



The Spoonbill

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

August 2008
Vol. 57 No. 6

August Meeting

Monday, August 4, 2008 -- 7:00 p.m.
Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet, Houston

Learning Corner -- 6:30 p.m.
presented by **Steve Gross**

Program: Uvalde County Birding – Bob Rasa

Bob Rasa first got interested in birds in high school. He grew up on a 28-acre horse farm and remembers being interested in all that moved in nature. Bob spent time in Maryland, where he worked for United Parcel Service, was active in the Maryland Ornithological Society, and spent vacations at a bird banding station in Potomac, Maryland. He became The Birdman and remains so today.

In 1984 he was transferred to Lubbock, where he remembers going to Buffalo Springs Lake and finding a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher while searching for a house. From then on he was hooked on Texas birds.

When Bob turned 50 he retired from UPS and went back to school to get his Texas Teacher's Certificate. In 1991 he started teaching keyboarding and coaching tennis at Alderson Jr. High, and in 2001, Bob transferred to Tahoka Jr. High and High School. He was an active officer with the local Audubon group, LEAS, and really enjoyed organizing field trips to Central and South Texas in the spring. They would start in Lubbock and go down to Uvalde, which is where he met June Osborne for the first time. In 2004 Bob took the tennis head coaching job at Uvalde Jr. High. This year he was 'the birding by chair' person for Nature Quest, and wore a purple ribbon all through the spring in honor of June Osborne.

Now Bob is retired and doesn't know what day it is. This June he was quite busy with four BBS studies: Three Rivers, Kingsville, Davis Mountains, and Fabens near El Paso. Bob continues to travel the state in spite of the high gas prices. In the beginning of July, Bob went to McAllen to

Other Events

- Aug. 16: Lake Somerville trip
(Gary Waggerman, leader)
- Sept. 8: monthly OG meeting
- Sept. 13: Beginning Birder Trip
(Jones Park with Adam Wood
and Sheena Humbird)
- Sept. 20: Smith Point Hawk Watch
- Oct. 23-26: Quarterly Field Trip to
Concan & Uvalde (Bob Rasa)

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get his 494th Texas bird – the Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher. He spent the Fourth of July in Big Bend getting his 500th bird – if the TRBC accepts the Flame-colored Tanager in Big Bend National Park.

Please join us on August 4 when Bob Rasa will present the birds and hotspots of Uvalde County.

Again? Is it really that time again? Well, I hope you've enjoyed the hiatus and are ready to support your organization. A new program year is ready to get underway, and the board hopes that it meets your needs and gets your approval and support, as shown by your participation.

In spite of very few returns of the program rating questionnaire for last year's programs, Pam has forged ahead to line up a range of programs that relate to birds and birding. Most everyone seems to enjoy a travelogue, a species specific program, a conservation topic or area-specific program. But what else tickles your fancy and gets you to attend the meetings? (Please remember that maintaining the use of the facility is dependent on the number of persons attending each meeting.)

Adam has already posted his schedule for this year's field trips on the OG website. Some of the sites will be new areas to bird for me and perhaps for you as well. The quarterly spring trip to Concan and Uvalde was so popular last year that Adam is repeating it as a fall migration trip this season.

A new face will be presenting the Learning Corner. Steve Gross presented a program on the birds of Southeast Arizona before the special trip he co-led there last year, so you may remember him from that. Steve is a professional educator and an exceptional birder, so I know we can all learn something from him.

Debbie Valdez is reviewing the library contents and is looking for recommendations for additions. Read any good birding-related books lately?

This month the board is promoting a new shirt (not a tee shirt) to advertise our group. Details and an order form are printed on page 7 of this newsletter. This will *not* be an ongoing project, so be sure to place your orders sooner rather than later. We each need to be involved in member recruitment, and this is an effort in that direction. Please support it.

Thank you for your continued support of this organization, and please remember that the board welcomes your input.

--Bernice Hotman, OG Chairperson

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:	Bernice Hotman	713-782-7889
Vice-Chair:	Pam Smolen	832-212-1368
Secretary:	Cindy Douglass	713-644-4803
Treasurer:	Jerry Stanislaw	936-271-7772
Clearing House:	David Sarkozi	713-412-4409
Library:	Deborah Valdez	281-879-8668
Membership:	Margret Simmons	713-776-2511
Field Trips:	Adam Wood	713-515-1692
Learning Corner:	Michael Williams	713-228-9064

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

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

Ornithology Group of the Houston Outdoor Nature Club

Minutes of Meeting on Monday, May 5, 2008

Bayland Community Center -- 43 attendees

1. Learning Corner: Michael Williams discussed several new places to bird. One near downtown Houston is called Japhet Creek Park. Another, down I-45 near the causeway, is called the John O'Quinn Estuarial Corridor.

2. Sightings: Bernice Hotman opened the meeting with a request for recent sightings. Some birds recently seen were Painted Bunting, Philadelphia Vireo,

Ovenbird, Black-throated Green Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, White-tailed Kites, Black-crowned Night-Heron eating a baby egret, Black-billed Cuckoo, Common Nighthawk, Godwits and Phalaropes on the Katy Prairie, and Canada Warbler at Sabine Woods.

3. Minutes of the April 7 meeting as published in the Spoonbill were approved.

(... continued on p. 3)

- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Jim Winn reported that finances were in better shape than expected, with approximately \$9,400 in the bank.
- 5. New Librarian:** Deborah Valdez has agreed to be our new librarian.
- 6. Membership:** Margret Simmons reported that most have renewed their membership. She encouraged members to take literature to recruit new members. Two new members, Greg and Alicia Mason, were introduced.
- 7. Spoonbill:** The next issue will be August. The deadline for submissions is July 10.
- 8. New Location:** Skip Almoney requested that the Board consider moving the meeting location to the United Way building on Waugh Drive. Bernice Hotman said the monthly rental of \$120 would more than likely keep us from making the move.
- 9. Past Field Trips:** Adam Wood was in Montana getting ready for the Owl Workshop. Bernice Hotman referred the membership to the last Spoonbill where previous field trips are reported.
- 10. Future Field Trips:** The next monthly field trip is to Huntsville State Park on May 17, 2008. Another trip is scheduled for the Navasota Bottoms and Washington-on-the Brazos on May 31, 2008. This trip is limited to 15 people.

- 11. Survey of Programs:** Pam Smolen encouraged all members to complete the survey in the May 2008 *Spoonbill* to rate the year's programs.
- 12. Program:** Pam Smolen introduced Bill Baker of Reliant Energy. Bill travels across the country implementing Reliant Energy's National Environmental Partnership Program. Bill and his team have participated in The Great Texas Birding Classic for 12 years and have won first place the last four years. The Classic is an annual birdwatching tournament in April and is designed to increase public awareness of Texas birds. There is an adult tournament, a youth tournament for 13 and under, and another called Gliders for those 14-18 years old. There is also a Big Sit on one Sunday in April, in which one to ten team members stay in a 17 foot diameter circle. Bill shared many interesting and humorous stories about what can happen during a week-long tournament. To summarize what it takes to win, Bill said it takes good birding skills, good teamwork, good equipment and reference material, good planning, good maps, good weather, good flexibility, good luck, and scouting, scouting, scouting. He encouraged everyone to consider participating next year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

- Cindy Douglass, OG Secretary

2008 – 2009 OG Field Trip Calendar

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Aug. 16: | Lake Somerville State Park (Gary Waggerman) |
| Sep. 13: | Beginning Birder Trip I: Jesse Jones Park (Sheena Humbird) |
| Sep. 20: | <u>Smith Point Hawk Watch</u> (Hawk Watch Staff) |
| Oct. 11: | <u>Beginning Birder/New Member Trip II</u> : Katy Prairie (Adam Wood) |
| Oct. 18: | Bolivar Bird Survey (Tom Khin) |
| Oct. 23-26: | West Texas (Concan/Uvalde) (Bob Rasa) |
| Nov. 15: | Lake Texana State Park and Surroundings (TPWD Guide) |
| Dec. 20: | Houston CBC |
| Jan. 17: | Brazos Bend State Park & Davis Estates (Bill Godley) |
| Jan. 22-25: | Matagorda Island (Tonya Stinson) / Fennessey Ranch / Choke Canyon |
| Feb. 21: | Baytown Nature Center & San Jacinto National Monument (Dwayne Litteer) |
| Mar. 7: | Texas City Prairie Preserve & Surroundings (TNC Guide) |
| Apr. 10-19: | Panhandle/Guadalupe Mountains/Lake Balmorhea (Burr Williams & TBD) |
| Apr. 18: | Gulf Coast Bird Observatory & Surroundings (GCBO Staff) |
| May 16: | Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge (Stuart Marcus) |
| May 30: | Kayaking in Galveston Bay (Artist Boat) |

Trip Announcement: Lake Somerville State Park
August 16, 2008
Nail's Creek Parking Lot, 8:00 AM
\$15.00 Guide Fee

For the first trip of the new OG year we will be headed over to Lake Somerville State Park. Gary Waggerman is a retired (since 2003) wildlife biologist who worked for 35 years with the TX Parks and Wildlife Department. He was Area Manager of Las Palomas WMA in the Lower Rio Grande Valley for 28 years, and made many trips to Tamaulipas, Mexico, to assist in dove surveys. He spent the last 5 years of employment in the Central Texas area coordinating the statewide White-winged Dove project as the birds began to move north. In retirement he has been leading birding trips to various parts of Texas, Oklahoma and Mexico.

Lake Somerville State Park Complex is northwest of Brenham in Lee and Burleson Counties. The Somerville Reservoir was constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from 1962 to 1967. The dam is located on Yegua Creek, 20 miles upstream from its confluence with the Brazos River, and about two miles south of Somerville. We will be spending most of our time during the trip birding the Nail's Creek Unit but will also spend a little time birding in the Birch Creek Unit. We will be in search of migrant shorebirds (August is one of the best months for shorebird migration) as well as lingering breeding species and maybe a few early arriving wintering species like ducks. This should be a great trip, to an area that does not get much coverage but could produce some noteworthy birds.

Directions: Take US 290 or TX 36 to Brenham. From there continue west on US 290 to Burton, then take FM 1697 generally northwest to the intersection with FM 180. Turn right (NE) and go about 6 miles to our meeting place at Nail's Creek Unit of Lake Somerville.

Be sure to bring: Binoculars, field guide, water, hat, sunscreen, snacks, camera, spotting scope, rain gear in case of rain and a lunch if you plan to bird in the afternoon.

Beginning Birder Trip 1 Announcement:
Jesse Jones Park -- September 13, 2008

If you are a beginning birder, or are interested in finding out more about what goes on during our field trips, then this trip is for you. You'll have the opportunity to improve your birding skills in a low-pressure environment. This is the first of two beginning birder/new member trips that are being offered this year. This trip is sponsored by Jesse Jones Park and is part of its Early Birds program. The program will be led by Sheena Humbird, the park naturalist. Jones Park is located in northeast Harris County and contains bottomland hardwood-pine forest plants and wildlife. The park has over 300 fenced acres and more than one-half mile of frontage on Spring Creek.

Directions: From Houston, take I-59 north to the FM-1960 exit. Turn left onto FM 1960A BR (W 1st St.) and go about 1.7 miles to Kenswick Drive. Take a right on Kenswick Drive and continue 1.5 miles to the parking lot for Jesse Jones Park. It will take approximately half an hour to get there from downtown Houston, so I suggest leaving around 6:30 am or earlier if you live farther away.

Be sure to bring: binoculars, a hat, sunscreen, scope, camera, raingear (in case it rains, we will bird rain or shine), water and snacks if you would like. **Reservations are required and can be made beginning on Wed., August 27. To make your reservation, please call Jesse Jones Park at (281) 446-8588, Monday through Friday any time from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

~ Adam Wood, OG Field Trip Coordinator birdsondabrain@earthlink.net 713-515-1692

Clearing House

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

This is a summary of birds reported to eBird.org. Unusual birds are in bold. Location detail on unusual birds is in the following format: Location[County]:date

April 2008 --There were 288 species reported for the Upper Texas Coast (Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Jefferson Counties) for April 2008 from 837 checklists:

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck reports=101 total= 1,090
Fulvous Whistling-Duck reports=41 total= 474
Wood Duck reports=16 total= 34
Gadwall reports=16 total= 181
American Wigeon reports=2 total= 7
Mallard reports=6 total= 18
Mottled Duck reports=64 total= 374
Blue-winged Teal reports=108 total= 2,196
Cinnamon Teal reports=1 total= 1 – Anahuac NWR[C]:1, Bolivar-Galveston Ferry[G]:26
Northern Shoveler reports=30 total= 298
Northern Pintail reports=2 total= 5
Green-winged Teal reports=15 total= 60
Redhead reports=4 total= 17
Ring-necked Duck reports=1 total= 6
Greater Scaup reports=2 total= 9
Lesser Scaup reports=7 total= 52
Surf Scoter reports=5 total= 14
White-winged Scoter reports=4 total= 5 – Bolivar Flats[G]:11,12,19,20
Black Scoter reports=3 total= 12 – Bolivar Peninsula[G]:17,18 Quintana NBS[B]:20,27
Red-breasted Merganser reports=18 total= 123
Ruddy Duck reports=5 total= 11
Greater Prairie-Chicken reports=2 total= 3
Northern Bobwhite reports=2 total= 31
Pacific Loon reports=4 total= 4 – Offatts Bayou[G]:4,5,26
Common Loon reports=17 total= 89
Pied-billed Grebe reports=76 total= 309
Eared Grebe reports=7 total= 103
Northern Gannet reports=5 total= 12 Quintana NBS[B]:4,5 Appfel Park[G]:6, High Island[G]:26, Quintana Beach[B]:26
American White Pelican reports=32 total= 380
Brown Pelican reports=83 total= 2,603
Neotropic Cormorant reports=86 total= 1,036
Double-crested Cormorant reports=84 total= 687
Anhinga reports=47 total= 188
Magnificent Frigatebird reports=5 total= 7 – Bolivar Flats[G]:4 Offatts Bayou[G]:5 Bolivar Peninsula[G]:18 Crystal Beach[G]:24,26 Quintana NBS[B]:27
American Bittern reports=18 total= 33
Least Bittern reports=22 total= 42
Great Blue Heron reports=136 total= 274
Great Egret reports=180 total= 1,579
Snowy Egret reports=150 total= 1,031
Little Blue Heron reports=91 total= 428
Tricolored Heron reports=108 total= 537
Reddish Egret reports=37 total= 94
Cattle Egret reports=126 total= 1,694
Green Heron reports=114 total= 217
Black-crowned Night-Heron reports=56 total= 180
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron reports=101 total= 261
White Ibis reports=129 total= 1,330
Glossy Ibis reports=4 total= 6
White-faced Ibis reports=60 total= 658
Roseate Spoonbill reports=113 total= 1,348
Black Vulture reports=78 total= 378
Turkey Vulture reports=116 total= 541
Greater Flamingo reports=5 total= 7 – Bolivar Flats[G]:12
Osprey reports=36 total= 45
Swallow-tailed Kite reports=2 total= 2
White-tailed Kite reports=40 total= 52
Mississippi Kite reports=9 total= 93
Bald Eagle reports=4 total= 4
Northern Harrier reports=39 total= 59
Sharp-shinned Hawk reports=7 total= 7
Cooper's Hawk reports=24 total= 26
Red-shouldered Hawk reports=36 total= 53
Broad-winged Hawk reports=30 total= 539
Swainson's Hawk reports=35 total= 45
White-tailed Hawk reports=4 total= 5
Red-tailed Hawk reports=52 total= 63
Crested Caracara reports=27 total= 34
American Kestrel reports=6 total= 6
Merlin reports=2 total= 2
Peregrine Falcon reports=10 total= 12
Yellow Rail reports=15 total= 43
Black Rail reports=11 total= 15
Clapper Rail reports=28 total= 66
King Rail reports=8 total= 15
Virginia Rail reports=16 total= 33
Sora reports=51 total= 91
Purple Gallinule reports=37 total= 70
Common Moorhen reports=57 total= 465
American Coot reports=83 total= 2,775
Black-bellied Plover reports=55 total= 710
American Golden-Plover reports=21 total= 70
Snowy Plover reports=9 total= 32
Wilson's Plover reports=17 total= 88
Semipalmated Plover reports=38 total= 278
Piping Plover reports=16 total= 183
Killdeer reports=110 total= 284
American Oystercatcher reports=21 total= 39
Black-necked Stilt reports=102 total= 713
American Avocet reports=39 total= 31,292
Spotted Sandpiper reports=39 total= 86
Solitary Sandpiper reports=29 total= 47
Greater Yellowlegs reports=53 total= 165
Willet reports=86 total= 1,037
Lesser Yellowlegs reports=72 total= 563
Upland Sandpiper reports=14 total= 143
Whimbrel reports=29 total= 308
Long-billed Curlew reports=29 total= 98
Hudsonian Godwit reports=3 total= 8
Marbled Godwit reports=31 total= 337
Ruddy Turnstone reports=45 total= 436
Red Knot reports=14 total= 149
Sanderling reports=44 total= 1,960
Semipalmated Sandpiper reports=19 total= 1,071
Western Sandpiper reports=25 total= 1,839
Least Sandpiper reports=39 total= 488
White-rumped Sandpiper reports=5 total= 10
Baird's Sandpiper reports=2 total= 2
Pectoral Sandpiper reports=18 total= 101
Dunlin reports=33 total= 2,396
Stilt Sandpiper reports=13 total= 124
Buff-breasted Sandpiper reports=4 total= 15
Short-billed Dowitcher reports=28 total= 571
Long-billed Dowitcher reports=39 total= 612
Wilson's Snipe reports=9 total= 40
Wilson's Phalarope reports=10 total= 332
Laughing Gull reports=137 total= 9,819
Franklin's Gull reports=9 total= 57
Bonaparte's Gull reports=3 total= 4
Ring-billed Gull reports=40 total= 234
Herring Gull reports=44 total= 246
Lesser Black-backed Gull reports=2 total= 2
Least Tern reports=31 total= 1,420
Gull-billed Tern reports=27 total= 79
Caspian Tern reports=30 total= 89
Black Tern reports=14 total= 155
Common Tern reports=14 total= 291
Forster's Tern reports=67 total= 1,254
Royal Tern reports=50 total= 1,738
Sandwich Tern reports=32 total= 357
Black Skimmer reports=35 total= 1,662
Rock Pigeon reports=63 total= 427
Eurasian Collared-Dove reports=79 total= 384
White-winged Dove reports=84 total= 592
Mourning Dove reports=231 total= 896
Inca Dove reports=34 total= 81
Common Ground-Dove reports=2 total= 3
Monk Parakeet reports=2 total= 6
Yellow-billed Cuckoo reports=35 total= 47
Black-billed Cuckoo reports=3 total= 3
Groove-billed Ani reports=1 total= 1
Barn Owl reports=9 total= 9
Eastern Screech-Owl reports=7 total= 8
Great Horned Owl reports=4 total= 4
Barred Owl reports=9 total= 12
Lesser Nighthawk reports=3 total= 4
Common Nighthawk reports=27 total= 71
Chuck-will's-widow reports=9 total= 9
Chimney Swift reports=117 total= 708
Buff-bellied Hummingbird reports=2 total= 2
Ruby-throated Hummingbird reports=103 total= 297
Black-chinned Hummingbird reports=3 total= 3
Belted Kingfisher reports=56 total= 80
Red-headed Woodpecker reports=37 total= 69
Red-bellied Woodpecker reports=148 total= 285
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker reports=13 total= 13
Downy Woodpecker reports=114 total= 188
Northern Flicker reports=4 total= 5
Pileated Woodpecker reports=34 total= 48
Olive-sided Flycatcher reports=2 total= 2
Eastern Wood-Pewee reports=38 total= 48
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher reports=0 total= 0
Acadian Flycatcher reports=7 total= 7
Willow Flycatcher reports=1 total= 1
Least Flycatcher reports=3 total= 4
Eastern Phoebe reports=9 total= 12
Vermilion Flycatcher reports=2 total= 3
Great Crested Flycatcher reports=41 total= 50
Western Kingbird reports=10 total= 11
Eastern Kingbird reports=97 total= 419
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher reports=80 total= 208
Loggerhead Shrike reports=122 total= 222
White-eyed Vireo reports=117 total= 275
Yellow-throated Vireo reports=13 total= 16
Blue-headed Vireo reports=41 total= 50
Warbling Vireo reports=16 total= 18
Philadelphia Vireo reports=13 total= 14
Red-eyed Vireo reports=59 total= 123
Blue Jay reports=194 total= 467
American Crow reports=71 total= 196
Fish Crow reports=1 total= 1
Horned Lark reports=2 total= 5
Purple Martin reports=152 total= 786
Tree Swallow reports=53 total= 823
Violet-green Swallow reports=1 total= 1 – High Island – Smith Oaks[G]:5
Northern Rough-winged Swallow reports=36 total= 255
Bank Swallow reports=12 total= 41
Cliff Swallow reports=31 total= 465
Cave Swallow reports=8 total= 54
Barn Swallow reports=160 total= 1,104
Carolina Chickadee reports=111 total= 393
Tufted Titmouse reports=59 total= 177
Red-breasted Nuthatch reports=4 total= 4
Carolina Wren reports=168 total= 414
House Wren reports=19 total= 22
Sedge Wren reports=21 total= 81
Marsh Wren reports=43 total= 153
Ruby-crowned Kinglet reports=57 total= 125
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reports=26 total= 54
Eastern Bluebird reports=21 total= 74
Veery reports=8 total= 14
Gray-cheeked Thrush reports=9 total= 14
Swainson's Thrush reports=36 total= 50
Hermit Thrush reports=16 total= 21
Wood Thrush reports=25 total= 30
American Robin reports=25 total= 41
Gray Catbird reports=119 total= 461
Northern Mockingbird reports=275 total= 935
Brown Thrasher reports=19 total= 26
Curve-billed Thrasher reports=1 total= 1 – Quintana NBS[B]:20
European Starling reports=168 total= 1,484
American Pipit reports=5 total= 38
Cedar Waxwing reports=50 total= 1,979

Blue-winged Warbler reports=44 total= 48
 Golden-winged Warbler reports=11 total= 12
 Tennessee Warbler reports=67 total= 332
 Orange-crowned Warbler reports=21 total= 22
 Nashville Warbler reports=15 total= 21
 Northern Parula reports=83 total= 157
 Yellow Warbler reports=43 total= 86
 Chestnut-sided Warbler reports=40 total= 105
 Magnolia Warbler reports=27 total= 83
 Black-throated Blue Warbler reports=0 total= 0
 Yellow-rumped Warbler reports=57 total= 165
 Black-throated Green Warbler reports=53 total= 103
 Blackburnian Warbler reports=31 total= 64
 Yellow-throated Warbler reports=25 total= 28
 Pine Warbler reports=23 total= 65
 Prairie Warbler reports=2 total= 2
 Palm Warbler reports=18 total= 60
 Bay-breasted Warbler reports=15 total= 84
 Blackpoll Warbler reports=16 total= 20
 Cerulean Warbler reports=13 total= 15
 Black-and-white Warbler reports=88 total= 146
 American Redstart reports=37 total= 74
 Prothonotary Warbler reports=42 total= 70

Worm-eating Warbler reports=31 total= 34
 Swainson's Warbler reports=2 total= 2
 Ovenbird reports=21 total= 30
 Northern Waterthrush reports=46 total= 78
 Louisiana Waterthrush reports=11 total= 23
 Kentucky Warbler reports=34 total= 41
 Common Yellowthroat reports=99 total= 210
 Hooded Warbler reports=64 total= 104
 Wilson's Warbler reports=7 total= 7
 Canada Warbler reports=5 total= 6
 Yellow-breasted Chat reports=47 total= 65
 Summer Tanager reports=99 total= 180
 Scarlet Tanager reports=55 total= 164
 Eastern Towhee reports=1 total= 1
 Chipping Sparrow reports=9 total= 51
 Field Sparrow reports=1 total= 2
 Vesper Sparrow reports=2 total= 18
 Savannah Sparrow reports=70 total= 432
 Le Conte's Sparrow reports=4 total= 5
 Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow reports=4 total= 8
 Seaside Sparrow reports=17 total= 195
 Song Sparrow reports=6 total= 6
 Lincoln's Sparrow reports=28 total= 53
 Swamp Sparrow reports=49 total= 136

White-throated Sparrow reports=12 total= 24
 White-crowned Sparrow reports=10 total= 25
 Northern Cardinal reports=301 total= 1,356
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak reports=71 total= 228
 Blue Grosbeak reports=37 total= 83
 Indigo Bunting reports=132 total= 649
 Painted Bunting reports=35 total= 44
 Dickcissel reports=13 total= 50
 Bobolink reports=1 total= 1
 Red-winged Blackbird reports=167 total= 2,275
 Eastern Meadowlark reports=75 total= 261
 Yellow-headed Blackbird reports=3 total= 4
 Brewer's Blackbird reports=5 total= 29
 Common Grackle reports=89 total= 420
 Boat-tailed Grackle reports=43 total= 401
 Great-tailed Grackle reports=176 total= 1,742
 Bronzed Cowbird reports=9 total= 25
 Brown-headed Cowbird reports=76 total= 407
 Orchard Oriole reports=96 total= 477
 Baltimore Oriole reports=80 total= 287
 House Finch reports=41 total= 72
 American Goldfinch reports=4 total= 11
 House Sparrow reports=130 total= 758

May 2008 -- There were 242 species reported for the Upper Texas Coast (Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Jefferson Counties) for April 2008 from 366 checklists.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck reports=82 total= 168
 Fulvous Whistling-Duck reports=10 total= 76
 Wood Duck reports=10 total= 49
 Gadwall reports=1 total= 2 – San Jacinto Battle Ground[H]:2,23
 Mottled Duck reports=26 total= 53
 Blue-winged Teal reports=25 total= 60
 Northern Shoveler reports=5 total= 6
 Redhead reports=1 total= 1 – Galveston[G]:1,17
 Lesser Scaup reports=1 total= 0 – Texas City[G]:3
 Surf Scoter reports=1 total= 6 – Bolivar Flats[G]6:3
 Red-breasted Merganser reports=3 total= 5 – Texas Point NWR[J]:3,1; Bryan Beach[B]:1,11; Port Bolivar Area[G]:1,17
 Ruddy Duck reports=2 total= 3
 Northern Bobwhite reports=7 total= 5
 Pacific Loon reports=1 total= 1 – Offatts Bayou[G]:1,3
 Common Loon reports=3 total= 4 – Offatts Bayou[G]:4,3
 Pied-billed Grebe reports=21 total= 34
 Eared Grebe reports=1 total= 0 – Texas City[G]:3
 Northern Gannet reports=1 total= 1 – Port Bolivar Area[G]:1,17
 American White Pelican reports=8 total= 34
 Brown Pelican reports=36 total= 263
 Neotropic Cormorant reports=59 total= 168
 Double-crested Cormorant reports=24 total= 18
 cormorant sp. reports=1 total= 0
 Anhinga reports=19 total= 34
 Magnificent Frigatebird reports=5 total= 7
 Least Bittern reports=10 total= 11
 Great Blue Heron reports=72 total= 29
 Great Egret reports=113 total= 249
 Snowy Egret reports=78 total= 249
 Little Blue Heron reports=52 total= 50
 Tricolored Heron reports=42 total= 47
 Reddish Egret reports=17 total= 38
 Cattle Egret reports=60 total= 383
 Green Heron reports=69 total= 24
 Black-crowned Night-Heron reports=27 total= 26
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron reports=93 total= 59
 White Ibis reports=57 total= 168
 Glossy Ibis reports=3 total= 4 – Anahuac NWR[C]:4; Sharp Rd[H]1,6; Katy[F]3,26
 White-faced Ibis reports=21 total= 165
 Roseate Spoonbill reports=40 total= 137
 Wood Stork reports=1 total= 1 – San Bernard NWR[B]:1,11
 Black Vulture reports=45 total= 69
 Turkey Vulture reports=47 total= 51

Osprey reports=6 total= 4 – Addicks Reservoir[H]:1,1; Eldridge Retention Basin[H]:1,4; Addicks Reservoir[H]:1,10; San Bernard NWR[B]:1,11; Jesse H. Jones Park[H]:1,13; Arthur Story Park[H]:1,25
 Swallow-tailed Kite reports=1 total= 1 – Fort Bend County[F]:1,31
 White-tailed Kite reports=17 total= 6
 Mississippi Kite reports=5 total= 6
 Bald Eagle reports=1 total= 2 – Eldridge Retention Basin[H]:2,6
 Northern Harrier reports=7 total= 5
 Sharp-shinned Hawk reports=1 total= 1 – Addicks Reservoir[H]:1,1
 Cooper's Hawk reports=8 total= 5 – W. 11th St Park[H]:1,4; Edith L. Moore NS[H]:1,11; Smith Oaks[G]:17; Willow Waterhole Park[H]:1,18; Mason Creek[H]:1,24; Willow Waterhole Park[H]:1,24; Willow Waterhole Park[H]:1,26; Willow Waterhole Park[H]:1,31
 Red-shouldered Hawk reports=22 total= 10
 Broad-winged Hawk reports=7 total= 4
 Swainson's Hawk reports=12 total= 8
 White-tailed Hawk reports=1 total= 0
 Red-tailed Hawk reports=33 total= 15
 Crested Caracara reports=16 total= 10
 American Kestrel reports=1 total= 0 – Anahuac NWR[C]:4
 Peregrine Falcon reports=2 total= 1 – Hegar Lakes[H]:1,3; Bolivar Flats[G]:1,5
 Clapper Rail reports=14 total= 20
 King Rail reports=1 total= 1
 Sora reports=10 total= 5
 Purple Gallinule reports=15 total= 21
 Common Moorhen reports=25 total= 63
 American Coot reports=32 total= 84
 Black-bellied Plover reports=22 total= 193
 American Golden-Plover reports=4 total= 2
 Snowy Plover reports=1 total= 2 – Bolivar Flats[G]:2,3
 Wilson's Plover reports=8 total= 8
 Semipalmated Plover reports=18 total= 42
 Piping Plover reports=1 total= 0 – McFaddin Beach[J]:2
 Killdeer reports=94 total= 48
 American Oystercatcher reports=8 total= 9
 Black-necked Stilt reports=55 total= 97
 American Avocet reports=12 total= 135
 Spotted Sandpiper reports=27 total= 22
 Solitary Sandpiper reports=6 total= 18
 Greater Yellowlegs reports=11 total= 8
 Willet reports=33 total= 167
 Lesser Yellowlegs reports=25 total= 75
 Upland Sandpiper reports=4 total= 4 – Katy Prairie[H]:1,6; Katy Prairie[H]:1,9; Katy Prairie[H]:1,10; Katy Prairie[H]:3,12;

Whimbrel reports=10 total= 49
 Long-billed Curlew reports=7 total= 8
 Hudsonian Godwit reports=4 total= 12 – Anahuac[C]:1,2; Chambers County[C]:10,4; Katy Prairie[H]:1,9; Quintana Beach and Jetty[B]:1,23;
 Marbled Godwit reports=7 total= 11
 Ruddy Turnstone reports=25 total= 206
 Red Knot reports=7 total= 28
 Sanderling reports=22 total= 585
 Semipalmated Sandpiper reports=14 total= 36
 Western Sandpiper reports=3 total= 6
 Least Sandpiper reports=22 total= 41
 White-rumped Sandpiper reports=22 total= 118
 Baird's Sandpiper reports=1 total= 0 – Brazoria NWR[B]:5
 Pectoral Sandpiper reports=14 total= 25
 Dunlin reports=19 total= 508
 Stilt Sandpiper reports=19 total= 30
 Buff-breasted Sandpiper reports=4 total= 96 – Chambers County:16,4; Longenbaugh/Porter Rd[H]:20,6; Paul Rushing Park[H]:75,10; Sharp Rd[H]:5,12
 Short-billed Dowitcher reports=8 total= 96
 Long-billed Dowitcher reports=18 total= 29
 Wilson's Phalarope reports=18 total= 92
 Laughing Gull reports=90 total= 614
 Bonaparte's Gull reports=1 total= 1 – Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary[G]:1,3
 Ring-billed Gull reports=7 total= 5
 Herring Gull reports=8 total= 8
 Lesser Black-backed Gull reports=1 total= 1 – Bolivar Peninsula[G]:1,1
 Least Tern reports=20 total= 189
 Gull-billed Tern reports=7 total= 10
 Caspian Tern reports=16 total= 32
 Black Tern reports=15 total= 58
 Common Tern reports=8 total= 8
 Forster's Tern reports=25 total= 49
 Royal Tern reports=24 total= 277
 Sandwich Tern reports=12 total= 20
 Black Skimmer reports=14 total= 171
 Rock Pigeon reports=37 total= 319
 Eurasian Collared-Dove reports=30 total= 28
 White-winged Dove reports=76 total= 197
 Mourning Dove reports=176 total= 106
 Inca Dove reports=10 total= 7
 Monk Parakeet reports=7 total= 8
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo reports=39 total= 21
 Black-billed Cuckoo reports=1 total= 1 – Port Bolivar Area[G]:1,17
 Greater Roadrunner reports=1 total= 2 – Kleb Woods[H]:2,12
 Eastern Screech-Owl reports=8 total= 9
 Great Horned Owl reports=5 total= 2
 Barred Owl reports=5 total= 3

Common Nighthawk reports=43 total= 19
 Chimney Swift reports=90 total= 56
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird reports=59 total= 25
 Belted Kingfisher reports=4 total= 5
 Red-headed Woodpecker reports=15 total= 9
 Red-bellied Woodpecker reports=99 total= 24
 Downy Woodpecker reports=79 total= 22
Northern Flicker reports=4 total= 2 – Edith L. Moore NS[H]:1,8; Edith L. Moore NS[H]:1,9; Edith L. Moore NS[H]:1,18; W. 11th St Park[H]:1,18
 Pileated Woodpecker reports=16 total= 5
 Olive-sided Flycatcher reports=7 total= 7
 Eastern Wood-Pewee reports=60 total= 52
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher reports=9 total= 5
 Acadian Flycatcher reports=13 total= 7
Alder Flycatcher reports=3 total= 3 – Quintana[B]:1,11; Quintana NBS[B]:2,12; San Luis Pass[G]:1,17
Willow Flycatcher reports=2 total= 2 – Edith L. Moore NS[H]:1,9; Kleb Woods[H]:1,12
 Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's) reports=1 total= 1
 Least Flycatcher reports=8 total= 4
 Empidonax sp. reports=9 total= 5
 Great Crested Flycatcher reports=30 total= 15
Great Kiskadee reports=1 total= 1 – San Luis Pass[G]:1,17
 Western Kingbird reports=20 total= 22
 Eastern Kingbird reports=24 total= 59
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher reports=55 total= 20
 Loggerhead Shrike reports=63 total= 42
 White-eyed Vireo reports=33 total= 30
 Yellow-throated Vireo reports=4 total= 2
Blue-headed Vireo reports=1 total= 1 – Sabine Woods[J]:1,3
Warbling Vireo reports=3 total= 4 – Sabine Woods[J]:2,3; Quintana[B]:1,9; Quintana[B]:1,12
Philadelphia Vireo reports=6 total= 6
 Red-eyed Vireo reports=35 total= 38
 Blue Jay reports=135 total= 64
 American Crow reports=35 total= 34
 Fish Crow reports=1 total= 1
 Horned Lark reports=4 total= 10
 Purple Martin reports=84 total= 61
Tree Swallow reports=11 total= 25

Northern Rough-winged Swallow reports=6 total= 6
Bank Swallow reports=9 total= 13
 Cliff Swallow reports=34 total= 270
Cave Swallow reports=3 total= 16 – Longbenbaugh/Porter Rd[H]:10,10; Longbenbaugh/Porter Rd[J]:5,12; Cullinan Park[F]:1,18
 Barn Swallow reports=95 total= 142
 swallow sp. reports=5 total= 11
 Carolina Chickadee reports=102 total= 66
 Tufted Titmouse reports=34 total= 35
Brown-headed Nuthatch reports=1 total= 1 – Kleb Woods[H]:1,7
 Carolina Wren reports=112 total= 67
Sedge Wren reports=1 total= 0 – Texas City Prairie Preserve TNC[G]:3
 Marsh Wren reports=5 total= 51
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reports=2 total= 1 – Smith Oaks[G]:17; Galveston[G]:1,21
 Eastern Bluebird reports=5 total= 33
Veery reports=9 total= 9
 Gray-cheeked Thrush reports=5 total= 3
 Swainson's Thrush reports=21 total= 28
 Wood Thrush reports=9 total= 4
 American Robin reports=16 total= 16
 Gray Catbird reports=47 total= 31
 Northern Mockingbird reports=202 total= 85
 European Starling reports=118 total= 157
 Cedar Waxwing reports=14 total= 214
 Blue-winged Warbler reports=1 total= 1
 Golden-winged Warbler reports=4 total= 6
 Tennessee Warbler reports=14 total= 41
 Nashville Warbler reports=1 total= 1
 Northern Parula reports=8 total= 7
 Yellow Warbler reports=21 total= 37
 Chestnut-sided Warbler reports=32 total= 22
 Magnolia Warbler reports=60 total= 52
 Cape May Warbler reports=2 total= 2
 Black-throated Blue Warbler reports=2 total= 1
 Yellow-rumped Warbler reports=3 total= 6
 Black-throated Green Warbler reports=31 total= 37
 Blackburnian Warbler reports=20 total= 17
 Yellow-throated Warbler reports=3 total= 4
 Pine Warbler reports=30 total= 29
 Bay-breasted Warbler reports=12 total= 35

Blackpoll Warbler reports=1 total= 8
 Black-and-white Warbler reports=38 total= 31
 American Redstart reports=62 total= 63
 Prothonotary Warbler reports=15 total= 15
 Swainson's Warbler reports=1 total= 0
 Ovenbird reports=13 total= 13
 Northern Waterthrush reports=15 total= 12
 Kentucky Warbler reports=6 total= 6
 Mourning Warbler reports=3 total= 4
 Common Yellowthroat reports=26 total= 19
 Hooded Warbler reports=4 total= 2
 Wilson's Warbler reports=9 total= 4
 Canada Warbler reports=30 total= 15
 Yellow-breasted Chat reports=3 total= 2
 Summer Tanager reports=20 total= 16
 Scarlet Tanager reports=17 total= 15
Western Tanager reports=1 total= 1 – San Luis Pass[G]:1,17
 Savannah Sparrow reports=10 total= 9
 Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow reports=4 total= 5
 Seaside Sparrow reports=3 total= 0
 Lincoln's Sparrow reports=1 total= 1
 Swamp Sparrow reports=1 total= 1
 Northern Cardinal reports=195 total= 120
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak reports=23 total= 18
 Blue Grosbeak reports=4 total= 3
 Indigo Bunting reports=18 total= 36
 Painted Bunting reports=8 total= 7
 Dickcissel reports=22 total= 36
Bobolink reports=2 total= 25 – Port Bolivar Area[G]:25,3; Bolivar Peninsula[G]:1,3
 Red-winged Blackbird reports=103 total= 179
 Eastern Meadowlark reports=44 total= 28
 Common Grackle reports=82 total= 92
 Boat-tailed Grackle reports=26 total= 34
 Great-tailed Grackle reports=96 total= 165
Bronzed Cowbird reports=4 total= 2 – Brazoria NWR[B]:5; W. 11th St Park[H]:1,6; Lafitte's Cove[G]:9; Houston[H]:1,28
 Brown-headed Cowbird reports=45 total= 42
 Orchard Oriole reports=20 total= 12
 Baltimore Oriole reports=17 total= 7
 House Finch reports=32 total= 22
American Goldfinch reports=1 total= 1 – Houston[H]:1,10
 House Sparrow reports=106 total= 152

Ornithology Group shirts are coming!

These Harriton brand 100% cotton shirts in French blue (deep sky blue) have the OG name and logo embroidered above the left breast pocket. Please help promote our organization by wearing our shirt. Board members will be wearing these shirts at the August meeting so that you can see what you are buying. **We will order only as many shirts as are ordered by individuals.**

Women's Sizes
(long sleeve only)

M (36-38)
 L (39-41)
 XL (42.5-44.5)
 XXL (46.5-48.5)

Men's Sizes

M (38-40)
 L (40-42)
 XL (46-48)
 XXL (50-52)

short sleeve long sleeve

Total: _____ shirt(s) @ \$30.00 each = \$_____

Make checks payable to OG. Bring this order form to the August meeting, or send to Bernice Hotman, 7711 Meadowvale, Houston 77063. **The deadline for receiving orders will be August 11** so that shirts will be ready by the September meeting.

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

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

og_spoonbill@earthlink.net

Field Trip Photo Gallery is now posted on the OG website. Have a look at photos from recent trips...and consider sharing your photos, too. Birds, birders, and places are all suitable.

http://www.ornithologygroup.org/_mgxroot/page_10742.html

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