave the excuse that birds like competition! Avian, yes, Homo Sapiens, no.
2. Good birders usually have good ears and good eyes. Let's use them. Listen for the voice, sit quietly and wait for it; or walk in the right habitat and listen. Once the voice is located, it is seldom a problem to locate the bird you want. Admittedly, a tape recording saves time and almost insures seeing the bird. Birders will argue that they use the tape for only a few minutes at most. Multiply this few minutes by dozens of birders and what is the result?

Several experiences have alerted me to the increasing use of tapes to locate wanted birds, thus convincing me never to use my tapes except indoors to implant the singing in my sound bank. At Mio, Michigan, a friend and I had just had the satisfactory experience of tracking down the Kirtland's Warbler, observing and listening to it for a half hour or more. When we returned to our car, some distance away, drivers of Michigan cars offered generously to 'call out the Kirtland's' for us. It has become a custom of hospitality to visiting birders. At South Fork in southeast Arizona, the Coppery-tailed Trogon is bombarded yearly with his call on tapes...all day, for several days. The other night, some excellent birders from Massachusetts announced they were going up to South Fork to 'call out' the Trogon. I shuddered and suggested that they stop and listen first.

We birders who presumably respect the lives of birds may help preserve some species by listening instead of playing tapes."

I Am Green

Some birds seem to have more character than their size would suggest. An attitude, you might say, although crediting a little blur in the leaves with attitude might not be the obvious judgment. But one of the things I like about birding is learning about things that are a little less obvious. Some birds are a little harder to get to know than others, but they are usually worth it.

“Look up... way up high... in the tree...” This is the phrasing given by field guides to describe the song of the Red-eyed Vireo. It’s a song that is easy to overlook. It disappears into the background behind the clearer and more consistent birdsongs of woodlands in spring. Like the song of the Mockingbird, it goes on and on and on; phrases have a pattern, but do not exactly repeat. This bird is a poet, trying out particular expressions, seeking a particular sound, never quite satisfied.

In our area in spring we also can find Yellow-throated Vireos, which stay through the season as local breeders. We also get several migrant species: Philadelphia, Blue-headed, Warbling, and sometimes Bell’s Vireos. And don’t forget the White-eyed Vireo, whose song is a snappy, jazzy sound that is probably familiar to most birders here, and can be heard much of the year. They are certainly tireless (and sometimes tiresome) singers, but I think there is more to these little birds than we realize.

The common and scientific name *vireo* is probably a made-up word from a Latin verb *virere*, “to be green.” This has got to be one of the humblest of names—no great attribute or character trait, no famous naturalist or exotic place. Vireos, you might say, get no respect. I for one do not see them as particularly green—no rivals to the Green Jay, or even the Green-winged Teal. For a group of birds with such distinctive behaviors, it is odd that their names tend to colors, when those colors are mainly fairly drab: shades of *griseus*, *gilvus*, *plumbeus*, *olivaceus*, *flavoviridis*--that is to say,

grayish (White-eyed), yellowish (Warbling), lead-gray (Plumbeous), olive-green (Red-eyed), yellow-green (Yellow-green). This is not the palette from which one gets memorable field marks, particularly in shady foliage of a forest canopy. But I will admit that the Black-capped Vireo and Yellow-throated Vireo are very aptly named and striking in appearance.

Vireos are a New World family. North America has 15 vireo species, a majority of the genus; the other vireos, and their relatives the greenlets, are distributed through the Caribbean and Central and South America. Birders of a certain age will remember that in older field guides vireos were toward the end of the list, right before warblers. We were told that they resembled warblers but were more sluggish. (Again, no respect.) But in current taxonomy vireos have moved up the list to join shrikes and jays, as a group of “corvoid songbirds” that split from the other songbirds fairly early in avian evolutionary history. So vireos are not really like warblers at all. Warblers are now recognized as close kin to finches, sparrows, tanagers and orioles, a much larger (and evolutionarily later) cluster of New World diversity.

Nesting habits of vireos are as quirky as the birds themselves. Nests are cup-like and small, usually suspended from a fork of a tree branch. Spider web is a favorite construction material, holding together grass, twigs and leaves. Male vireos do much of the nest-building, and often build extra nests. Males also sing from nests, possibly as either concealment or decoying behavior for predators.

When I hear a vireo, or when I am lucky enough to see one, I think, there goes a good bird—often overlooked, misunderstood or neglected, but definitely worth some respect.

--Al Shultz

Clearing House

David Sarkozi david@sarkozi.net 713-412-4409

Species that are listed as abundant to uncommon for the whole month are summarized. Records for rare to vagrant status are listed in full. Those records that are very rare for that week of the year are in bold; those that are new for that week of the year are bold and underlined.

Please enter your reports via the OG website at www.ornithologygroup.org
You can also send report to me via regular mail and e-mail.

February 2006 --

Observers: Al Shultz, Barbara House, Bob Honig, Bolivar Bird Count, C.T. Lee, Charles Ottenweller, Dorothy Cooney, G. Smith, Howard Laidlaw, Jim Hinson, John Lumb, Kathie & Al Shultz, Kathy Reiser, OG Midweek Field Trip, Ted Eubanks, Will Risser

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck birds=217 reports=4
Greater White-fronted Goose birds=87 reports=2
Snow Goose birds=65 reports=1
Mallard birds=19 reports=4
Mottled Duck birds=25 reports=1
Blue-winged Teal birds=105 reports=4
Cinnamon Teal birds=9 reports=3
Northern Shoveler birds=30 reports=5
Northern Pintail birds=12 reports=2
Green-winged Teal birds=51 reports=5
Ring-necked Duck birds=50 reports=1
Lesser Scaup birds=26 reports=1
Hooded Merganser birds=2 reports=1
Red-breasted Merganser birds=39 reports=1
Ruddy Duck birds=50 reports=1
Pied-billed Grebe birds=29 reports=5
American White Pelican birds=130 reports=2
Brown Pelican birds=54 reports=2
Neotropic Cormorant birds=56 reports=2
Double-crested Cormorant birds=69 reports=5
cormorant sp birds=4 reports=1
Anhinga birds=2 reports=2
Great Blue Heron birds=33 reports=8
Great Egret birds=51 reports=8
Snowy Egret birds=38 reports=6
Little Blue Heron birds=14 reports=4
Tricolored Heron birds=7 reports=2
Reddish Egret birds=13 reports=1
White Ibis birds=109 reports=4
White-faced Ibis birds=10 reports=3
Roseate Spoonbill birds=76 reports=2
Black Vulture birds=36 reports=5
Turkey Vulture birds=58 reports=7
Osprey birds=3 reports=3
White-tailed Kite birds=1 reports=1
Bald Eagle birds=3 reports=3
Northern Harrier birds=17 reports=7
Cooper's Hawk birds=1 reports=1
Red-shouldered Hawk birds=10 reports=5
Red-tailed Hawk birds=24 reports=7
Crested Caracara birds=1 reports=1
American Kestrel birds=2 reports=1
Peregrine Falcon 2/18 Galveston(Bolivar
Penninsula) 1 Bolivar Bird Count
Clapper Rail birds=1 reports=1
Sora birds=1 reports=1
Common Moorhen birds=150 reports=3
American Coot birds=54 reports=4
Sandhill Crane birds=6 reports=2
Black-bellied Plover birds=136 reports=1
Snowy Plover 2/18 Galveston(Bolivar Peninsula)
10 Bolivar Bird Count
Semipalmated Plover birds=22 reports=1
Piping Plover birds=101 reports=1
Killdeer birds=86 reports=7

American Oystercatcher birds=1 reports=1
American Avocet birds=7,300 reports=1
Greater Yellowlegs birds=9 reports=2
Lesser Yellowlegs birds=4 reports=1
Willet birds=61 reports=1
Spotted Sandpiper birds=5 reports=2
Long-billed Curlew birds=20 reports=1
Marbled Godwit birds=125 reports=1
Ruddy Turnstone birds=27 reports=1
Sanderling birds=306 reports=1
Western Sandpiper birds=2,003 reports=1
Least Sandpiper birds=81 reports=3
peep sp birds=6 reports=1
Dunlin birds=256 reports=1
Short-billed Dowitcher birds=313 reports=1
Pied-billed Dowitcher birds=138 reports=2
Wilson's Snipe birds=150 reports=4
Laughing Gull birds=1,069 reports=1
Bonaparte's Gull birds=1 reports=1
Ring-billed Gull birds=115 reports=2
Herring Gull birds=43 reports=1
Yellow-legged Gull 2/1 Galveston(East Beach)
1 Will Risser
Lesser Black-backed Gull 2/4 Galveston(East
Beach) 1 Ted Eubanks
Glaucous Gull 2/2 Galveston(East Beach) 1 Will
Risser
Gull-billed Tern birds=2 reports=1
Caspian Tern birds=1 reports=1
Royal Tern birds=16 reports=2
Sandwich Tern 2/18 Galveston(Bolivar
Penninsula) 10 Bolivar Bird Count
Forster's Tern birds=92 reports=1
Black Skimmer birds=105 reports=1
Rock Pigeon birds=45 reports=3
Eurasian Collared-Dove birds=71 reports=2
White-winged Dove birds=31 reports=2
Mourning Dove birds=72 reports=8
Inca Dove birds=2 reports=1
Barred Owl birds=1 reports=1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird 2/8 Harris(Russ
Pittman Park) 1 OG Midweek Field Trip
Black-chinned Hummingbird 2/8 Harris(Russ
Pittman Park) 1 OG Midweek Field Trip
Anna's Hummingbird 2/2 Harris(Houston) 3 Jim
Hinson
Rufous Hummingbird 2/4 Harris(west Barker
Reservoir) 1 Al Shultz, 2/8 Harris(Russ Pittman
Park) 1 OG Midweek Field Trip
hummingbird sp 2/8 Harris(Russ Pittman Park) 1
OG Midweek Field Trip
Belted Kingfisher birds=18 reports=5
Red-bellied Woodpecker birds=23 reports=7
Downy Woodpecker birds=4 reports=2
Pileated Woodpecker birds=3 reports=2

Eastern Phoebe birds=14 reports=5
Vermilion Flycatcher birds=1 reports=1
Loggerhead Shrike birds=16 reports=5
Blue-headed Vireo birds=2 reports=2
Blue Jay birds=27 reports=4
American Crow birds=40 reports=5
Horned Lark birds=21 reports=1
Tree Swallow birds=6 reports=1
Northern Rough-winged Swallow 2/26 Fort
Bend(Brazos Bend SP) 2 Kathy Reiser
Carolina Chickadee birds=27 reports=8
Tufted Titmouse birds=11 reports=4
Brown Creeper birds=2 reports=1
Carolina Wren birds=36 reports=6
Marsh Wren birds=1 reports=1
Golden-crowned Kinglet birds=4 reports=1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet birds=24 reports=7
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher birds=11 reports=4
Hermit Thrush birds=1 reports=1
American Robin birds=33 reports=3
Gray Catbird birds=3 reports=1
Northern Mockingbird birds=32 reports=5
Brown Thrasher birds=2 reports=1
European Starling birds=203 reports=4
American Pipit birds=74 reports=5
Cedar Waxwing birds=40 reports=1
Orange-crowned Warbler birds=14 reports=6
Yellow-rumped Warbler birds=170 reports=9
Pine Warbler birds=11 reports=2
Ovenbird 2/18 Galveston(Dickinson yard) 1
Barbara House
Common Yellowthroat birds=4 reports=2
Summer Tanager 2/8 Harris(Russ Pittman Park) 1
OG Midweek Field Trip
Field Sparrow birds=1 reports=1
Lark Bunting 2/18 Harris(West Harris County) 1
Howard Laidlaw
Savannah Sparrow birds=151 reports=6
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow birds=2 reports=1
Song Sparrow birds=1 reports=1
Lincoln's Sparrow birds=1 reports=1
Swamp Sparrow birds=4 reports=1
White-throated Sparrow birds=2 reports=1
Northern Cardinal birds=180 reports=8
Red-winged Blackbird birds=1,122 reports=8
Eastern Meadowlark birds=104 reports=3
Common Grackle birds=5,014 reports=3
Boat-tailed Grackle birds=34 reports=3
Great-tailed Grackle birds=1,634 reports=6
Bronzed Cowbird 2/2 Harris(Bellaire Blvd @ Stella
Link) 41 Bob Honig
Brown-headed Cowbird birds=51 reports=2
House Finch birds=10 reports=1
American Goldfinch birds=56 reports=6
House Sparrow birds=30 reports=1

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

Comments or suggestions for ***The Spoonbill?***
How about a story or news item?

E-mail: og_spoonbill@earthlink.net

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
Total:	\$ 22.00	\$ 34.00

Additional contributions are welcome in any amount.

Send to:

Outdoor Nature Club
PO Box 270894
Houston TX 77277-0894

Membership questions? Contact Margret Simmons
phone 713-776-2511
msimmons@compassnet.com

New in 2006:
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
OG	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00
Total	\$ 18.00	\$ 30.00

To receive a PDF version of ***The Spoonbill*** by email each month, contact: og_spoonbill@earthlink.net or msimmons@compassnet.com