

The Spoonbill

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

October 2008
Vol. 57 No. 8

September Meeting: Monday, October 6

Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet, Houston

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

7:00 p.m. – General Meeting

Program: NARBA by Steve Matherly

The North American Rare Bird Alert (NARBA) was begun as a private effort in 1985 and acquired by the Houston Audubon Society in 1989. After a brief "audition" as the voice of the Texas tape, Dr. Mike Austin of Friendswood (popularly known as "Dr. Bird") had primary responsibility for the North American tape since 1989. Beginning in 1997 he shared responsibility for tape updates for eight months of the year with Steve Matherly of Houston and Jim Beard of Martinsville, VA. Steve Matherly now oversees NARBA operations. NARBA has undergone a metamorphosis over the years, from primarily a telephonic report to web and email service. Preparing reports requires extensive monitoring from a variety of sources concerning local bird sightings. Reports are updated as warranted, generally multiple times a day. NARBA is a subscription service. Funds generated by the subscription fees are used to support the conservation programs of the Houston Audubon Society.

Other Events

- Oct. 11: Beginning Birder Trip 2
Katy Prairie
- Oct. 18: Monthly OG trip
(to be announced)
- Oct. 23-26: Quarterly Field Trip to
Concan & Uvalde (Bob Rasa)
- Nov. 15: Lake Texana State Park
- Dec. 20: Houston Christmas Bird Count

Inside this issue:

About the OG	2
Chairman's Message	2
September Meeting Minutes	2
Quarterly Trip	3
Beginning Birder Trip	4
Hurricane Ike Recovery	5
Clearing House	6
O'Neill Print Raffle	7
Membership Form	8

**Ornithology Group, Houston Outdoor Nature Club
Minutes of Meeting, Monday, September 8, 2008
Number of Attendees: 44**

1. **Learning Corner:** Mark Klym, coauthor of *Hummingbirds of Texas*, showed slides of the various hummingbirds in Texas. He gave us techniques on how to identify the various species.
2. **Sightings:** Bernice Hotman opened the meeting at 7:00pm with a request for sightings. Wood Storks have been seen at the Nuclear Power Plant, Upland Sandpipers on 8 Mile Road, a Red-Shouldered Hawk in Bellaire, American Bittern at Anahuac, and Mississippi Kites and Broad-winged Hawks in the area.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Jerry Stanislav presented an amended budget showing \$5,064 total income and total expenses of \$5,058. The primary reason for the amended budget was additional income from fundraisers, primarily the sale of shirts, and the additional expense of reimbursing speakers for their mileage. The budget was approved.
4. **Fundraiser:** Twenty-seven shirts were sold and resulted in \$152 profit. There are two 2X men's shirts remaining for sale. Contact Bernice Hotman if interested in purchasing.
5. **Additional Fundraiser:** A John O'Neill print of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers has been donated to OG for a fundraiser. The Board is thinking about having a raffle with the drawing to be at the December meeting. The Board will determine the specifics and report at the next meeting.
6. **Membership:** Margret Simmons encouraged everyone to sign in.
7. **Library Report:** Debbie Valdez welcomes any suggestions about the library. She recently put some past meetings from the 1970's and 80's on DVDs which are available for check-out.
8. **Environmental Concerns:** David Marrack expressed concern about windmills near Nueces Bay and their effect on hawk migration. He also reports that the Sierra Club has surveyed the various political candidates about their environmental positions.
9. **Spoonbill newsletter:** September 10 is the deadline for submissions. Anyone with an anecdote or interesting birding story is encouraged to submit it to Al Shultz.
10. **Field Trips:** Adam Wood was unable to be at the meeting. Bernice Hotman reported that information

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 Stanislav	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:	Steve Gross	

The Spoonbill: Al Shultz 281-829-0970
Email: og_spoonbill@earthlink.net

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

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

- about the Smith Point Hawk Watch on September 20 and the quarterly trip to the Hill Country from October 23-26 is in the Spoonbill. The Hill Country quarterly trip is now full. If interested, please call Adam to get on the waiting list. If you are signed up to go and find that you won't be able to, please let Adam know so someone else can take your place.
11. **Beginner Birder Trip 1:** This field trip takes place on Saturday, September 13 at Jesse Jones Park. Michael Williams will be leading this group. Houston Audubon will provide field guides and binoculars for all participants.
 12. **Houston CBC:** David Sarkozi asked if we might consider changing the Houston CBC from the first Saturday to another day. There is a lot of competition for this day, and Houston CBC's attendance has been dwindling over the past few years due to many people going to the Brazos Bend CBC as well as others on the same day. He asked if we might consider moving it to a day after Christmas. There was discussion, but a consensus did not develop. If you have ideas regarding this, please contact David or Bernice Hotman. The Board will be discussing this further.

13. **Program:** Pam Smolen introduced Mark Klym, Information Specialist for the Wildlife Diversity Program of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. He spoke about the future of South Texas Wildlife. Texas has unique ecosystems with great diversity of wildlife, birds and butterflies. The ecosystems are disappearing at an alarming rate. Some of the threats are urbanization, invasive species, habitat fragmentation, agriculture, and basin water. Other future threats are climate change, pollution, further habitat fragmentation, and loss of water. Various environmental communities across Texas determined three high-priority ecoregions in Texas: the Gulf Coast Prairies and Marshes, the South Texas Plains, and the Blackland Prairies. Less than

2% of the Coastal Prairies and Marshes remain intact. Of particular concern in the Coastal Prairie and Marshes area are the Whooping Cranes, the Attwater Prairie Chicken, and the Texas Diamondback Terrapin. The Texas Wildlife Action Plan was written in 2006 and was one of the first accepted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Implementation of this plan has just begun. By 2010 the plan will have to be rewritten. Mr. Klym ended his slide presentation with a very interesting question and answer session.

14. Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

--Cindy Douglass, OG Secretary

**Quarterly Trip Announcement: Hill Country (Uvalde/Concan)
October 23-26, 2008**

Meet at Palacio del Frio Living Room, 9:00 p.m.
\$190.00 (ESTIMATE) Accommodations Fee
Limit: 16 People

This fall's quarterly field trip will be to the Hill Country around Concan and Uvalde. Bob Rasa will be our leader for this trip. The Golden-cheeked Warblers and Black-capped Vireos will be long gone by this date, but don't despair -- there are still many goodies for us to find. The main targets will be fall migrants, with special emphasis on finding some of the western species like MacGillivray's Warbler, Lazuli Bunting (rare) and Yellow-headed Blackbird to just name a few. We will visit Cooks Slough, the Uvalde Fish Hatchery, Lost Maples State Park, Park Chalk Bluff and Kerr Wildlife Management Area if time permits. We will also be on the lookout for other west Texas specialties such as Zone-tailed Hawk, Wild Turkey, Common Poorwill, Bell's Vireo, Hutton's Vireo (rare), Bushtit, Verdin, Cassin's Sparrow, Brewer's Sparrow (rare), Clay-colored Sparrow, Bullock's Oriole and Scott's Oriole. This is going to be a great trip in some beautiful country, the Texas Hill Country, so you will not want to miss it. If you are interested in going on this trip, please let me know and I will get your name on the list and give you details on payment.

Accommodations: I am planning to reserve two cabins in Concan, Texas. One sleeps 10 and the other sleeps 6 for \$900 a night. The larger cabin has five bedrooms with 10 beds and 3.5 baths, and has a swimming pool (bring your swim suit if you feel like a relaxing soak after a full day of birding) and a full kitchen (bring what ever drinks and food you like, but remember that there are other people bringing food and drinks as well, so don't go overboard). The other cabin has three bedrooms with six beds and three bathrooms. It also has a full kitchen and dining room. Everybody will need to bring their own bedding and bath towels.

Be sure to bring: binoculars, spotting scope, camera, rain gear in case it rains, hat, sunscreen, water, snacks for during the day, and lunch material for Friday and Saturday. If you wish to bring breakfast and dinner food as well as drinks, feel free to because the cabins have a big freezer/fridge as well as an oven and stove.

This trip is filling up fast so if you are interested in attending this trip please let me know and I will get your name on the list.

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

Beginning Birder Trip II: Katy Prairie

October 11, 2008

Nelson Farms Viewing Platform: 5:00 AM

Paul Rushing Park: 8:00 AM

Are you a beginning birder? Are you interested in finding out more about what goes on during our field trips before joining our organization and participating in our regular monthly trips? If so, then this trip is for you. Here is a chance for inexperienced birders to get more experience in a low-pressure environment where we will not be worried about finding target birds or trying to see as many species of birds as possible. If you missed last month's beginning birder trip you will not want to miss this one, because it is the second and last trip in the new member/beginning birder trip series. Last month's trip was to Jesse Jones Park where we were birding in a forested habitat with a nice riparian zone. If you were on that trip you probably noticed that you hear more birds than you see on a typical day of birding in that habitat. Forested habitats can be difficult to bird for that reason. This month we are birding in a different habitat, the Katy Prairie, where it is more open with scattered wetlands and we will not have to rely on our bird song identification skills as much. In this habitat we will get good unobstructed looks at the majority of the birds we encounter.

The Katy Prairie lies in the Texas Coastal Plain and encompasses over a thousand square miles bounded by the Brazos River on the southwest, pine-hardwood forest on the north, and the city of Houston on the east. Historically the Katy Prairie was characterized as a poorly drained tall-grass prairie subject to periodic fires and containing a considerable amount of wetland areas. The Katy Prairie comprises a variety of habitats, including agricultural wetlands, depressional wetlands, creek corridors, and coastal grasslands. The diversity of habitats on the Katy Prairie allows for the coexistence of a variety of people and wildlife. An average total of 597,000 representatives of 196 avian species were recorded in the 1977-1994 period during Christmas bird counts.

For those beginning birders who want to get a specialized introductory birding experience, we will be doing some early morning owling on this trip. As a bonus on this trip I will try to arrange for us to have the opportunity to bird on Katy Prairie Conservancy Land, most likely Nelson Farms Preserve. Also, the newly created wetlands at Paul Rushing Park will have been completed at this time and we will have the opportunity to bird them. This may be the final year I will offer these trips, so get the word out to anybody whom this trip may interest. If there is enough interest in these trips I may continue them next year. So come out ready to meet new people and enjoy what should be a great day of fall birding on the Katy Prairie.

Directions: For those birders who want to have a broader birding experience by learning about owls, we will meet at **Nelson Farms Viewing Platform off of Sharp Road at 5 a.m.** sharp to start our owling. To get to the viewing platform take US 290 to FM 529 and head west on FM 529 past Highway 6, Barker Cypress, Fry Road, and Mason Road. Keep going west until you come to Katy Hockley Cutoff Road and turn right (north). Drive north (1 mile from FM 529) and turn left onto Katy Hockley Road at Paul D. Rushing Park. You will come to a stop sign; go straight. The road turns into Sharp Road, which has several sharp turns. You will pass Hendrick's Kennels and a sign for Cypress Creek. The road will turn to gravel and the viewing platform is about 200 feet ahead on your left.

(continued, p. 5)...

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For those of you who wish to get a later start, we will meet you at **Paul Rushing Park at 8 a.m.** for the general birding portion of this trip. Paul Rushing Park is located at 9114 Katy Hockley Road, Katy Tx. 77493. The Park is off of Katy Hockley Road just north of Longenbaugh Road. To get there take US 290 to FM 529 and head west on FM 529 past Highway 6, Barker Cypress, Fry Road, and Mason Road. Keep going west until you come to Katy Hockley Cutoff Road and turn right (north). Drive north (1 mile from FM 529) and turn left onto Katy Hockley Road and the entrance to Paul D. Rushing Park will be on your left. Go in the second gate.

Be sure to bring: Binoculars, scope, camera, sturdy shoes, sunscreen, hat, water, snacks, rain gear, and a lunch (we will break for lunch around noon, so make sure to bring a lunch if you plan on staying for the whole day).

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

UTC Sanctuaries After Ike

All residents of the Houston area felt some inconvenience and many suffered severe loss as a result of Hurricane Ike's impact on the Upper Texas Coast on September 12-13. At the time of printing this *Spoonbill*, two weeks after Ike, most of us are returning to normal life -- although much work remains for some. Local news media have brought a surfeit of reports of the property loss, disruption and human tragedy that accompany a major hurricane. Although of less urgency, the status and recovery of local wildlife areas and bird sanctuaries is also a concern; the following is a brief summary. -Editor

Sabine Woods: Ike brought a destructive storm surge that virtually wiped away the town of Sabine Pass. Sabine Woods sanctuary had understory cleared away with many of the boardwalks. The good news is that most of the trees have survived the wind and (we hope) the salt water incursion.

www.texasbirds.org/_mgxroot/page_10722.html

At **High Island**, the oil fields are leaching petroleum and it will seep into all channels of the area's hydrology and biology. Because High Island is 40 feet above sea level, the highest points were not flooded, but the area did experience heavy wind damage. **Hooks Woods** sanctuary had some wind damage and much debris deposited by the surf. Once it is safe to get there, TOS will be holding a work day to help clean up the mess. Cleanup at **Boy Scout Woods** and **Smith Oaks** will be started by Houston Audubon Society once access is possible.

Bolivar Flats is described by Winnie Burkett as looking "very different....At the end of Rettilon Rd there is a large hole caused by water running out of the marsh.... Much of the sand from the beach was pushed inland along with some debris.... The vehicular barrier where everyone parks is still there but will need some work. The observation tower is gone but we may have found it in Horseshoe Marsh." At **Horseshoe Marsh** "the part of the sanctuary closest to the ferry landing is a mess; debris from the houses in Port Bolivar washed into the sanctuary and it will be a big job to clean it up. Fortunately most of the fences are still up." HAS tentatively plans work days October 11 and 25 at the coastal sanctuaries.

www.houstonaudubon.org/index.cfm/MenuItemID/692.htm

The **Smith Point** observation tower is still standing but surrounded by debris up to the lower deck. The Hawk Watch is cancelled for the rest of the season because of debris and concerns over safety and access. **Quintana** sanctuary has many downed trees and fences and a large quantity of debris; effects of saltwater immersion on vegetation will not be known for some time. 's headquarters near Lake Jackson sustained tree falls and utility interruptions but has reopened on a limited basis. www.gcbo.org/

Clearing House – August 2008

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 or Location[County]:date

There were 104 species reported for the Upper Texas Coast (Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Jefferson Counties) for August 2008 from 29 checklists.

September will prove to be a very interesting month. Hurricane Ike cut off access to many of the most popular birding locations, and I bet the majority of the local birders were just too busy in the recovery to go birding. That doesn't mean there won't be interesting reports though. I would like to challenge everyone to bird something new and submit a check list.

Speaking of checklists, I'd like to ask everyone to think before using the X to signify present when submitting to eBird. I see this in unusual reports. Most of these we can assume are actually just single sightings. If you actually know the number, please enter it. In those birds you know you saw just one or two, please enter it with the actual number. Your reports will mean so much more.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck reports=52 total= 349

Fulvous Whistling-Duck reports=3 total= 252

Wood Duck reports=6 total= 38

Mottled Duck reports=15 total= 34

Blue-winged Teal reports=3 total= 46

Ruddy Duck reports=1 total= 2

Northern Bobwhite reports=2 total= 7

Least Grebe reports=3 total= 2 Bear Creek Park(Harris)[16]:2

Pied-billed Grebe reports=3 total= 6

American White Pelican reports=5 total= 95

Brown Pelican reports=38 total= 252

Neotropical Cormorant reports=55 total= 157

Double-crested Cormorant reports=4 total= 3 Galveston Island SP(Galveston)[10]:2; Rollover Pass(Galveston)[15]:X, Texas City Dike(Galveston)[16]:12; Bolivar Flats(Galveston)[17]:1

Anhinga reports=13 total= 29

Magnificent Frigatebird reports=16 total= 12

Least Bittern reports=3 total= 3

Great Blue Heron reports=61 total= 40

Great Egret reports=87 total= 143

Snowy Egret reports=76 total= 105

Little Blue Heron reports=49 total= 64

Tricolored Heron reports=47 total= 68

Reddish Egret reports=20 total= 56

Cattle Egret reports=62 total= 536

Green Heron reports=52 total= 25

Black-crowned Night-Heron reports=24 total= 19

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron reports=48 total= 52

White Ibis reports=43 total= 310

White-faced Ibis reports=17 total= 106

Roseate Spoonbill reports=35 total= 108

Wood Stork reports=6 total= 57

Black Vulture reports=25 total= 105

Turkey Vulture reports=25 total= 39

Osprey reports=4 total= 3 San Jacinto

Battleground SP(Harris)[9]:1;

Galveston(Galveston)[15]:1; Clara Road

Pond(Harris)[24]:1; Mason

Creek(Harris)[27]:2;

Galveston(Galveston)[29]:1

Swallow-tailed Kite reports=1 total= 5

White-tailed Kite reports=10 total= 12

Mississippi Kite reports=17 total= 46

Northern Harrier reports=3 total= 2 Clara

Road Pond(Harris)[9]:1; Anahuac

NWR(Chambers)[10]:1; HAS Bolivar

Count(Galveston)[16]:1

Sharp-shinned Hawk reports=1 total= 1

Seabourne Creek Park(Fort Bend)[27]:1

Cooper's Hawk reports=2 total= 2

Red-shouldered Hawk reports=21 total= 8

Broad-winged Hawk reports=2 total= 5

Swainson's Hawk reports=10 total= 7

White-tailed Hawk reports=5 total= 6

Red-tailed Hawk reports=10 total= 7 San

Benard NWR(Brazoria)[10]:1; Kleb

Woods(Harris)[13]:3; (Harris)[16]:1;

Jesse Jones Park(Harris)[18]:1; San

Jacinto Battleground SP(Harris)[18]:1;

Jesse Jones Park(Harris)[21]:X;

fulshear(Fort Bend)[27]:1; San Jacinto

Battleground SP(Harris)[29]:1

Crested Caracara reports=6 total= 7

American Kestrel reports=1 total= 1

Clapper Rail reports=12 total= 17

King Rail reports=2 total= 2

Purple Gallinule reports=5 total= 7

Common Moorhen reports=15 total= 62

American Coot reports=8 total= 22

Black-bellied Plover reports=14 total= 24

Snowy Plover reports=7 total= 16

Wilson's Plover reports=8 total= 52

Semipalmated Plover reports=16 total= 94

Piping Plover reports=5 total= 110

Killdeer reports=48 total= 99

American Oystercatcher reports=8 total= 7

Black-necked Stilt reports=38 total= 1,187

American Avocet reports=2 total= 9

Spotted Sandpiper reports=29 total= 14

Solitary Sandpiper reports=4 total= 5

Greater Yellowlegs reports=19 total= 19

Willet reports=36 total= 97

Lesser Yellowlegs reports=18 total= 21

Upland Sandpiper reports=3 total= 6

Whimbrel reports=3 total= 2 Anahuac

NWR(Chambers)[7]:1; Port Bolivar

Area(Galveston)[17]:1

Long-billed Curlew reports=9 total= 21

Marbled Godwit reports=13 total= 33

Ruddy Turnstone reports=17 total= 97

Sanderling reports=16 total= 510

Semipalmated Sandpiper reports=5 total= 35

Western Sandpiper reports=8 total= 150

Least Sandpiper reports=27 total= 101

Pectoral Sandpiper reports=3 total= 6

Stilt Sandpiper reports=3 total= 12

Short-billed Dowitcher reports=6 total= 160

Long-billed Dowitcher reports=7 total= 18

Wilson's Phalarope reports=2 total= 2

Laughing Gull reports=76 total= 1,772

Ring-billed Gull reports=11 total= 19

Herring Gull reports=7 total= 6

Least Tern reports=18 total= 276

Gull-billed Tern reports=5 total= 30

Caspian Tern reports=17 total= 67

Black Tern reports=20 total= 172

Common Tern reports=7 total= 21 Bolivar

Flats(Galveston)[10]:5; Quintana

Beach(Brazoria)[16]:16; Rollover

Pass(Galveston)[16]:15; Bolivar

Flats(Galveston)[17]:1

Forster's Tern reports=21 total= 65

Royal Tern reports=31 total= 542

Sandwich Tern reports=19 total= 76

Black Skimmer reports=17 total= 115

Rock Pigeon reports=38 total= 200

Eurasian Collared-Dove reports=38 total= 67

White-winged Dove reports=45 total= 150

Mourning Dove reports=139 total= 315

Inca Dove reports=8 total= 12

Monk Parakeet reports=7 total= 31

Houston(Harris)[1]:1; (Galveston)[2]:14;

Independence Park(Fort Bend)[2]:2;

Double Lake Dr.(Fort Bend)[7]:7; Willow

Waterhole(Harris)[8]:4; Willow

Waterhole(Harris)[16]:1; Nassau

Bay(Harris)[23]:8

Yellow-billed Cuckoo reports=4 total= 2

Greater Roadrunner reports=1 total= 2 Kleb

Woods(Harris)[6]:2

Barn Owl reports=1 total= 2

Eastern Screech-Owl reports=1 total= 1

Great Horned Owl reports=2 total= 3

Common Nighthawk reports=30 total= 126

Chuck-will's-widow reports=2 total= 1

Chimney Swift reports=37 total= 59

Ruby-throated Hummingbird reports=61 total= 59

Rufous Hummingbird reports=3 total= 2

Houston(Harris)[15]:1;

Houston(Harris)[16]:1;

Houston(Harris)[17]:1

Belted Kingfisher reports=11 total= 5

Red-headed Woodpecker reports=4 total= 4

Red-bellied Woodpecker reports=54 total= 20

Downy Woodpecker reports=56 total= 19

Pileated Woodpecker reports=13 total= 11

Olive-sided Flycatcher reports=3 total= 4

Eastern Wood-Pewee reports=5 total= 3

Acadian Flycatcher reports=7 total= 6

Alder Flycatcher reports=1 total= 1

Least Flycatcher reports=1 total= 2

Empidonax sp. reports=3 total= 2

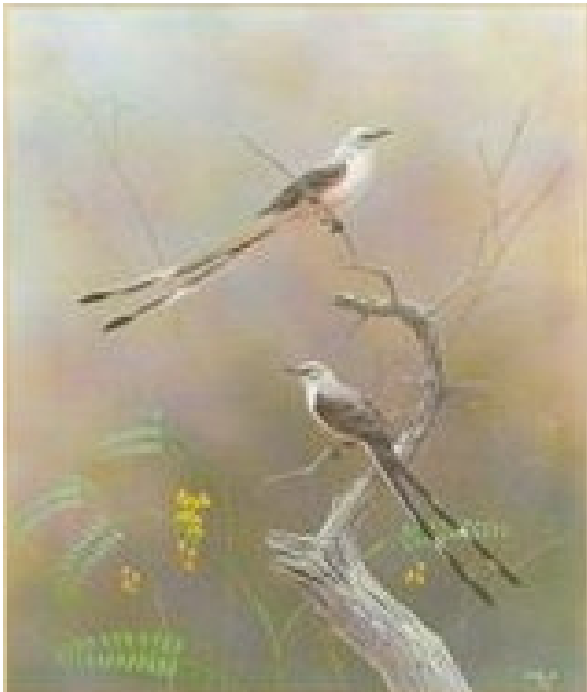
Great Crested Flycatcher reports=9 total= 5

Western Kingbird reports=1 total= 1

Eastern Kingbird reports=21 total= 25
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher reports=16 total= 13
 Loggerhead Shrike reports=65 total= 30
 White-eyed Vireo reports=15 total= 16
 Yellow-throated Vireo reports=1 total= 0
 Red-eyed Vireo reports=3 total= 1
 Blue Jay reports=89 total= 38
 American Crow reports=34 total= 35
 Horned Lark reports=6 total= 20
 Purple Martin reports=19 total= 175
 Tree Swallow reports=1 total= 2
 Cliff Swallow reports=4 total= 14
 Cave Swallow reports=4 total= 2
 Barn Swallow reports=56 total= 158
 Swallow sp. reports=4 total= 7
 Carolina Chickadee reports=51 total= 45
 Tufted Titmouse reports=14 total= 18

Carolina Wren reports=67 total= 35
 Marsh Wren reports=1 total= 1
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reports=17 total= 16
 Eastern Bluebird reports=6 total= 64
 American Robin reports=6 total= 18
 Northern Mockingbird reports=119 total= 69
 European Starling reports=61 total= 408
 Yellow Warbler reports=7 total= 17
 Pine Warbler reports=6 total= 3
 Black-and-white Warbler reports=3 total= 1
 Prothonotary Warbler reports=5 total= 3
 Louisiana Waterthrush reports=2 total= 1
 Common Yellowthroat reports=4 total= 2
 Hooded Warbler reports=2 total= 2
 Canada Warbler reports=2 total= 1
 Yellow-breasted Chat reports=2 total= 2
 Summer Tanager reports=2 total= 0

Seaside Sparrow reports=6 total= 8
 Northern Cardinal reports=86 total= 98
 Blue Grosbeak reports=1 total= 3
 Indigo Bunting reports=2 total= 2
 Painted Bunting reports=1 total= 1
 Dickcissel reports=2 total= 20
 Red-winged Blackbird reports=19 total= 314
 Eastern Meadowlark reports=16 total= 28
 Common Grackle reports=26 total= 387
 Boat-tailed Grackle reports=17 total= 62
 Great-tailed Grackle reports=54 total= 335
 Brown-headed Cowbird reports=13 total= 118
 Orchard Oriole reports=11 total= 30
 House Finch reports=27 total= 28
 House Sparrow reports=51 total= 134



A Chance to Own a Spectacular Print

Gwen Kunz, a longtime OG member, has very generously donated a print by John O'Neill to the OG, which we are pleased to offer by raffle. Tickets will be sold at \$5 each or 5 for \$20 from now until the December meeting, when the winning ticket will be chosen by drawing. You need not be present to win! Money from ticket sales will go toward OG speakers and programs.

“Scissor-tailed Flycatchers and Rattlebox” measures 20 x 24 inches and is a 1973 limited-edition color print, signed by the artist and framed. (The artist also added a personal inscription to Gwen.) Bring cash or checks (made out to OG) and tickets to the next OG meeting, or mail to Jerry Stanislav, OG Treasurer, 23 Paddington Court, Conroe, TX 77384

Raffle Ticket	(\$5 each – 5 for \$20)
Name: _____	
Telephone: _____	

Raffle Ticket	(\$5 each – 5 for \$20)
Name: _____	
Telephone: _____	

Raffle Ticket	(\$5 each – 5 for \$20)
Name: _____	
Telephone: _____	

Raffle Ticket	(\$5 each – 5 for \$20)
Name: _____	
Telephone: _____	

Raffle Ticket	(\$5 each – 5 for \$20)
Name: _____	
Telephone: _____	

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

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

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