

Shreveport Society For Nature Study  
**BIRD STUDY GROUP**  
**NEWSLETTER** ©

Volume 16, Number 7

March 1, 2002

**Next Meeting - Tuesday, March 12, 7:00 p.m.**  
**AMATEUR FIELD ORNITHOLOGY: BEYOND IDENTIFICATION**  
*by John McBride*

### MARCH PROGRAM

**When:** Tuesday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m.  
Refreshments served at 6:30 p.m.  
**Where:** LSUS, Museum of Life Sciences

Shreveport native John McBride will help you make your birding time more useful to scientists in his "Amateur Field Ornithology: Beyond Identification" presentation. John will discuss some simple projects you can do to learn more about birds.

John began birding at the age of fourteen in the Fall of November 1979. Twelve years in Shreveport yielded a BS in Biological Sciences from LSU-Shreveport (1987), many fond memories, lots of good birding friends, and several jobs completely unrelated to birds. A series of jobs working with insects, birds, and trees moved him to Baton Rouge, Montana, Utah, Arizona, and Alabama over the next 8 years. He returned to Shreveport in January 2000 and has been working as a Park Naturalist at Walter B. Jacobs Memorial Nature Park. His current interests include honing his skills at interpreting nature to children and adults and participating in standardized citizen science projects. He is a life member of many bird organizations at both the national and state levels and is currently "rounding up" local bird clubs in our four-state area.

### UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

**Smithport Lake, Desoto Parish - Singing Warblers**  
*Sunday, March 24, 2002, 7:30 a.m.*  
Trip Leader - Bill Wood, 925-9205 (H), e-mail [billwood@shreve.net](mailto:billwood@shreve.net). Meet at the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences. Yellow-throated Warbler and Northern Parula should be singing by the lake. We may also head down I-49 to look for shorebirds or Yearwood Road.

**Cypress Lake - Bald Eagles & Catfish**  
*Saturday, April 6, 2002, 1:00 p.m. Note the afternoon meeting time.*

Trip Leaders - Lily Poole, 687-2994, e-mail [leg2bap@earthlink.net](mailto:leg2bap@earthlink.net) or Nancy Menasco, 868-3255, e-mail [nmcpa@aol.com](mailto:nmcpa@aol.com). Meet at the Home Depot parking lot on Airline Drive in Bossier City. The eagles are present at Cypress Lake (small fee charged) and have nested there in the past. After birding, we'll meet for an early dinner at Cypress Inn whose specialty is catfish.

**Bickham Dickson Park - Spring Migrates**  
*Sunday, April 21, 2002, 7:30 a.m.*  
Trip Leader - Bill Wood, 925-9205 (H), e-mail [billwood@shreve.net](mailto:billwood@shreve.net). Meet at the horse barn at Bickham Dickson. We'll walk the trails and look for migrating songbirds.

### BIRD STUDY GROUP PHONE NUMBERS AND MORE

**Information & Bird Alert Service** ..... Phone 318-797-5338, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.  
**Meeting Time** ..... Second Tuesday of each month, September through June, 6:30 p.m.  
**Internet Website** ..... <http://www.softdisk.com/comp/birds/>  
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*Numbers in parentheses are years remaining of a 3-year term.*

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## GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

by Lily Poole

**B**irders and Bird Study Group members answered the challenge! Bill Wood, Nancy Menasco and myself challenged members to participate in the Cornell Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). The reason? To generate interest in Northwest Louisiana birding. Just look at the results! This year's tallies of the GBBC shows Shreveport NUMBER ONE in Louisiana with 90 reported species during the four-day count.

### Top Ten Louisiana Cities

1. **Shreveport - 90**
2. Baton Rouge - 83
3. Alexandria - 63
4. Elton - 63
5. St. Martinville - 55
6. Keithville - 52
7. Breaux Bridge - 50
8. Lafayette - 46
9. Saint Gabriel - 46
10. Lockport - 46

My personal challenge was for BSG members to report uncommon wintering birds. To help in this endeavor, Nancy compiled a northwest Louisiana Watch and Endangered Species List to help members target those species. Nancy's list was compiled using both the Partner's In Flight Watch List and Jeff Trahan's Seasonal Occurrences Birds Chart. For more information about the Partner's In Flight Watch List go to the website at [http://www.audubon.org/bird/watch/watch\\_list.html](http://www.audubon.org/bird/watch/watch_list.html) and for more on Jeff's Seasonal Occurrences Chart got to <http://www.softdisk.com/comp/birds/SelectSeas.html>.

You might be thinking, "This is not one of our Regular Counts." I have attached an insert from the Cornell's Lab Directors to GBBC participants.

"Through the GBBC, we connected with Louisiana Hummingbird banders who told us an amazing story of 416 individuals of eight species banded last winter. The traditional wisdom of the 1970s was that any hummers occurring during the winter months in these states were vagrants or were Ruby-throats that "forgot" to migrate."

The rest of the letter can be read at:

<http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/letter.htm>

Though the GBBC is not one of our regular counts, it has proved to be a useful tool in bird research. We can continue to add to bird research by participating in all of our birding counts such as Christmas Bird Counts, Big Sit, and North America Migratory Count. Thanks to all the BSG members who helped put northwest Louisiana on Cornell's birding map!

## SPARROW BANDING RESULTS

by Jim Ingold

**T**welve people showed up for the annual sparrow banding day at Paul Dickson's deer farm on Saturday, February 9, 2002. We banded 51 individuals of 12 species and saw eight other species that were not banded.

### Species - Number Banded

- Tufted Titmouse - 1**
- Northern Mockingbird - 1**
- Savannah Sparrow - 2**
- Song Sparrow - 1**
- Swamp Sparrow - 1**
- White-throated Sparrow 2 + 2 retraps = 4**  
1411-91687 originally banded on 02-19-2000  
1521-67929 originally banded on 02-17-2001
- Harris' Sparrow - 2**
- White-crowned Sparrow - 19**
- Dark-eyed Junco - 2**
- Northern Cardinal - 9**
- Red-winged Blackbird - 5**
- American Goldfinch - 4.**

*Birds Seen Only: Great Blue Heron, 1, Turkey Vulture, 1, American Crow, 1, Carolina Chickadee, 1, House Wren, 1, Eastern Bluebird, 1, House Finch, 1, and House Sparrow, 1.*

## MIGRATION NOTES: HARBINGERS OF SPRING

by Paul Dickson

All of us look forward to our own favorite harbinger of Spring. For some it's a bloom or bud. For others it may be a smell in the air or even the act of planting an early spring garden. In nature, all of life seems to herald Spring in symphony but birds play the most resonant notes. Our folklore brims with reference of birds and Spring. The tradition of watching for the swallows at San Juan Capistrano in California and the legendary Spring Robin all over America actually are transplant traditions of Europe. In the Old World, the Robin (unrelated to our *Turdus* thrush) and the Swallow (same as our Barn Swallow) winter in Africa and are amongst the first spring migrants to northern Europe. In Louisiana, Barn Swallow is one of the earliest arriving neotropical migrants (see Figure 1 next page) but Robins are winter birds. In Northwest Louisiana, Spring's heralds are many and varied. Pine Warblers sing over their early nests, geese leave for the north, and Purple Martins arrive in the still dormancy of February. There are many more species to look for, so many as to provide everyone weary of winter with their own sign of Spring for which to pine.

Without debate, for early arrival from the tropics, there is one early bird that stands far above the rest in notoriety and in timing. That is the Purple Martin. Males have been recorded as early as January 27 in Shreveport (Paul M. Dickson, 1999) and January 23 in Natchitoches (Charlie Viers, 1973). Some would argue however that Spring cannot be declared in January. If we relegate the arrival of Purple Martin to "pre-spring" status then we must look well into the next month and into a typically warm and more pleasant climate to find Spring heralds.

Our locally breeding neotropical wood warblers typically arrive in March at the earliest and May at the latest. Some are certainly in the harbinger set. We must be careful, however, as a few species are known to winter here. Yellow-rumped Warbler is common in winter while Common Yellowthroat and Palm Warbler are found most winter in small numbers near warmer bodies of waters. In addition there have been isolated late fall and winter records in our area for a few others including Yellow-throated Warbler. A spring migrant is determined mostly by the assumption that once March is attained, a warbler seen must be a newly arrived one. This brings into question the winter history of a Black-and-White Warbler that was seen by Horace Jeter on Cross Lake on February 23, 1976. Was this our very earliest Spring warbler? Probably so, but that can only be a guess. Northern Parula and Yellow Throated Warblers seen March 3 and 4 of 2000, separately and in different locations by Terry Davis and Paul Dickson, certainly were newly arrived. More astonishing still were the numbers seen that weekend; parulas on Caddo Lake were counted in the teens along with multiple Yellow-throated on two lakes.

Surely March warblers are the most songful and

colorful heralds of early Spring but the swallows are still in the game. In searching for your own early arriving Spring swallows beware of Tree Swallow, the only species that regularly winters in Louisiana. The other, smaller swallows are on a spring arrival schedule as they are in San Juan Capistrano and in Europe. Pressing the calendar, Barn Swallows have just barely made the Red River Valley by February, being recorded at the earliest on the 28 (Bill Wood, 2000) and even using leap year (February 29, 1992, Jim Ingold) to get into the February list. Those dates are affirmed by increasingly numerous records from March 1. Another Hirundid family member, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, arrives as early as February 20 (Terry Davis, 1998) but not as regularly as Barn Swallow. In most years, Barn Swallows are seen first with Cliff Swallows appearing shortly afterward.

Though neotropical migrants are more easily noticed by their sudden arrival, wintering birds are signally Spring as well. The increased singing of Loggerhead Shrikes, Carolina Wrens, Northern Mockingbirds, Eastern Bluebirds, Pine Warblers, and Northern Cardinals marks the end of winter. These are all early spring breeders. Many permanent resident species of herons, ducks, owls and raptors nest in February as do Pine Warblers and Loggerhead Shrikes.

Winter residents mostly depart later in Spring but a few can be seen heading north in February and the first weeks of March. Snow Geese and Blue-winged Teal are perhaps the most readily noticed. Snow Geese in their classic "V"-shaped skeins are seen flying up the Red River by mid February each year. Their main exodus is predictably centered on March 9, the exact day determined by winds blowing strongly from the Gulf of Mexico. This spring flight made local headlines the morning following March 8, 1957, when Barksdale Field Radar reported all airplane flights were cancelled between 9:00 and 11:00 p.m. due to the heavy goose flight. Flight altitudes seen on radar were up to 3000 feet. Flocks of northbound Blue-winged Teal, though unlikely to ground the U.S. Air Force, arrive in the first days of February and become more numerous as the Gulf winds blow in March.

Many of our heralds of Spring are present along the Gulf coast all winter long or at least much earlier than they arrive in this northernmost part of the State. Strong south winds probably affect the northward movement of some birds and thus could explain our earliest records. Many have speculated that the warmer average temperatures of the recent decades and the theory of a human-caused global warming trend could be causing a change in migratory bird behavior. To monitor such a trend is yet another reason to keep detailed bird records.

The earliest arriving Spring migrant warms us and confirms the promise of the most anticipated of seasons. Some may look for Spring in the world of plants but honestly, has anyone ever gladdened to the song of a Spring Tulip? Birds are my favorite heralds. They ride the warm Gulf winds from the earliest Purple Martin to the latest flycatcher in the most colorful, song-filled parade of the year. Spring is come, enjoy.

**FIGURE 1 - Spring Arrivals and Departures Dates**

Within 4 days of:	01-Feb	15-Feb	01-Mar	07-Mar	14-Mar	21-Mar	28-Mar	07-Apr
Cattle Egret			FA					
Great Blue Heron		B						
Green Heron					FA			
Snow Goose		FD		MD				
Wood Duck		B						
Blue-winged Teal	FA				MD			
Red-tailed Hawk			B					
Black-necked Stilt					FA			
Upland Sandpiper						FA		
Franklin's Gull				FA				
Great Horned Owl	B							
Chuck Will's Widow				FA				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird					FA			
Great Crested Flycatcher							FA	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher					FA			
Yellow-throated Vireo					FA			
Red-eyed Vireo						FA		
Horned Lark			B					
Purple Martin	FA							
Barn Swallow			FA					
Carolina Wren		B						
Tufted Titmouse			B					
Wood Thrush							FA	
Northern Parula			FA					
Black-throated Green Warbler					FA			
Black-and-White Warbler			FA					
Yellow-throated. Warbler			FA					
Pine Warbler		B						
Louisiana Waterthrush				FA				
Kentucky Warbler							FA	
Summer Tanager								FA
Indigo Bunting							FA	
Orchard Oriole								FA

**Legend - FA**-First Spring arrival record, **FD**-First departures north, **MD**-Main period of northward departures, **B**-Breeding.



## RED SLOUGH TRIP REPORT

by Hubert Hervey

The largest group of BSG members to attend a birding trip, in my memory, went on the Red Slough overnight trip. Eighteen of us met for all or part of the two-day trip. We first went by a location new to us in eastern Texas, called Sabine Mining Co, located south of Hallsville. The habitat is a church and cemetery with large trees and brush, surrounded by active mining and reclaimed mining areas. We missed seeing the **Say's Phoebe** although two of us saw a bird that could have been the phoebe fleeing the presence of two **Northern Harriers**. We left there with a list of 40 birds, including **Eastern Phoebe**, **Dark-eyed Junco**, **Red-tailed Hawk**, **American Kestrel**, and a very active bee tree right beside the road. Fortunately, nobody was stung.

We proceeded to the south side of Lake O' the Pines, looking over the deep water near the dam. Here we saw **Common Loons**, with plumage turning into breeding colors, and **Horned Grebes**. Some ducks and gulls were also present. The group was beginning to growl about it being din-din time and so the leader wisely decided to find a feed trough in Longview.

The next stop was a late afternoon introduction to Red Slough Wildlife Management Area. This area is primarily a wetland management area and lots of ducks and geese were present. We located a **Bald Eagle** before we got to Red Slough and minutes later some 4,000 Snow Geese flew over, leaving Red Slough to spend the night on the winter wheat fields of the

fertile Red River valley. Thousands of puddle ducks were present. Often hundreds were in the air at once. The area is a raptor paradise, with **Northern Harriers**, **American Kestrels**, and **Red-tailed Hawks** common. We walked to an observation tower where **Greater Yellowlegs**, **American Coots**, **Pied-billed Grebes**, **Green-winged Teal**, **Mallard**, **Gadwall**, **American Widgeon**, **Northern Pintail**, and **Ring-necked Ducks** were easy to locate. We also saw a nutria and a skunk.

After an overnight in Idabel, Oklahoma, we arrived, almost on time, for David Arbour to lead us across the levees and back areas of Red Slough. First, we were all excited to see a lovely juvenile **Krider's Red-tail Hawk**, a **Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk** and an eastern **Red-tailed Hawk** (*Buteo jamaicensis jamaicensis*) all perched where we could appreciate the vast plumage differences of **Red-tailed Hawks**. Along here somewhere we saw two **Hooded Mergansers**. We were traveling in three four-wheel drive vehicles and one got stuck (the leader David Arbour). He was quickly pulled out by Mac Hardy and his trusty Blazer and David's 14 (more or less) passengers loaded up again. I think young Jason Poole enjoyed bouncing around the back of a pick-up truck as much as

Lily and Barney did. We went by the reservoir, where thousands of geese (four species) were loafing. Here we also saw some diving ducks with **Lesser Scaup** and **Canvasback** being most common. A **Bald Eagle** soared high in the sky, the geese all rose from the reservoir in a big flurry of water and cackling, and then slowly settled back as the perceived threat vanished.

The weather was wonderful, a little bit windy on Sunday as the day progressed. At one point most of us walked out and flushed three **Short-eared Owls**. We were able to encircle a **LeConte's Sparrow**, which cooperated by perching in the open grass for several minutes as he contemplated his escape. He picked on Lily Poole, who was not able to effect his capture.

Someone else will have to report on the afternoon outing as I decided it was time to go home. How much of a good thing can I stand? Our most sincere thanks go out to David Arbour for introducing so many of our members to Red Slough, which is a shining example of what wetland management can accomplish in only a few years. Here is hoping the Red River Wildlife Refuge can be equally successful.

## WILL BAYOU PIERRE BARN OWLS ADOPT NEW HOME?

by Larry R. Raymond

American Electric Power (AEP-SWEPCO) erected two miniature barns in the Bayou Pierre Wildlife Management Area on December 20, 2001. The story begins with AEP-SWEPCO. The utility company was looking for an opportunity to enhance their environmental stewardship projects in Louisiana. Brian Bond, State Environmental Affairs Manager for AEP, approached Steve Hebert, District I Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries supervisor, about possible projects. Steve suggested the **Barn Owl** project and a partnership was conceived. AEP-SWEPCO, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Department and the Caddo Career Center joined together to build and erect **Barn Owl** homes on Bayou Pierre Wildlife Management Area.



Figure 3 - Young Barn Owls

As many of our Bird Study Group members probably know, **Barn Owls** have been nesting in one or more of the three silos located in the Bayou Pierre Wildlife Management Area for many years now. This has been a reliable place to observe **Barn Owls** for longer than I care to try and remember. If you haven't been to this spot, don't miss the next opportunity to go on one of our group's highly touted "owl prowls."

According to Steve Hebert, the silos will have to be closed because of the liability incurred by the State with the present situation. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries saw an opportunity to comply with the liability issues, while at the same time maintaining the **Barn Owls** on Bayou Pierre WMA. Steve emphasized that the Wildlife and Fisheries Department wants to keep the owls at Bayou Pierre, and they want the public to be able to continue to observe the birds. To this end, the silos will remain open for at least one more year to give the **Barn Owls** a chance to adapt to their new homes. If the owls do not use the homes during this time, the Wildlife and Fisheries Department may have to attempt to move them to the houses. Hopefully, it won't come to this. Plans are to convert the silos to storage facilities for the department.



**Figure 4 - Barn Owl House**

AEP's Brian Bond states that Oklahoma started a similar program to provide nesting homes for **Barn Owls** ten to twelve years ago. The program has been successful in Oklahoma. Students from the Caddo Career Center were enlisted to build the homes and were present to watch AEP place the houses on top of utility poles. AEP provided the materials, manpower and equipment to set the houses in place, and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries agreed to monitor the progress of the project. If the project is successful and the Barn Owls use the new houses to nest, a web access camera may be installed.

Brian stated that AEP-SWEPSCO plans to erect another house in the Bodcau Wildlife Management Area in the near future, and they would like to place still another home in at least one other area.

This is a good opportunity for the Bird Study Group to help monitor the success of this project. We need to encourage AEP and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in their attempt to help the **Barn Owls** and, perhaps, offer some suggestions to ensure that the project is a success. As Steve Hebert noted, "We not only want to make sure the Barn Owls remain in Bayou Pierre, but we want to make sure that the public has access to observe them as well."

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## 2002 BATON ROUGE CBC HUMMINGBIRD RESULTS

by Dennis Demcheck

The hummingbird numbers for the January 5, 2002, Christmas Bird Count (CBC) have been compiled. We'll show you an account of how we did it and why the compilation took some time. Special thanks to the indefatigable Laurie Binford for pre-and-post count identification and verification of the hummers. Also, thanks to the special hummer team members James Beck, Miriam Davey, Scott Knaus, Satya Maliakal, Nancy Newfield, and Kay Radlauer. More thanks to Carol Foil and Joe Kleiman for their work and patience. Finally, last but not least, thanks to the 77 people who returned their hummingbird forms in the mail. I know this all sounds like an Academy Award acceptance speech. If you want to know why listing the names was so important, please read the following article. And now, the winners are:

**Buff-bellied** - 2

**Ruby-throated** - 7

**Black-chinned** - 18 (new Baton Rouge high count)

*Archilochus species* - 1

**Calliope** - 5

**Rufous** - 46

**Rufous/Allen's** - 62

(combined Rufous & R/A count of 108 is new Baton Rouge high count)

**Broad-billed** - 2 (new Baton Rouge high count)

**Broad-tailed** - 2

Unidentified - 6

Total Hummingbirds - 151 (new Baton Rouge high count by 25)

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## THE HISTORY OF WINTER HUMMINGBIRD IN BATON ROUGE

by Dennis Demcheck & Miriam Davey

The January 5, 2002 Baton Rouge Christmas Bird Count recorded 151 hummingbirds from eight species. And now the rest of the story of the history of "The Hummingburbs." This was a larger task than I anticipated as the story kept going farther back in time.

*The Late 70's - Background and Origins.* The origin of the specialized hummingbird parties known as "The Hummingburbs" goes back to the late 1970s. Then, there was just Nancy Newfield. This was the era when Nancy was The Voice in the Wilderness, even though the wilderness was suburbia. People simply did not believe her when she stated she had as many as seven western hummers, including **Black-chinned Hummingbird**, in her Metairie, Louisiana yard in winter. Sight-ID was not considered reliable for identifying any wintering hummingbird. Field marks for wintering hummingbirds



didn't exist. In-hand examination was considered the only way to get an ID. Nancy was granted a bander's permit in July 1979. She was able to prove that the differences she saw were real and that most female *Archilochus* were identifiable in the field. Nowadays, we all know that field-identifying wintering hummers is very difficult and often impossible. But that is a big change from the belief that nobody, and then nobody with the Possible Exception of Nancy Newfield, could field-ID wintering hummers, ever. In the late 70s if New Orleans had three or four hummingbirds recorded on the CBC, it was considered a very big deal. Baton Rouge had zero, at least that anybody knew about. From 1978-80, Miriam and Rex Davey lived in New Orleans and met Nancy. They became birding buddies. After Miriam and Rex moved to Baton Rouge, Nancy encouraged them to put up feeders and plant for wintering hummers, even though the odds of success that far away from New Orleans were considered by everyone except Nancy to be slim-and-none. In 1982 Miriam got a **Rufous** at her new Baton Rouge home, and there was much rejoicing.

*The early 80s - Frustration and Energy.* In the early 80s the first pieces of "The Hummingburbs" puzzle began to come together. Now Paul McKenzie enters the picture. He was majoring in Forestry at LSU, but he hung around the LSU Museum of Natural Science a lot. He was a high-energy guy, I'm told. During this era, ace birders were not keen on examining suburbia for the Baton Rouge CBC. They preferred to hit remnant woods, lakes, and undisturbed areas. There were a few scattered times when Paul badgered CBC'ers to look at a feeder in their area for five minutes to count hummers known to be present. Often they'd forget to check the feeder or not list the bird since they couldn't ID, it so few records would be turned in. After the CBC, Paul McKenzie would stomp around mad and burn up the phone lines to anyone who'd listen. Often, these listeners were Miriam, Steve and Cathy Hope (Humnetter Doris Hope's son and daughter-in-law) and then-LSU Museum student Mark Swan.

*Early-to-mid 80s - The Beginnings of a Plan.* Paul McKenzie, fired up by Nancy's incredible-but-true claims of a Metairie yard filled with **Black-chinned Hummingbirds**, began his own hummingbird garden. In turn Paul goaded Miriam, the Hopes, Barbara Guglielmo, Van Remsen, and other laid-back bird gardeners into what became fierce competition to see who could attract "mo' and bettah' Hummahs." To spread the word Paul even began a short-lived hummingbird club whose mailing list, condensed to scribbles on the back of an envelope, were the nucleus of today's CBC Humlist. He also pioneered the technique of calling ahead of the CBC and specifically targeting homes with wintering hummers. Paul worked hard on this for about three years. Nancy Newfield helped with countless telephone consultations, banding ahead of time and head-marking hummers so residents could easily tell one from another, and then banding any missed birds afterwards. As Nancy put it, "Of course, in the early days we just needed to worry about **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** versus **Black-chinned**

**Hummingbird** and the *Selasphorus*." Nobody ever expected that we would be able to get **Allen's** and **Broad-tailed Calliopes** were just a fluke and, **Buff-bellieds** were very exotic." This wasn't the logistical effort it would become in later years, as there were only about 10 people that even reported a bird's existence. It was an uphill battle just getting people, even birders, to put out winter feeders. Thus, the mid-80s were the time when a small core or network of people planting for wintering hummers began to form.

*The late 80s-early 90s - "The Hummingburbs" Modern Version.* Paul McKenzie graduated, became Dr. McKenzie, and moved to Missouri. Miriam then took over the network. In the first few years, "The Hummingburbs" consisted of Miriam, Nancy, and various other assistants banding on count day plus a growing number of feeder watchers. Sometime in the late 80's to early 90's the total number of hummers counted on the CBC hit 30-something. This was now becoming a big deal. "The Hummingburb" people had to coordinate activities with the feeder watcher folks to ensure that there was no double-counting. Now database management became a real issue, rather than knowing personally the dozen or so folks who routinely hosted hummers. The late 80s-early 90s are also approximately the time Van Remsen began to get involved as a gardener, CBC co-compiler, and sounding board for ideas. Also, Steve Cardiff and Donna Dittmann began to be heavily involved. One day Donna and Miriam drove around neighborhoods in Baton Rouge trying to find houses with likely-looking gardens and hummingbird feeders.

*Early-to-Mid 90s - The Miriam Effect.* In the 80's it was still standard operating procedure to band hummingbirds on count day. In the early 90s, Miriam, Nancy, and CBC co-compilers began to change the procedure. Why not scope out known feeder sites weeks in advance, sight-ID as many as possible on count day, then band shortly afterward to confirm any unsure IDs? This way more houses could be covered and the number of reported and counted birds began to rise rapidly. In the mid-90s Miriam and "The Hummingburbs" (a good name for a rock band) are at full speed. She utilizes a well-defined count circle so she can figure out precisely those suburban yards that are inside or outside the count circle. She expands the network, giving lectures during the year, calling feeder watchers before count day, and working on before-and-after-count day IDs, aided by a number of volunteers (Ron Stein, Joe Kleiman, Nancy Murrill, Suzanne Kennon, Barbara Guglielmo, Mark Swan, Scotty Knaus, visiting Paul McKenzie, the late O.J. Williams, Dave Patton, and Bill Fontenot). In the mid-90s Ron Rovanssek helped scout homes pre-count and added his horticultural knowledge to the effort. Museum graduate students and personnel also lent help over the years (Peter Scott, Ted Parker, Andy Kratter, Jeremy Kirkland, Mario Cohn-Haft, Curtis Marantz, Laurie Binford, Steve Cardiff, Donna Dittmann, and others) She maximized resources by having two or three roving CBC parties of dedicated hummer spotters, instead of just one banding party.



Uncertain IDs or IDs possible only to a genus were carefully noted and slated for visits by Nancy or by the handful of others now able to discern most wintering hummers. The early 90s began what has been called "The Miriam Effect." When I talked to Miriam about this, she emphasized that this was the era when Baton Rouge hummingbird interest really exploded, and the whole process should more properly be called The Newfield Effect, or The McKenzie Effect. Nancy had recently co-written the book *Hummingbird Gardens*, several newspaper articles had been published, and she was lecturing extensively. The subject was hot with gardening groups. As Miriam emphasized that she merely expanded the hummer-CBC system Paul McKenzie had begun, I realized that many people have contributed to the process that culminated in 151 hummers of eight species recorded for the January 5, 2002, CBC, and that somebody should write it down. Perhaps the best definition of The Miriam Effect is the results obtained by using a combination of genuine interest, charm, and dedication to increase the number of people successfully attracting and hosting wintering hummingbirds.

*Mid-to-Late 90s - Some Stability.* In approximately 1995 Laurie Binford arrived on the scene. Laurie now lives in Louisiana in the winter and Michigan in the summer. Laurie was one of George Lowrey's PhD students and he knew Van from Van's days as an aimless beach bum birder in California. Van encouraged Laurie to move to Louisiana after retirement. Hummingbirds were one of the reasons Laurie began wintering in Louisiana. Around 1998-99 I entered the picture. "The Hummingburbs" team is well established. I didn't know how to identify any wintering hummers then (Sluggo says I still don't) but I volunteered to help Miriam handle phone calls, logistics, and the famous Humlist. The list numbered about 90 people then, with about 70 names that consistently and reliably reported birds. It's up to 140 now, including seed feeder watchers. As of 2002, about 100 homes in Baton Rouge have reported hummers. As a volunteer I got more than I bargained for. Miriam was glad to turn over the logistics and database management. My main reward is that I get to talk to and visit the homes of many people hosting hummers. A side effect is that it becomes an obsession to count every bird. If Laurie discovers a hummer that has gone through "The Hummingburbs" process uncounted, there is profound gloom over our "system breakdown." A new feature of "The Hummingburbs" process was the mailing out of a written form to all 140 people on the Humlist. The forms give us better data, not only those homes with hummers, but also on those folks trying and failing to host them (20% of homes with hummer feeders deployed in 2002).

So there you have it, a brief history of "The Hummingburbs." It may not be brief, but my attempt to summarize the efforts of dozens of people has been happening for over 25 years. Additional dates and background kindly provided by Nancy Newfield.

## LOUISIANA BIRDING FESTIVALS

### Audubon Country BirdFest

*St. Francisville, LA, April 5-7, 2002*

Audubon Country BirdFest promises a wide array of birding field trips into spectacular wildlife areas showcasing the large number of both migratory and resident birds of the Felicianas, where John James Audubon produced art work on over 80 species. This year's festival will be held at the St. Francisville Inn and adjacent Parker Memorial Park in historic St. Francisville, Louisiana. Contact: Feliciana Nature Society, PO 2866, St. Francisville, LA 70775, 800-488-6502

### Southwest Louisiana Migration Sensation

*Lake Arthur, LA, April 11-13, 2002*

Bird festival includes tours of the Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge, Holleyman Sheely Migratory Bird Sanctuary, woodland and swamp tours, lake and river cruises, and view of Audubon prints at the Zielger Museum. Reception April 11. Contact: Friends of the Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge, Ellsworth Duhon, 222 Highway 14, Lake Arthur, LA 70546, 337-774-3675

### Grand Isle Migratory Bird Celebration

*Grand Isle, LA, April 19-21, 2002*

Enjoy spring migration on Louisiana's only inhabited barrier island. See songbirds in oak-hackberry woods; shorebirds and waders on beaches and marshes. Guided tours, speakers, local seafood, displays and crafts. Fun for families, new and experienced birders. Grand Isle is an essential stop for migrants flying over the Gulf of Mexico. Contact: Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary Foundation, PO Box 1336, Thibodaux, LA 70302, 877-378-8279.

### Sixth Annual Great Louisiana Birdfest

*North Lake Nature Center, April 11-14, 2002*

BirdFest trips include the ever-popular pontoon boat cruise through Manchac Swamp and the day-long visit to Grand Isle. Many other trips are scheduled including the Pine Island private reserve near Madisonville, which has an excellent rookery, and the nature preserve on the Little Tchefuncte River. BirdFest 2002 also features a Friday night Cajun Dinner with a Silent Auction. Noted nature photographer C.C. Lockwood will lead a Saturday afternoon workshop and a photography trip to Pine Island.

Contact the Northlake Nature Center at (985) 626-1238 or visit our web site at <http://www.northlakenature.org> for more information or to register for BirdFest events.

## ADDITIONS TO THE LOUISIANA BREEDING BIRD ATLAS

by Hubert Hervey and Mac Hardy

The Louisiana Breeding Bird Atlas by David A. Wiedenfeld and M. Mark Swan provides excellent coverage of the birds that nest in Louisiana. It was compiled from fieldwork done in 1994, 1995, and 1996 by 186 contributors (including several from the Bird Study Group). Everyone who is a serious student of Louisiana birds should have access to a copy of the Atlas.

Additional nesting information on nesting birds in Louisiana has been gathered since the publication of the Atlas. Much of this new data was gathered during fieldwork at Barksdale Air Force Base, Bossier Parish, by a team led by Dr. Michael Baker during 1996, 1997, and 1998. Hubert worked with that group in 1998. That data and other information from Hubert's records and the records of the Bird Study Group and the Museum of Life Sciences are the basis for these additions. All of the following records of confirmed nesting follow the criteria set forth in the Atlas.

**TABLE 1 - New Confirmed Breeding Records for Some Birds.** Abbreviations: AC - Amanda Crnkovic, BSG - Bird Study Group, FC - First Confirmed Breeding Record for parish, FR - First Confirmed and also First Breeding Record of any kind for parish, GC - George Chandler, HH - Hubert Hervey, HH et al. - includes at least 8 field workers on Barksdale Air Force Base, some of which were very talented at finding nests, HJ - Horace Jeter, JI - Jim Ingold, JT - Jeff Trahan, LR - Larry Raymond, MK - Marilyn Kircus, ML - Marc Lukens, NL - New Locality for a confirmed record but not the first confirmed record for a parish, NN - Nancy Neufield, PD - Paul Dickson, PH - Pat Hervey, RB - Roy Bott, RM - Richard McMullen, SK - Steve Klotz, TD - Terry Davis, TS - Tom Scott.

Species	New	Locality	Parish	Year	Observer
Pied-billed Grebe	NL	Natchitoches Fish Hatchery	Natchitoches	1997	HH
Pied-billed Grebe	FC,	Toledo Bend near Zwolle	Sabine	1990	HH
Anhinga	NL	Wallace Lake, near dam	Caddo	1990	HH
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	NL	Shreveport: Veterans Hospital.	Caddo	1988	SK
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	NL	Cypress Bayou	Caddo/DeSoto	1990	HH
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	NL	Shreveport: Gilbert Street Park	Caddo	1993	H&PH
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	NL	Shreveport: Veterans Hospital	Caddo	1998	HH
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	FC,	Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH
Great Blue Heron	NL	Shreveport: Cross Lake	Caddo	1995	HH
Little Blue Heron	NL	Shreveport: Cross Lake, Brewster's	Caddo	1978	MH, LR
Little Blue Heron	NL	Frierson: 1.3 mi. E, 2.2 mi. S	DeSoto	2000	MH, LR
Snowy Egret	NL	Shreveport: Cross Lake, W end	Caddo	1981	MH, LR, HJ
Cattle Egret	NL	Shreveport: Cross Lake, Brewster's	Caddo	1978	MH, LR
Glossy Ibis	FC,	"The Burn"	Cameron	1997	HH
Mallard	NL	Powhatan Exit on I-49	Natchitoches	1997	HH
Blue-winged Teal	FR	Powhatan Exit on I-49	Natchitoches	1997	HH
Hooded Merganser	FR	Bodcau Bayou WMA	Bossier/Webst	1994	HH

Species	New	Locality	Parish	Year	Observer
Hooded Merganser	NL	Lock & Dam #1, Red River	Avoyelles	2000	HH&GC
Black-necked Stilt	FR	Pool #5, Red River	Caddo/Bossier	1999	HH&GC
Woodcock	FR	South of Greenwood	Caddo	1980	PM
Least Tern	FR	Red River, mile marker 157 (Campti)	Natchitoches	1999	HH&GC
Turkey Vulture	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
White-tailed Kite	FR	Loggy Bayou WMA	Bossier	1976	RM, LR, TS
Sharp-shinned Hawk	FR	Bossier city: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Cooper's Hawk	FR	Stonewall farm (Hervey)	DeSoto	1961	HH
American Kestrel	FC,	Kisatchie National Forest	Natchitoches	1992	BSG-HH
Eurasian Collared-Dove	FR	Bossier City (near downtown)	Bossier	2000	H&PH
Monk Parakeet	FR	Shreveport: Texas Street bridge	Caddo	1980's	HH
Barn Owl	FC,	Yearwood Road, Sunny Pt. Plantation	Caddo	1996	HH
Barn Owl	FC,	Bayou Pierre WMA	Red River	1997	BSG, HH
Barn Owl	FR	Elm Grove	Bossier	1999	HH
Chuck-will's-widow	FR	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1971	HH
Chuck-will's-widow	NL	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Chuck-will's-widow	FC,	Hervey farm, Stonewall	DeSoto	1979	HH
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	FC,	Keithville: 0.5 mi. E	Caddo	1997	RB
Belted Kingfisher	NL	Stonewall: Missile Base Road	DeSoto	1975-	HH
Western Kingbird	NL	Flournoy-Lucas Rd. at LA hwy. 1	Caddo	1999	PD, HH
Western Kingbird	FR	Leonard Rd. at LA hwy. 1	Caddo	1999	JJ, HH, MH, JJ,
Western Kingbird	NL	Leonard Rd. at LA hwy. 1	Caddo	2000	JJ, HH, JJ, TD
Western Kingbird	NL	Flournoy-Lucas Rd. at LA hwy. 1	Caddo	2001	JT, HH
Western Kingbird	NL	Lock & Dam #5, Red River	Caddo	2001	JT, HH, JT, CL
Eastern Kingbird	NL	Shreveport: Hamel's Park at Stoner	Caddo	1989	MK
Eastern Kingbird	NL	South of Spring Ridge	Caddo	2001	H&PH, PT
Eastern Wood-Pewee	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Eastern Wood-Pewee	NL	Stonewall: Hervey farm	DeSoto	1999	HH, RB
Acadian Flycatcher	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Acadian Flycatcher	FC,	Cypress Bayou	DeSoto	1999	HH
Horned Lark	FR	Brownlee Road	Bossier	2000	TD, HH

Species	New	Locality	Parish	Year	Observer
Tree Swallow	FR	Cypress Lake, north end	Bossier	1999	HH
Tree Swallow	NL	Pool #5, Red River	Bossier	2000	PD, HH
Tree Swallow	FR	Pool #4, Red River	Red River	2001	HH, GC
White-breasted Nuthatch	NL	Stonewall: Sandpiper Drive	DeSoto	2002	AC, MH
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	NL	LA hwy. 1, N of I-20.	Caddo	1998	TD
Wood Thrush	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Wood Thrush	NL	Shreveport: 6675 North Park Circle	Caddo	2001	LR
Yellow-throated Vireo	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Red-eyed Vireo	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Warbling Vireo	FR	Shreveport: Marie Hamel Park	Caddo	2000	TD, HH
Bell's Vireo	FR	South of Missionary Plantation	Caddo	2000	TD, HH
Bell's Vireo	NL	Mira: 3 mi. NE	Caddo	2000	MH, TD
Northern Parula	FC,	Wallace Lake	Caddo	1995	HH, BSG
Northern Parula	NL	Cypress Bayou	DeSoto	1996	HH
Northern Parula	NL	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH
Black-and-white Warbler	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Yellow-throated Warbler	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1995	BSG, HH
Yellow-throated Warbler	FC,	Lake Bistineau	Bienville	1980	HH
Yellow-throated Warbler	FC,	Smithport Lake	DeSoto	1996	HH
Pine Warbler	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Kentucky Warbler	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Hooded Warbler	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Swainson's Warbler	FR	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Yellow-breasted Chat	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Indigo Bunting	NL	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Brown-headed Cowbird	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Brown-headed Cowbird	NL	Stonewall: Hervey farm	DeSoto	1990	HH
Brown-headed Cowbird	NL	Shreveport: 6675 North Park Circle	Caddo	2000	LR
Summer Tanager	FC,	Bossier City: Barksdale AFB	Bossier	1998	HH et al.
Summer Tanager	NL	Stonewall: Hervey farm	DeSoto	1990	HH
Summer Tanager	NL	Shreveport: 6675 North Park Circle	Caddo	2000	LR



## GRAND ISLE MIGRATORY BIRD CELEBRATION

by Kay Radlauer

The Grand Isle Migratory Bird Celebration in Grand Isle, Louisiana, will be held Friday, April 19 through Sunday, April 21, 2002. Tours throughout the weekend will visit the best places for bird watching on Grand Isle, an essential stop for birds migrating across the Gulf of Mexico. Speakers and field trip leaders will help participants enjoy and appreciate this amazing spring migration event. Tours are open to the public and free of charge, except for Sunday's boat tour to Queen Bess Island which costs \$20 per person and requires registration.

**HOW:** To obtain more information, a brochure with an agenda, free bird watching maps, directions, information on accommodations or to sign up the boat tour call toll free number for the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary Foundation at 1-877-ESTUARY (1-877-378-8279). You may also E-mail us at [btfoundation@cajun.net](mailto:btfoundation@cajun.net) or visit our website at <http://www.btnep.org>.

**WHERE:** Grand Isle, Louisiana. The weekend celebration will begin at 8:00 a.m. Friday with birdwatching tours for students at Grand Isle School. Afternoon birdwatching tours will begin at 3:00 p.m. with a walk through Grand Isle State Park and Grand Isle's premier bird watching spots. "Hummingbirds and the Plants that Feed Them," talk will be presented by Olga and Walter Clifton at 7:00 p.m. On Saturday a two-part bird watching tour led by the Terrebonne Bird Club and Crescent Bird Club will begin the day at 8 a.m. The dedication of the Grand Isle Birding Trail will be at 10:30 a.m. followed by "Bird Watching for Families," led by The Nature Conservancy of Louisiana and the Historical Society of Grand Isle. Take a tour along the new Grand Isle Birding Trail at 2 p.m. and then learn how to identify shorebirds with "Introduction to Those Confusing Shorebirds" at 3 p.m. To conclude the bird watching tours, join the Terrebonne Bird Club at 4:30 p.m. to count all the birds seen throughout the day.

Jack Must of Wild Birds Unlimited will give two presentations on Saturday: "How to Attract Birds to Your Backyard at 9 a.m. and "Binoculars/Spotting Scopes: How to Choose and Use Them" at 2:15 p.m. Ted Falgout, the Executive Director of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission, will present "Maritime Forest Ridges: Can The Be Re-established?" at 7 p.m. on Saturday. "Chenier Woods: Fast Food for Migrants" will be presented 7:30 p.m. by Wylie Barrow, Jr. PhD, a biologist at the National Wetlands Research Center in Lafayette. Grand Isle residents will prepare and serve grilled sausage and po-boys for lunch at 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. (\$). To conclude the celebration on Sunday, take a boat tour at 7 a.m. or 11 a.m. to Queen Bess Island to see nesting Brown Pelicans and the recently restored Grand Terre Island. The cost is \$20 per person and reservations are required. Please call

Kristie Schouest at The Chamber of Lafourche and the Bayou Region at 985-693-6700 or e-mail at [kristies@lafourchechamber.com](mailto:kristies@lafourchechamber.com).

**WHY:** Live oaks on Grand Isle are recognized nationally as premier areas to view neotropical migratory birds. These woods give food and shelter to songbirds before and after their long journey across the Gulf of Mexico. The Sanctuary Group is working with local landowners to insure long-term protection of these woodlands and provide green space for Grand Isle residents. Bird watching is the fastest growing single outdoor activity in America. Birders are good for local economies; they purchase food, drinks, optics, gas, overnight accommodations, maps, sunscreen, bug spray, film, ice and much more. This sanctuary effort will promote local businesses in Grand Isle.

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

February 12, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

Museum of Life Sciences at LSUS

Dr. Rae Osborn presented the program "The Birds of South Africa."

**Treasurer's Report** - Not available. Report will be given at March meeting.

**Field Trips** - Nancy Menasco reported on future field trips. The Red Slough weekend field trip would be held February 23-24. Nancy encouraged members to get involved with the Great Backyard Bird Count weekend (February 15-18). She passed out a "Watch List" of birds that would be important finds for our area. She reported that our circle from the Big Sit had 53 species of birds and was the only circle from Louisiana. Nancy requested suggestions for March and April field trips.

**Membership** - Lily Poole said we have 98 active accounts. The BSG now has a phone listing in the business pages. Lily will look into making bumper stickers for advertising.

**Newsletter** - Bill Wood requested articles from the members for the newsletter.

**Programs** - Larry Raymond said our speaker for the next meeting has not been determined.

**Miscellaneous** - Hubert Hervey suggested that next year we attend the Eagles Etc. meeting at Lake DeGrey. Michele Andrews asked that bird reports be submitted with all available information (date, time, location, etc.). Bill Wood proposed that the group find a way to reimburse Will Smolenski for the wood he purchases to make birdhouses and feeders for the raffles. Mac Hardy reported on the 2002 Nature Festival in Texas and the Great Louisiana Birdfest in April.

**Bird Talk** - Bill Wood reported on a man from England that was in the area to see a **Rusty Blackbird**. Nancy Menasco and Jerry Bertrand saw a **Greater Roadrunner** on Pinehill Road west from Roy Road. Hubert Hervey said he still has **Harris' Sparrows** at his

house. His new email is [hawkeyehub@aol.com](mailto:hawkeyehub@aol.com). Jim Ingold reported the results of the bird banding at Paul Dickson's deer farm. He said we banded 51 birds including two **Harris' Sparrows, Swamp Sparrows, Song Sparrows, Savannah Sparrows, White-crowned Sparrows, White-throated Sparrows, a Tufted Titmouse, Red-winged Blackbirds, and Northern Cardinals**. Someone from the group reported that Jeff Trahan's pictures, which are posted on the his web site, from the bird banding are great. Mac Hardy said that a male **Vermilion Flycatcher** was seen at Bickham

Dickson near the horse barn on February 8. Bill Wood reported that Paul Dickson and Jeff Trahan confirmed a **Rufous Hummingbird** in someone's yard. Jim Ingold reported that one of the 18 **Gadwalls** that had been banded locally was shot in Sabine Pass, Texas. Nancy Menasco said that on the sparrow trip, lead by John McBride, they saw 72 species of birds including **Chipping Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, American Pipit, Lapland Longspur, Common Yellowthroat, and Eastern Towhee**.

## 2002 LOS SPRING MEETING

by Marty Guidry

The 2002 LOS Spring Meeting will be on April 26-28, 2002 in Cameron, LA at the Knights of Columbus Hall (behind Our Lady of the Sea Catholic Church on LA Highway 82). Friday evening doors will open about 6:00 pm with the meeting scheduled to begin at 7:00 pm. The Friday evening program will feature Judith O'Neale presenting "Cuba: So Close and Yet So Far" - a video presentation of her recent birding expedition to Cuba.

On Saturday morning we'll have a field trip leaving at 6:30 am from the Cameron Motel parking lot. All are welcome. We'll bird both sides of Cameron Parish in a variety of habitats from beach, marsh and chenier woodlands to the town to Cameron itself.

On Saturday evening we'll begin the buffet supper at approximately 6:00 pm with the meeting to follow at 7:00 pm. Jonathan Meiburg, a graduate student at the University of Texas at Austin, will present "Looking for Johnny Rook: Unraveling the Biogeographical Mystery of the Striated Caracara in the Falkland Islands and Tierra del Fuego". The Striated Caracara, a near-threatened species, is the southernmost bird of prey. Jonathan will use slides and a video clips to describe the life history of this remarkable species. Using historical accounts as well as his current field research, he'll discuss how the environmental factors and unusual behavior of this bird have limited its distribution and numbers. I'm sure we'll also enjoy seeing the Rockhopper Penguins, petrels, albatrosses and other southern birds in Jonathan's presentation.

At the Saturday evening program LOS also will recognize the 2002 recipients of the LOS George H. Lowery Award and the LOS President's Award(s).

Please pre-register if possible. Registration is \$5.00 and the buffet Saturday evening is \$12.00. Pre-registration assists Marianna Tanner Primeaux and the Knights of Columbus in planning for our meeting. Pre-registration fees will be refunded if you let Marianna Tanner know by Friday that you cannot attend.

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Number registering for meeting \_\_\_\_\_ at \$5.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending buffet supper \_\_\_\_\_ at \$12.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To pre-register, complete form and send with check, payable to LOS, to: Marianna Tanner Primeaux P. O. Box 299 Cameron, LA 70631 (337) 775-5347

### ACCOMMODATIONS IN CAMERON PARISH

**Cameron:** Dyson House Bed & Breakfast (337-775-5347) Cameron Motel and Restaurant (1-800-609-5529) \$55-\$65 Gilbert's (337-775-7375) \$25 Gulf Motel (337-775-2880) \$35 Town and Country Motel (337-775-2921). **Creole:** Rutherford Motel (337-542-4148) Lady Bird B&B (337-542-4607) \$55-\$65. **Grand Chenier:** Chateau Chenier (337-569-2389). **Holly Beach:** Cajun Cabins (337-569-2442) \$40-\$70 Joe Nick's Motel (337-569-2421) \$35-\$50 Tommy's Cabins (337-569-2426) Lagneaux's Cabins (337-569-2242) Seabreeze Apts. (337-569-2385) Gulfview Apts. (337-569-2388) \$65-\$80 Holly Beach Motel (337-569-2352) \$48 Roy's Cabins (337-569-2808) \$45-\$65.

**BIRD REPORT** - *Compiled February 20, 2001*

Report bird records for the Newsletter to Will Smolenski (865-2938) by the 15th of each month. Only records not printed since the last Newsletter are published. Following each species is a line of data in the following format: date, initials of observer, number of birds observed, initials of another observer, number of birds observed, etc. For example: 01/12/99 PD two means that on 01/12/99 PD saw two birds. For the number of birds observed, a one is used both for one specimen and for numbers not reported by the observer. All bird records reported here are the responsibility of the observer. The Bird Study Group is reporting observations on the word of the observers.

**OBSERVERS**

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date and Place</b>
BSG	Bird Study Group	02/03/2002 LA 3049 (Old River Rd), LA 2, US 71, LA 530, Gamm Rd & Albany Rd.
BSG	Bird Study Group	02/09/2002 Dickson Deer Farm
D&BS	Dick and Betty Speairs	01/25/2002 Shreveport: Broadmoor neighborhood.
J&JT	Jeff & Jean Trahan	01/20/2002 Bickham Dickson Park, 01/27/2002 Bickham Dickson Park, 02/13/2002 Bickham Dickson Park
JJ	Jim Ingold	01/23/2002 Shreveport: Yokem Toyota on Bert Kouns Industrial Loop, 01/30/2002 Bickham Dickson Park, 02/09/2002 Shreveport: LSUS Campus
JJ,LMH&AC	Jim Ingold, L.M. Hardy & Amanda Crnkovic	02/11/2002 LA 1 South of LSUS to Red River Parish Line, 02/11/2002 LA 1: Armistead to Caddo Parish Line
JT	Jeff Trahan	01/29/2002 Shreveport Residence, 505 Americana, 02/02/2002 Bickham Dickson Park, 02/03/2002 Bickham Dickson Park, 02/10/2002 Bickham Dickson Park, 02/11/2002 Bickham Dickson Park, 02/16/2002 Bickham Dickson Park.
LR&AR	Larry R. & Anne C. Raymond	02/17/2002 6675 North Park Circle
LRR	Larry R. Raymond	01/17/2002 Louisiana side - Caddo Lake, 01/21/2002 Walter Jacobs Nature Park, 01/28/2002 Walter Jacobs Nature Park, 02/02/2002 Eddie D. Jones Park, 02/04/2002 Walter Jacobs Nature Park, 02/07/2002 Walter Jacobs Nature Park, 02/18/2002 Walter Jacobs Nature Park
MA	Michele Andrews	02/16/2002 Barksdale AFB:Flag and Clear Lakes & Garden Plots

**SIGHTINGS**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Date, Observer, Number Seen</b>
Pied-billed Grebe	01/20/02 J&JT 2, 01/27/02 J&JT 4, 01/30/02 JJ 1, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 4, 02/03/02 JT 8, 02/10/02 JT 6, 02/11/02 JJ,LMH&AC 1, 02/13/02 J&JT 6, 02/16/02 JT 2, 02/17/02 J&JT 6
American White Pelican	01/17/02 LRR 25, 01/20/02 J&JT 40, 01/27/02 J&JT 45, 02/10/02 JT 14, , 02/17/02 J&JT 20
Double-crested Cormorant	01/17/02 LRR 50, 01/20/02 J&JT 850, 01/27/02 J&JT 850, 01/30/02 JJ 3, 02/02/02 JT 45, 02/03/02 BSG 3, 02/03/02 JT 800, 02/10/02 JT 850, 02/13/02 J&JT 25, 02/16/02 MA 11, 02/16/02 JT 34, 02/17/02 J&JT 450
Great Blue Heron	01/20/02 J&JT 8, 01/27/02 J&JT 6, 02/02/02 JT 5, 02/03/02 BSG 1, 02/03/02 JT 6, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/10/02 JT 3, 02/11/02 JJ,LMH&AC 1, 02/16/02 MA 1, 02/16/02 JT 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 3
Great Egret	01/20/02 J&JT 6, 01/27/02 J&JT 5, 01/30/02 JJ 2, 02/02/02 JT 4, 02/03/02 BSG 3,

**Species****Date, Observer, Number Seen**

	02/03/02 JT 5, 02/10/02 JT 1, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 15, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 50, 02/16/02 JT 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Black Vulture	01/17/02 LRR 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 2, 02/16/02 MA 1, 02/16/02 JT 3, 02/17/02 J&JT 25
Turkey Vulture	01/20/02 J&JT 4, 01/27/02 J&JT 2, 02/02/02 LRR 1, 02/02/02 JT 3, 02/03/02 BSG 10, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/10/02 JT 2, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 7, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 3, 02/16/02 MA 2, 02/16/02 JT 3, 02/17/02 J&JT 2
Snow Goose	02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 50
Wood Duck	01/20/02 J&JT 3, 01/27/02 J&JT 12, 02/02/02 LRR 1, 02/02/02 JT 4, 02/03/02 JT 6, 02/13/02 J&JT 2, 02/16/02 JT 3, 02/17/02 J&JT 4
Mallard	02/03/02 BSG 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 4
Blue-winged Teal	02/03/02 BSG 2
Gadwall	01/27/02 J&JT 2, 02/02/02 JT 3, 02/03/02 BSG 40, 02/16/02 JT 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
American Wigeon	02/03/02 BSG 10
Canvasback	02/03/02 BSG 10
Ring-necked Duck	02/03/02 BSG 30
Lesser Scaup	02/03/02 BSG 10
Ruddy Duck	02/03/02 BSG 2, 02/17/02 J&JT 2
Bald Eagle	01/25/02 D&BS 4
Northern Harrier	02/03/02 BSG 2, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 2, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 1
Cooper's Hawk	01/20/02 J&JT 2, 02/03/02 BSG 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Red-shouldered Hawk	01/20/02 J&JT 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 1, 02/02/02 LRR 1, 02/03/02 BSG 3, 02/16/02 JT 1, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Red-tailed Hawk	01/20/02 J&JT 2, 01/27/02 J&JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 15, 02/03/02 JT 1, 02/10/02 JT 1, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 13, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 7, 02/16/02 MA 2
American Kestrel	01/20/02 J&JT 1, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 8, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 2, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 2, 02/16/02 JT 1
Merlin	02/16/02 MA 1
American Coot	01/20/02 J&JT 35, 01/27/02 J&JT 16, 01/30/02 JI 32, 02/02/02 JT 25, 02/03/02 BSG 1, 02/03/02 JT 35, 02/10/02 JT 38, 02/13/02 J&JT 24, 02/16/02 MA 8, 02/16/02 JT 19, 02/17/02 J&JT 32
Killdeer	01/20/02 J&JT 30, 01/27/02 J&JT 15, 01/30/02 JI 1, 02/02/02 JT 6, 02/03/02 BSG 21, 02/03/02 JT 22, 02/10/02 JT 29, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 4, 02/13/02 J&JT 7, 02/16/02 JT 6, 02/17/02 J&JT 15
Least Sandpiper	02/11/02 JT 1
Common Snipe	01/20/02 J&JT 2, 01/27/02 J&JT 20, 02/03/02 JT 7, 02/16/02 JT 7, 02/17/02 J&JT 61
Ring-billed Gull	01/17/02 LRR 10, 01/20/02 J&JT 45, 01/27/02 J&JT 8, 01/30/02 JI 8, 02/02/02 JT 3, 02/03/02 BSG 3, 02/03/02 JT 25, 02/10/02 JT 85, 02/13/02 J&JT 30, 02/16/02 JT 55, 02/17/02 J&JT 37
Forster's Tern	01/17/02 LRR 6, 01/20/02 J&JT 1
Rock Dove	01/20/02 J&JT 21, 01/27/02 J&JT 14, 02/03/02 BSG 100, 02/03/02 JT 8, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 30, 02/17/02 J&JT 4
Mourning Dove	01/20/02 J&JT 85, 01/27/02 J&JT 30, 01/28/02 LRR 1, 02/02/02 JT 8, 02/03/02 BSG 60, 02/03/02 JT 15, 02/04/02 LRR 1, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 3, 02/13/02 J&JT 6, 02/16/02 JT 15, 02/17/02 J&JT 8, 02/18/02 LRR 7
Barred Owl	02/03/02 BSG 1
Belted Kingfisher	01/20/02 J&JT 2, 01/27/02 J&JT 2, 01/30/02 JI 1, 02/03/02 BSG 1, 02/10/02 JT 3, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 1, 02/13/02 J&JT 3, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Red-headed Woodpecker	01/20/02 J&JT 2, 01/27/02 J&JT 2, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	01/20/02 J&JT 15, 01/27/02 J&JT 15, 01/28/02 LRR 1, 01/30/02 JI 1, 02/02/02 LRR 2, 02/02/02 JT 18, 02/03/02 BSG 5, 02/03/02 JT 20, 02/04/02 LRR 1, 02/10/02 JT 4, 02/13/02 J&JT 8, 02/16/02 JT 4, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 7, 02/18/02 LRR 1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	01/20/02 J&JT 6, 01/27/02 J&JT 1, 02/02/02 LRR 1, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 1, 02/16/02 JT 2, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Downy Woodpecker	01/20/02 J&JT 6, 01/21/02 LRR 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 6, 02/02/02 JT 2, 02/03/02 BSG 5, 02/03/02 JT 1, 02/10/02 JT 2, 02/13/02 J&JT 4, 02/16/02 JT 2, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 3, 02/18/02 LRR 1
Hairy Woodpecker	01/20/02 J&JT 2, 01/27/02 J&JT 2, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 2, 02/03/02 JT 2, 02/10/02 JT 1
Northern Flicker	01/20/02 J&JT 8, 01/27/02 J&JT 10, 02/03/02 BSG 3, 02/03/02 JT 8, 02/16/02 JT 2,



**Species****Date, Observer, Number Seen**

Pileated Woodpecker	02/17/02 J&JT 2 01/20/02 J&JT 4, 01/27/02 J&JT 4, 01/28/02 LRR 1, 02/02/02 LRR 1, 02/02/02 JT 4, 02/03/02 BSG 1, 02/03/02 JT 4, 02/13/02 J&JT 1, 02/16/02 JT 1, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 2
Eastern Phoebe	02/16/02 JT 2, 01/20/02 J&JT 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 3, 02/13/02 J&JT 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Vermilion Flycatcher	01/20/02 J&JT 1, 02/10/02 JT 1, 02/11/02 JT 1, 02/13/02 J&JT 1, 02/16/02 JT 1
Loggerhead Shrike	01/20/02 J&JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 9, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 1
Blue-headed Vireo	02/17/02 LR&AR 1
Blue Jay	01/20/02 J&JT 6, 01/27/02 J&JT 20, 02/02/02 LRR 3, 02/02/02 JT 5, 02/03/02 BSG 6, 02/03/02 JT 15, 02/04/02 LRR 1, 02/07/02 LRR 1, 02/10/02 JT 2, 02/13/02 J&JT 1, 02/16/02 JT 1, 02/17/02 LR&AR 4, 02/17/02 J&JT 1, 02/18/02 LRR 2
American Crow	01/20/02 J&JT 3, 01/21/02 LRR 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 10, 01/28/02 LRR 2, 02/02/02 LRR 3, 02/02/02 JT 3, 02/03/02 BSG 29, 02/03/02 JT 6, 02/04/02 LRR 1, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/10/02 JT 5, 02/16/02 MA 5, 02/16/02 JT 1, 02/17/02 LR&AR 3, 02/17/02 J&JT 1, 02/18/02 LRR 3
Fish Crow	02/10/02 JT 1, 02/16/02 JT 2
Horned Lark	02/03/02 BSG 10
Purple Martin	01/29/02 JT 1, 02/09/02 JI 2
Carolina Chickadee	01/20/02 J&JT 14, 01/21/02 LRR 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 10, 01/28/02 LRR 2, 02/02/02 LRR 3, 02/02/02 JT 7, 02/03/02 BSG 20, 02/03/02 JT 1, 02/04/02 LRR 2, 02/07/02 LRR 1, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/10/02 JT 3, 02/13/02 J&JT 8, 02/16/02 MA 1, 02/17/02 LR&AR 2, 02/17/02 J&JT 5, 02/18/02 LRR 2
Tufted Titmouse	01/20/02 J&JT 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 4, 01/28/02 LRR 2, 02/02/02 LRR 2, 02/02/02 JT 3, 02/03/02 BSG 4, 02/03/02 JT 3, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/17/02 LR&AR 2, 02/17/02 J&JT 4, 02/18/02 LRR 1
White-breasted Nuthatch	01/21/02 LRR 1, 01/28/02 LRR 1, 02/04/02 LRR 1
Brown-headed Nuthatch	02/17/02 LR&AR 1
Carolina Wren	01/20/02 J&JT 3, 01/21/02 LRR 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 7, 01/28/02 LRR 1, 02/02/02 LRR 1, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 4, 02/03/02 JT 5, 02/10/02 JT 1, 02/13/02 J&JT 2, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 1, 02/18/02 LRR 1
House Wren	02/09/02 BSG 1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	02/18/02 LRR 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	01/20/02 J&JT 3, 01/21/02 LRR 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 5, 02/02/02 JT 4, 02/03/02 BSG 5, 02/03/02 JT 3, 02/18/02 LRR 2
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	02/03/02 BSG 1
Eastern Bluebird	01/20/02 J&JT 7, 01/27/02 J&JT 2, 01/30/02 JI 1, 02/02/02 JT 2, 02/03/02 BSG 12, 02/03/02 JT 3, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/10/02 JT 5, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 2, 02/13/02 J&JT 1, 02/17/02 LR&AR 3, 02/17/02 J&JT 2
Hermit Thrush	01/28/02 LRR 1, 02/03/02 BSG 1
American Robin	01/20/02 J&JT 12, 01/27/02 J&JT 1, 01/30/02 JI 1, 02/02/02 LRR 55, 02/02/02 JT 2, 02/10/02 JT 1, 02/13/02 J&JT 1, 02/17/02 LR&AR 2, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Northern Mockingbird	01/20/02 J&JT 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 8, 02/02/02 JT 3, 02/03/02 BSG 8, 02/03/02 JT 3, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/10/02 JT 2, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 1, 02/13/02 J&JT 2, 02/16/02 JT 4, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 2
Brown Thrasher	01/20/02 J&JT 2, 01/27/02 J&JT 1, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 2, 02/03/02 JT 1, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1
European Starling	01/20/02 J&JT 50, 01/27/02 J&JT 35, 01/30/02 JI 11, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 100, 02/03/02 JT 15, 02/13/02 J&JT 7, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
American Pipit	02/03/02 BSG 70
Cedar Waxwing	01/20/02 J&JT 85, 01/27/02 J&JT 125, 02/03/02 BSG 15, 02/03/02 JT 85, 02/13/02 J&JT 15, 02/16/02 MA 2, 02/16/02 JT 45, 02/17/02 J&JT 54
Orange-crowned Warbler	02/03/02 BSG 2, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	01/20/02 J&JT 70, 01/27/02 J&JT 35, 01/30/02 JI 1, 02/02/02 JT 35, 02/03/02 BSG 1, 02/03/02 JT 30, 02/10/02 JT 12, 02/13/02 J&JT 10, 02/16/02 JT 7, 02/17/02 LR&AR 3, 02/17/02 J&JT 3
Pine Warbler	01/21/02 LRR 1, 02/03/02 BSG 5, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1
Common Yellowthroat	02/03/02 BSG 1
Eastern Towhee	02/03/02 BSG 14

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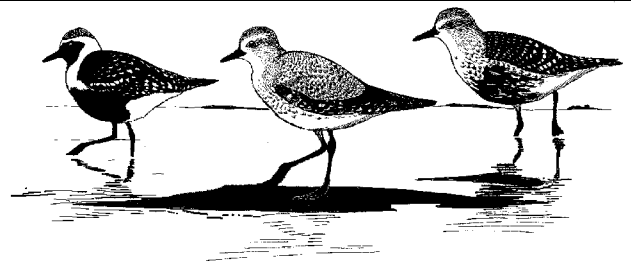
**Species****Date, Observer, Number Seen**

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Chipping Sparrow	02/03/02 BSG 72, 02/17/02 LR&AR 1
Field Sparrow	01/27/02 J&JT 15, 02/02/02 JT 10, 02/03/02 BSG 5, 02/03/02 JT 15, 02/16/02 JT 15, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Lark Sparrow	02/03/02 BSG 9
Savannah Sparrow	01/20/02 J&JT 15, 01/27/02 J&JT 8, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 25, 02/09/02 BSG 2, 02/13/02 J&JT 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
LeConte's Sparrow	02/16/02 JT 1
Fox Sparrow	02/03/02 BSG 1
Song Sparrow	01/20/02 J&JT 4, 01/27/02 J&JT 7, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 12, 02/03/02 JT 5, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/10/02 JT 1, 02/16/02 JT 2, 02/17/02 J&JT 5
Lincoln's Sparrow	02/03/02 BSG 1
Swamp Sparrow	01/27/02 J&JT 3, 02/02/02 JT 2, 02/03/02 BSG 5, 02/03/02 JT 3, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/13/02 J&JT 1, 02/16/02 JT 1, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
White-throated Sparrow	01/20/02 J&JT 10, 01/21/02 LRR 3, 01/27/02 J&JT 15, 01/28/02 LRR 4, 02/02/02 LRR 2, 02/02/02 JT 23, 02/03/02 BSG 21, 02/03/02 JT 10, 02/04/02 LRR 3, 02/07/02 LRR 7, 02/09/02 BSG 4, 02/13/02 J&JT 7, 02/16/02 JT 7, 02/17/02 LR&AR 5, 02/17/02 J&JT 4, 02/18/02 LRR 4
Harris' Sparrow	02/09/02 BSG 2
White-crowned Sparrow	02/03/02 BSG 35, 02/09/02 BSG 19
Dark-eyed Junco	01/28/02 LRR 3, 02/03/02 BSG 9, 02/04/02 LRR 2, 02/07/02 LRR 1, 02/09/02 BSG 7, 02/17/02 LR&AR 2, 02/18/02 LRR 3
Lapland Longspur	02/03/02 BSG 4
Northern Cardinal	01/20/02 J&JT 8, 01/21/02 LRR 1, 01/27/02 J&JT 12, 01/28/02 LRR 1, 02/02/02 LRR 2, 02/02/02 JT 20, 02/03/02 BSG 15, 02/03/02 JT 20, 02/04/02 LRR 6, 02/07/02 LRR 2, 02/09/02 BSG 9, 02/10/02 JT 1, 02/13/02 J&JT 2, 02/16/02 JT 2, 02/17/02 LR&AR 2, 02/17/02 J&JT 3, 02/18/02 LRR 9
Red-winged Blackbird	01/20/02 J&JT 15, 01/27/02 J&JT 40, 01/30/02 JI 5, 02/02/02 JT 5, 02/03/02 BSG 200, 02/03/02 JT 1, 02/09/02 BSG 55, 02/10/02 JT 10, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 1, 02/13/02 J&JT 10, 02/16/02 JT 8, 02/17/02 J&JT 15, 02/18/02 LRR 57
Eastern Meadowlark	02/03/02 BSG 80, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 1
Common Grackle	01/20/02 J&JT 75, 01/27/02 J&JT 50, 01/30/02 JI 30, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 100, 02/03/02 JT 16, 02/11/02 JI,LMH&AC 8, 02/17/02 J&JT 1
Great-tailed Grackle	01/23/02 JI 3
Purple Finch	02/04/02 LRR 2, 02/07/02 LRR 1
House Finch	02/09/02 BSG 3, 02/10/02 JT 17
Pine Siskin	01/21/02 LRR 3, 01/28/02 LRR 4, 02/07/02 LRR 2
American Goldfinch	01/20/02 J&JT 3, 01/21/02 LRR 85, 01/27/02 J&JT 10, 01/28/02 LRR 65, 02/02/02 JT 1, 02/03/02 BSG 8, 02/03/02 JT 5, 02/04/02 LRR 25, 02/07/02 LRR 75, 02/09/02 BSG 14, 02/18/02 LRR 6
House Sparrow	01/27/02 J&JT 2, 02/03/02 BSG 10, 02/09/02 BSG 1, 02/10/02 JT 1, 02/16/02 JT 4, 02/17/02 J&JT 1

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Printed 557 records of **96** species.



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