



# The Spoonbill

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

November 2011  
Vol. 60 No. 9

## NOVEMBER EVENING PROGRAM:

**HAWKS OF TEXAS**

**BY**

**GARY CLARK**

## MONTHLY MEETING:

**MONDAY NOVEMBER 7**

**Bayland Community Center  
6400 Bissonnett, Houston**

**LEARNING CORNER – 6:30 P.M.**

**GENERAL MEETING – 7:00 P.M.**

Gary Clark recently stepped down from Vice President of Instruction to Professor of Business and Developmental Studies at Lone Star College in Houston. He writes the weekly nature column for the *Houston Chronicle* and *San Antonio Express News*. He is founder of the Piney Woods Wildlife Society, Past President of the Houston Audubon Society, and past Vice-President of the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory. Kathy Adams Clark is a professional nature photographer who conducts national and international photography workshops. She is past President of the North American Nature Photography Association. Together, Gary and Kathy have written four books and numerous state and national magazine articles including articles for *Texas Parks & Wildlife* and *Texas Highways*.

**2012 Dues:** ONC/OG dues are paid yearly on a calendar basis beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Life Members of ONC still need to pay yearly OG dues used to help pay for Spoonbill printing/ mailing expenses, speakers and their travel, OG donations to other organizations, and other OG expenses. Pay by check at the next OG meeting or use the form to submit updated information for the ONC Yearbook and database along with your check.

If you have questions about your membership status, contact Margret Simmons at [msimmons@compassnet.com](mailto:msimmons@compassnet.com) or 713-776-2511.

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19 OG FIELD TRIP  
HEADING TO SAN JACINTO MONUMENT, SHELDON LAKE & EL FRANCO LEE**

# **November 19, 2011 East Harris County Birding Field Trip Announcement**

**November 19, 2011**

**Monument parking lot at San Jacinto National Monument @ 6:45 AM**

For this month's trip we will be spending some time birding the hot spots over in east Harris County. The primary locations we will be birding will be The San Jacinto National Monument, Sheldon Lake State Park, and El Franco Lee Park. Depending on time we may spend a little bit of time birding the ship channel near the Crosby-Lynchburg Ferry. At these various locations we will be on the look out for some of the harder to find wintering species in Harris County, as well as the usual suspects. Targets for this trip will be the winter residents of east Harris County, mostly non-passerines such as Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Common Loon, Eared Grebe, Horned Grebe, Virginia Rail, Sora, Clapper Rail, American Oystercatcher, American Avocet, plovers (Snowy and Piping), sandpipers (we will spend some time studying the Dowitchers if we encounter mixed species flocks), gulls (Lesser Black-backed Gull, Thayer's Gull, and California Gull). On the passerine front our targets will mainly be the salt marsh sparrows (Nelson's and Seaside), but we will also be on the look out for over wintering vireos and warblers. The statewide drought is causing birds to search for resources wherever they can find them, making for very interesting fall reports of eastern migrants showing up in unusual locations in the western part of the state, and western migrants showing up in unusual locations in the eastern part of the state. Who knows what we could run across, anything is possible at this point. This should be a great trip that you will not want to miss. So come out and join us for a fun filled fall day of birding in east Harris County.

This will be an all day trip and we will most likely not be in an area with food establishments around lunch time. So if you plan on birding the whole day make sure and bring a picnic lunch.

**Directions:** We will meet in the Monument parking lot at the San Jacinto Monument at 6:45 am (early start to try and hear the rails calling before they quite down after sunrise). Take I10 east to Highway 610, east loop, or continue east to Beltway 8, east loop, Sam Houston Toll way. Take Loop 610 or Beltway 8 south, crossing the Houston Ship Channel. Exit Highway 225 east, Texas Independence Highway, to La Porte. Exit Independence Parkway (formerly Battleground Road) and turn left. When the road divides into two roads, remain in the left lane, continue through the tall stone park gates, and turn right into the park.

**Be sure to bring:** Binoculars, scope (will be necessary on this trip, so if you have one please bring it so that we will have enough scopes to share with those that don't have one), hat, sunscreen, water, **Lunch**, snacks, and rain gear (in case it rains).

~ Adam Wood, OG Field Trip Coordinator, [birdsondabrain@earthlink.net](mailto:birdsondabrain@earthlink.net), 713-515-1692

**NOVEMBER 19  
WILLOW WATERHOLE BIRD COUNT  
MONTHLY EVENT  
3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY**

**NOVEMBER 19  
LITTLE THICKET NATURE  
SANCTUARY  
FOCUS: NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY**

**ADAM WOOD ANNOUNCED AT THE OCTOBER MEETING:  
THE QUARTERLY FIELD TRIP TO BIG BEND  
HAS ALREADY BEEN FILLED  
YOU MAY SIGN UP ON A WAITING LIST**

**A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME !**

**AUDUBON HIGH ISLAND SANCTUARY NEEDS VOLUNTEER HELP  
- PREPARING FOR THE 2012 SPRING MIGRATION STARTS NOW -**

**ALL OF US WHO LOVE BIRDING THERE CAN PITCH IN ON 2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAYS**

**HOW ABOUT DOING A TWEET THING NOVEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> !**

Coopers Hawk



© 2011 Michael L. Gray

*The Spoonbill editor would like to thank Michael Gray and Harlan Evans for their contributions of the beautiful photographs included in this issue, and to Cecilia Riley for the following article.*

## Nature's Action is all Around Us *by Cecilia Riley*

Last Friday while chatting on the phone I was staring out my office window – conveniently overlooking the GCBO's bird feeding station. The feeder was filled with the usual cardinals, chickadees, and a couple of mourning doves consuming costly black-oil sunflower seeds - their favorite snack. Suddenly, from out of nowhere it seemed, a large, fast raptor swooped to the feeder and sent my little bird friends rushing for dense tree cover. Putting my call on hold I grabbed binoculars and ran to the door to get a good eyeball to eyeball look at the bold yellow eye and fierce posture of a young Cooper's Hawk –a professional songbird stalker. He was there only a moment and failed to catch what it assumed would be an easy meal –they all got away. Such is the life of a young raptor –it takes time to develop the skills to capture prey and more often than not, they miss out on lunch. This time of year, both adults and young of the year raptors are easy to find. They are migrating south to several countries in Latin America where they will winter –and hopefully, learn to hunt! Cooper's Hawk populations move through our area in large numbers and will often check out bird rich areas like your backyard feeders. I hope you will not hold this against them –it's their nature and adds balance to songbird populations. Perhaps if you know a bit more about the Cooper's Hawk, you will come to admire their tenacity and maybe even laugh out loud at their comical mistakes.

Among the bird world's most common woodland hawks canopies in high-speed through vegetation to catch of more than 300 Cooper's old, healed-over fractures in furcula, or wishbone. You're forest edge or field using just glide. Finding a Cooper's



your eyes peeled – they're common but stealthy, and smaller than other common hawks like the red-tailed, so your eye might skip over them in flight. Look for the flap-flap-glide flight style and remarkably long tail to zero in on these birds in an instant. During migration, hawkwatches are great places to see lots of Cooper's Hawks. The GCBO operates the Smith Point Hawk Watch in Chambers County and we hope you will select a beautiful fall day to visit the hawkwatch tower and see hundreds of Cooper's and other raptors sailing past. It's a fall ritual for many and I am confident you will learn to appreciate these remarkable birds of prey. To get to Smith Point see our website for a map [www.gcbo.org](http://www.gcbo.org).

skillful fliers, Cooper's Hawks are that tear through cluttered tree pursuit of other birds. But dashing birds is a dangerous lifestyle. In a study Hawk skeletons, 23 percent showed the bones of the chest, especially of the most likely to see one prowling above a a few stiff wing beats followed by a Hawk is typically a matter of keeping

***Cecilia M. Riley is the Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory.***

### Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation [Duck] Stamp:

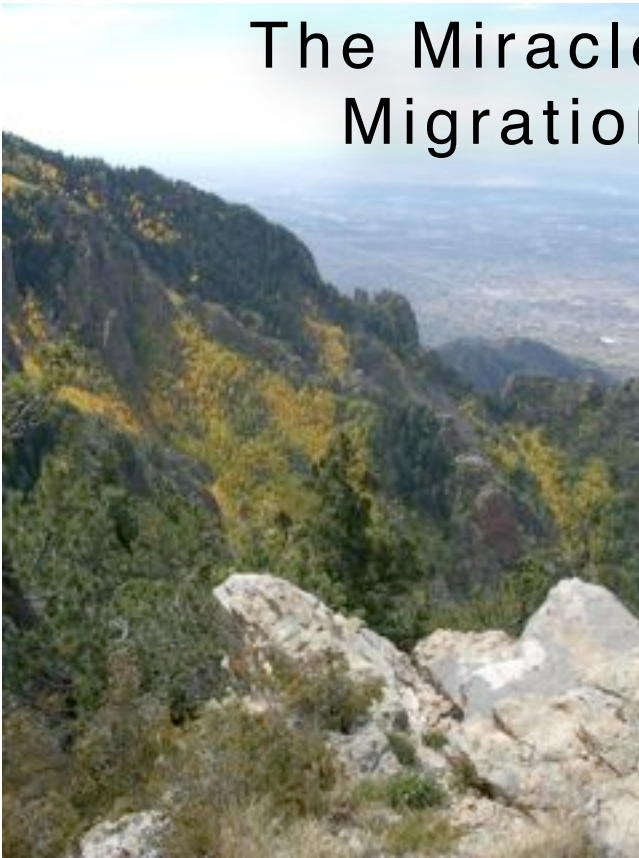
A purchase of \$17 dollars goes a long way! Stamp valid Aug 31<sup>st</sup> – Sept. 2012

The 2011-12 duck stamp was issued this past July. Proceeds from its purchase are dedicated to securing wetland and grassland habitat for the Refuge System. In June the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission approved investing more than \$3 million from the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund: to use Stamp dollars to protect an estimated 1,600 acres of habitat on three units of the National Wildlife Refuge System. These three refuges were San Bernard NWR in Texas, Nestucca Bay NWR in Oregon, and Cannan Valley NWR in West Virginia.

Give a little, gain a lot: Birders holding a valid Duck Stamp are admitted free to NWR's.



# The Miracle of Migration



Sandia Mountains, N.M.

photo by Vicki Sims

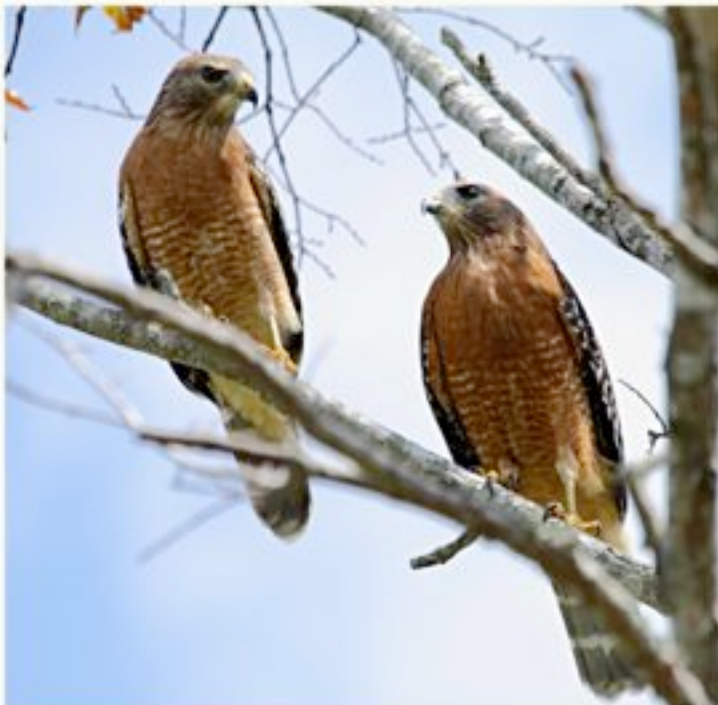
Birds use a number of factors to guide their flight during migration. These include topographic landmarks such as mountains, valleys, rivers, and coastlines.

Hawks that migrate by day might concentrate along mountain ranges where they ride updrafts.



River valleys are like highways offering direction, shelter, and food.

Many follow coastlines to avoid flying over large bodies of water.



Red-shouldered Hawks, Brazos Bend SP 9/28/11



Mississippi Kite, Smith Point, TX 9/24/11

Thank you Harlan Evans for the hawk photographs on this page !

## ***SPOONBILL LOOKS BACK AND FONDLY REMEMBERS OUR FRIENDS***

David Marrack and Miner Long -

In life they shared with us their

passion and commitment to the

environment and preservation.

We will miss them in our flock.

One sort of humorous anecdote that I have always remembered about David:

Back in the early '60's, we all called those ubiquitous pesky little Finches "English Sparrows". David used to wince every time we said 'English Sparrow', and it was at his urging that we changed their name to "House Sparrow"!!

Bill Harwell



### **LEARNING CORNER LESSON**

**David Sarkozi: OG / TOS History**

**“the OG exists now so that the TOS could exist”**

David is a past-president of the TOS, and one of the longest standing board members to date. He has become something of a TOS historian during this time and at the September OG meeting gave a very informative history of the OG and TOS for the Learning Corner.

David explained how the TOS and the OG were intertwined in their beginnings:

In 1952 Charles McNeese, the founder of the OG, was looking for an appropriate vehicle through which to found a state wide birding organization. McNeese created the OG section of the ONC, the first copy of the Spoonbill was an open letter to the birders of the state of Texas listing a date and time to meet in Austin to form the Texas Ornithological Society. In winter 1953 about 50 people attended the meeting held at the St. Edwards Hotel in Austin. Charles had prepared a constitution and set of by-laws for them to sign to be the incorporators of a corporation, they elected officers, and the Texas Ornithological Society was officially born.

The idea was to have an organization that created a bridge between the amateur and the professional ornithologist. Anybody who joined in the first three years was considered a charter member; some famous names mentioned included Edgar Kinkaid, Frank Holms, Rodger Tory Peterson, and Edward Oberholzer.

The TOS was the predominant state birding society before the Audubon Society, and still plays a major role in Texas.

## Minutes of Meeting Monday, September 12, 2011

MAKE A NOTE OF CORRECTION TO SEPTEMBER MINUTES [www.surfbird.com/blog/peregrinations](http://www.surfbird.com/blog/peregrinations)  
ADDING THE "S" TO peregrinations

Photo by Harlan Evans



Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Brazos Bend SP 10/7/11

Don't miss the October Minutes to read highlights of the program presented by Glenn Olsen

Gardening with Native Plants to Attract Birds, Butterflies, and Wildlife

Glenn will be teaching an in depth version of the program at the Rice University Glasscock School of Continuing Studies in March  
<http://gscs.rice.edu>

## Minutes of Meeting Monday, October 3, 2011 Bayland Community Center Number of Attendees: 50

**1. Learning Corner: *Fall Warblers*** was presented by Stephan Lorenz. He recommends Sibley's book over Peterson's book, because Sibley pays more attention to shape, bill, tail and size. Stephan stressed that one should pay attention to the shape!!! Blackpoll Warblers look similar to Bay-breasted Warblers in the Fall. They are a hefty bird with a long-legged appearance and have long undertail coverts. They have orange feet. Females and juveniles have yellow feet. They have fine streaking on the chest and back.

Chestnut-sided Warblers hold their tail up past the horizontal.

Wilson's Warblers hold their tail up, too. If one see's a small yellow warbler with it's tail up, it is a Wilson's Warbler, not a Yellow Warbler. A Wilson's Warbler is extremely fast and has a small beady eye.

Cape May Warbler fall birds look like a streaked warbler. It has a really small, pointed bill.

Palm Warblers bob their tail and feed close to the ground.

Pine Warblers have a large bill for a warbler. It is a generic warbler with 2 white wing-bars.

Yellow-rumped Warblers are a huge warbler and have a large bill so that they can eat berries.

Nashville Warblers have an obvious eye-ring and a gray head.

Hooded Warbler females show white outer tail feathers when it flicks its tail. The bill is larger than a Wilson's bill.

Orange-crowned Warblers coloration goes from grayish in front to yellowish towards the back or undertail.

Tennessee Warblers have a white undertail, their coloration goes from yellow in front to white towards the back or undertail.

Black-throated Blue Warblers are larger billed. They have a white spot (square) in the wing and an obvious eyeline.

Common Yellowthroats are fat birds with the tail up.

Connecticut Warblers are huge! They have long undertail coverts; a white eyering; and a weird walk. They flick leaves dramatically when they feed. There are only 10 records for Texas.



Northern Waterthrush is the only Waterthrush here at this time of the year.

Louisiana Waterthrush has a bill that is 10% larger than the bill of Northern Waterthrush.

**2. Announcements:** We lost two members recently, Miner Long and David Marrack.

**3. Sightings:** Nashville and Hooded Warblers; Yellow-headed Blackbirds; Prairie Warbler at Anahuac; Gray Catbird, American Kestrels, & Nelson's Sparrows @ El Franco Lee Park; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Wilson's Warbler; 2 American Redstarts; Bell's Vireo @ Addicks Reservoir; Magnolia Warbler; Merlin; Great Kiskadee @ Sheldon Lake; Hummingbirds; Cooper's Hawk catching Gray Squirrels; Barred Owl @ Nature Discovery Center. In East Africa: Superb Starlings; Red-billed and Yellow-billed Oxpeckers; Lappet-faced Vultures; White-necked Ravens and Ostrich (the only 2-toed bird).

**4. Minutes:** For additions and corrections, please see Marie.

**5. Library:** Deborah Valdez said that there is no new news.

**6. Treasurer's Report:** Harlan Evans says the total is \$9,840.00

**7. Membership:** JoAnn Raine said the opening day of The Big Year movie is on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>.

**8. The Spoonbill:** The newsletter is due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of this month.

**9. Additional Announcements:** One person can really make a difference. Don Verser's hard work and dedication has led to "Don's Drip" at Smith Oaks and his prairie @ Nature Discovery Center. In addition, look on Audubon's web site for information about the Christmas Bird Counts.

**10. Past Field Trips:** Deborah Valdez said that they saw 30 plus species on the Willow Waterhole Field Trip. The Hawk watch Field Trip did not produce many Hawks. At Anahuac, Yellow-headed Blackbirds; Glossy Ibis; Wilson's Phalarope; Least Sandpipers; Least Bitterns and an Ani were seen. No Warblers (except those seen by Marcy Brown at Don's Drip at Smith Oaks.)

**11. Future Field Trips:** Galveston & Texas City Dike on October 15. Meet at Lafitte's Cove in Galveston at 8a.m..

**P.S. If you missed the October Field Trip you missed seeing....**

**Photo by Harlan Evans**



Clapper Rail, Galveston 10/15/11

**12. Program:** *Gardening with Native Plants to Attract Birds Butterflies & Wildlife* was presented by Glenn Olsen. He recommends putting out food, water, shelter and nesting areas. Select host plants for butterflies. One should have 3 to 5 layers or tiers for Habitat Structure. Native plants are recommended because they support 10 to 50 times more wildlife.

**Layer 1:** Leaves. Blue Mistflower (*Eupatorium greggi*); Knotroot Bristle Grass; Frog Fruit (which attracts the Phaon Crescent Butterfly); Gulf Muhly Grass.



**Layer 2:** 3-8ft. shrubs & flowers: Obedient Plant (*Physotegia intermedia*); Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), Coral Bean (*Erythrina herbacea*), Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), Tropical Sage (*Salvia coccinea*), Gay Feather (*Liatris*), Turk's Cap for Hummers; Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias* sp.) a host plant for Monarch & Queen Butterflies; Common and Maximilian Sunflowers; Little Bluestem Grass; American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*); Arrowwood Viburnum (provides fruit & color in the Fall.)

**Layer 3.** Shrubs or Small Trees. Mulberry trees; False Indigo (*Amorpha fruticosa*); Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum (*V. rufidulum*) fruit and color in the Fall; Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) attracts Henry's Elfin butterfly which feeds at night & hides in a rolled leaf during the day; Mexican Plum.

**Layer4.** Vines. Passionflower Vine (*P. incarnata* & *P. lutea*) attracts Gulf Fritillary butterflies; Coral Honeysuckle, Esperanza (*Tecoma stans*) Yellow Bells, Trumpet Creeper (*Campsis radicans*) attracts Hummers.

**Layer 5.** Large trees. Swamp Chestnut Oak, Bur Oak, & Shumard Red Oak; Sugar hackberry; Black Cherry (host for the Red-spotted Purple Butterfly); Black Gum (favorite fruit of the Pileated Woodpecker); Eastern Red Cedar (berries eaten by Cedar Waxwings).

Glenn Olsen recommends the following books:

- Bringing Nature Home by Douglas Tallamy
- American Wildlife & Plants: A Guide to Wildlife Food Habits by Alexander C. Martin, et.al.
- Butterflies of Houston & Southeast Texas by John & Gloria Tveten
- Texas Wildscapes: Gardening for Wildlife
- Native Texas Plants. Landscaping Region by Region. Sally Wasowski.

The Native Plant Society website is [www.npsot.org](http://www.npsot.org)

Glenn Olsen can be contacted at [h.glenn.olsen@gmail.com](mailto:h.glenn.olsen@gmail.com) and 281-345-4151

Marie Asscherick, OG Secretary

**BE YOU FOCUSED ON THE TURKEY  
WITH A FORK OR WITH BINOCULARS  
HAVE A WONDERFUL DAY OF GIVING THANKS**

## ENJOY VIEWING THE FOLLOWING VERSION OF THE CLEARING HOUSE

Clearing House September 2011 David Sarkozi

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

This is a summary of birds reported to eBird.org. Rare and very rare birds are in bold. There were 278 species reported for the Upper Texas Coast (Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Jefferson Counties) for September 2011 from 942 checklists from 127 observers. Rare and very rare are listed in this format: County:location(date)[Observer]

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck reports=142 total= 765

Fulvous Whistling-Duck reports=27 total= 61

Greater White-fronted Goose reports=4 total= 95 Chambers:Smith Point- Candy Abshier WMA (UTC 048)(GCBO Hawk Watch loc.)(30)[winifred burkett], Harris:Kleb Woods Nature Preserve(14)[sarah kuzio], Harris:Kleb Woods Nature Preserve(14)[Fred Collins], Harris:Kleb Woods Nature Preserve(14)[michael kuzio]

Muscovy Duck (Domestic type) reports=6 total= 2

Wood Duck reports=27 total= 25  
 Gadwall reports=6 total= 4  
 Mallard reports=6 total= 9  
 Mallard (Domestic type) reports=58 total= 31  
 Mottled Duck reports=90 total= 91  
 Blue-winged Teal reports=129 total= 2,218  
 Cinnamon Teal reports=14 total= 11 Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(14)[Howard Smith], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(14)[Jim Hinson], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(14)[J Berner], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(14)[Drew Dickert], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(16)[michael kuzio], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(16)[sarah kuzio], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(18)[Greg Page], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(18)[michael kuzio], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(18)[sarah kuzio], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(18)[Kevin Molloy], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(21)[Greg Page], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(21)[Teri Zambon], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(23)[Greg Page], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(23)[susan orwig]  
 Northern Shoveler reports=13 total= 69  
 Northern Pintail reports=17 total= 42  
 Green-winged Teal reports=35 total= 34  
 duck sp. reports=11 total= 71  
 Northern Bobwhite reports=13 total= 32  
 Least Grebe reports=5 total= 8 Chambers:Anahuac NWR (UTC 049)(9)[David Sarkozi], Chambers:Anahuac NWR (UTC 049)(24)[Janet Rathjen], Chambers:Chenier Plain NWR Complex Headquarters(21)[Anahuac NWR eTT], Chambers:Chenier Plain NWR Complex Headquarters(24)[Anahuac NWR eTT], Chambers:East Unit, Anahuac NWR(9)[Marilyn Kircus]  
 Pied-billed Grebe reports=105 total= 69  
 Eared Grebe reports=2 total= 4 Harris:Addicks(30)[Karl Poetzi], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(18)[Kevin Molloy]  
 Wood Stork reports=32 total= 1,088  
 Magnificent Frigatebird reports=25 total= 29  
 Neotropic Cormorant reports=115 total= 175  
 Double-crested Cormorant reports=20 total= 54  
 cormorant sp. reports=12 total= 8  
 Anhinga reports=43 total= 225  
 American White Pelican reports=9 total= 68  
 Brown Pelican reports=116 total= 359  
 American Bittern reports=3 total= 2  
 Least Bittern reports=15 total= 17  
 Great Blue Heron reports=227 total= 54  
 Great Egret reports=288 total= 139  
 Snowy Egret reports=240 total= 164  
 Little Blue Heron reports=174 total= 43  
 Tricolored Heron reports=147 total= 31  
 Reddish Egret reports=39 total= 13  
 Cattle Egret reports=279 total= 859  
 Green Heron reports=87 total= 21  
 Black-crowned Night-Heron reports=29 total= 23  
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron reports=56 total= 33  
 White Ibis reports=231 total= 538  
 Glossy Ibis reports=11 total= 7 Chambers:Anahuac NWR (UTC 049)(25)[Janet Rathjen], Chambers:Anahuac NWR (UTC 049)(25)[Michael Dupree], Chambers:Anahuac NWR (UTC 049)(25)[Adam Wood], Chambers:Chambers(10)[Karen Moulder], Chambers:Chambers(10)[San Antonio Audubon], Chambers:Chambers(10)[David Sarkozi], Chambers:Chambers(10)[Sandi Wheeler], Chambers:Chambers(10)[Helen Rejzek], Fort Bend:Double Lake Dr.(3)[Bill Duke], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(9)[Greg Page], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(9)[susan orwig], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(18)[Kevin Molloy]  
 White-faced Ibis reports=106 total= 263  
 Plegadis sp. reports=7 total= 196  
 Roseate Spoonbill reports=130 total= 117  
 Black Vulture reports=171 total= 129  
 Turkey Vulture reports=254 total= 175

Osprey reports=65 total= 9  
 Swallow-tailed Kite reports=5 total= 7  
 White-tailed Kite reports=13 total= 16  
 Mississippi Kite reports=48 total= 585  
 Bald Eagle reports=1 total= 1  
 Northern Harrier reports=32 total= 18  
 Sharp-shinned Hawk reports=53 total= 184  
 Cooper's Hawk reports=94 total= 41  
 Accipiter sp. reports=9 total= 4  
 Red-shouldered Hawk reports=125 total= 21  
 Broad-winged Hawk reports=59 total= 7,632  
 Swainson's Hawk reports=40 total= 12  
 White-tailed Hawk reports=10 total= 6  
 Red-tailed Hawk reports=89 total= 21  
 Crested Caracara reports=78 total= 20  
 American Kestrel reports=60 total= 35  
 Merlin reports=16 total= 5  
 Peregrine Falcon reports=7 total= 7  
 Clapper Rail reports=33 total= 17  
 King Rail reports=8 total= 4  
 Clapper/King Rail reports=3 total= 4  
 Virginia Rail reports=2 total= 2 Chambers:Anahuac NWR--Skillern Tract (E.Bay)(UTC 050)(10)[Greg Page],  
 Jefferson:Sabine Pass(17)[Adam Wood]  
 Sora reports=41 total= 20  
 rail sp. reports=1 total= 1  
 Purple Gallinule reports=20 total= 12  
 Common Gallinule reports=51 total= 501  
 American Coot reports=46 total= 67  
 Black-bellied Plover reports=53 total= 48  
 American Golden-Plover reports=4 total= 3 Galveston:Galveston- Apffel Park / East Beach (UTC 062)(6)[Huck Hutchens],  
 Galveston:Galveston- Apffel Park / East Beach (UTC 062)(10)[Matt Sim], Harris:3115 Norris Dr(19)[John  
 O'Brien], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(12)[Greg Page],  
 Snowy Plover reports=19 total= 50  
 Wilson's Plover reports=18 total= 9  
 Semipalmated Plover reports=31 total= 37  
 Piping Plover reports=16 total= 13  
 Killdeer reports=207 total= 184  
 American Oystercatcher reports=27 total= 86  
 Black-necked Stilt reports=99 total= 421  
 American Avocet reports=21 total= 89  
 Spotted Sandpiper reports=35 total= 12  
 Solitary Sandpiper reports=18 total= 14  
 Greater Yellowlegs reports=96 total= 80  
 Willet reports=95 total= 79  
 Lesser Yellowlegs reports=74 total= 50  
 Greater/Lesser Yellowlegs reports=1 total= 10  
 Upland Sandpiper reports=33 total= 24  
 Whimbrel reports=7 total= 3  
 Long-billed Curlew reports=17 total= 14  
 Marbled Godwit reports=18 total= 30  
 Ruddy Turnstone reports=53 total= 89  
 Red Knot reports=3 total= 25  
 Sanderling reports=52 total= 225  
 Semipalmated Sandpiper reports=29 total= 41  
 Western Sandpiper reports=66 total= 65  
 Least Sandpiper reports=108 total= 1,344  
 Baird's Sandpiper reports=6 total= 17  
 Pectoral Sandpiper reports=10 total= 5  
 Dunlin reports=4 total= 2  
 Stilt Sandpiper reports=29 total= 46  
 peep sp. reports=2 total= 14

Buff-breasted Sandpiper reports=13 total= 51  
 Short-billed Dowitcher reports=6 total= 49  
 Long-billed Dowitcher reports=26 total= 34  
 Short-billed/Long-billed Dowitcher reports=9 total= 8  
 Wilson's Snipe reports=11 total= 8  
 Wilson's Phalarope reports=15 total= 147  
 Laughing Gull reports=208 total= 1,378  
 Ring-billed Gull reports=21 total= 12  
 Herring Gull reports=16 total= 20  
 Lesser Black-backed Gull reports=5 total= 11  
 gull sp. reports=6 total= 12  
 Least Tern reports=22 total= 59  
 Gull-billed Tern reports=23 total= 12  
 Caspian Tern reports=45 total= 96  
 Black Tern reports=17 total= 22  
 Common Tern reports=15 total= 39  
 Forster's Tern reports=63 total= 103  
 Royal Tern reports=69 total= 276  
 Sandwich Tern reports=34 total= 57  
 Black Skimmer reports=28 total= 1,180  
 Rock Pigeon reports=195 total= 568  
 Eurasian Collared-Dove reports=126 total= 86  
 White-winged Dove reports=346 total= 1,745  
 Mourning Dove reports=534 total= 561  
 Inca Dove reports=34 total= 26  
 Common Ground-Dove reports=7 total= 5  
 Budgerigar reports=1 total= 1  
 Nanday Parakeet reports=1 total= 1  
 Monk Parakeet reports=15 total= 77  
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo reports=23 total= 10  
 Groove-billed Ani reports=3 total= 4  
 Barn Owl reports=5 total= 3  
 Eastern Screech-Owl reports=21 total= 8  
 Great Horned Owl reports=11 total= 6  
 Barred Owl reports=20 total= 12  
 Common Nighthawk reports=50 total= 13  
 nighthawk sp. reports=1 total= 1  
 Chuck-will's-widow reports=19 total= 13  
 Chimney Swift reports=216 total= 238  
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird reports=429 total= 450  
 Black-chinned Hummingbird reports=1 total= 1  
 Rufous Hummingbird reports=21 total= 12  
 Buff-bellied Hummingbird reports=5 total= 2 Fort Bend:Riverpark (Sugar Land)(9)[Mark Scheuerman], Fort Bend:Riverpark  
 (Sugar Land)(10)[Mark Scheuerman], Harris:Orwig Home(28)[susan orwig], Harris:Orwig Home(29)[susan  
 orwig], Harris:Orwig Home(30)[susan orwig]  
 hummingbird sp. reports=21 total= 34  
 Belted Kingfisher reports=82 total= 9  
 Red-headed Woodpecker reports=31 total= 14  
 Red-bellied Woodpecker reports=339 total= 37  
 Downy Woodpecker reports=317 total= 33  
 Northern Flicker reports=3 total= 3  
 Pileated Woodpecker reports=89 total= 13  
 Olive-sided Flycatcher reports=37 total= 11  
 Eastern Wood-Pewee reports=117 total= 29  
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher reports=80 total= 22  
 Acadian Flycatcher reports=13 total= 7  
 Alder Flycatcher reports=29 total= 16  
 Willow Flycatcher reports=32 total= 8  
 Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's) reports=44 total= 32  
 Least Flycatcher reports=111 total= 45  
 Empidonax sp. reports=52 total= 37



Eastern Phoebe reports=18 total= 7  
 Vermilion Flycatcher reports=8 total= 3  
 Great Crested Flycatcher reports=154 total= 67  
 Great Kiskadee reports=5 total= 5 Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(16)[Greg Page], Harris:Katy  
 Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes Park(22)[Greg Page], Harris:Katy Prairie- Paul Rushing/Chain of Lakes  
 Park(23)[Greg Page], Harris:Sheldon Lake SP (UTC 033)(15)[Nina Rach], Harris:Sheldon Lake SP (UTC  
 033)(26)[Teri Zambon]  
 Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher reports=1 total= 1 Jefferson:Sabine Woods (UTC 026)(15)[Lynn Barber]  
 Couch's Kingbird reports=2 total= 2 Brazoria:Shy Pond(11)[Joe Fischer], Brazoria:Shy Pond(16)[Joe Fischer]  
 Tropical/Couch's Kingbird reports=1 total= 1  
 Western Kingbird reports=3 total= 4  
 Eastern Kingbird reports=116 total= 117  
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher reports=129 total= 67  
 Loggerhead Shrike reports=271 total= 47  
 White-eyed Vireo reports=106 total= 29  
 Bell's Vireo reports=29 total= 4  
 Yellow-throated Vireo reports=3 total= 4  
 Blue-headed Vireo reports=7 total= 4  
 Warbling Vireo reports=34 total= 19  
 Philadelphia Vireo reports=9 total= 4  
 Red-eyed Vireo reports=32 total= 16  
 Blue Jay reports=494 total= 120  
 American Crow reports=222 total= 76  
 Fish Crow reports=7 total= 3  
 Horned Lark reports=32 total= 26  
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow reports=27 total= 102  
 Purple Martin reports=19 total= 1,217  
 Tree Swallow reports=39 total= 74  
 Bank Swallow reports=43 total= 164  
 Barn Swallow reports=200 total= 287  
 Cliff Swallow reports=66 total= 118  
 Cave Swallow reports=52 total= 97  
 swallow sp. reports=56 total= 405  
 Carolina Chickadee reports=346 total= 99  
 Tufted Titmouse reports=142 total= 53  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch reports=1 total= 1 Chambers:Anahuac(8)[Arlette Keene],  
 Brown-headed Nuthatch reports=14 total= 24  
 Carolina Wren reports=293 total= 64  
 House Wren reports=7 total= 3  
 Marsh Wren reports=18 total= 11  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reports=377 total= 198  
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet reports=8 total= 4  
 Eastern Bluebird reports=51 total= 47  
 American Robin reports=82 total= 82  
 Gray Catbird reports=31 total= 27  
 Northern Mockingbird reports=555 total= 188  
 Brown Thrasher reports=36 total= 21  
 European Starling reports=291 total= 575  
 Ovenbird reports=10 total= 7  
 Worm-eating Warbler reports=2 total= 1  
 Louisiana Waterthrush reports=8 total= 7  
 Northern Waterthrush reports=56 total= 19  
 Louisiana/Northern Waterthrush reports=1 total= 1  
 Blue-winged Warbler reports=16 total= 9  
 Golden-winged Warbler reports=2 total= 1  
 Black-and-white Warbler reports=87 total= 38  
 Prothonotary Warbler reports=11 total= 10  
 Tennessee Warbler reports=5 total= 2  
 Orange-crowned Warbler reports=1 total= 1  
 Nashville Warbler reports=71 total= 25  
 Mourning Warbler reports=76 total= 23

Kentucky Warbler reports=6 total= 2  
 Common Yellowthroat reports=58 total= 32  
 Hooded Warbler reports=21 total= 10  
 American Redstart reports=41 total= 24  
 Cape May Warbler reports=1 total= 1 Harris:San Jacinto Battleground (UTC 041)(29)[Greg Page],  
 Cerulean Warbler reports=1 total= 1 Harris:San Jacinto Battleground (UTC 041)(29)[Greg Page]  
 Northern Parula reports=18 total= 8  
 Magnolia Warbler reports=17 total= 8  
 Blackburnian Warbler reports=4 total= 4  
 Yellow Warbler reports=182 total= 80  
 Chestnut-sided Warbler reports=1 total= 1  
 Palm Warbler reports=2 total= 5  
 Pine Warbler reports=35 total= 31  
 Yellow-throated Warbler reports=7 total= 4  
 Prairie Warbler reports=25 total= 9  
 Black-throated Green Warbler reports=18 total= 13  
 Canada Warbler reports=50 total= 19  
 Wilson's Warbler reports=145 total= 56  
 Yellow-breasted Chat reports=70 total= 21  
 warbler sp. reports=19 total= 25  
 Chipping Sparrow reports=3 total= 6 Harris:El Franco Lee Park(18)[John O'Brien], Harris:Houston- Addicks Reservoir--N. of  
 Clay Rd.(5)[Jim Hinson], Harris:Kleb Woods Nature Preserve(28)[Fred Collins]  
 Clay-colored Sparrow reports=32 total= 15  
 Field Sparrow reports=1 total= 1 Harris:Addicks(30)[Karl Poetzl]  
 Lark Sparrow reports=31 total= 24  
 Savannah Sparrow reports=31 total= 20  
 Seaside Sparrow reports=3 total= 8  
 Lincoln's Sparrow reports=13 total= 7  
 sparrow sp. reports=8 total= 32  
 Summer Tanager reports=28 total= 10  
 Scarlet Tanager reports=1 total= 1  
 Western Tanager reports=2 total= 1 Jefferson:Sabine Woods (UTC 026)(17)[Janet Rathjen], Jefferson:Sabine Woods (UTC  
 026)(17)[Drew Dickert]  
 Northern Cardinal reports=444 total= 182  
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak reports=1 total= 1  
 Blue Grosbeak reports=42 total= 25  
 Indigo Bunting reports=99 total= 42  
 Painted Bunting reports=32 total= 16  
 Dickcissel reports=88 total= 145  
 Red-winged Blackbird reports=82 total= 5,149  
 Eastern Meadowlark reports=60 total= 41  
 meadowlark sp. reports=4 total= 10  
 Yellow-headed Blackbird reports=15 total= 7  
 Common Grackle reports=118 total= 1,350  
 Boat-tailed Grackle reports=44 total= 65  
 Great-tailed Grackle reports=163 total= 319  
 Boat-tailed/Great-tailed Grackle reports=1 total= 10  
 grackle sp. reports=5 total= 14  
 Bronzed Cowbird reports=1 total= 1  
 Brown-headed Cowbird reports=65 total= 247  
 Orchard Oriole reports=60 total= 30  
 Bullock's Oriole reports=1 total= 1 Brazoria:Quintana- Xeriscape Park(23)[Joe Fischer],  
 Baltimore Oriole reports=200 total= 79  
 oriole sp. reports=3 total= 4  
 blackbird sp. reports=10 total= 31  
 House Finch reports=120 total= 65  
 House Sparrow reports=231 total= 252  
 Orange Bishop reports=3 total= 10  
 Nutmeg Mannikin reports=34 total= 41

## 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.*

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Field Trips:	Adam Wood	713-515-1692	birdsondabrain@earthlink.net
<b>The Spoonbill:</b>	Vicki Sims	713-779-7609	oncspoon@gmail.com

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

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

### TO START OR RENEW A MEMBERSHIP:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Family</b>
ONC Annual Dues:	\$ 8.00	\$ 15.00
OG Annual Dues:	\$ 14.00	\$ 19.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 22.00</b>	<b>\$ 34.00</b>

Additional contributions are welcome in any amount.

Send to:

Outdoor Nature Club  
PO Box 270894  
Houston TX 77277-0894

### Discount for Electronic *Spoonbill*

Members who do not wish to receive a printed copy of *The Spoonbill* can save \$4 off their dues:

	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Family</b>
ONC	\$ 8.00	\$ 15.00
<b>OG</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>	<b>\$ 15.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 18.00</b>	<b>\$ 30.00</b>

Membership questions  
Contact Margret Simmons  
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msimmons@compassnet.com