



The Spoonbill

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

May 2009
Vol. 58 No. 5

Monthly Meeting: Monday, May 4

Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet, Houston

Learning Corner -- 6:30 p.m. with Steve Gross
Topic: Local Summer Species

7:00 p.m. – General Meeting

Program: - Madagascar

Presented by **Keith Barnes of Tropical Birding**

Keith realized that he was no longer a scientist when a significant difference in the tail lengths of larks didn't really make a significant difference in his life! Turning his back on the Ivory Towers, Keith helped found Tropical Birding and now heads the Africa and Asia operations. Keith has traveled far and wide in Africa and Asia. Before Keith was able to actually see most of the birds he wanted to see, he had to sit in an office and write about them, producing two books, The Important Bird Areas of Southern Africa and The Red Data Book of Birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland in the process. Keith has visited Madagascar 11 times, where the bizarre evolutionary adaptations of its creatures have left an everlasting impression which he hopes to share with you in this program.

Other Events

**April 26 - May 3: Great Texas
Birding Classic**

May 3, June 7: Katy Prairie
Open Trails - Warren Ranch
www.katyprairie.org 713-523-6135

May 30: Kayaking Christmas Bay
(Artist Boat)

For the summer, some bird counts:

Houston Bird Count (all June)

Armand Bayou (second Saturdays)

Bolivar (third Saturdays)

West 11th Street Park (third Tuesdays)

Swifts Over Houston (every Tuesday)

--see *Houston Audubon* for details;
<http://www.houstonaudubon.org/>

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The Spoonbill wishes you all
a happy and birdy summer!
The next issue will be August 2009.
All materials to be included
should be sent to the Editor by July 15.

Outdoor Nature Club -- Ornithology Group
Minutes of Meeting on Monday, April 6, 2009
Number of Attendees: 52

1. **Learning Corner:** With OG's upcoming trip to the Davis and Guadalupe Mountains, Steve Gross discussed some of the special birds of the area, including Wild Turkey, Scaled Quail, Gambel's Quail, Montezuma Quail, Gray Hawk, Golden Eagle, and numerous species of Hummingbirds.
2. **Sightings:** Bernice Hotman opened the meeting and the following sightings were mentioned: Bronzed Cowbird in backyard, Dickcissel in member's yard, 95 Common Loons in Offatt Bayou in Galveston, Cooper's Hawk in Sugar Land, Louisiana Waterthrush in Southwest Houston, Western Tanager in High Island, Bald Eagles near Mary's Creek in Pearland, American Golden Plovers at Quintana, Paul Rushing Park and Brazos Bend.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Minutes from the March 2 meeting were approved as printed in *The Spoonbill*.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Jerry Stanislav passed out an Income and Expense statement as of March 31, 2009 showing a cash balance of \$10,048. He projects that membership dues will be a little short this year with the budget set at \$2,804 and \$2,111 coming in as of March 31st. The budget will be voted on at next month's meeting.
5. **Library Report:** Debbie Valdez announced that she has new CDs, DVDs and books, and reminded everyone to bring their items back when finished.
6. **Spoonbill:** The deadline for the next *Spoonbill* is April 15.
7. **Nominating Committee:** The following Board members were approved by the membership: Pam Smolen for Chair, John Schneider for Programs Chair, and Lenore Alfredson for Secretary.
8. **Society for the Performing Arts:** A solo dance work, Monumental, embodies two of ballet's most iconic figures: the swan and the soldier. This performance takes place on April 17 at Wortham's Cullen Theater.
9. **Future Field Trips:** This month's trip on April 11 is to the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory in Lake Jackson. The quarterly trip is to the Panhandle, Guadalupe and Davis Mountains from April 10-19, 2009. The May 30 kayaking trip on Christmas Bay in Galveston is a joint field trip with Houston

About the Ornithology Group

The Ornithology Group (OG) is a division of the Outdoor Nature Club (ONC), a non-profit organization dedicated to greater knowledge about the environment and wildlife of the Upper Texas Coast. The OG is a club of individuals interested in all aspects of birding, including bird identification, listing bird sightings, competing in birding events, and preserving bird habitat. Some members study bird behavior, biology, distribution and migration, while others just enjoy watching birds. The organization is designed to accommodate these diverse birding interests. Monthly meetings and field trips provide an opportunity to interact with and learn from experts in local and international birding.

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

The Spoonbill: Al Shultz 281-829-0970
Email: ogspoonbill@sbcglobal.net

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

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

Audubon. The trip is limited to 26 people. Contact Britt Jones at Houston Audubon to sign up.

10. **Program:** Pam Smolen introduced Kelly Bryan, currently Volunteer Fire Chief in Fort Davis and retired from his many years as Superintendent at Davis Mountains State Park in Fort Davis. Kelly spoke to us about the many species of hummingbirds that can be found in the area. There are five habitats in West Texas: riparian, desert scrub, grassland, mountain woodlands, and urban. With the diversity of habitat, the area attracts a total of 16 different species of hummingbirds. The regular breeding species are Black-chinned, Broad-tailed, Magnificent, Blue-throated, and Lucifer. The Black-chinned is the only one found in all habitats. Regular migrants in the area are Rufous, Calliope, Ruby-throated, and Anna's. Rare to occasional species include Green Violet-ear, Broad-billed, White-eared, Berylline, Violet-crowned, Costa's, and Allen's. Kelly is also interested in photography, and we enjoyed an excellent slide show of the Hummingbirds.

-- Cindy Douglass, OG Secretary

In Appreciation

A heartfelt thank-you goes to each of you who have contributed to my tenure on the Ornithology Group board. That includes those of you who support the organization with your attendance and your continuing membership. I particularly want to take this last column to thank the team members that served with me during the last two years.

Pam Smolen has arranged for a diverse line-up of programs for the last two years – and programs are important to maintaining interest in the organization. Adam Wood has been incredible -- arranging and leading the field trips, including one-day, quarterly, and longer. And aren't we grateful for such an enthusiastic, visible YOUNG person for our group! Al Shultz has been a mainstay by editing the essential newsletter, *The Spoonbill*. He's always easy to work with and diligent in the production, doing his best to get it to us in a timely fashion. Steve Gross and Michael Williams brought different gifts and new opportunities to the Learning Corner. New and continuing members gain from the expertise offered in this setting. Jim Winn and Jerry Stanislav have been conscientious in maintaining the funds of the club – keeping us on track and financially strong. Cindy Douglass has quietly and efficiently kept the records of our meetings. Being the secretary of any group can be a challenge and she

has done a fine job. Margret Simmons has actually been the membership officer for the Outdoor Nature Club but graciously agreed to serve in that capacity for OG also. And aren't we all grateful that someone handles the sign-in sheets and name tags that are so necessary. Patsy Lawrence has stepped in this year to provide refreshments at the meetings. Having food allows an extra opportunity to socialize, and I hope you too have thanked her for arranging that. Deborah Valdez and Andy Scott have carted books and audio-visuals back and forth to the meetings just for you. And they always greeted browsers with smiles, willingness to help, and advice. David Sarkozi works quietly behind the scene. Have you seen what's new on the website? While Adam and Deborah do some updating, David is primarily responsible for that and the Clearing House bird listings in the newsletter.

The trouble with listing persons by name is that it allows for someone to be overlooked. My apology to you if I missed you in my specific list of those I appreciate. Serving you has enriched my life, and I loved getting to know more of you better. To quote Jeff Bouton's son Austin, "...birders are really nice people."

--Bernice Hotman, OG Chairman

**Monthly OG Trip: May 30, 2009
Galveston Bay Kayaking Trip with Artist Boat
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Bay – Follett's Island
Limit: 26 people**

**Fee: \$25 - \$50 depending on number of participants
To Sign Up, Contact: Britt Jones (HAS) by phone 713-932-1639
or email bjones@houstonaudubon.org**

We are going kayaking in Galveston Bay to end another great OG year. Artist Boat Inc. will be supplying the kayaks and interpreters; this is the same company that sponsors the kayaking trips for Featherfest. On this trip we will be able to get within 3 feet of most of the birds, providing for some great up-close and personal experiences with the birds, and some great photo ops. The trip will last for 4 hours and will include a safety and paddling demo for those who have never kayaked before. The trip will cost \$650 for a group of up to 26 people, so the more people we get the less money per person it will cost for the private trip. They will require the money a week in advance. So throw on your swimsuit and come out ready to have fun, get a little wet on what could be a warm day, and have some great up-close experiences with birds. If you are interested in attending this trip, please let me know.

WHAT TO BRING: Water, a snack, hat, bug spray, sunscreen, a change of clothes, towels, shoes and binoculars if you want. The signed waiver and medical history forms. Do not bring anything that cannot get wet or that would be ruined if it fell into the water (for example: camera, cell phone, remote keys, etc.). Please do not bring coolers that can hold more than a six-pack of coke as there is little storage space on the kayaks.

For further details, see the OG website, or contact me:

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

MY TOP TEN FAVORITE TEXAS BIRDING PLACES

by Mike Austin

I confess: I am an avid state bird-chaser with an almost embarrassing state list which many would covet as their life list. In this pursuit, however, I have been privileged to visit many places in Texas I would not otherwise have sampled. In this article I have catalogued my favorites, keeping in mind this is in a constant state of flux as springs dry up or border fences are built. As you will see, the places are chosen not only for their avian life but because they each have a unique aesthetic. There is a bit of bias toward the upper Texas coast, simply because some of the best places are (or were --read Hurricane Ike) in your own back yards, so to speak. So, here we go:

1) BENTSEN RIO-GRANDE VALLEY STATE PARK: Hands down my favorite in Texas and one of my top two in North America (Point Pelee National Park, Ontario, Canada #1 since that's where I grew up). Can you say Collared Forest-Falcon, Masked Tityra, Ruddy Quail-Dove, Roadside Hawk? But what a unique place it is! Plants with romantic, hard to pronounce names, all with thorns, it seems. The smell of mesquite and ebony pods after a rain. The Rio Grande Hiking Trail snaking through old resacas with clouds of bounding, brightly-colored, often unfamiliar butterflies. The thrill of the unexpected in a world of unusual sights and smells!

2) SABINE WOODS: Heretical though it may seem, I prefer this woodlot over High Island's sanctuaries. It is farther east and more likely to harbor the Atlantic flyway warblers I grew up with -- Blackpoll, Cape May, and Black-throated Blue. The crowds are generally smaller. And on those special fallout days, the birding is unparalleled. To walk through the dewy grass and hear the songs of a dozen White-eyed Vireos hidden in the tangles greeting your arrival after a cold spring rain sets the heart a-racing for what other jewels the woodlands may harbor!. Warblers of every hue coming to drink at the pond, unfortunately oblivious to the cottonmouth which invariably waits in ambush. On a quiet fall day, a Bobcat ambles past only one hundred yards away.

3) BOLIVAR FLATS SHOREBIRD

SANCTUARY: No superlative can do justice to this unparalleled place! The shores of Delaware Bay, the mudflats of the Yellow Sea in China simply cannot compete. Clouds of avocets wading, swimming, in constant motion! Stately pelicans hauled out on the sand to preen. Four species of small plovers ready to challenge a neophyte shorebirder. Breeding-plumaged Dunlin, Western Sandpipers, and -- my personal favorite -- Red Knot strut their stuff. Exquisite artistry, these spring masterpieces! Breasts festooned with tiny chevrons, every back feather outlined with the thinnest, snazziest hues of red and orange. Terns cry overhead, the chirping Least carrying tiny silver fingerlings to seal their courtship bonds.

4) SMITH OAKS SANCTUARY, HIGH

ISLAND: Woodland full of towering oaks teeming with migratory songbirds. A mulberry chock full of tanagers and thrushes. What's not to like? Well, the crowds can be maddening at times. Fortunately, the hoards often ignore my favorite spring weekends: the last in March & the first in May! The up side to such coverage, however, is that no rarity ever goes undiscovered.

I must confess that I feel the best time here is fall. Gone are the crowds. I am usually totally alone in the woods. Despite curtains of golden orb weavers' webs, oppressive heat and, at times, maddening swarms of insects, I am constantly challenged at this time of year. Birds uncommon in spring, Olive-sided Flycatcher and Canada Warbler, for instance, are much easier to encounter on Labor Day weekend. In the shadows and tangles are *Empidonax* flycatchers and warblers in drab autumnal dress. What fun, but not for the faint of heart!

5) BOOT SPRING, BIG BEND NATIONAL

PARK: Although requiring an exhausting (some would say grueling or insane) hike of a minimum of at least 4.5 miles (one-way) and an elevation change of 1600 vertical feet (starting at 5,400 feet above sea level), Boot Spring is, for its size, more than worth the climb. My first climb was, of course, for the Colima Warbler which nests

nowhere else in the United States. But as I have visited more and more, this memory is dimmed by a brighter tapestry. Acrobatic Painted Redstarts, hurtling & chipping Blue-throated Hummingbirds and the Cordilleran Flycatcher who always guards the same patch of rocky streambed are the constant companions of the warblers and just as compelling. The rocky trail above the spring carpeted with penstemon in August and frequented by five species of hummingbirds, among them a female Magnificent. The Zone-tailed Hawk nesting near the Boot Rock itself, its screams reverberating off the sides of the chasm. Rarities including White-eared Hummingbird, Flame-colored Tanager, and Slate-throated Redstart have rewarded previous ascents. My most recent memory was camping under a full moon so bright it cast shadows, surrounded by the incessant calls of Whip-poor-wills and a few soft toots from Flammulated Owls, unseen among the towering yellow pines on the canyon's side. Never mind the bear that ransacked my campsite next morning, I can't wait to go back to this special place as long as my sixty-something legs will allow!

6) FRIJOLE RANCH & MANZANITA SPRING, GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK:

Towering, bare-limbed pecans casting long shadows on an ancient adobe farmhouse. A desert waterhole where javelina come to drink and Sage Thrashers adorn the treetops. Trees sporting the occasional very uncommon Juniper Titmouse. A lost winter Hepatic Tanager. The farmyard full of Mountain Bluebirds. White-throated Swifts skimming just above the arid ground, almost close enough to touch. The slow, slurred phrases of Gray Vireo drifting down from juniper-clad slopes above. And above all towers the south face of the "Guads" themselves. While visiting most of the park requires considerable hiking and stamina (worth every ounce of energy, though) and the winds can howl after passage of a cold front, Frijole is just a mile down a dirt road from the paved highway. What a gem!

7) SALINENO: A tiny Texican (not really Texas, not really Mexico) town at the edge of the riparian corridor of the Rio Grande as it courses through the arid south Texas brushlands. Feeders frequented by brilliant orioles and vividly colored jays. The

river itself meandering past river islands, rafts of ducks barely visible in the mist. Then the rarities hurtle by. Muscovy Duck, a huge thing looking more like a white-winged goose than a duck. Red-billed Pigeons, usually big dark avian bullets, with luck will perch up in the dead tepaguaje trees on the island upstream to soak up the sun and allow distant scope views of their bills which resemble Halloween candy corn. The cries of Kiskadees hunting small streamside fish (the only flycatcher to fish), and the odd cadence of Audubon's Oriole sounding like a child learning how to whistle, drift along with the current. Unlike Boot Spring, Salineno is a spot to kick back and enjoy the show unfolding along the river. On my last two visits, the riverine species have disconcertingly included gentlemen in a small boat ferrying large brown bales and small white packages from the Tamaulipan to the Texian side of the Rio Bravo. They seemed unconcerned over a gringo with a large telescope perched next to their drop-off point, and although I must confess it scared the heck out of me, the troop of Boy Scouts present seemed much less distracted.

8) F.M. 505, DAVIS MOUNTAINS: It's only 9 miles, straight as an arrow, from the south flank of the Davis Mountains to U.S. 90 near Valentine (population about zero) but it's wonderful. My favorite strategy is to arrive at dawn on a perfectly still, sub-freezing morning. As the first rays of the sun touch the frost-covered tips of the tawny grasses, the grassland sparrows pop up to warm up. Grasshopper Sparrows are fairly common and this was the way I (FINALLY) saw my Baird's Sparrows for Texas! Brushy fence lines sport White-crowns and sometimes skulking Cassin's Sparrows. As the sun rises, clouds of distant Chestnut-collared Longpurs and Lark Buntings take wing. Patience and persistence next to a large but evanescent puddle reward with perhaps a hundred sparrows and a lone longspur drinking and bathing. Stealth next to a stock allows stunning views of a parade of pronghorns. In spring the land is a carpet of wildflowers, once with an Aplomado Falcon hunkered down among them. The road is almost always deserted, perfect for roadside birding. So lonely is the venue that the cigar-chomping Jeff Davis justice of the peace once stopped by on one of those perfect mornings to make sure I wasn't in distress.

9) LAKE MARVIN, BLACK KETTLE NATIONAL GRASSLAND & GENE HOWE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA,

HEMPHILL COUNTY: Both these spots are in the northeastern Panhandle near the town of Canadian, likely closer to Denver than Houston. I discovered them while searching for the elusive Northern Shrike. Gene Howe borders the north side of the Canadian River and straddles F.M. 2266 which after winding in ribbon-like fashion through the riparian woodland ends at the pearl in the necklace, Lake Marvin. Since it is so remote and under-birded, this area always carries the anticipation of the unexpected. A porcupine in a treetop at the lake took me totally unaware: I didn't know they existed in Texas! Birds are a curious mix of east meets west and north meets south: Carolina Wren and Prairie Falcon, Red-bellied Woodpecker and Common Merganser, American Tree Sparrow and Carolina Chickadee. There's almost never anyone else around, so, unlike the bleachers at Boy Scout Woods in the middle of April, it's usually totally silent. Varied habitats abound with brushy woods and fields juxtaposed with the placid lake surface and an abandoned lakeside trailer court to explore.

10) SANTA ANA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE: I couldn't leave this one out! Site of

my first Chachalaca, Altamira Oriole, Buff-bellied Hummingbird, Hook-billed Kite, most now old friends, and perhaps most memorable, the Crane Hawk on a very wet New Year's Day. Lots and lots of new butterflies, spring, summer and especially fall. Amazingly varied habitats: ebony woods draped in Spanish moss full of invisible orioles and flycatchers, weedy lakes sporting Jacanas and Cinnamon Teal, tiny wooded ponds with singing Clay-colored Thrush, Tropical Parulas, and a huge becard nest, large lakes with Least Grebes and three species of kingfishers, prickly pear thickets with singing Cactus Wrens. A spring day, photographing wildflowers around the old Spanish cemetery. Chancing upon a Hook-billed Kite nest one summer day. A bobcat in the middle of the paved tour loop during a bicycle ride, and another unexpectedly leaping from the dike on Willow Lake and emerging muddied but victorious with a Blue-winged Teal in its jaws.

Well, that's it! Sorry it took so many lines, but it's hard to do justice to such special places in such a special state. I'm sure I've missed some, among them your personal favorites. It's a very big, very special place, this Texas. I hope this stimulates you to go out and experience these sights and sounds. Y'all have fun and good birding!

Clearing House -- March 2009

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

This is a summary of birds reported to eBird.org. Unusual birds are in bold. There were 248 species reported for the Upper Texas Coast (Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Jefferson Counties) for March 2009 from 549 checklists.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck reports=73 total= 695
Fulvous Whistling-Duck reports=6 total= 11
Greater White-fronted Goose reports=6 total= 13
Snow Goose reports=2 total= 31
Ross's Goose reports=1 total= 1
Canada Goose reports=4 total= 8
Muscovy Duck (Domestic type) reports=2 total= 1
Wood Duck reports=17 total= 33
Gadwall reports=27 total= 374
American Wigeon reports=10 total= 102
Mallard reports=27 total= 50
Mallard (Domestic type) reports=1 total= 0
Mottled Duck reports=54 total= 104

Blue-winged Teal reports=99 total= 791
Cinnamon Teal reports=4 total= 4
Northern Shoveler reports=47 total= 285
Northern Pintail reports=8 total= 52
Green-winged Teal reports=50 total= 139
Redhead reports=1 total= 1
Ring-necked Duck reports=11 total= 63
Lesser Scaup reports=8 total= 30
Greater/Lesser Scaup reports=1 total= 15
Bufflehead reports=1 total= 0
Common Goldeneye reports=1 total= 0
Red-breasted Merganser reports=22 total= 53
Ruddy Duck reports=7 total= 18
Common Loon reports=15 total= 70

Pied-billed Grebe reports=81 total= 215
Horned Grebe reports=2 total= 1
Eared Grebe reports=5 total= 12
Northern Gannet reports=2 total= 1
American White Pelican reports=40 total= 852
Brown Pelican reports=67 total= 316
Neotropic Cormorant reports=74 total= 104
Double-crested Cormorant reports=100 total= 108
Anhinga reports=30 total= 27
American Bittern reports=7 total= 3
Great Blue Heron reports=116 total= 79
Great Egret reports=168 total= 144
Snowy Egret reports=128 total= 300
Little Blue Heron reports=65 total= 60

Tricolored Heron reports=55 total= 41
 Reddish Egret reports=17 total= 14
 Cattle Egret reports=41 total= 81
 white egret sp. reports=1 total= 5
Green Heron reports=10 total= 3
 Black-crowned Night-Heron reports=21 total= 26
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron reports=53 total= 58
 White Ibis reports=96 total= 224
Glossy Ibis reports=1 total= 5
 White-faced Ibis reports=50 total= 100
 Roseate Spoonbill reports=63 total= 351
 Black Vulture reports=107 total= 142
 Turkey Vulture reports=141 total= 91
 Osprey reports=50 total= 10
Swallow-tailed Kite reports=5 total= 12
 White-tailed Kite reports=8 total= 6
 Bald Eagle reports=7 total= 5
 Northern Harrier reports=48 total= 15
 Sharp-shinned Hawk reports=11 total= 7
 Cooper's Hawk reports=30 total= 9
 Accipiter sp. reports=3 total= 2
 Red-shouldered Hawk reports=59 total= 19
 Broad-winged Hawk reports=15 total= 30
Swainson's Hawk reports=4 total= 2
 White-tailed Hawk reports=5 total= 3
 Red-tailed Hawk reports=54 total= 12
 Crested Caracara reports=25 total= 11
 American Kestrel reports=63 total= 15
Merlin reports=7 total= 3
 Peregrine Falcon reports=4 total= 3
 Yellow Rail reports=2 total= 3
 Clapper Rail reports=14 total= 27
 King Rail reports=2 total= 1
 Virginia Rail reports=2 total= 2
 Sora reports=19 total= 5
 Common Moorhen reports=42 total= 90
 American Coot reports=59 total= 676
 Sandhill Crane reports=6 total= 52
 Black-bellied Plover reports=26 total= 90
 American Golden-Plover reports=31 total= 442
 Snowy Plover reports=5 total= 15
 Wilson's Plover reports=8 total= 14
 Semipalmated Plover reports=11 total= 35
 Piping Plover reports=1 total= 0
 Killdeer reports=129 total= 176
 American Oystercatcher reports=11 total= 6
 Black-necked Stilt reports=58 total= 62
 American Avocet reports=12 total= 17,542
 Spotted Sandpiper reports=18 total= 12
 Solitary Sandpiper reports=8 total= 6
 Greater Yellowlegs reports=84 total= 89
 Willet reports=48 total= 191
 Lesser Yellowlegs reports=67 total= 69
 Upland Sandpiper reports=2 total= 24
 Whimbrel reports=4 total= 6
 Long-billed Curlew reports=21 total= 31
 Marbled Godwit reports=16 total= 195
 Ruddy Turnstone reports=21 total= 46
 Sanderling reports=26 total= 214
Semipalmated Sandpiper reports=5 total= 35
 Western Sandpiper reports=18 total= 27
 Least Sandpiper reports=54 total= 243
Baird's Sandpiper reports=2 total= 2
 Pectoral Sandpiper reports=23 total= 65
 Dunlin reports=29 total= 147
 Stilt Sandpiper reports=3 total= 1
 Buff-breasted Sandpiper reports=1 total= 0
 Short-billed Dowitcher reports=20 total= 287
 Long-billed Dowitcher reports=37 total= 193
 Short-billed/Long-billed Dowitcher reports=4 total= 13

Wilson's Snipe reports=31 total= 80
 Bonaparte's Gull reports=9 total= 49
 Laughing Gull reports=130 total= 852
 Franklin's Gull reports=1 total= 1
 Ring-billed Gull reports=62 total= 131
 Herring Gull reports=48 total= 74
 Lesser Black-backed Gull reports=1 total= 1
 Least Tern reports=3 total= 3
 Gull-billed Tern reports=8 total= 21
 Caspian Tern reports=27 total= 35
Common Tern reports=7 total= 22
 Forster's Tern reports=47 total= 93
 Royal Tern reports=35 total= 80
 Sandwich Tern reports=8 total= 48
 Black Skimmer reports=18 total= 1,275
 Rock Pigeon reports=77 total= 265
 Eurasian Collared-Dove reports=49 total= 26
 White-winged Dove reports=130 total= 165
 Mourning Dove reports=248 total= 124
 Inca Dove reports=13 total= 10
 Monk Parakeet reports=9 total= 23
 Eastern Screech-Owl reports=12 total= 6
 Great Horned Owl reports=5 total= 5
 Barred Owl reports=10 total= 6
 Chuck-will's-widow reports=2 total= 1
Whip-poor-will reports=1 total= 1
 Chimney Swift reports=19 total= 12
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird reports=53 total= 8
 Black-chinned Hummingbird reports=1 total= 1
 Ruby-throated/Black-chinned Hummingbird reports=1 total= 1
 Rufous Hummingbird reports=2 total= 3
 Belted Kingfisher reports=70 total= 15
 Red-headed Woodpecker reports=6 total= 4
 Red-bellied Woodpecker reports=176 total= 28
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker reports=25 total= 8
 Downy Woodpecker reports=108 total= 20
 Northern Flicker reports=9 total= 12
 Pileated Woodpecker reports=46 total= 12
 Eastern Phoebe reports=60 total= 15
Ash-throated Flycatcher reports=1 total= 1
 Great Crested Flycatcher reports=20 total= 4
Great Kiskadee reports=1 total= 1
Couch's Kingbird reports=1 total= 1
 Eastern Kingbird reports=9 total= 6
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher reports=17 total= 6
 Loggerhead Shrike reports=99 total= 26
 White-eyed Vireo reports=104 total= 39
 Yellow-throated Vireo reports=12 total= 5
 Blue-headed Vireo reports=23 total= 8
 solitary vireo sp. reports=1 total= 1
 Red-eyed Vireo reports=3 total= 1
 Blue Jay reports=216 total= 41
 American Crow reports=142 total= 64
 Horned Lark reports=16 total= 61
 Purple Martin reports=129 total= 79
 Tree Swallow reports=55 total= 157
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow reports=17 total= 67
Bank Swallow reports=4 total= 4
Cliff Swallow reports=13 total= 89
 Cave Swallow reports=9 total= 16
 Barn Swallow reports=92 total= 83
 swallow sp. reports=14 total= 17
 Carolina Chickadee reports=169 total= 65
 Tufted Titmouse reports=78 total= 42
 Brown Creeper reports=3 total= 3
 Carolina Wren reports=144 total= 61
 House Wren reports=25 total= 12
 Winter Wren reports=5 total= 6
 Sedge Wren reports=20 total= 63

Marsh Wren reports=28 total= 12
 Golden-crowned Kinglet reports=1 total= 1
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet reports=145 total= 76
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reports=109 total= 49
 Eastern Bluebird reports=20 total= 17
 Hermit Thrush reports=30 total= 18
 American Robin reports=46 total= 74
 Gray Catbird reports=24 total= 8
 Northern Mockingbird reports=284 total= 67
 Brown Thrasher reports=34 total= 13
 European Starling reports=158 total= 291
 American Pipit reports=36 total= 352
 Sprague's Pipit reports=1 total= 1
 Cedar Waxwing reports=29 total= 138
 Blue-winged Warbler reports=3 total= 1
Tennessee Warbler reports=2 total= 1
 Orange-crowned Warbler reports=69 total= 20
 Nashville Warbler reports=8 total= 3
 Northern Parula reports=64 total= 36
 Yellow-rumped Warbler reports=190 total= 227
Black-throated Green Warbler reports=8 total= 5
 Yellow-throated Warbler reports=16 total= 9
 Pine Warbler reports=52 total= 35
 Palm Warbler reports=6 total= 7
 Black-and-white Warbler reports=59 total= 25
Prothonotary Warbler reports=13 total= 4
Worm-eating Warbler reports=6 total= 2
Swainson's Warbler reports=2 total= 0
 Louisiana Waterthrush reports=8 total= 4
 Common Yellowthroat reports=29 total= 14
Hooded Warbler reports=44 total= 12
 Wilson's Warbler reports=4 total= 4
Yellow-breasted Chat reports=1 total= 1
 warbler sp. reports=2 total= 12
 Summer Tanager reports=2 total= 2
 Chipping Sparrow reports=34 total= 64
 Field Sparrow reports=8 total= 14
 Vesper Sparrow reports=5 total= 9
Lark Sparrow reports=1 total= 1
 Savannah Sparrow reports=92 total= 410
 Le Conte's Sparrow reports=1 total= 1
 Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow reports=6 total= 7
 Seaside Sparrow reports=3 total= 26
 Song Sparrow reports=8 total= 12
 Lincoln's Sparrow reports=21 total= 18
 Swamp Sparrow reports=40 total= 35
 White-throated Sparrow reports=42 total= 74
 White-crowned Sparrow reports=3 total= 5
Dark-eyed Junco reports=1 total= 1
 Northern Cardinal reports=293 total= 128
Indigo Bunting reports=3 total= 3
 Red-winged Blackbird reports=174 total= 473
 Eastern Meadowlark reports=44 total= 191
 meadowlark sp. reports=5 total= 42
 Brewer's Blackbird reports=12 total= 102
 Common Grackle reports=85 total= 1,120
 Boat-tailed Grackle reports=31 total= 87
 Great-tailed Grackle reports=136 total= 327
Bronzed Cowbird reports=4 total= 3
 Brown-headed Cowbird reports=52 total= 399
Orchard Oriole reports=4 total= 2
 Baltimore Oriole reports=1 total= 1
 blackbird sp. reports=9 total= 203
 House Finch reports=66 total= 31
Pine Siskin reports=2 total= 4
 American Goldfinch reports=80 total= 140
 House Sparrow reports=114 total= 297
 Nutmeg Mannikin reports=7 total= 38

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

ogspoonbill@sbcglobal.net

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Membership questions?
Contact: Margret Simmons
phone: 713-776-2511
email: msimmons@compassnet.com