



# The Spoonbill

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

September 2010  
Vol. 59 No. 7

## Monthly Meeting: Monday, September 13

**General Meeting -- 7:00 p.m.**

Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston

**Learning Corner -- 6:30 p.m.**

### Program: Brent Ortego presents **Texas Christmas Bird Counts**

Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) have been run in Texas since the early 1900s, and have grown from a few counts conducted by individuals on casual bird walks to thousands of birders conducting over 100 CBCs annually in Texas; some activities related to the CBCs extend throughout the year. Join us to learn about the history of CBCs in Texas, where they have been, some of their major accomplishments and where we think they are going.

Brent Ortego has worked mostly for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department since 1982. He has a B.S. in Forestry and M.S. in Wildlife from Louisiana State University, and a Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology from Auburn University. He has surveyed all of the historic Red-cockaded Woodpecker sites in Texas during the 80's, and managed Mad Island Wildlife Management Area in Matagorda County, and Guadalupe River Delta Wildlife Management Area near Tivoli in the 90's. He is currently the nongame biologist for the coastal prairie ecosystem. Brent is the state coordinator for the U. S. Geological Survey Breeding Bird Survey, and the Texas editor for Christmas Bird Counts. He currently coordinates two of the top CBCs in the nation at Matagorda County and Guadalupe River Delta - McFaddin Family Ranches.

### Other Events

**Sept. 12: Beginning Birder Trip**

Willow Waterhole with John Schneider

**Sept. 18: Smith Point Hawk Watch**

**Oct. 4: Monthly OG Meeting**

**Oct. 9: Beginning Birder Trip -- Kleb Woods**

**Oct. 16: Seabrook & Armand Bayou Trip**

**Oct. 28-31: Quarterly field trip -- Austin**

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# Ornithology Group Houston Outdoor Nature Club

Minutes of Meeting  
Monday, August 2, 2010  
Number of Attendees: 52

- 1. Learning Corner:** Bill Lindemann discussed “A Bird Plan,” using a handout to explain where to start to identify birds in only a few seconds. Bill suggested developing a mental checklist to note specifics of a bird. Looking at the bird and noting its features can help when later looking through field guides to identify the bird. This technique is helpful when observing a bird for the first time. First, the bird’s size can be compared with known birds such as robin or wren. The bill is the most important feature and should be looked at first. The shape of the bill can tell what the bird eats; a little bill as in a warbler will be an insect eater, a Black-headed Grosbeak has a bill designed for seed-eating and an eagle has a bill created for flesh-eating. By noting the bird’s other specific characteristics such as its eyes, wings, legs, voice, behavior and habitat will help with finding the bird’s identification.
- 2. Sightings:** Birds that were observed recently include: Purple Martins at Willowbrook Mall and at KBR on Clinton Drive; Swallow-tailed Kites in Dayton and Liberty; Mississippi Kites, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds and a Ruddy Duck on Katy Prairie; Wood Storks at Brazos Bend State Park and at Brazoria NWR.
- 3. Minutes:** Minutes from the May 3, 2010 meeting were approved as printed in the August issue of *The Spoonbill*.
- 4. Library:** Deborah Valdez had a display of birding books to be checked out. Please contact Deborah with any suggestions of books to be purchased.
- 5. The Spoonbill:** Al Shultz announced that the mailing for the August issue of *The Spoonbill* was late. Al will be checking on changing printers and mailers for future issues. Items for the September issue are due by the middle of August.
- 6. Treasurer’s Report:** Jerry Stanislav reported that the OG account balance is \$10,345.00. Changes

## 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:          | Pam Smolen       | 832-212-1368 |
| Vice-Chair:     | John Schneider   | 713-952-3770 |
| Secretary:      | Lenore Alfredson | 281-579-8551 |
| 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 |
|                 | Kevin Poling     | 832-689-6956 |

**The Spoonbill:** Al Shultz 281-829-0970  
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OG website: <http://www.ornithologygroup.org/>

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

during the year will occur with the addition of membership dues and expenses.

- 7. Membership:** Margret Simmons reminded everyone to please sign in. Please check with Margret if your name tag was not found and she will check on it.
- 8. Announcements:** Gary and Kathy Adams Clark will be presenting a program on their memories of the Katy Prairie, on Saturday, August 7, at the Katy Prairie Conservancy office. They also will be presenting a program on birds of fall migration on Thursday, August 19, at 7:00 p.m. at the Houston Arboretum and Nature Center.

Bob Honig announced that the Houston Museum of Natural Science will present the film “Ghost Bird” about the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, on Thursday, August 19 at 6:00 p.m.

On the Katy Prairie, construction of the observation platform at Warren Lake has begun. The platform should be ready for use this autumn.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has issued a special duck stamp to benefit wetlands in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Pam Smolen announced the dates for the upcoming Swift Night Out viewings, which are also listed on

the Houston Audubon website and in *The Spoonbill*: on August 25 in Sugar Land and on August 26 in Dayton, both at 7:15 p.m.; on August 31 at Whole Foods Market and on September 24 at St. Paul's Church, both at 6:45 p.m.

Bill Lindemann announced the "Wings Over the Hills" Nature Festival in Fredericksburg, Texas, on April 29 - May 1, 2011. Birding field trips will be available to locate the Golden-cheeked Warbler and Black-capped Vireo. Also, there will be lectures, nature walks and children's activities available.

9. **Future Field Trips:** Adam Wood reported that the list of Field Trips for the 2010-2011 year is posted on the OG website and also in the August issue of *The Spoonbill*. The first Field Trip of the year will be on Saturday August 21, 2010 to Jones State Forest. The Forest Service Office Parking Area is the meeting place. The time will be 5:00 a.m. to look for the Chuck-will's-Widow. General birding will begin at 6:00 a.m. This will be Adam's last year to be Field Trip Coordinator. Kevin Poling will be the Coordinator when Adam's term is completed.
10. **Program:** John Schneider introduced Bill Lindemann, who has 47 years of birding experience and is active in nature conservation in the Texas Hill Country through outreach and educational programs. Bill presented the program "Hill Country Birds." He discussed the wide variety of birds that can be found in the Hill Country. The Edwards Plateau area,

which forms 17% of Texas, has 66% of the state's bird sightings. The Hill Country is on the central flyway for migrant birds, and it is where the west desert region meets the east piney woods, as well as where the northern high plains meets the southern subtropical region. Some bird species, such as the Great Kiskadee and Scott's Oriole, are now expanding into the Hill County from the south. Bill discussed many different species common to the area. Painted Buntings, Yellow-throated Warblers and Nashville Warblers are regular in summer; Black-throated Sparrows, Rufous-capped Sparrows, Ring-necked Ducks and Cinnamon Teal in winter. The Chuck-will's Widow is common while the Common Nighthawk is rarely seen anymore. Black-bellied Whistling Ducks are now spending the winters in Boerne and Fredericksburg now that they have discovered deer feeders for food. The Green, Belted and Ringed Kingfishers can be observed. Black-capped Vireos have grown in numbers due to the trapping program of Brown-headed Cowbirds. Golden-cheeked Warblers can also be seen. Bill recommends Lost Maples State Park, South Llano River State Park in the city of Junction, Pedernales Falls State Park, Kerr Wildlife Management Area and Enchanted Rock in Fredericksburg as good spots for birding.

-- Lenore Alfredson, OG Secretary

## Smith Point Hawk Watch is 14 Years Old!

Fall bird migration begins in mid-summer, and the 14<sup>th</sup> annual [hawk watch at Smith Point](#) is already upon us. Our official monitoring season is August 15 through November 15, seven days a week. An accident of geography makes Smith Point, a triangular peninsula on the east side of Galveston Bay, a natural concentration point. Migrating birds, including up to 23 species of raptors (birds of prey), moving southwestward down the coast of Texas to their winter homes in tropical latitudes, become funneled down to the tip of the peninsula. The tiny community of Smith Point lies at the tip and so does the Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area, owned and operated by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, one of our partners in this long-term monitoring project. There a 30-foot tower allows an unobstructed view. Birds may come by ones and twos or in giant "kettles," swirling flocks of hundreds of birds. A huge kettle of hawks is one of the awe-inspiring sights in nature.

The Smith Point hawk tower is open to the public every day of the 90 day season and the hawk watchers are on hand to share their knowledge with visitors. Each year we have a public event with educational presentations including bird banding, raptor identification tips, migration strategies, and other aspects of raptor migration. This year our "Hawk Happening" will be on September 25, right on the statistical peak of hawk migration at Smith Point. Polish your hawk identification skills under the guidance of Jen Ottinger and Jacquie Ferrato, our official hawk watchers this year. There will be a bird banding demonstration and raptor-oriented materials will be available from our Nature Store. Mark your calendars and come on out. Directions may be found on the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory website at [www.gcbo.org](http://www.gcbo.org).

-- John Arvin, GCBO Research Coordinator

## Beginning Birder Trip I: Willow Waterhole Sunday, September 12, 2010 Meet at Gazebo on Willow Street, 7:00 a.m.

This trip will be 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. This is the first of two beginning birder / new member trips that are being offered this year.

Willow Waterhole is an exciting new park that is being developed in near southwest Houston. It's similar to Art Storey Park, in that it's a flood control project that's being built around large detention ponds created by Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD). And, like Art Storey Park, it's attracting water-loving birds even while construction is in progress. [Willow Waterhole Greenspace Reserve](#) will be an approximately 280-acre park when it is finished. It extends all the way to Post Oak and even across Post Oak, although work hasn't begun yet on the other side of Post Oak. There's a paved path almost around one of the large basins, and one of the best places to see birds is off of Gasmer on Clematis where there's a turnaround overlooking one of the basins. Our hope is to establish a good database so that we can track changes in the bird populations as the park develops and changes over time. Monthly [surveys](#) on the third Saturday are being led by John Schneider. For a list of the species seen to date, see the [eBird hotspot](#). *More: OG website*

**Directions:** We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the gazebo on Willow Street. The park is located just outside the southwest corner of Loop 610. To get there, go south on Chimney Rock past Bellfort; turn left at Westbury High School onto Gasmer. The park begins where Gasmer splits and becomes Willow to the left, Gasmer to the right.

**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).

## September Trip: Smith Point Hawk Watch Saturday, September 18, 2010 Meet at Hawk Watch Tower, 8:00 a.m.

This month's trip is our annual Hawk Watch trip to Smith Point. If you are looking to really learn how to identify raptors on the wing from up close and afar, this is the trip for you. It doesn't matter if you are a beginner or a seasoned birder—the Hawk Watch counters are very knowledgeable and are willing to answer whatever questions you may have about raptor identification. This should be near the peak date for raptor fall migration, led by the massive movements of Broad-winged Hawks, as well as smaller but still significant numbers of Cooper's Hawks, Sharp-shinned Hawks, Red-shouldered Hawks, and Red-tailed Hawks. There will also still be some Mississippi Kites moving through the area, as well as a smattering of Peregrine Falcons. Throughout the day there should be streams of raptors soaring by, possibly numbering in the thousands and maybe even tens of thousands. It is truly a spectacle that every birder must experience. However, if by some chance it is not a good day for raptor migration, we will spend time in the woods near the tower looking for migrant songbirds. So come and join us for a day of looking up -- not at the stars but at "kettles" of hawks soaring overhead. It should be a memorable experience.

Originating as a part-time, all-volunteer effort in 1992, the [Smith Point Hawk Watch](#) has expanded to a full-time, three-month-long count. HawkWatch International and the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory (GCBO; see [www.gcbo.org](#)) teamed up during fall 1997 to begin full-season monitoring of the Gulf Coast fall raptor migration at Smith Point, which lies at the end of a peninsula that juts into Galveston Bay in southeastern Texas. Full-season counts have since ranged between 25,000 and 115,000 migrants of up to 23 species, with Broad-winged Hawks comprising 60-80% of the total. The site is located in the Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area administered by Texas Parks and Wildlife. Observers work from atop a tower situated at the southwestern tip of the Smith Point peninsula. The season runs from August 15 to November 15 each year. Counters and volunteers will be on the tower daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For a summary of previous years' results, please follow this link: <http://hawkcount.org/siteinfo.php?site=563>.

**Directions:** From Houston, take I-10 east to exit 812. (Coming from the east on I-10, take exit 813.) Turn south on Highway 61, go to the 4-way stop, where the road becomes FM 562. Follow FM 562 south to a fork (Y) in the road, and go right at the Y. After approximately 14 miles you will arrive in the small village of Smith Point. Continue straight towards the bay and follow the black and white Hawk Watch signs, turning left to reach the tower. It will take approximately 1½ hour to 2 hours to get there from Houston, so we suggest leaving around 6:30 a.m.

**Be sure to bring:** binoculars, a hat, sunscreen, scope, camera, raingear (in case it rains, but we will bird rain or shine), water, and snacks if you would like (there is a gas station nearby with a food mart).

### Field Trip Coordinators:

Adam Wood      713-515-1692  
Kevin Poling    832-689-6956

[birdsondabrain@earthlink.net](mailto:birdsondabrain@earthlink.net)  
[kevin.poling@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.poling@gmail.com)



## Florence Merriam Bailey

Florence Merriam Bailey dedicated her life to observing and protecting bird life and recording the wonders of the natural world. She became one of the foremost women writers of her era and traveled for 50 years studying birds.

Florence Augusta Merriam was born on August 8, 1863 in Locust Grove, New York. Her older brother, Clinton Hart Merriam (born December 5, 1855), became the first chief of the U.S. Biological Survey. Both "Hart" and Florence were actively encouraged in their pursuits of natural history by family and friends.

Florence attended Smith College from 1882-86 in preparation for a career in writing. By the time Florence entered Smith, she had acquired a passion for studying live birds and observing their behaviors. Bailey was one of the first in calling for the use of binoculars instead of shotguns when birding. By 1885, she began to write articles focusing on protecting birds. Bailey also organized the Smith College Audubon Society.

In 1886 Bailey wrote a series of articles for Audubon Magazine. In 1889 the articles were published as a birdwatching field guide, *Birds Through an Opera Glass*. The book is considered the first in the tradition of modern bird guides. She refused to assume a man's nom de plume as was common for women writers at that time; her independent ideas came through in her writing. In describing a female warbler, she wrote: "Like other ladies, the little feathered brides have to bear their husbands' names, however inappropriate. What injustice! Here an innocent creature with an olive-green back and yellowish breast has to go about all her days known as the black-throated blue warbler, just because that happens to describe the dress of her spouse!"

She traveled and dabbled in social work after college, but the onset of tuberculosis sent her west to convalesce. Her travels in the West resulted in an improvement in her health and a number of additional books. Her experiences in Utah, southern California, and Arizona were chronicled in *My Summer in a Mormon Village* (1894), *A-Birding on a Bronco* (1896), and *Birds of Village and Field* (1898).

In December 1899 she married Vernon Bailey, a pioneering naturalist with the Biological Survey. Together they made extensive trips into the American West where he focused on studying the mammals and she focused on the birds.

Florence's life work was dedicated to educating people about the value of bird life. She published about 100 articles, mostly for ornithological magazines, and 10 books including the *Handbook of Birds of the Western United States* (1902) and *Birds of New Mexico* (1928).

Bailey became the first woman associate member of the American Ornithologists' Union in 1885 and its first woman fellow in 1929. She was the first woman recipient of the AOU's Brewster Medal, which was awarded in 1931 for *Birds of New Mexico*. Her last major written work was *Among the Birds in the Grand Canyon National Park*, published by the National Park Service in 1939. A variety of California mountain chickadee was named *Parus gambeli baileyae* in her honor in 1908. She died in Washington, D.C., on September 22, 1948.



OG Chairperson

### August quiz answers

Weight (ounces)\*:

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Mississippi Kite | 10 |
| Cattle Egret     | 12 |
| Blue-winged Teal | 13 |
| Cooper's Hawk    | 16 |
| American Coot    | 20 |

Wingspan (inches)\*:

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Wilson's Phalarope    | 17 |
| Purple Martin         | 18 |
| Long-billed Dowitcher | 19 |
| Killdeer              | 24 |
| Black-necked Stilt    | 29 |

\* Sizes according to Sibley Guide.

Names:

Coues' Flycatcher (Greater Pewee)  
Merriam's (Wild) Turkey  
Fuertes' (Red-tailed) Hawk  
Aiken's (Western) Screech-Owl  
Stephens' (Hutton's) Vireo

## Duck Stamps 2010

As reported at the August OG meeting, Federal Duck Stamps went on sale this summer, with special benefits to Gulf of Mexico wetlands.

All hunters of migratory birds are required to have the current duck stamp as their federal license. Sales of duck stamps raise more than \$25 million every year for habitat conservation. The stamps are not just for hunters, however; stamp collectors also purchase them, and birders and other wildlife enthusiasts are increasingly interested in supporting the program by buying stamps. The conservation value of duck stamps is such that 98% of the proceeds go directly to conservation programs.

There are two options for those who want to buy this year's stamps. The stamp itself is sold at the regular price of \$15. A special \$25 edition of the stamp is attached to a silk "cachet" or collector's envelope printed with a beautiful picture of a wetland landscape in addition to the duck stamp itself. This special edition is intended to raise extra funds for wetland additions to the national wildlife refuges along the Gulf Coast. With the hurricane impacts of recent years and the disastrous oil spill this year, Gulf birders have many reasons to support the program and welcome this special provision.



American Wigeon by artist Robert Bealle

Another local benefit: San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge is named as one of six refuges in the federal system to specifically benefit from duck stamp funds with a designated purchase of 288 additional acres to be included in the refuge lands.

More: [USFWS 2010 Duck Stamp Program](#)

## Clearing House -- July 2010

David Sarkozi [david@sarkozi.net](mailto:david@sarkozi.net) 713-412-4409

This is a summary of birds reported to [eBird.org](http://eBird.org). Rare and very rare birds are in bold. There were 181 species reported for the Upper Texas Coast (Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Jefferson Counties) for July 2010 from 490 checklists from 69 observers.

Rare and very rare species for the week reported are listed in this format: County:location(date)[Observer]

Reports by the following observers were used in this report: Adam Wood, Andy Jordan, Arlette Keene, Bernd Gravenstein, Bill Townsley, Bill Wright, Brandan Robertson, Brooke Bohac Perez, Bryan Tarbox, Byron Stone, Caleb Frome, Cameron Armstrong, Carlos Sanchez, Carolyn Rohrer, Chuck Davis, Cody Conway, David Dolan, David Florance, David Harvey, David Sarkozi, Debra Logsdon, Diane Vacante, Donna Moore, Dorothy Borders, Drew Dickert, Frank Edgar, Frank Farese, Fred Collins, Greg Page, Hannah Meddaugh, Heidi Good, Howard Smith, J Berner, James Penny, Janet Rathjen, Janette Gerald, Jason Bonilla, Jerry Eppner, Joe Fischer, John Hellyar, John O'Brien, John Schneider, John Sharp, Judy Behrens, Judy Heffner, Judy Ovesny, Karen Horn, Kelley Sampeck, Ken Hartman, Margaret Farese, Margaret Sloan, Mark and Dianne Bernier, Mark Meyer, Mark Westelev, Martin Sachnik, Mary Dodson, Mike Rogan, P Angert, Richard Armstrong, Robert Opperman, Sherrie Strickland, Stephen Pollard, Ted Drozdowski, Tom Morris, Tom Shaughnessy, Tom Taroni, William Tarbox, Winifred Burkett.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck reports=98 total= 169

Fulvous Whistling-Duck reports=8 total= 21

**Greater White-fronted Goose reports=2 total= 2**

Harris:Tom Bass Regional Park III(15)  
[Greg Page],Harris:Tom Bass Regional  
Park III(31)[Greg Page],

**Ross's Goose reports=3 total= 3** Harris:Nassau

Bay (Clear Creek) (UTC 083)(3)[Joe  
Fischer],Harris:Tom Bass Regional Park III

(15)[Greg Page],Harris:Tom Bass Regional  
Park III(31)[Greg Page],

**Canada Goose reports=3 total= 3** Fort

Bend:Independence Pk (Missouri City)(3)  
[J Berner],Fort Bend:Independence Pk  
(Missouri City)(15)[Greg Page],Fort  
Bend:Independence Pk (Missouri City)(18)  
[Joe Fischer],

Muscovy Duck (Domestic type) reports=2 total= 18

Wood Duck reports=4 total= 11

Mallard (Domestic type) reports=5 total= 70

Mottled Duck reports=30 total= 47

Blue-winged Teal reports=3 total= 10

**Northern Shoveler reports=1 total= 1**

Brazoria:Brazoria NWR(23)[Bill Townsley],

**Redhead reports=1 total= 1** Harris:Houston-  
Hermann Park (UTC 091)(16)[Greg Page],

Ring-necked Duck reports=2 total= 2

**Harris:Hegar Lakes(1)[Fred Collins],Harris:Hegar Lakes(7)[Fred Collins],**

duck sp. reports=2 total= 4

Northern Bobwhite reports=19 total= 13

Pied-billed Grebe reports=14 total= 21

Masked Booby reports=2 total= 1

**Northern Gannet reports=3 total= 16**

**Brazoria:Quintana Beach & Jetty (UTC122)(5)[Adam Wood],Brazoria:Quintana Beach & Jetty (UTC122)(5)[Janet Rathjen],Galveston:Galveston Seawall & 81st Street(26)[Greg Page],**

solid sp. reports=1 total= 5

American White Pelican reports=5 total= 37

Brown Pelican reports=75 total= 693

Neotropical Cormorant reports=88 total= 234

Double-crested Cormorant reports=2 total= 2

cormorant sp. reports=6 total= 31

Anhinga reports=27 total= 96

Magnificent Frigatebird reports=17 total= 41

Least Bittern reports=13 total= 8

Great Blue Heron reports=96 total= 47

Great Egret reports=172 total= 145

Snowy Egret reports=117 total= 324

Little Blue Heron reports=85 total= 102

Tricolored Heron reports=89 total= 59

Reddish Egret reports=32 total= 58

Cattle Egret reports=102 total= 770

Green Heron reports=67 total= 38

Black-crowned Night-Heron reports=30 total= 30

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron reports=91 total= 117

White Ibis reports=96 total= 506

White-faced Ibis reports=13 total= 73

Plegadis sp. reports=1 total= 0

Roseate Spoonbill reports=69 total= 192

Wood Stork reports=13 total= 68

Black Vulture reports=71 total= 125

Turkey Vulture reports=78 total= 23

vulture sp. reports=1 total= 1

Osprey reports=12 total= 6

Swallow-tailed Kite reports=3 total= 7

White-tailed Kite reports=3 total= 2

Mississippi Kite reports=14 total= 12

Northern Harrier reports=2 total= 2

Cooper's Hawk reports=14 total= 5

Red-shouldered Hawk reports=37 total= 9

Broad-winged Hawk reports=2 total= 1

Swainson's Hawk reports=8 total= 5

White-tailed Hawk reports=3 total= 2

Red-tailed Hawk reports=23 total= 9

hawk sp. reports=1 total= 1

Crested Caracara reports=21 total= 22

**Black Rail reports=1 total= 1**

**Chambers:Anahuac NWR (UTC 049)(22)[Byron Stone],**

Clapper Rail reports=23 total= 21

King Rail reports=3 total= 2

Purple Gallinule reports=16 total= 37

Common Moorhen reports=26 total= 58

American Coot reports=9 total= 32

Black-bellied Plover reports=12 total= 26

Snowy Plover reports=4 total= 3

Wilson's Plover reports=14 total= 77

Semipalmated Plover reports=8 total= 35

Piping Plover reports=6 total= 34

Killdeer reports=75 total= 78

American Oystercatcher reports=18 total= 32

Black-necked Stilt reports=60 total= 126

American Avocet reports=5 total= 97

Spotted Sandpiper reports=12 total= 7

Solitary Sandpiper reports=3 total= 2

Greater Yellowlegs reports=17 total= 23

Willet reports=60 total= 214

Lesser Yellowlegs reports=8 total= 32

Greater/Lesser Yellowlegs reports=1 total= 1

**Whimbrel reports=2 total= 3 Galveston:Bolivar**

**Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(5)**

**[Joe Fischer],Galveston:Bolivar-**

**Frenchtown Road(10)[Greg Page],**

Long-billed Curlew reports=11 total= 24

Marbled Godwit reports=16 total= 70

Ruddy Turnstone reports=13 total= 37

**Red Knot reports=1 total= 1 Galveston:Bolivar**

**Flats Shorebird Sanctuary (UTC 058)(11)**

**[Carlos Sanchez],**

Sanderling reports=15 total= 83

Semipalmated Sandpiper reports=4 total= 11

Western Sandpiper reports=11 total= 166

Least Sandpiper reports=16 total= 158

Stilt Sandpiper reports=2 total= 2

peep sp. reports=1 total= 2

Short-billed Dowitcher reports=8 total= 13

Long-billed Dowitcher reports=1 total= 1

Short-billed/Long-billed Dowitcher reports=3 total=

7

Laughing Gull reports=172 total= 2,013

Ring-billed Gull reports=7 total= 5

Herring Gull reports=2 total= 1

gull sp. reports=1 total= 0

Least Tern reports=35 total= 707

Gull-billed Tern reports=24 total= 118

Caspian Tern reports=16 total= 107

Black Tern reports=18 total= 526

Common Tern reports=5 total= 9

Forster's Tern reports=34 total= 103

Royal Tern reports=39 total= 716

Sandwich Tern reports=20 total= 363

Black Skimmer reports=27 total= 143

Rock Pigeon reports=70 total= 315

Eurasian Collared-Dove reports=50 total= 51

White-winged Dove reports=122 total= 827

Mourning Dove reports=259 total= 321

Inca Dove reports=14 total= 12

**Common Ground-Dove reports=1 total= 2 Fort**

**Bend:Ft Bend: Jungman Rd.(23)[J Berner],**

Monk Parakeet reports=14 total= 51

Yellow-billed Cuckoo reports=19 total= 10

Greater Roadrunner reports=2 total= 1

Barn Owl reports=2 total= 4

Eastern Screech-Owl reports=4 total= 9

Great Horned Owl reports=8 total= 8

Barred Owl reports=1 total= 1

Common Nighthawk reports=60 total= 92

Chimney Swift reports=84 total= 96

Ruby-throated Hummingbird reports=38 total= 11

Belted Kingfisher reports=11 total= 5

Red-headed Woodpecker reports=18 total= 14

Red-bellied Woodpecker reports=140 total= 19

Downy Woodpecker reports=103 total= 19

Northern Flicker reports=1 total= 2

Pileated Woodpecker reports=30 total= 14

Acadian Flycatcher reports=4 total= 7

Great Crested Flycatcher reports=10 total= 8

Western Kingbird reports=6 total= 9

Eastern Kingbird reports=32 total= 73

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher reports=66 total= 16

Loggerhead Shrike reports=72 total= 25

White-eyed Vireo reports=17 total= 15

Yellow-throated Vireo reports=1 total= 1

Red-eyed Vireo reports=4 total= 8

Blue Jay reports=200 total= 71

American Crow reports=64 total= 50

Horned Lark reports=12 total= 16

Purple Martin reports=120 total= 933

Barn Swallow reports=109 total= 207

Cliff Swallow reports=18 total= 86

Cave Swallow reports=13 total= 25

Cliff/Cave Swallow reports=1 total= 20

swallow sp. reports=9 total= 24

Carolina Chickadee reports=129 total= 55

Tufted Titmouse reports=41 total= 34

Brown-headed Nuthatch reports=9 total= 10

Carolina Wren reports=133 total= 31

Marsh Wren reports=4 total= 7

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reports=2 total= 6**

**Harris:Kleb Woods Nature Preserve(28)**

**[Fred Collins],Jefferson:Collier's Ferry**

**Park(13)[Mike Rogan],**

Eastern Bluebird reports=31 total= 39

American Robin reports=17 total= 41

Northern Mockingbird reports=283 total= 102

European Starling reports=109 total= 254

Northern Parula reports=7 total= 7

Pine Warbler reports=13 total= 11

Black-and-white Warbler reports=3 total= 3

Prothonotary Warbler reports=2 total= 4

Common Yellowthroat reports=7 total= 14

Hooded Warbler reports=1 total= 1

warbler sp. reports=1 total= 1

Lark Sparrow reports=1 total= 6

Seaside Sparrow reports=9 total= 19

Summer Tanager reports=12 total= 7

Northern Cardinal reports=235 total= 94

Painted Bunting reports=12 total= 12

Dickcissel reports=18 total= 52

Red-winged Blackbird reports=84 total= 116

Eastern Meadowlark reports=47 total= 57

Common Grackle reports=35 total= 36

Boat-tailed Grackle reports=19 total= 49

Great-tailed Grackle reports=118 total= 175

grackle sp. reports=2 total= 2

**Bronzed Cowbird reports=5 total= 7**

**Brazoria:Freeport/Dow Storm Levee(2)**

**[Tom Morris],Harris:Houston- West**

**University Place(8)[Mark**

**Westelev],Harris:Houston- White Oak**

**Bayou near W. 11th St Park(9)[Mark**

**Westelev],Harris:Houston- White Oak**

**Bayou near W. 11th St Park(17)[Mark**

**Westelev],Harris:Houston- White Oak**

**Bayou near W. 11th St Park(24)[Mark**

**Westelev],**

Brown-headed Cowbird reports=27 total= 49

Orchard Oriole reports=24 total= 30

House Finch reports=73 total= 56

House Sparrow reports=133 total= 236

Nutmeg Mannikin reports=1 total= 0

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

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*Membership questions?*  
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