

Shreveport Society For Nature Study

BIRD STUDY GROUP

NEWSLETTER

Volume 18, Number 2

October 1, 2003

Next Meeting-October 14, 2003

“Biological Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation for Shorebirds in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley”

by R. Randy Wilson

OCTOBER PROGRAM

When: Tuesday, October 14, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Museum of Life Sciences, LSUS

R. Randy Wilson will present our October program entitled, “Biological Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation for Shorebirds in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley.” Randy is the Science Coordinator for the Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture (LMVJV) Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). His responsibilities include working with state, federal, and private organizations to coordinate the above-referenced biological planning, monitoring, and evaluation of bird plans for the Mississippi Alluvial Valley and West Gulf Coastal Plain Bird Conservation Regions. He is the contact person for the LMVJV Shorebird Monitoring Program which sponsors the annual Shorebird Counts in which several BSG members participate.

Randy graduated from Tennessee Tech University with a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science. He received his M.S. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Memphis. Prior to joining USFWS, Randy worked for the U.S. Geological Survey out of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Vicksburg Field Station, where he conducted research on the impact of timber harvest on population dynamics of forest interior birds as well as vegetation and bird response to reforestation efforts.

FIELD TRIPS & EVENTS

RED RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AT WESTDALE, LA

Saturday, October 4, 2003, 8:00 a.m.

Trip Leader – Dan Weber

Sora, Yellow Rail, and Virginia Rail have all been observed here. There are a couple of ponds connected to the river that usually hold waterfowl. In addition, there are a number of good walking trails that wind through a 250-acre riverfront forest.

THE BIG SIT!

Sunday, October 12, 2003, Dawn ‘til Dark

Trip Leader – Nancy Menasco

Sitters may come and go at will. Beginning birders are especially encouraged to participate in this event. This is an excellent opportunity to observe behavior and patterns of bird activity over a day's time.

LOS FALL MEETING, CAMERON, LA

Friday, October 24 – Sunday, October 26

Shorebirds, the LA coast, and an all around birding bonanza.

More details on page 2

BIRD STUDY GROUP PHONE NUMBERS AND MORE

Information & Bird Alert by Phone.....(318) 797-5338
Meetings.....Second Tuesday of each month, September through June, 6:30 p.m.
Internet Website.....<http://www.softdisk.com/comp/birds/>
Bird Alert by email.....Contact Rosemary Seidler to be placed on the list to send & receive emails

BSG E-mail.....lsusmus@prysm.net

TABLE OF CONTENTS

October Program	1
Upcoming Field Trips & Events	1,2
Wild Bird Center Bird Walks & Bird Feeding Class	4
The Great Red River Expedition of 2003	4
Hervey Hawk Watch	6
Boy Scouts Earn Bird Study Merit Badges	6
Least Terns Shouldn't Be Last	7
Minutes of the Board Meeting	8
Minutes of the Regular Meeting	8
Tell the BSG	9
Officers	9
Bird Report	10

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS AND EVENTS

by Nancy Menasco

Membership in the BSG is encouraged but not required for participation in field trips. Beginning birders are welcome on all field trips.

RED RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AT WESTDALE, LA

Saturday, October 4, 2003, 8:00 a.m.

Trip Leader – Dan Weber, 459-5311 (W), 949-1850 (H), dweber@tnc.org

Meet at the LSU Museum of Life Sciences. This 1,500 acre property, purchased by The Nature Conservancy in December of 2002, was recently transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the first tract in the Bayou Pierre Unit of the Red River National Wildlife Refuge. It is located about 30 minutes south of LSU in Red River Parish and is bordered by the Red River to the east and LA Highway 1 to the west. About 400 acres have been farmed for rice and, in previous years, **Sora**, **Yellow Rail**, and **Virginia Rail** have all been observed here. There are a couple of ponds connected to the river that usually hold waterfowl. In addition, there are a number of good walking trails that wind through a 250-acre riverfront forest stand (cottonwoods, cypress, etc.). Plan on car birding and moderate walking.

What to bring: binoculars, scope, water, and snacks. The nearest restroom is located at Lock & Dam #5.

THE BIG SIT!

Red River Education and Research Park (C. Bickham Dickson Park)

Sunday, October 12, 2003, Dawn 'til Dark

Trip Leader – Nancy Menasco, 868-3255, nmcpa@aol.com

The 11th Annual Big Sit is sponsored by the New Haven, CT, Bird Club and *Birdwatcher's Digest*. Participants will count from within a 17-foot diameter circle. The count officially begins at midnight and ends 24 hours later. Swarovski Optik co-sponsors the event by donating \$500 to the team who gets the "Golden Bird." The "Golden Bird" is a bird selected by random drawing from the list of all birds sighted. All of the circles that list that bird are then placed in another random drawing. The winning circle chooses a non-profit environmental-based organization to be the recipient of the \$500. For more background on The Big Sit, go to

<http://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/bigsit.html>.

Sitters may come and go at will. Beginning birders are especially encouraged to participate in this event. This is an excellent opportunity to observe behavior and patterns of bird activity over a day's time. Last year, assisted by a cold front that brought migrating raptors and geese over our location, our count total was 68 species, up from 53 species in 2001. We may not be able to top that, but come out and help us try. Park in the parking lot next to the old horse barn. Signs will lead you to our circle. The circle will be in the field around the first curve in the gated road. If you need assistance carrying your chair or anything else, someone at the Sit will be glad to help you. We will have access to the restrooms by the barn. If you want to contact us at the Sit for any reason, call or e-mail me ahead of time and I will give you our cell phone number.

What to bring: binoculars, scope, field guides, chair, hat, mosquito repellent, sunscreen, drinks, breakfast, lunch, snacks.

LOS FALL MEETING, CAMERON, LA

Friday, October 24 - Sunday, October 26, 2003

Information and registration forms for the annual fall meeting are available at the Louisiana Ornithological Society website at <http://losbird.org/03fallmeeting.htm>. We have reserved the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge. Lodging is \$10 a night per person in dormitory-style rooms. Sign up for the Rockefeller at the BSG September or October meeting or call the LSU Museum at 797-5338.

Membership in LOS is not required to participate in any of the LOS meetings, but you are encouraged to join to support the activities of our state society. Annual dues are \$15 for a regular membership and \$20 for a family membership. Three meetings are held each year with programs on Friday and Saturday nights, organized field trips on Saturday and, for the winter meeting, also on Sunday, and a banquet on Saturday night. The spring meeting is the last weekend in April; the fall meeting is the last weekend in October; and the winter meeting is held in different locations around the state the last weekend in January. The January 2004 winter meeting will be sponsored by the Northeast Louisiana Bird Club in Monroe.

One of the current projects of the LOS is raising funds to construct a bird observation tower in Cameron at East Jetty Beach. If you would like to support this project, you may donate funds directly to LOS or you may purchase a raffle ticket, which will be included in a drawing to be held October 25 at the fall annual meeting in Cameron. Grand prize for the raffle will be a Celestron Nextar 80GT scope & tripod. For complete details, go to <http://losbird.org/bulletin/tower.htm>.

CROSS LAKE AREA AND NORTH SHREVEPORT

Saturday, November 15, 2003 (Tentative date)

Trip Leader – TBA

Birds you may expect to see on this field trip include ducks, winter sparrows and wrens, and, if we're really lucky, **American Woodcock**. Possible sites to be visited are Richard Fleming Park, Ford Park, and Walter B. Jacobs Nature Park. This will be a mixture of car birding and some light walking. See the November newsletter for more.

What to bring: binoculars, scope, field guides, drinks, lunch, snacks.

DAPHNE PRAIRIE, MT. VERNON, TX

Sunday, November 30, 2003

Trip Leader – Matt White

Trip Coordinator – Nancy Menasco, 868-3255, nmcpa@aol.com.

Located only three hours from Shreveport near Mt. Vernon in northeast Texas, Daphne Prairie is a unique ecological experience. This nearly 1,000-acre unplowed remnant of Texas' Tallgrass Prairie is not bisected by roads or even utility poles and is a winter home to **Smith's Longspurs** and other grassland species, including **Short-eared Owls** and **Sprague's Pipit**. The pimple mounds (small hummocks usually one to two

feet tall) here are some of the tallest left in the state and give the visitor the feeling of traveling back in time to an earlier era. This land has been in the same family since the 1830s and has changed very little since that time and you will be among the very first birders to witness it. This area is not open to the public and native prairie remnants are so rare in Texas that most Texans, not to mention Louisianans, have never seen one. Our trip will be led by Matt White, author of *Birds of Northeast Texas* and longspur expert. Those of you who have read Pete Dunne's article, "Birder at Large: Seeking Smith's," in the August 2003 issue of *Birder's World* will be familiar with Matt. The article is the story of Pete and Linda Dunne's visit to Matt in their successful quest to see this most of elusive of longspurs in its winter home.

In order to get an early start on Sunday, we will spend Saturday night in Mt. Vernon. However, anyone who does not wish to stay overnight should plan to meet us in Mt. Vernon that Sunday morning. We will carpool from Mt. Vernon to Daphne Prairie, where we will spend a half day walking through portions of the prairie in search of longspurs and other birds. Although not necessary, you may want to bring along your spotting scope for even closer looks. Participants will want to prepare for the possibility of cold weather and some type of waterproof footwear may also be helpful. There are no restroom facilities on site, so it will be necessary to return to Mt. Vernon for lunch and restroom breaks.

There are other fine birding sites in the Mt. Vernon area, including Lake Cypress Springs and Mt. Vernon's DuPree Park, which we may visit on Saturday or Sunday afternoon.

The cost of this trip is \$50 per person (not including lodging or meals) which will go toward helping the landowner to preserve this prairie. Matt says this area is one of the most remote and beautiful areas he has ever seen. The Texas Ornithological Society (TOS) has a field trip scheduled for the Daphne Prairie the next weekend after the BSG trip and is charging \$100 for TOS members and \$115 for nonmembers, with part of the proceeds going to TOS.

Accommodations in Mt. Vernon include the following:

- The Selah Inn: Located on a 3,000-acre setting off Hwy 37 north of Mt Vernon. 903-632-1122, or email dandyfarm@aol.com.
- Super 8: I-30 and Hwy 37. 903-588-2882. Rates are about \$54 per night.
- Seven Gables B&B: 318 S. Kaufman. 903-537-3391.

- American Inn: A new small inn just opened - north side of I-30, east of Spur 423. 903-537-3498.
- The Veranda: Nice B&B, 5 miles south of Mt. Vernon. CR 4115 at Hwy 21. 903-588-2402.
- Franklin County Water District has facilities for RV hookups in some of the parks at reasonable fees. 903-537-4536. Walleye Park is on the north side of the lake with easy access to Mt Vernon.

RESERVATIONS AND ADVANCE PAYMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR THIS TRIP. RSVP to Nancy Menasco by November 26th. Send your payment of \$50 per participant to me at 503 Haynes Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71105. Checks should be made out to SSNS -- Bird Study Group.

Read more about it:

Birds of Northeast Texas (W.L. Moody, Jr., Natural History Series) by Matt White.

“Birder at Large: Seeking Smith’s,” by Pete Dunne, *Birder’s World*, August 2003.

WILD BIRD CENTER FIELD TRIPS

Beginners Bird Walks-

Saturday, October 4 and 18, November 1 and 15, 2003.

The Wild Bird Center conducts field trips the first and third Saturday of every month. Meet at the store in the University Place Shopping Center (also known as the Target Shopping Center) at the corner of Youree Drive and East 70th Street at 8:00 a.m. Trips end by 10:00 a.m. Bickham Dickson park is our usual destination. Loaner binoculars are available.

For more information, call Dennis or Janice Forshee at the Wild Bird Center, 318-797- BIRD (2473).

Beginners Bird Feeding Class-

At the Wild Bird Center

Saturday October 11, 9:00-10:00 a.m..

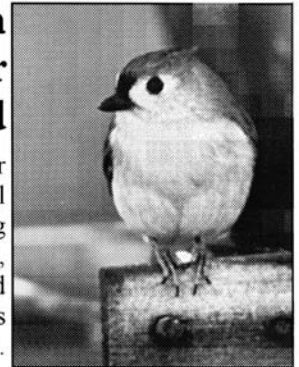
Learn the basics in our backyard bird feeding class led by Victoria Williams. Whether it's where to start or how to attract a greater variety of birds to your yard, there's sure to be something for everyone.

**GET OUT AND BIRD,
ENJOY THE FALL
WEATHER !**

Discover

the hidden
world in your
backyard

At the Wild Bird Center we help you enjoy beautiful backyard birds by providing top quality bird seed, feeders, bird houses, bird baths, and binoculars plus practical, expert advice.



Wild Bird Center

The ultimate bird feeding specialty shop™



7034 Youree Drive
Shreveport, LA 71105
University Place Shopping Center
Mon. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday - 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

318-797-BIRD (2473)

The Great Red River Expedition of 2003

by Nancy Menasco

Following in the footsteps of Freeman and Custis, an expedition of twenty intrepid birders set out in four small boats on Sunday, August 24, 2003, to explore the Red River. Two scouting parties had been out on the river prior to the date set for the expedition. Upon their return they told stories of a large wading bird with a long bicolor bill of pinkish orange and black¹, ducks with blue bills², and small birds standing camouflaged and motionless in the reeds, their long necks stretched toward the sky³. Enticed by these stories and undeterred by the scouts' tales of blazing heat, wild animals, and treacherous shoals and mudflats that would eat a boat alive, the hardy voyagers embarked from Bishop Point above Lock and Dam #5.

For better or worse, the expedition found the river much changed since the days of Freeman and Custis. Then (1806), the river level fluctuated with the seasons. The river overflowed its banks and cut new channels, creating new oxbow lakes as it did so. Sandbars formed and reformed and, during periods of high water, the river scoured the bars clean of vegetation. Navigation on the Red was hazardous and the river was virtually impassible north of Natchitoches because of the Great

Raft, an immense logjam or series of “rafts” extending beyond present-day Shreveport and estimated at one time to be over 150 miles long. In 1806 Freeman and Custis encountered the Great Raft below Twelve Mile Bayou. With great difficulty, they cleared passages through three separate rafts varying in length from 40 to 300 yards long and spanning the entire width of the river. As logs were removed, the spaces left were soon filled by other logs. Freeman wrote, “The labor incident to the formation of a passage through these small rafts is so great that the navigation of this part of the river is never attempted; for it would require to be repeated every time a passage is attempted.” The river’s overflow as it backed up behind the Great Raft formed swamps, lakes, and bayous “communicating with and running into each other, for perhaps 6 or 8 miles on each side of the river.” Today, the Great Raft is no more. Captain Henry Miller Shreve began clearing the river in the 1830s using “snagboats,” a type of boat invented by Captain Shreve for this purpose. Others would continue the work until the Great Raft was finally dismantled under the direction of Lt. E. A. Woodruff of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the early 1870s.

In recent years, since the creation of the lock and dam system, whose northern terminus is Lock and Dam #5 in south Caddo Parish, dikes and revetments have been constructed to keep the river in its channel and the channel itself is marked with red and green buoys. Seasoned river pilot Jerry Bertrand explained the difference between dikes and revetments and the meaning of the navigational buoys. Dikes run perpendicular to the current or channel and revetments run parallel. To stay within the channel, all one has to do is remember the phrase “red right return.” Keep the *red* buoys on the *right* when *returning* from the sea, i.e., heading upriver, and the green buoys on the left. Accordingly, the green buoys should be on the right and the red buoys on the left when heading downriver.

But the safety of the channel was not for this group and so helmsmen Barney Poole, Larry Raymond, Paul Dickson, and Charlie Lyon carefully navigated between the dikes around sandbars now overgrown with vegetation. Hazards in the form of snags, the remains of trees inundated when the lock and dam was constructed, lurk just below the surface. Behind the sandbars and revetments, the depth of the river may vary considerably from several inches to many feet. As must have happened many times during the Freeman and Custis expedition, the Poole boat, with a deeper draft than the other three boats, had to be hauled through the mud occasionally by Barney and son Jason, the youngest member of the BSG expedition. Narrowly missing succumbing to the same fate, Larry Raymond was able

Items Needed for the Raffle!

Plants, birdhouses, feeders, birding gear,
flea market treasures.

All proceeds go to the BSG.

Bring donated items to the meeting.

Thank You for Supporting the BSG,

—The Fund Raising committee

to extricate his boat from the mud without getting his feet wet.

The second northwestern Louisiana record **Marbled Godwit** seen by scout Paul Dickson one week before the main expedition was long gone. The two male **Ruddy Ducks** in high breeding plumage observed the day before by Charlie Lyon, Kreg Ellzey, Jerry Bertrand, and I were nowhere to be found either. However, this very early record combined with the Charles Mills’ discovery this year of **Ruddy Ducks** nesting in Miller County, Arkansas, about 17 miles east of Texarkana, was very intriguing. Our observation, also on Saturday, of an adult and an immature **Least Bittern** provided evidence of successful nesting by this species on this area of the Red River. There is apparently only one other record of **Least Bitterns** nesting here. On Sunday, an adult **Least Bittern** was discovered in the same location as the two the day before.

Hérons and egrets were in abundance, including **Tricolored Herons**, which have only recently begun nesting here, possibly due to habitat loss further south. Shorebirds included the now common **Black-necked Stilt**, **American Avocet**, **Black-bellied Plover**, **Killdeer**, **Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Spotted, Semipalmated, Least, Baird’s and Stilt Sandpipers**, and both **Short and Long-billed Dowitchers**. Paul Dickson and his crew members, Susan and Ron Martin, along with Jason Poole, bravely waded through the murky waters to get closer looks at the birds. Paul was rewarded for his efforts when he found two **Soras** hiding in the tall grass on a sandbar. In Paul’s absence, Rosemary Seidler, probably aware that it was customary in olden times for the ship’s captain to provide his sailors with a ration of rum or some such beverage, found that Paul had apparently not heard of this practice. She called over to Charlie’s boat to see if he had perhaps stocked some beer, but to no avail. It seems that this custom has died out, at least among the modern BSG captains.

In the meantime, two **Wood Storks** glided by to roost in a dead tree. After an intense effort by Jean Trahan to describe over the radio which dead tree the storks were in, all the directionally challenged birders in the other boats were finally able to locate them. As the sun set,

our little flotilla headed in with the hope that this expedition would be found worthy to join those listed in the annals of Red River exploration.

In addition to those already mentioned, BSG expedition members included Lily Poole, Shirley and Ed Huss, Linda Adrion, Judy Williams, ME Lewis, Ellen Tippet, Jeff Trahan, and Rosana Shelby.

¹ **Marbled Godwit**

² **Ruddy Duck**

³ **Least Bittern**

Hervey Farms Hawk Watch, September 20, 2003

by Hubert Hervey

Apparently the promise of hawks and food is an unbeatable combination. More than thirty participants enjoyed the burgers, ably fixed by Jerry Bertrand, and food prepared by many others. The hawks also participated in the hawk count with nine species and about 150 raptors counted. The most numerous bird species in the sky was the omnipresent **Chimney Swifts**, which were seldom out of sight. The **Broad-winged Hawk** was the most common hawk with 59 individuals. Other hawks were 1 **Osprey**, 1 **Mississippi Kite**, 2 **Sharp-shinned Hawks**, 3 **Cooper's Hawks**, 6 **Red-shouldered Hawks**, and 1 **Red-tailed Hawk**. Vultures were present most of the time with a count of migrants being determined at 59 **Black Vultures** and 31 **Turkey Vultures**.

Everyone will want to know about the big dark bird that flew across the western sky with slow wing beats alternated by short glides. I have read "Hawks in Flight," by Dunne, Sibley, and Sutton this morning and the section "Telling Big Black Birds Apart" on page 154-156 only serves to reinforce my notion that we saw a **Golden Eagle**. The bird was less than a mile away, and flew through two groups of **Black** and **Turkey Vultures** and was definitely the largest bird in the air. I believe I can rule out **Bald Eagle** by the long wings and smaller head, **Red-tailed Hawk** by size and method of flight (never soaring). But I'm not sure I can rule out dark phase **Ferruginous Hawk**, or **Rough-legged Hawk**, since I have only limited experience with all three species in question. I am pretty sure of **Golden Eagle**, with the two last mentioned species as slightly possible. I will be glad to hear from anyone who cares to reinforce or shoot down this idea. P. S. I'm not officially reporting it.

The early morning bird walk brought several pleasant surprises with species such as **Snowy Egret**, **Green Heron**, **Eastern Phoebe**, **Bell's Vireo**, **House Wren**, **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**, **Prairie Warbler**, **Summer**

Tanager, and **Painted Bunting**. When there were no birds to be seen, we enjoyed the butterflies, even the diminutive southern skipperling, a very small brownish-orange skipper. It has been drizzling rain all day today (the day after the field trip) and it would have been a terrible day to have a hawk count scheduled. Weren't we fortunate?

Boy Scouts Earn Bird Study Merit Badge with the Help of the BSG

by Lily Poole

Tuesday, June 24th, 2003. The Garland Boy Scout Ranch Bird Study Merit Badge class and field trip went well. There were six young men in the class. We started at 9:00 a.m., 81°F.

I spent 30 minutes showing the boys how to use their binocs. Then I had them look at some 30 bird photos and listen to calls of birds that they might see or hear on our hike. I had made my recording selections from birds Mac and I had seen and heard on our first survey of Garland Ranch. Mac informed that the trail we had scouted earlier in the month, the one he had taken his Scouts on, had too much human activity for birdwatching. So, instead, we hiked the main road from the Lodge to Cub Lake. A **Mourning Dove** and **Turkey Vultures** were the first birds spotted. While we were looking at the vultures we heard several **American Crows** calling in the distance. This was perfect as part of the badge requirements include identifying five birds by call. We continued on our two mile round-trip hike towards the lake. I was pleased to note that the boys were not too noisy. Consequently, we first came upon a cottontail rabbit and later a doe crossed the road. After the doe had determined that we were no threat, she signaled and her fawn then came skipping across the road.

So far so good! During our stops to see the rabbit and deer, we saw and/or heard **White-eyed Vireo** (step to the rear – hick), **Tufted Titmouse** (peter, peter, peter) and **Red-bellied Woodpecker**.

I heard a **Yellow-breasted Chat** in a nearby bush. When we could not get a good look at it, I explained to the boys that I would try and spish the bird out in the open. Prior to starting, I explained why spishing might or might not work. Then I crossed my fingers. The bird seemed agitated that we were there. When I spished, it agitated him even more so that he came out and gave us at first some peeks through the leaves and then a nice look at him before he flew back in to the bushes. This was one of the birds I had the boys listen to prior to the hike. As we walked down the road, I continued my

running bird ecology commentary. I mentioned groups such as The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, and Quail Unlimited as programs that strive to improve habitat so as to improve bird populations. I mentioned that birds are our miner's canary – if the canary died the miners knew that poisonous gases were at a dangerous level. We had seen a similar situation in the 70's when birds of prey numbers plummeted due to the use of pesticides. Now, through successful conservation, we have **Bald Eagles** breeding at Cypress Black Bayou.

At Cub Lake all we saw was a **Turkey Vulture** which seemed to have been feeding on something. No, let's not see what it's feeding on. On the way back to camp we heard a **Barred Owl** (Who cooks for you?). On a prior Akala camp weekend with my son's Cub Scout pack, I had heard quite a few owls calling so I made a point to include owl calls on my tape. It was "very cool" to have heard the **Barred Owl** calling in the daylight. Other birds we heard were **Carolina Wren**, and **Carolina Chickadee**. Birds we saw and heard were **Northern Cardinal**, **Eastern Bluebird**, **Indigo Bunting**, and **Red-eyed Vireo**. Only a half mile to go and we'll be out of this 91° heat! A **Black Vulture** came into view and then a really interesting sight two **Red-tailed Hawks** "playing" with each other in the sky. The two put on quite an aerial display. Wow, what a way to end our hike!

I enjoyed my time at Garland Ranch. It is a wonderful facility with a great staff. I was glad for the opportunity to teach the Boy Scout Bird Study Merit Badge. The young men I taught were interested in learning, yet, "boys at heart," a couple of them tried to frighten me with a possible snake sighting. Too bad for them I grew up in Texas where, snakes are a dime a dozen! The boys found the taped owl calls to be interesting, since there are many owl species on the Ranch. Interestingly enough the Scouts thought the spishing was a cool technique. I hope to get the opportunity to teach the Boy Scout Bird Study Merit Badge or the equivalent Girl Scout Badge again.

Check your mailing label for your BSG membership expiration date!

Not sure when your membership expires?

Just check the top line of your mailing label. Contact Membership Chairperson, Lily Poole, to receive an email reminder or to renew now, send in the renewal form on the back of your newsletter.

The BSG Welcomes its Newest Members:

Harlan Hughes

Mark & Mary Wilson

Welcome & Good Birding!

Least Terns Shouldn't Be Last

By Hubert Hervey

The *Shreveport Times* ran an editorial on September 2, 2003, titled, "**Least Terns** shouldn't be last in river plan." I think we can consider it a call to action. The Bird Study Group has already started to encourage our members and other concerned citizens to write their congressmen expressing our concern that **Least Terns** attempting to nest on the Red River are continuing to be ignored by the people who are responsible for improving their nesting success. We now have posters ready to put up in businesses that are willing to show their concern. Thanks to Lily Poole and Nancy Menasco for their efforts to make more people aware of this issue. We have a website with information and a suggestion for a letter to your congressmen and women, to be used as a guide, and containing information a letter writer might use. Other clubs are helping with their own letter writing campaigns.

The editorial listed four ways to mitigate the damage to the islands that terns need for nesting:

- 1) Maintaining vegetation-free areas where needed,
- 2) Keeping current flowing around both sides of mid-stream islands,
- 3) Opening the shoreward side of dikes so water current will prevent islands from attaching to shore,
- 4) Using dredged spoil dirt to form islands at favorite nesting locations.

Citizens need to be assured that further river navigation will not be at the expense of a diminishing natural resource such as the **Least Tern**. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers can and should act now to restore these birds to their former range and to prevent the destruction of future generations. In so doing they will reassure the caring public of the value of further dams upriver from Shreveport. Another effort that might prove worthwhile is to write to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as they have the duty of oversight authority of the Endangered Species Act. The facts are that no **Least Terns** were fledged in 2003 in the nearly 100 miles of Pool 5 and Pool 4 between Cash Point (MM 241) and Poisson Revetment (MM 144), for the

most recent three-year period, this area had the most successful tern colonies in our area, **Least Tern** numbers are beginning to show a downturn that can only continue if successful nesting is not restored. There are other measures than those listed above that could be taken if the order is given, but those would at least show us that someone is willing to try.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

September 2, 2003, 7:00 p.m.

Museum of Life Sciences at LSUS

Board members present at the meeting were Mac Hardy, Jeff Trahan, Nancy Menasco, Lily Poole, Linda Adrion, Larry Raymond, Michele Andrews, Jerry Bertrand, Amanda Crnkovic, and Hubert Hervey.

Treasurer's Report – The treasurer, Jean Trahan, was not present at this meeting. However, she sent a report that was distributed to each board member that showed a summary of income and expenses for the last three years. Lily Poole reported that the treasurer would like to have a budget for the club. A motion was passed to authorize the treasurer to develop a budget to present at the next board meeting.

Miscellaneous – Mac Hardy reported that we already have enough volunteers for Wildlife and Fisheries Day at Bodcau that will take place on September 27, 2003. He also reported that he and Lily Poole conducted a birding merit badge course at Garland Scout Ranch. Lily will write an article about their experiences for the newsletter. Mac Hardy reminded everyone to send in bird records to the database. Larry Raymond said that he has not received any new articles for the Hot Spots publication. The board decided not to wait for more articles and to go ahead with the publication using the articles we have at this time.

Field Trips – Nancy Menasco said that we should offer regular classes on bird watching. She suggested classes on warblers, shorebirds, and a class for beginning birders. A suggestion was made to try one of these classes to see how successful it might be. Nancy said that she needs help in planning future field trips. Nancy said that she is planning a field trip to Fort Hood near Killeen, Texas, to see **Black-capped Vireo** on May 1st and 2nd. Hubert Hervey suggested that we investigate Eagles, Etc., at Lake DeGray, Arkansas. This event occurs during the last full weekend in January and that conflicts with the LOS winter meeting.

Fund Raising – Jerry Bertrand needs people to help make birdhouses for the raffle.

Library – Linda Adrion will take over the library from Jim Ingold. Linda asked for direction as to what should be done in the library. She received many suggestions.

Membership – Lily Poole reported that we have 101 paid memberships. Nancy Menasco suggested that we develop a way to find out which members attend meetings. Amanda Crnkovic will create an attendance sheet.

Newsletter – Amanda Crnkovic, the new newsletter editor, displayed her first newsletter. She pointed out that she has made several changes: 1) the membership form was changed, 2) there is a new column called "Tell the BSG," 3) the list of board of directors and officers was moved to the back, 4) the bird report was rearranged so that the sightings come before the observers. Nancy Menasco asked about printing the newsletter on recycled paper. It was pointed out that it would cost more to do that. Amanda Crnkovic will price recycled paper and compare it to regular paper.

Publicity – Lily Poole said that she couldn't contact Lonnie Gilley. Michele Andrews volunteered to be publicity chairman.

Programs – Jerry Bertrand distributed a list of suggestions for programs. Jerry asked how much money is available for stipends for speakers. Hubert Hervey made a motion that the club set aside \$250 in the budget for honoraria. The motion was amended to \$300 and passed.

New Business – Amanda Crnkovic suggested that the club needs BSG T-shirts. Amanda will look into prices. Mac Hardy moved that Amanda seek information on ordering the T-shirts and take orders at the next meeting. This motion was amended to ask Amanda to gather information such as cost, styles, and other important information concerning the ordering of T-shirts and present the information at the next regular meeting. The motion passed.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

September 9, 2003, 7:00 p.m.,

Museum of Life Sciences at LSUS

Program - The speaker was Hubert Hervey who presented the program "Hawk Identification." Hubert also asked BSG members to send letters to their legislators to help the **Least Terns** on the Red River. Hubert reported that two of the best nesting areas didn't have any successful nests this year.

Treasurer's Report - Jean Trahan reported on the club's finances for the year ending June 30, 2003. She said for the year, the club had a total income of \$2,928.75, total expenses of \$2,519.36, resulting in a net income of \$409.39.

Bird Alert - Rosemary Seidler said that anyone who wants to be placed on the Bird Alert Service, should contact her.

Bird Records – Mac Hardy reported that there are 134,000 records in the database. He said that members who have the database on CD’s could get them refreshed if they bring them in. Mac also distributed new club checklists

Field Trips - Nancy Menasco reported on future field trips. She said that the Haynesville Butterfly Festival would take place September 13, in Haynesville, Louisiana. Other field trips planned are the Hervey hawk watch on September 20 at the Hervey Dairy Farm in Stonewall and the NETFO hawk watch at Lake O’ The Pines on September 27. Information about these field trips and others is on the BSG website.

Programs - Jerry Bertrand reported that he is attempting to match program speakers with field trips.

Newsletter – Amanda Crnkovic said that there is a new section in the newsletter called “Tell the BSG.” To have items placed in this section, either email or call Amanda.

Miscellaneous – Linda Adrion is the club’s new librarian. Dick Speairs said that the museum’s sign was blown over by the wind and that Mac Hardy repaired it. Club members were reminded to use their Kroger cards and that bumper stickers are available for a \$1.00 donation.

Bird Talk – Shirley Huss reported **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** in her yard. Nancy Menasco and Jerry Bertrand saw a **Marbled Godwit** on the Red River. Ron Martin said that he saw a **Broad-winged Hawk** on the Centenary Campus.

- ◆ **Hospitality:** Bring your favorite snack to share at the next meeting!
- ◆ Use your BSG Kroger Cares, **Kroger card.** Each time you use it the BSG earns money.
- ◆ **COMING SOON ...** May 1-2, 2003 A BSG field trip to the Fort Hood area, near Waco, Texas.

Send announcements or any other tidbits of information to Amanda (797-5338 or acrnkov@softdisk.com)

BSG Board of Directors & Committee Chairpersons	
BSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
<u>OFFICERS</u>	
<i>President – Lily Poole (2) – 687-2994 (H)</i>	
<i>Vice-president – Jerry Bertrand (3) – 868-3255 (H)</i>	
<i>Secretary – Jeff Trahan (3) – 868-7360 (H), 869-5217 (W)</i>	
<i>Treasurer – Jean Trahan (3) – 868-7360 (H)</i>	
<u>MEMBERS AT LARGE</u>	
<i>Linda Adrion (2) – 868-5729 (H)</i>	
<i>Michele Andrews (2) – 752-9469 (H)</i>	
<i>Roy Bott (1) – 925-2265 (H)</i>	
<i>Amanda Crnkovic (3) – 861-5294 (H), 797-5338 (W)</i>	
<i>Mac Hardy (2) – 687-6738 (H), 797-5338 (W)</i>	
<i>Hubert Hervey (3) – 925-9249 (H)</i>	
<i>John McBride (1) – 221-2957 (H), 929-2806 (W)</i>	
<i>Nancy Menasco (1) – 868-3255 (H)</i>	
<i>Larry Raymond (1) – 929-3117 (H), 929-2806 (W)</i>	
<i>Dan Weber (1) – 949-1850 (H), 773-3077 or 549-2686 (W)</i>	
<i>Numbers in parentheses are years remaining of a 3-year term.</i>	
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	
<i>Beginning Birders – John McBride. 221-2957 (H) 929-2806 (W)</i>	
<i>Bird Alert Service – Rosemary Seidler 424-2972 (H)</i>	
<i>869-5231 (W)</i>	
<i>Bird Hot Spot – Larry Raymond 929-3117 (H) 929-2806 (W)</i>	
<i>Bird Records – Mac Hardy 687-6738 (H) 797-5338 (W)</i>	
<i>Field Trip Coordinator – Nancy Menasco 868-3255 (H)</i>	
<i>Fund Raising – Jerry Bertrand 868-3255 (H)</i>	
<i>Hospitality – Amanda Crnkovic 861-5294 (H) 797-5338 (W)</i>	
<i>& Vera Bott 925-2265 (H)</i>	
<i>Important Birding Areas – Hubert Hervey 925-9249 (H)</i>	
<i>Library – Linda Adrion 868-5729 (H)</i>	
<i>Membership Secretary – Lily Poole 687-2994 (H)</i>	
<i>Newsletter Editor & Folding/Mailing Committee –</i>	
<i>Amanda Crnkovic 861-5294 (H), 797-5338 (W)</i>	
<i>Programs – Jerry Bertrand 868-3255 (H)</i>	
<i>Publicity – Michele Andrews 752-9469 (H)</i>	
<i>& Marti Carroll 746-2235 (H)</i>	
<i>Website – Barney Poole 687-2994 (H)</i>	

TELL THE BSG

- ◆ **Bird Alert by email** – Receive or send notices about bird sightings using email. Contact the Rosemary (424-2972 or 869-5231) to be added to the list. Only people that are on the list can send mail to the list. This is a safeguard to limit junk email. The average number of emails to the Bird Alert is one to three per day.
- ◆ We are **taking names** -- The BSG will be keeping a list of members and visitors attending the meetings. This information, collected on a clipboard passed around the meeting, will be used to document numbers of individuals (members/guests) attending meetings.
- ◆ The BSG maintains a collection of checklists and bird-related books from around the U.S. Check out these treasures from the **BSG library**.

BIRD REPORT – *compiled September 22, 2003*

Use the bird report to see what other birders have been seeing and where to go find the bird you want to see. Observers are abbreviated by the first and last initials. Dates and localities of observations are summarized under the observer's initials. Sightings are arranged by species. Following each species is a line of data in the following format: date, initials of the observer, number of birds observed, initials of another observer, number of birds they observed, etc. For the number of birds observed, a 1 is used for both 1 bird and for numbers not reported by the observer. For example: 01/12/99 BB 2 means that on January 12, 1999, BB saw two birds. Then by looking on the observer list, located after the sightings, you can determine that BB is Bob Birder and on 1/12/99 he was birding C. Bickham Dickson Park.

Report bird records for the newsletter to Mac Hardy by the 15th of each month. All bird records reported here are observations of the observers and are therefore the responsibility of the observer.

SIGHTINGS

Species, Date, Observer, Number Seen

Wood Duck -- 08/14/2003 RS 4, 08/14/2003 RS 5, 08/19/2003 JI 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 40, 08/24/2003 BSG 20, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 6, 09/14/2003 J&JT 4
Mallard -- 08/24/2003 BSG 6, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 6
Northern Pintail -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 2
Blue-winged Teal -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 125, 08/24/2003 BSG 78, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 50, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 104, 09/06/2003 CL 2, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 40
Northern Shoveler -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 5, 08/24/2003 BSG 1, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 10, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 5
Gadwall -- 08/23/2003 LP&SH 5
Ruddy Duck -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 2, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 2
Northern Bobwhite -- 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Pied-billed Grebe -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 2, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/24/2003 BSG 9, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 2, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 19, 09/06/2003 CL 3, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 11, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 5
American White Pelican -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 3, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/24/2003 BSG 7, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 36, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 1
Double-crested Cormorant -- 08/23/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 15, 08/24/2003 BSG 10, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 25, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 50, 09/06/2003 CL 6, 09/07/2003 CL 6, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 100, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 50, 09/20/2003 BSG 5
Neotropic Cormorant -- 09/07/2003 CL 1
Anhinga -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 5, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 18, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 3
Least Bittern -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 2, 08/24/2003 BSG 1
Great Blue Heron -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/19/2003 JI 2, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 30, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 10, 08/24/2003 BSG 9, 08/30/2003 JI 4, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 8, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 19, 09/06/2003 JT 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 12, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 12, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 2
Great Egret -- 08/14/2003 RS 4, 08/14/2003 RS 53, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 5, 08/18/2003 JI 2, 08/19/2003 JI 5, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 375, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 29, 08/24/2003 BSG 350, 08/24/2003 JT 3, 08/30/2003 JI 8, 08/30/2003 J&JT 4, 09/01/2003 NM 5, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 350, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 13, 09/06/2003 JT 1, 09/14/2003 J&JT 3, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 300, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 150, 09/18/2003 JI 1, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 4, 09/20/2003 BSG 2
Snowy Egret -- 08/14/2003 RS 4, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 3, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 12, 08/24/2003 BSG 30, 08/30/2003 J&JT 6, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 3, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 12, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 15, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 4, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 15, 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Little Blue Heron -- 08/18/2003 JI 1, 08/19/2003 JI 2, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 15, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 7, 08/24/2003 BSG 10, 08/24/2003 JT 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 2, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 7, 09/06/2003 JT 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 4, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/18/2003 JI 2, 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Tricolored Heron -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 10, 08/24/2003 BSG 15, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 5, 09/07/2003 CL 2, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 6, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 5
Cattle Egret -- 08/14/2003 RS 7, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/18/2003 JI 1, 08/19/2003 JI 15, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 10, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 23, 08/24/2003 JT 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 5, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 50, 09/07/2003 CL 10000, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 100, 09/18/2003 JI 22, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 100, 09/20/2003 BSG 40
Green Heron -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 2, 08/30/2003 JI 5, 08/30/2003 J&JT 2, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/14/2003 J&JT 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Black-crowned Night-Heron -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 4, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 1
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 09/01/2003 NM 3
White Ibis -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 20, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 16, 08/24/2003 BSG 7, 09/07/2003 CL 16, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 14, 09/18/2003 JI 4
Roseate Spoonbill -- 09/17/2003 NM&JB 2
Wood Stork -- 08/24/2003 BSG 2
Black Vulture -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 5, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/30/2003 JI 1, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 59
Turkey Vulture -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 5, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 22, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/24/2003 JT 1, 08/30/2003 JI 2, 08/30/2003 J&JT 3, 09/06/2003 LRR 1, 09/06/2003 JT 1, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 4, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 2, 09/18/2003 JI 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 31
Osprey -- 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Mississippi Kite -- 09/01/2003 NM 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Bald Eagle -- 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/07/2003 CL 1
Sharp-shinned Hawk -- 09/20/2003 BSG 2
Cooper's Hawk -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 3
Red-shouldered Hawk -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 09/06/2003 LRR 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 6
Broad-winged Hawk -- 09/20/2003 BSG 47

Red-tailed Hawk -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 5, 08/30/2003 JI 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 2, 09/10/2003 RS 2, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 4, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 4, 09/19/2003 RS 2, 09/20/2003 BSG 1

Sora -- 08/24/2003 BSG 2

American Coot -- 09/05/2003 NM&JB 8, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 10, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 8

Black-bellied Plover -- 08/24/2003 BSG 1

Killdeer -- 08/14/2003 RS 9, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 20, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/24/2003 BSG 2, 08/24/2003 JT 2, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 5, 09/14/2003 J&JT 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 5, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 12, 09/20/2003 BSG 1

Black-necked Stilt -- 08/23/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 75, 08/24/2003 BSG 60, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 50, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 62, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 70, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 40

American Avocet -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/24/2003 BSG 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 11, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 1

Greater Yellowlegs -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 3, 08/24/2003 BSG 2, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 10, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 2

Lesser Yellowlegs -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 12, 08/24/2003 BSG 7, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 10, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 25

Spotted Sandpiper -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 5, 08/24/2003 BSG 4, 08/30/2003 JI 1, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/06/2003 CL 7, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 2

Upland Sandpiper -- 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 1

Marbled Godwit -- 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1

Semipalmated Sandpiper -- 08/24/2003 BSG 20, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 30

Least Sandpiper -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 15, 08/24/2003 BSG 45, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 3

Baird's Sandpiper -- 08/24/2003 BSG 4

Pectoral Sandpiper -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 18, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 10

Stilt Sandpiper -- 08/24/2003 BSG 7

Short-billed Dowitcher -- 08/24/2003 BSG 8

Long-billed Dowitcher -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 3, 08/24/2003 BSG 2

Caspian Tern -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/24/2003 BSG 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 15, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 6, 09/06/2003 CL 4, 09/07/2003 CL 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 2

Forster's Tern -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 15, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 4, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 10, 09/06/2003 CL 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 2

Black Tern -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 2, 08/24/2003 BSG 13, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 13, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/06/2003 CL 7, 09/07/2003 CL 4, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 1

Rock Pigeon -- 08/14/2003 RS 9, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 14, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 16, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 12, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 6

Eurasian Collared-Dove -- 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/30/2003 JI 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/10/2003 RS 1, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 5

Mourning Dove -- 08/14/2003 RS 18, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 26, 08/18/2003 JI 5, 08/19/2003 JI 3, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 6, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 5, 08/24/2003 JT 35, 08/30/2003 JI 2, 08/30/2003 J&JT 18, 09/01/2003 NM 20, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 6, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 2, 09/06/2003 JT 6, 09/10/2003 RS 12, 09/14/2003 J&JT 45, 09/19/2003 RS 34, 09/20/2003 BSG 15

Inca Dove -- 09/10/2003 RS 7, 09/19/2003 RS 14, 09/20/2003 BSG 2

Yellow-billed Cuckoo -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/24/2003 JT 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 2, 09/01/2003 NM 2, 09/06/2003 CL 1

Eastern Screech-Owl -- 08/24/2003 JT 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1

Great Horned Owl -- 08/24/2003 BSG 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/09/2003 H&PH 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 1

Barred Owl -- 08/14/2003 RS 3

Common Nighthawk -- 09/09/2003 H&PH 1

Chimney Swift -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 9, 08/19/2003 JI 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 2, 09/06/2003 LRR 4, 09/09/2003 H&PH 6, 09/19/2003 RS 9, 09/20/2003 BSG 120

Ruby-throated Hummingbird -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 09/06/2003 LRR 2, 09/06/2003 JT 1, 09/08/2003 NM&JB 10, 09/10/2003 RS 2, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 10, 09/19/2003 RS 3, 09/20/2003 BSG 25

Belted Kingfisher -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/24/2003 JT 2, 08/30/2003 JI 5, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/01/2003 NM 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/14/2003 J&JT 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 1

Red-headed Woodpecker -- 08/23/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 3, 08/24/2003 BSG 2, 08/24/2003 JT 6, 08/30/2003 J&JT 12, 09/01/2003 NM 6, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/06/2003 JT 6, 09/14/2003 J&JT 3, 09/20/2003 RS 2

Red-bellied Woodpecker -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 08/19/2003 JI 1, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/24/2003 BSG 1, 08/24/2003 JT 4, 08/30/2003 J&JT 5, 09/01/2003 NM 4, 09/06/2003 LRR 2, 09/06/2003 JT 4, 09/10/2003 RS 3, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 2, 09/14/2003 J&JT 8, 09/18/2003 JI 2, 09/19/2003 RS 4, 09/20/2003 BSG 3

Downy Woodpecker -- 08/14/2003 RS 4, 08/24/2003 JT 3, 08/30/2003 J&JT 4, 09/01/2003 NM 2, 09/06/2003 LRR 1, 09/14/2003 J&JT 6, 09/20/2003 BSG 1

Hairy Woodpecker -- 08/14/2003 RS 1

Northern Flicker -- 09/01/2003 NM 2, 09/14/2003 J&JT 1, 09/19/2003 RS 1

Pileated Woodpecker -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 08/19/2003 JI 1, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 3, 09/06/2003 JT 3, 09/18/2003 JI 1

Eastern Wood-Pewee -- 09/06/2003 LRR 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 3

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher -- 08/14/2003 RS 1

Eastern Phoebe -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 2

Great Crested Flycatcher -- 08/30/2003 JI 1

Eastern Kingbird -- 08/19/2003 JI 1, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 185, 08/24/2003 BSG 125, 08/30/2003 J&JT 4, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 60, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 4, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 50, 09/06/2003 JT 4, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 5, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 58

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 4, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 13, 09/01/2003 NM 2, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 3, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 15, 09/14/2003 J&JT 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 2, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 26

Loggerhead Shrike -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/10/2003 RS 1, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 3, 09/19/2003 RS 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 1

White-eyed Vireo -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/24/2003 JT 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/06/2003 CL 2, 09/10/2003 RS 1, 09/14/2003 J&JT 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 4

Bell's Vireo -- 09/20/2003 BSG 1

Yellow-throated Vireo -- 09/06/2003 CL 2

Philadelphia Vireo -- 09/06/2003 CL 1

Red-eyed Vireo -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 09/06/2003 CL 1

Blue Jay -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/19/2003 JI 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 5, 08/24/2003 JT 5, 08/30/2003 JI 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 12, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/06/2003 LRR 1, 09/06/2003 JT 5, 09/10/2003 RS 2, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 6, 09/14/2003 J&JT 2, 09/19/2003 RS 2, 09/20/2003 BSG 12

American Crow -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 14, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 3, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 8, 08/24/2003 JT 2, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/01/2003 NM 1, 09/10/2003 RS 2, 09/14/2003 J&JT 3, 09/18/2003 JI 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 45

Fish Crow -- 08/14/2003 RS 14, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 11, 08/24/2003 JT 2, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/06/2003 JT 4, 09/10/2003 RS 5, 09/18/2003 JI 1

Purple Martin -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 5, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 2

Tree Swallow -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 600, 08/24/2003 BSG 60, 09/06/2003 JT 45, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 100, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 40
Northern Rough-winged Swallow -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/24/2003 BSG 1, 08/24/2003 JT 8, 08/30/2003 JI 12, 08/30/2003 J&JT 38, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 4, 09/05/2003 NM&JB 15, 09/06/2003 JT 35, 09/14/2003 J&JT 25, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 13, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 10, 09/20/2003 BSG 50
Bank Swallow -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 120, 08/24/2003 BSG 75, 09/06/2003 CL 60, 09/06/2003 JT 1
Cliff Swallow -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 3
Barn Swallow -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 150, 08/24/2003 BSG 75, 09/01/2003 NM 4, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 15, 09/06/2003 CL 4, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 4, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 5
Carolina Chickadee -- 08/14/2003 RS 9, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 2, 08/24/2003 JT 2, 08/30/2003 J&JT 8, 09/01/2003 NM 2, 09/06/2003 LRR 1, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 2, 09/14/2003 J&JT 6, 09/20/2003 BSG 12
Tufted Titmouse -- 08/14/2003 RS 4, 08/24/2003 JT 3, 08/30/2003 J&JT 4, 09/06/2003 LRR 2, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 4, 09/20/2003 BSG 8
White-breasted Nuthatch -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 09/06/2003 LRR 1, 09/10/2003 RS 1, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Carolina Wren -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/24/2003 JT 4, 08/30/2003 J&JT 4, 09/06/2003 LRR 1, 09/06/2003 JT 3, 09/10/2003 RS 1, 09/14/2003 J&JT 1, 09/18/2003 JI 1, 09/19/2003 RS 2, 09/20/2003 BSG 3
House Wren -- 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/24/2003 JT 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 6, 09/06/2003 CL 8
Eastern Bluebird -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/19/2003 JI 5, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/24/2003 JT 2, 08/30/2003 J&JT 5, 09/01/2003 NM 2, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 15, 09/14/2003 J&JT 10, 09/20/2003 BSG 4
American Robin -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 4, 08/19/2003 JI 8, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/06/2003 JT 5, 09/14/2003 J&JT 50, 09/19/2003 RS 5
Northern Mockingbird -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 3, 08/24/2003 JT 8, 08/30/2003 JI 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 4, 09/01/2003 NM 3, 09/06/2003 JT 2, 09/10/2003 RS 4, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/18/2003 JI 1, 09/19/2003 RS 3, 09/20/2003 BSG 3
Brown Thrasher -- 08/24/2003 JT 1, 09/10/2003 RS 2, 09/19/2003 RS 2, 09/20/2003 BSG 2
European Starling -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 50, 08/24/2003 JT 150, 08/30/2003 J&JT 60, 09/01/2003 NM 12, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 50, 09/06/2003 JT 20, 09/10/2003 RS 12, 09/14/2003 J&JT 65, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 25, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 12, 09/19/2003 RS 24, 09/20/2003 BSG 9
Blue-winged Warbler -- 09/01/2003 NM 1
Northern Parula -- 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/06/2003 CL 5
Yellow Warbler -- 08/14/2003 RS 2, 08/24/2003 JT 3, 08/30/2003 J&JT 1, 09/06/2003 CL 9
Black-throated Green Warbler -- 08/14/2003 RS 1
Yellow-throated Warbler -- 09/06/2003 CL 5
Pine Warbler -- 08/14/2003 RS 6, 09/06/2003 LRR 1, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 20, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 4
Prairie Warbler -- 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Black-and-white Warbler -- 09/06/2003 CL 2, 09/06/2003 LRR 1
Prothonotary Warbler -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 09/06/2003 CL 2
Northern Waterthrush -- 09/06/2003 CL 2
Hooded Warbler -- 09/06/2003 CL 2
Summer Tanager -- 08/14/2003 RS 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 08/24/2003 JT 1, 08/30/2003 J&JT 2, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 1, 09/06/2003 LRR 2, 09/06/2003 CL 3, 09/06/2003 JT 2, 09/18/2003 JI 1, 09/20/2003 BSG 4
Northern Cardinal -- 08/14/2003 RS 8, 08/16/2003 LP&SH 4, 08/19/2003 JI 3, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 2, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 3, 08/24/2003 JT 3, 08/30/2003 J&JT 2, 09/01/2003 NM 6, 09/06/2003 LRR 2, 09/06/2003 JT 2, 09/10/2003 RS 5, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 4, 09/14/2003 J&JT 3, 09/19/2003 RS 6, 09/20/2003 BSG 25
Blue Grosbeak -- 08/24/2003 JT 1
Indigo Bunting -- 08/19/2003 JI 1
Painted Bunting -- 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Red-winged Blackbird -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 3000, 08/23/2003 LP&SH 1, 08/24/2003 BSG 5, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 20, 09/06/2003 JT 1, 09/17/2003 NM&JB 50
Eastern Meadowlark -- 08/16/2003 LP&SH 2, 09/03/2003 NM&JB 3, 09/18/2003 NM&JB 10
Common Grackle -- 08/14/2003 RS 18, 08/18/2003 JI 1, 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 8, 08/24/2003 BSG 3, 08/24/2003 JT 3, 08/30/2003 J&JT 60, 09/06/2003 JT 8, 09/10/2003 RS 58, 09/14/2003 J&JT 20, 09/19/2003 RS 6
Brown-headed Cowbird -- 09/01/2003 NM 12, 09/20/2003 BSG 1
Orchard Oriole -- 08/24/2003 BSG 2
Baltimore Oriole -- 08/23/2003 CL,KE,JB&NM 1, 09/06/2003 CL 1, 09/13/2003 ML,NM&JB 1
House Sparrow -- 08/30/2003 JI 2, 09/10/2003 RS 23, 09/19/2003 RS 18, 09/20/2003 BSG 3

Printed 663 of the 134,259 records in the BSG database; 130 species.

OBSERVERS

Observer initials – Observer name: date of observation, location of sighting.

BSG -- Bird Study Group: 08/24/2003 Red River from Bishop Point to MM 209; 09/20/2003 Stonewall: Hervey Dairy Farm

CL -- Charlie Lyon: 09/06/2003 Shreveport: Cross Lake; 09/07/2003 Shreveport: Cross Lake.

CL,KE,JB&NM -- Charlie Lyon, Kreg Ellzey, J Bertrand & N Menasco: 08/23/2003 Red River from Bishop Point to MM 207.

H&PH -- Hubert and Pat Hervey: 09/09/2003 Stonewall: Hervey Dairy Farm.

J&JT -- Jeff & Jean Trahan: 08/30/2003 Bickham Dickson Park; 09/14/2003 Bickham Dickson Park.

JI -- Jim Ingold: 08/18/2003 C. Bickham Dickson Park; 08/19/2003 C. Bickham Dickson Park; 08/30/2003 Red River @ Sci-Port & 12 Mile Bayou to Snake Island; 09/18/2003 Wallace Lake Dam area.

JT -- Jeff Trahan: 08/24/2003 Bickham Dickson Park; 09/06/2003 Bickham Dickson Park.

LP&SH -- Lily Poole and Shirley Huss: 08/16/2003 Shreveport: Cross Lake area, S. Lakeshore Dr., N. Lakeshore Dr.; 08/23/2003 I-49 at LA hwy. 177/Smithport Dam/Lock & Dam #4.

LRR -- Larry R. Raymond: 09/06/2003 6675 North Park Circle, Shreveport.

ML,NM&JB – ME Lewis, Nancy Menasco & Jerry Bertrand: 09/13/2003 Arizona Road; 09/13/2003 ME & Fred Lewis home on Lake Claiborne; 09/13/2003 Research Farm Roads.

NM -- Nancy Menasco: 09/01/2003 C. Bickham Dickson Park.

NM&JB -- Nancy Menasco & Jerry Bertrand: 09/03/2003 Bishop Point; 09/03/2003 LA Hwy 1 from Hwy 175 to Lock & Dam #5; 09/03/2003 Lock & Dam #5 Road; 09/03/2003 Lock & Dam #5 road to Bishop Point; 09/03/2003 Red River near Bishop Point; 09/05/2003 LA Hwy 1 from Hwy 175 to Lock & Dam #5; 09/05/2003 Lock & Dam #5 road & Bishop Point road; 09/05/2003 Red River from Bishop Point to MM 205; 09/08/2003 Residence, Broadmoor Terrace Subdivision; 09/17/2003 Hwy 1 between Hwy 175 & Yearwood Rd; 09/17/2003 Lock & Dam #5 road & Bishop Point Road; 09/17/2003 Red River MM 201-203; 09/18/2003 Hwy 1 between Hwy 175 & Yearwood Rd; 09/18/2003 Lock & Dam #5 road & Bishop Point Road; 09/18/2003 Red River Bishop Point to MM 203.

RS -- Rosemary Seidler: 08/14/2003 I220 at Blanchard Rd.; 08/14/2003 Richard Fleming Park; 09/10/2003 Prospect St. near Line Ave; 09/19/2003 Prospect St. near Line Ave; 09/20/2003 Prospect St. near Line Ave.



©COPYRIGHT 2003, SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY, INC.
 All rights reserved. Material may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, published, or broadcast without the prior written permission of the Bird Study Group, Shreveport Society for Nature Study, Inc. Direct inquires to the Editor, Amanda Crnkovic at acrnkov@softdisk.com or (318) 797-5338.

LOS Raffle Ticket

Cameron Bird Observation Tower Fund

\$1 for 1 or \$5 for 6 tickets

Prizes include birding optics, books, prints, etc.

TICKET STUB	
Name:	_____
Address	_____

Phone No	_____
Email:	_____

	<p>LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY CAMERON OBSERVATION TOWER DONATION DRAWING TO BE HELD OCTOBER 25, 2003</p> <p>Major Sponsors: Avian Aquatics, Bird Watcher's Digest, Birder's World, Celestron, Cornell Lab, Eagle Optics, Thayer's Birding Software, Wild Birds Unlimited</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Donation \$1.00 NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN</p>
--	---

Mail stub to: Louisiana Ornithological Society
 c/o Judith O'Neale
 504 Whitebark Drive
 Lafayette, LA 70508-6362