Next Meeting –October 8, 2013

Birding in Peru: Rivers, Jungle, and Road to Puerto Maldonado

by

Dr. Laurence “Mac” Hardy and Larry Raymond

OCTOBER MEETING
When: Tuesday, October 8, 2013, 6:00 p.m.
Where: LSUS, Science Lecture Auditorium

In May 2013, Dr. Laurence Hardy and Larry Raymond joined Dr. Gary Graham for a seventeen day birding trip to Peru. Dr. Graham, an expert on bats, has been to Peru several times and did some of his research in the country. His efforts were instrumental in the discovery of several new species of birds for Peru. Gary served as leader of the excursion and made all of the arrangements for visiting as many hotspots as possible while in the country.

Besides being exposed to more than 400 species of birds, the trio saw or heard more than 20 mammals, including jaguar, and added more than a dozen amphibians and reptiles to their life lists. In this second of two programs, Mac will relive their journey along the Madre de Dios and Manu Rivers by motorized canoe, and discuss the birds and other animals seen around the lodges where they stayed in the jungle, as well as visits to several oxbow lakes, two canopy towers, a tapir lick, and a macaw lick.

This program is free and open to the public. Refreshments start at 6:00 PM; program begins at 6:30 PM. Come at 6 to chat with other birders! For more information or directions to the Science Lecture Auditorium you can call 347-3134 or email: lrraymond@aol.com. More information is available on the website: http://www.birdstudygroup.org/.
Sixteen people participated in this year’s annual Hawk Watch at Hubert Hervey’s Dairy Farm in DeSoto Parish on Saturday, September 21, 2013. A cold front pushed through on Friday bringing 5 inches of rain and some nice raptors to observe on Saturday. A total of 45 species were recorded from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., although most of the observers were present between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The mild temperatures made the day quite comfortable, and the nice white, puffy clouds made for easy observation of birds. Of course, never-say-quit Hubert added a new species or two before 10 a.m. and after 2 p.m.

This year’s chef was Julius Eck, assisted by his wife JoAnn. Besides the usual grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, Julius brought a delicious smoked pork loin and smoked baked beans he had prepared. Others brought salads, baked beans, cookies and chips. After everyone stuffed themselves, we watched for hawks for another hour or so, and then most of us were ready to go home and take a nap. Besides good food and a chance to visit, a nice number of raptors passing overhead made the day fun. Some of the birds seen included: White Ibis (5); Black Vulture (73); Turkey Vulture (26); Cooper’s Hawk (1); Broad-winged Hawk (19); Red-tailed Hawk (7); Chimney Swift (6); Merlin (1 – seen by Hubert before most of us arrived); Northern Rough-winged Swallow (20); Tree Swallow (5); and, Bank Swallow (12 in single flock).

Participants included Hubert and Pat Hervey, Rusty and Billie Rayborn, Shirley Huss, Pat Lonnecker, Mark Wilson, Helen McGee, Julius and JoAnn Eck, Jeff Trahan, Rosemary Seidler, Linda Adrion, Terry Davis, Larry and Anne Raymond.

Special thanks to Julius for cooking and to our always gracious host, Hubert!
Rare Book For Sale

Dot Williams (687-1969) has a collectors Limited Edition of the “Field Guide to Birds” by Roger Tory Peterson. It is a 1980 edition of which only 500 were printed. She has number 134 and would like to sell it to someone interested in birds.
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Direct inquiries to the Editor, Amanda Lewis, at (318) 797-5215.
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Bird Study Group meets the second Tuesday of each month, September through June, 6:00 p.m. To be placed on the list to send & receive emails, email birdalert@birdstudygroup.org.
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Bird Quiz answer = Hermit Thrush