



The Spoonbill

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

January 2009
Vol. 58 No. 1

Monthly Meeting: Monday, January 5

Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet, Houston

Learning Corner -- 6:30 p.m. with Steve Gross

Wintering Birds by Ear

7:00 p.m. – General Meeting

**Program: *Galapagos*
with Skip Almoney and John Old**

We begin the new year with a photo journey to the Galapagos led by Skip Almoney and John Old. They and their wives Jonni and Lynn joined Lindblad Expeditions for a visit to the Galapagos Islands in November 2007. Each day for a week they cruised to a new island and observed its plants and wildlife in the company of Ecuadorian naturalists and professional photographers.

Skip Almoney was born and raised in Pennsylvania but moved to Houston in 1970 (with a Ph.D. in nuclear physics) to work as a geophysicist for Texaco in Bellaire. During the next 31 years he worked in a variety of petroleum exploration positions for Texaco including over ten years in international exploration. He began watching birds in the summer of 1993 before being transferred to Indonesia for a year. When he returned to Houston he joined the OG and served as Vice-Chairman and Chairman. He is a certified Texas Master Naturalist, a member of the Board of Directors of Houston Audubon Society, and has served as a volunteer at High Island and Bolivar Flats. In 2004 Skip formed a nonprofit corporation, Friends of Mandell Park, to improve, protect and assist in the maintenance this newly acquired Houston park.

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Other Events

Jan. 17: Monthly Trip
Brazos Bend with Bill Godley

Jan. 22-25: Quarterly Trip
Matagorda Island, Fennessey
Ranch, Choke Canyon

Feb. 21: Monthly trip
Baytown Nature Center & San
Jacinto National Monument
(with Dwayne Litteer)

Apr. 10-19: Quarterly trip
Panhandle/Guadalupe & Davis
Mountains/Lake Balmorhea
(Burr Williams & Steve Gross)

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Program (continued from p. 1)...

Skip and his wife Jonni live in the Museum area and enjoy yoga, traveling, ballet, reading, fine dining and cooking.

Although John Old was born in Oklahoma City, he grew up in Texarkana, Texas, and left there in 1960 to attend the University of Texas at Austin. For the next 10 years he perfected the Hook'em Horns sign and learned the words to "Texas Fight". He fled to Texaco in late 1970 with a PhD in Electrical engineering, and labored for the next 30 years in various Texaco technology organizations while living in Houston, New Orleans, Indonesia, Connecticut and again Houston. In retirement, John and his wife Lynn now spend their time traveling and visiting the families of their three sons and six grandkids. Given all those opportunities, John makes a lot of photographs and works with the Houston Audubon Nature Photography Association and the West University Senior Services Handymen.

Please join us for this exciting program of travel and birding stories and superb photography by some of OG's own active and entertaining members.

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	

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

Message from the Chairman

Happy New Year! Do you believe in making resolutions for the New Year? Have you considered birding-related resolutions?

Perhaps you might consider improving your birding skills. Maybe you want to finally learn to identify female ducks without relying on the identifying markings of the male nearby. Is this the year that you are going to nail the identification of all those little brown jobs, a.k.a. sparrows? Or are you looking ahead to those "confusing fall warblers" and finally getting them all straight?

Maybe you want to take a bird-focused trip this year – either out of Harris County or out of Texas or even out of the United States. Ornithology Group quarterly trips are a great way to expand your knowledge of areas not-too-far afield, and Houston Audubon Society now sponsors a wide range of birding trips.

Are you going to be a more helpful birder in the field? Maybe you will have the chance to assist unsure birders with identification of a new bird to them or even to help another person in the field find the bird in the first place

or maybe to just practice better birding etiquette in the field.

Is this the year that you are really going to chase those Texas rarities? If so, besides resolving to see the birds yourself, please resolve to help the state Bird Records Committee by submitting your field notes and digital photos. If you find the rare or unusual bird, will you recognize that it is "report worthy"? You can find the Review Lists, report forms, contact information on the Texas Ornithological Society website, www.texasbirds.org.

Maybe you're ready to give something back to this wonderful organization that you've enjoyed and maybe from which you've learned a few things. May will end my tenure and that of our secretary, Cindy Douglass. If you would like to volunteer to serve as a member of the nominations committee, or as program vice-chairman or as secretary, please let me know.

First and foremost, resolve to continue to participate in Ornithology Group!

--Bernice Hotman

Ornithology Group of the Houston Outdoor Nature Club
Minutes of Meeting on December 1, 2008
Number of Attendees: 44

1. **Learning Corner:** Steve Gross discussed Fieldcraft – the skills needed to be more successful in the field. Various considerations discussed were the best time of day to bird, etiquette in the field, including scope etiquette, and minimizing stress on the environment.
2. **Fundraiser Raffle:** Bernice Hotman announced that \$390 of raffle tickets had been sold so far and were still available. Total sales were \$425 by the end of the evening. The drawing took place at the end of the meeting, and the winner of the John O’Neill print, “Scissor-tailed Flycatchers and Rattlebox” was Norma Barnes.
3. **Nominating Committee:** Bernice Hotman announced that she needs names of persons to be on the nominating committee for next year’s board.
4. **Sightings mentioned:** a Bald Eagle at Warren Ranch Lake and at Addicks Reservoir; Horned Larks and White-Tailed Hawks at Paul Rushing Park; Fox Sparrow, Harris’s Sparrow, and Woodcock at Sharp Road at Cypress Creek, and 6 Hooded Mergansers at the Willow Waterhole.
5. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Minutes from the November 3rd meeting were approved as printed in the previous Spoonbill.
6. **Treasurer’s Report:** Jerry Stanislav reported that we have \$9,225 in the bank.
7. **Membership:** Margret Simmons reminded everyone to sign in and pay dues. There is no change in dues for 2009.
8. **Library Report:** Check out the book list on the web. If interested, let Debbie Valdez know and she will bring them to next’s month’s meeting.
9. **Spoonbill:** Al Shultz reported that December 15 is the deadline for next month’s submissions. Write-ups on CBCs would be appreciated by anyone.
10. **Environmental Concerns:** Peg McNealy mentioned that conservation groups would appreciate year-end charitable donations.
11. **Katy Prairie Conservancy:** Bob Honig announced a Birdathon to help pay off the mortgage on the Warren Ranch. Details of the Birdathon are in the December 2008 issue of the Spoonbill. The Katy Prairie also has Open Trails, a self-guided walk, each Friday in December (except for 12/26).
12. **Christmas Bird Counts:** A complete list of CBCs in the area, as well as the contact person, is in the December 2008 Spoonbill. Any help you can provide is appreciated. David Sarkozi brought up changing the date of the Houston (Baytown) CBC. It has seen declining participation in the past few years. One reason may be that it is scheduled on the same day as the Brazos Bend SP CBC. After discussion by the membership, the date was changed from Saturday, December 20 to Sunday, December 21.
13. **Field Trips:** In Adam Wood’s absence, Bernice Hotman reported that the quarterly trip to Matagorda Island in January 2009 is full with a waiting list.
14. **Program:** Pam Smolen introduced Dr. Andrew Kasner who directs the on-the-ground conservation efforts of Audubon Texas. Dr. Kasner spoke about Audubon Texas Bird Conservation Programs. The goals are to identify vulnerable common and at-risk bird species, prioritize conservation actions to halt species declines, and use status and trends of birds to prioritize other conservation actions. The important things to know about bird populations are: 1) population sizes, 2) range sizes, 3) population trends, and 4) threats. What is a vulnerable common bird? It has a population size of more than 500,000, a range size of more than 1 million sq. km, and a population decline of 15% in 30 years or 54% per year. Some of the threats are wetland loss, sea level rise, subsidence, saltwater intrusion, and development. Dr. Kasner also spoke about Important Bird Areas (IBAs). These are very important in raising awareness about birds. There are not as many IBAs in Texas as other states, primarily because IBAs in Texas tend to be on private land whereas they are on federal land in many other states. However, good progress is being made with private landowners to add IBAs in Texas.

-- Cindy Douglass, OG Secretary

January 17, 2009 -- Trip to Brazos Bend State Park

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at 40 Acre Lake Parking Lot

Admission Fee: \$4

This month's trip will be to Brazos Bend State Park. Most of the park is in the Brazos River floodplain, but there are also areas of flat upland coastal prairies. Numerous swales and depressions become freshwater marshes during periods of heavy rain. In addition to the Brazos River, Big Creek meanders diagonally across the park and is associated with sloughs and cutoff meanders called oxbow lakes. Other lakes have been created by levees. The creek and riverbanks are lined with sycamore, cottonwood, and black willow.

Bill Godley, one of the State Park's naturalists, will guide us around the park and surrounding areas in search of American Bittern, wintering ducks, Vermilion Flycatcher, Winter Wren, wintering warblers as well as a few lingering neotropical migrants and sparrows. (Previous Brazos Bend CBCs have produced Prairie Warbler and Ovenbird.) In the afternoon after lunch we will be birding outside the park around Davis Estates (if we get permission) to look for Palm Warblers, and one of the areas we will be birding is great for sparrows including Grasshopper Sparrow. This will be an all-day trip with a few not-so-easy hikes. If you stick with us for the whole time you will not be disappointed. This park is great to bird all year round and we should have a great day.

Directions: We will meet in the 40 Acre Lake parking lot at 7:00 a.m.. The park is approximately a one-hour drive from downtown Houston. Take Highway 59 South to the Crabb River Road exit. You may also take State Highway 288 south to FM 1462 West. Follow FM 1462 to FM 762 North. From the south follow State Highway 288 North to the FM 1462 exit or take State Highway 36 to FM 1462 East. All routes are marked with brown signs to guide you.

Be sure to bring: Binoculars, a warm coat or jacket in case it is cold, hat, sun block, camera, spotting scope, \$4 for admission into the park, water, and a lunch.

Winter Quarterly Trip: January 22-25, 2009 Matagorda Island - Fennessey Ranch - Choke Canyon Meet at Days Inn – Rockport, January 22, 7:00 p.m.

This trip is now full. If you are still interested in this trip, please let me know and I will get your name on the waiting list.

Accommodations & Directions: We will be staying at the Days Inn in Rockport. Take US 59 South from Houston towards Victoria; just before Victoria, exit onto US 77 south towards Corpus Christi. After about 14 miles, turn left on TX 239 and go for about 11 miles; take a right onto TX 239/SH 35 and stay on this road for about 30 miles until you see it turn into SH 35 BR S. Stay straight to get on SH 35 BR S. East Laurel Street will be about 3 miles ahead and the hotel is right there.

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. You will need to bring a lunch for Friday because we will be on Matagorda Island all day and there are no places to pick up a lunch on the island. Saturday lunch will be provided to us by the Fennessey Ranch but you can bring your own lunch if you prefer.

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

Spring Quarterly Trip: April 10-19, 2009
Panhandle, Guadalupe and Davis Mountains
with Burr Williams and Steve Gross

Fee: TBD with a TBD Deposit by TBA
Limit: 12 People

Since the Montana Owl Workshop was such a success, I am planning another longer trip that I think you all will enjoy. This time we are headed to the flat grassland plains of the Panhandle and then over into the mountain and basin region to bird the Guadalupe and Davis Mountains before heading home with a stop along the way at Lake Balmorhea. We will unfortunately not have enough time to get into Big Bend; we will have to save that for a future trip.

While in the Panhandle, the first bird we hope to encounter Saturday morning will be the rare and elusive Lesser Prairie Chicken. Burr Williams of the Sibley Nature Center in Midland will be taking us out to a couple of known Lesser Prairie Chicken leks in hopes of finding them out displaying on the leks. We will spend the next couple of days birding in the northern Panhandle in the Muleshoe and Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuges, in search of early migrants, lingering winter residents (such as Ferruginous Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Prairie Falcon and Short-eared Owl), and the regular residents of the plains of Texas (like Ring-necked Pheasant, Lark Bunting and maybe Burrowing Owl, to name a few). The rest of the trip will be spent birding in the Guadalupe and Davis Mountains in search of some west Texas specialties, higher-elevation montane species and migrants. Our very own Steve Gross, who has done extensive birding in this region, will be our guide for the rest of the trip and he will be trying to find such goodies as Northern Goshawk (rare), Blue-throated Hummingbird, Magnificent Hummingbird, Painted Redstart (rare), and Buff-breasted Flycatcher (rare), for example. Birds we should encounter (to whet your appetite) are Golden Eagle, Zone-tailed Hawk, Scaled Quail, Montezuma Quail, Common Poorwill, Whip-poorwill, Cassin's Vireo, Pygmy Nuthatch, Sage Thrasher, Crissal Thrasher, Virginia's Warbler, Townsend's Warbler, Grace's Warbler, Lazuli Bunting, and Green-tailed Towhee. This is going to be an outstanding trip to some beautiful country that you will not want to miss.

Details: This trip will be limited to 12 people and I am still currently working on the pricing of this trip and will announce those details as soon as I get them. However, as with most trips of this nature, all the rooms will be prepaid, and there will be an extra fee for a single supplement. A deposit will be needed to guarantee your spot once I announce what the deposit will be. Also, Steve and I are planning to drive from Houston to Midland. Participants are welcome to fly and then rent a car, but it is advisable that you drive because we will be carpooling during the trip and will not be renting a large van due to insurance issues.

If you are interested in going on this trip, please let me know and I will get your name on the list and let you know what the price of the trip will be as soon as I have figured it out.

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

Too Many Geese-- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently finalized rules allowing the use of expanded hunting methods and implementation of a conservation order to increase light goose harvest. The regulations have been in place in the Central and Mississippi Flyways on an interim basis since 1999, when the Arctic Tundra Habitat Emergency Conservation Act was passed. The final rule makes the regulations permanent in those flyways, and also makes Atlantic Flyway states eligible to implement them. "The overabundance of light geese is harming their fragile arctic breeding habitat," said H. Dale Hall, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. During the last few decades, populations of Greater and Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese, collectively called "light geese," have grown to historic highs. The current breeding population of mid-continent light geese likely exceeds 5 million birds, an increase of more than 300 percent since the mid-1970s. Historic numbers of central arctic light geese have denuded portions of their fragile tundra breeding habitat to the point many areas may take decades to recover. The geese are showing lower-than-normal body size and suffering a decrease in gosling survival due to habitat degradation. The deteriorating habitat is also having a negative impact on some local populations of other bird species, such as Semipalmated Sandpiper and Red-necked Phalarope. Decreasing the light goose population will help ease the pressure on the arctic and migration habitats, improving the health for all its associated wildlife populations, including light geese. *(Adapted from a USFWS press release.)*

Clearing House -- November 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 225 species reported for the Upper Texas Coast (Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Jefferson Counties) for November 2008 from 364 checklists.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck reports=47
total= 509
Fulvous Whistling-Duck reports=3 total=
18 – Paul Rushing Park(Harris)15[3],
Double Lake Dr(Fort Bend)22[15],
Brazos Bend SP(Fort Bend)25:[1]
Greater White-fronted Goose reports=17
total= 654
Snow Goose reports=36 total= 11,295
Ross's Goose reports=11 total= 17
Cackling Goose reports=1 total= 2
Canada Goose reports=2 total= 4 –
Willow Waterhole Park(Harris)26-
27[4]
Wood Duck reports=11 total= 42
Gadwall reports=30 total= 214
American Wigeon reports=5 total= 2
Mallard reports=22 total= 64
Mottled Duck reports=20 total= 37
Blue-winged Teal reports=43 total= 85
Cinnamon Teal reports=1 total= 0
Northern Shoveler reports=32 total= 146
Northern Pintail reports=13 total= 87
Green-winged Teal reports=20 total= 153
Canvasback reports=2 total= 4
Redhead reports=11 total= 4
Ring-necked Duck reports=16 total= 111
Greater Scaup reports=2 total= 1
Lesser Scaup reports=21 total= 705
Surf Scoter reports=6 total= 4
Bufflehead reports=6 total= 14
Common Goldeneye reports=5 total= 3 –
Warren Ranch Lake(Harris)23,

Baytown Nature Center(Harris)27[1],
Back Bay(Harris)030[3]
Hooded Merganser reports=10 total= 59
Red-breasted Merganser reports=8 total=
25
Ruddy Duck reports=11 total= 67
duck sp. reports=1 total= 1
Northern Bobwhite reports=3 total= 8
Common Loon reports=3 total= 3
Pied-billed Grebe reports=80 total= 145
Horned Grebe reports=1 total= 0 –
Freeport(Brazoria)1
Eared Grebe reports=1 total= 1
Northern Gannet reports=1 total= 1
American White Pelican reports=35 total=
610
Brown Pelican reports=49 total= 282
Neotropic Cormorant reports=38 total= 163
Double-crested Cormorant reports=68 total=
161
Anhinga reports=26 total= 16
Magnificent Frigatebird reports=1 total=
16 – East Breaks
Floater(Brazoria)26[16]
American Bittern reports=3 total= 2
Great Blue Heron reports=15 total= 43
Great Egret reports=142 total= 95
Snowy Egret reports=109 total= 149
Little Blue Heron reports=45 total= 19
Tricolored Heron reports=42 total= 21
Reddish Egret reports=11 total= 8
Cattle Egret reports=11 total= 24
Green Heron reports=3 total= 1 – El
Franco Lee Park(Harris)2[1], Brazos

Bend SP(Fort Bend)8, Bear Creek
Park(Harris)21
Black-crowned Night-Heron reports=13
total= 122
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron reports=6
total= 30
White Ibis reports=84 total= 290
White-faced Ibis reports=25 total= 330
Plegadis sp. reports=1 total= 0
Roseate Spoonbill reports=26 total= 144
Black Vulture reports=58 total= 203
Turkey Vulture reports=106 total= 109
Osprey reports=38 total= 14
White-tailed Kite reports=4 total= 3
Bald Eagle reports=11 total= 7
Northern Harrier reports=51 total= 11
Sharp-shinned Hawk reports=12 total= 6
Cooper's Hawk reports=11 total= 6
Red-shouldered Hawk reports=54 total= 11
White-tailed Hawk reports=12 total= 5
Red-tailed Hawk reports=90 total= 33
hawk sp. reports=1 total= 1
Crested Caracara reports=25 total= 17
American Kestrel reports=65 total= 22
Merlin reports=12 total= 7
Peregrine Falcon reports=1 total= 1
Clapper Rail reports=4 total= 5
King Rail reports=1 total= 0
Sora reports=1 total= 1
Common Moorhen reports=27 total= 55
American Coot reports=79 total= 1,417
Sandhill Crane reports=14 total= 357
Black-bellied Plover reports=26 total= 46
Snowy Plover reports=9 total= 12

Wilson's Plover reports=4 total= 3 –
**Quintana Beach(Brazoria)16[1], Bryan
 Beach(Brazoria)22[2]**
 Semipalmated Plover reports=18 total= 33
 Piping Plover reports=9 total= 6
 Killdeer reports=117 total= 251
 American Oystercatcher reports=2 total=
 103
 Black-necked Stilt reports=17 total= 89
 American Avocet reports=18 total= 60
 Spotted Sandpiper reports=20 total= 12
**Solitary Sandpiper reports=1 total= 1 –
 Galveston(Galveston)27[1]**
 Greater Yellowlegs reports=45 total= 47
 Willet reports=39 total= 74
 Lesser Yellowlegs reports=19 total= 6
 Long-billed Curlew reports=3 total= 12
 Marbled Godwit reports=11 total= 20
 Ruddy Turnstone reports=16 total= 52
**Red Knot reports=4 total= 6 – Bryan
 Beach(Brazoria)1[3], Bryan
 Beach(Brazoria)14[3]**
 Sanderling reports=30 total= 263
 Western Sandpiper reports=11 total= 39
 Least Sandpiper reports=35 total= 271
 Dunlin reports=23 total= 151
**Stilt Sandpiper reports=2 total= 2 –
 Eldridge Retention Basin(Harris)4[1],
 Bryan Beach(Brazoria)22[1]**
 Short-billed Dowitcher reports=12 total= 64
 Long-billed Dowitcher reports=23 total= 338
 Short-billed/Long-billed Dowitcher reports=1
 total= 150
 Wilson's Snipe reports=13 total= 13
**American Woodcock reports=1 total= 1 –
 Sharp Road Area(Harris)26[1]**
**Bonaparte's Gull reports=4 total= 14 –
 Quintana Beach(Brazoria)8[1],
 Quintana Beach(Brazoria)16[7],
 Beaumont(Jefferson)29[4],
 (Jefferson)29[6]**
 Laughing Gull reports=71 total= 3,370
 Franklin's Gull reports=17 total= 63
 Ring-billed Gull reports=52 total= 309
 Herring Gull reports=28 total= 64
 Lesser Black-backed Gull reports=15 total=
 9
 Gull-billed Tern reports=7 total= 4
 Caspian Tern reports=21 total= 37
 Common Tern reports=1 total= 0
 Forster's Tern reports=28 total= 55
 Royal Tern reports=33 total= 98
 Sandwich Tern reports=15 total= 16
 Black Skimmer reports=5 total= 20
**Pomarine Jaeger reports=1 total= 2 –
 East Breaks Floater(Brazoria)29[2]**
 Rock Pigeon reports=42 total= 524
 Eurasian Collared-Dove reports=27 total=
 29
 White-winged Dove reports=52 total= 400
 Mourning Dove reports=127 total= 410
 Inca Dove reports=3 total= 2
 Common Ground-Dove reports=1 total= 1
 Monk Parakeet reports=6 total= 26
 Barn Owl reports=1 total= 1
 Eastern Screech-Owl reports=5 total= 2
 Great Horned Owl reports=4 total= 4
 Barred Owl reports=4 total= 3

**Common Nighthawk reports=1 total= 1 –
 Cypress(Harris)23[1]**
**Buff-bellied Hummingbird reports=2
 total= 1 – Gulf Coast Bird
 Observatory(Brazoria)9, (Harris)28**
**Ruby-throated Hummingbird reports=3
 total= 4 – (Harris)1[1], (Harris)9[1],
 (Harris)28[2]**
 Rufous Hummingbird reports=3 total= 1
 Belted Kingfisher reports=64 total= 13
 Red-headed Woodpecker reports=5 total= 4
 Red-bellied Woodpecker reports=124 total=
 24
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker reports=43 total=
 10
 Downy Woodpecker reports=88 total= 20
 Northern Flicker reports=15 total= 11
 Pileated Woodpecker reports=24 total= 10
**Least Flycatcher reports=1 total= 1 –
 Brazos Bend SP(Fort Bend)23[1]**
 Eastern Phoebe reports=133 total= 67
 Vermilion Flycatcher reports=5 total= 5
**Ash-throated Flycatcher reports=1 total=
 1 – Davis Estates Rd(Brazoria)28[1]**
**Eastern Kingbird reports=1 total= 1 –
 Galveston(Galveston)15[1]**
**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher reports=3 total=
 3 – Brazoria NWR(Brazoria)1[1],
 George Bush Park(Harris)3[2],
 Sheldon Lake SP(Harris)16[1],**
 Loggerhead Shrike reports=97 total= 26
 White-eyed Vireo reports=3 total= 4
 Blue-headed Vireo reports=12 total= 8
 Blue Jay reports=137 total= 56
 American Crow reports=90 total= 56
 Horned Lark reports=8 total= 33
 Tree Swallow reports=5 total= 31
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow
 reports=2 total= 24 – Brazos Bend
 SP(Fort Bend)25[4], Brazoria
 NWR(Brazoria)30[20]**
 Barn Swallow reports=2 total= 6
 swallow sp. reports=3 total= 7
 Carolina Chickadee reports=124 total= 91
 Tufted Titmouse reports=57 total= 34
 Brown-headed Nuthatch reports=6 total= 4
 Brown Creeper reports=7 total= 7
 Carolina Wren reports=89 total= 56
 House Wren reports=29 total= 16
 Winter Wren reports=17 total= 14
 Sedge Wren reports=25 total= 53
 Marsh Wren reports=18 total= 19
 Golden-crowned Kinglet reports=12 total=
 12
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet reports=148 total=
 110
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reports=75 total= 39
 Eastern Bluebird reports=19 total= 40
 Hermit Thrush reports=23 total= 15
 American Robin reports=37 total= 160
 Gray Catbird reports=7 total= 4
 Northern Mockingbird reports=184 total= 57
 Brown Thrasher reports=20 total= 13
 European Starling reports=69 total= 385
 American Pipit reports=39 total= 224
 Sprague's Pipit reports=2 total= 2
 Orange-crowned Warbler reports=55 total=
 24

**Nashville Warbler reports=4 total= 3 –
 Cy-Fair College(Harris)9[1], Memorial
 Park(Harris)9[1], Cy-Fair
 College(Harris)14[2], Brazos Bend
 SP(Fort Bend)15[1]**
 Yellow-rumped Warbler reports=122 total=
 212
**Black-throated Green Warbler reports=3
 total= 0 – Edith L Moore
 Sanctuary(Harris)1[1], W 11th Street
 Park(Harris)7[1], Quintana
 NBS(Brazoria)7(1)**
**Yellow-throated Warbler reports=1 total=
 1 – Houston(Harris)3[1]**
 Pine Warbler reports=46 total= 54
 Palm Warbler reports=4 total= 2
**Black-and-white Warbler reports=1 total=
 1 – Sheldon Lake SP(Harris)30[1]**
**Northern Waterthrush reports=1 total= 1
 – San Bernard NWR(Brazoria)22[1]**
 Common Yellowthroat reports=5 total= 9
 Wilson's Warbler reports=11 total= 7
 Eastern Towhee reports=2 total= 2
 Chipping Sparrow reports=35 total= 275
 Field Sparrow reports=10 total= 17
 Vesper Sparrow reports=6 total= 19
 Savannah Sparrow reports=62 total= 278
 Grasshopper Sparrow reports=2 total= 2
 Le Conte's Sparrow reports=3 total= 6
 Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow reports=4
 total= 4
 Seaside Sparrow reports=3 total= 6
**Fox Sparrow reports=2 total= 1 – Katy
 Prairie Sharp Rd(Harris)23[1]**
 Song Sparrow reports=7 total= 6
 Lincoln's Sparrow reports=16 total= 22
 Swamp Sparrow reports=27 total= 40
 White-throated Sparrow reports=30 total=
 63
**Harris's Sparrow reports=2 total= 1 –
 Quintana Beach and
 Jetty(Brazoria)21[1]**
 White-crowned Sparrow reports=7 total= 23
 Dark-eyed Junco reports=5 total= 4
 Northern Cardinal reports=146 total= 76
 Indigo Bunting reports=1 total= 5
**Dickcissel reports=1 total= 1 – El Franco
 Lee Park(Harris)2[1]**
 Red-winged Blackbird reports=71 total= 660
 Eastern Meadowlark reports=23 total= 169
 meadowlark sp. reports=10 total= 17
 Brewer's Blackbird reports=1 total= 200
 Common Grackle reports=32 total= 2,212
 Boat-tailed Grackle reports=17 total= 117
 Great-tailed Grackle reports=93 total= 610
Bronzed Cowbird reports=1 total= 0
 Brown-headed Cowbird reports=22 total=
 1,265 Rosharon(Brazoria)29
 blackbird sp. reports=5 total= 500
 House Finch reports=15 total= 22
**Pine Siskin reports=6 total= 14 – Addicks
 Dam(Harris)7[1],
 Galveston(Galveston)15[7], Bear
 Creek Park(Harris)21,
 (Jefferson)22[4],
 Houston(Harris)29[2]**
 American Goldfinch reports=42 total= 63
 House Sparrow reports=47 total= 126
 Nutmeg Mannikin reports=3 total= 6

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

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