DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

1988-89

(All officers are members of the Board of Directors)

President -- Steve Klotz
Vice-President -- Brad McPherson
Secretary-Treasurer -- Betty Mason
Assistant Secretary -- Ann Elston
Committee Chairmen:
   Bird Feed -- Bob Duvall
   Bird Feeders & Publicity -- Will Smolenski
   Outings -- John McBride
   Membership -- Susan Keener
Board Members:
   Paul Dickson
   Vera Lee Grubbs
   Mac Hardy (Newsletter Editor)
   Shirley Huss
   Pat Lonnecker
   Larry Raymond
   Bob Wommack

Bird Alert Service: Phone 226-7174, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday after 5:00 PM
Bird Feed and Feeders: On sale at the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 11, 7:00 PM at the Museum of Life Sciences

The monthly meeting of the Bird Study Group will be held at the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences, 8015 St. Vincent Ave., Shreveport. The program will be presented by Mr. Richard McMullen, manager of the Bodcau Bayou Wildlife Management Area on the banding of ducks.
NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

November 17, 1988, 7:00 PM, at the Museum of Life Sciences -- Mark your calendar. The Board will meet every third Thursday of alternate months.

MINUTES of meeting, September 13, 1988.

The meeting was called to order by Mac Hardy. Minutes were read by the Secretary. The Treasurer, who had already put in an hour's work collecting yearly dues, reported a balance of $2,194.80.

Several announcements were made. See field trip news and bird notes below. Bird feed and feeders are in stock and more feeders are arriving. Brad McPherson showed some color photographs of a Purple Finch for comparison with the House Finch that has been seen recently.

The program consisted of the viewing of a video tape from PBS on the habitat, nesting, and caring of young of Brown Pelicans. With the help from birds brought in from Florida, the Brown Pelican is beginning to thrive in Louisiana.

A slate of proposed Board of Directors was presented by the Nominating Committee (Paul Dickson, Mac Hardy, Shirley Huss, and Larry Raymond). Vera Lee Grubbs and Shirley Huss were nominated from the floor. The fifteen member Board of Directors was elected. This procedure, and the election of officers by the Board of Directors (see below), is in accordance with the By-Laws.

Steve Klotz reminded everyone to be on the lookout for migrating White Pelicans during September and early October.

Meeting adjourned.

MINUTES of Board meeting, September 13, 1988.

According to the By-Laws of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study, the Board elects officers for the year. At a brief Board meeting following the regular meeting, the officers for the year 1988-1989 were elected. Committee chairmen were also appointed (see front of Newsletter).

MINUTES of Board meeting (abridged),

Our new president, Steve Klotz, called the meeting to order. Will Smolenski reported on Publicity soon to be submitted to media: announcements of new officers; meeting
dates; field trips and the bird hot line[ were in cluded]. Will also had a price for 12 purple martin houses from Harold Coates; $540 per dozen or $47 each. He was authorized by the Borad to order a dozen. Will agreed to mark all items sold by the Bird Study Group with a member price and a non-member price.

Mac Hardy set the 25th of each month as the deadline for all materials for the monthly newsletter. He would like to get it in the mail at least a week before the next meeting. Shirley Huss and Vera Lee Grubbs will continue to do the calling to compile the monthly list of birds sighted by area members.

Brad McPherson has been given a list of possible ideas for future programs.

The suggestion was made to investigate long range plans for the group to go birding in the High Island, Anahuac, and Bolivar Point area of southeastern Texas. This would be a drive of about 6 hours, with a 2 or 3 night stay. Ann Elston was asked to present some tentative plans.

Larry Raymond asked the Treasurer, Betty Mason, about the status of the renewal of our bulk mailing permit. She promised to march thru the red tape necessary for this task. Betty checked with Mac about the ordering of books for the Museum of Life Sciences that had been in our budget. The AOU check list has been ordered and Mac will get further information about the other orders.

The need for early publication of Christmas count dates throughout the state was mentioned. The date and place of the winter meeting of LOS is anticipated.

Mac offered to set up a time for a group to observe the House Finch still feeding regularly on Barksdale AFB. A request from Paul Dickson for a volunteer to take a French student birding was filled by John McBride.

Steve Klotz suggested that we take a look at the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study with the idea of revision to suit present structure and membership. There was a general consensus that we were remiss in the last meeting in not informing the membership prior to the meeting of the following facts: under the present Articles, as with most corporations, members elect the Board; the then elected Board elects officers for the whole group. Many felt that this had been somewhat awkward for all. Larry Raymond and Bob Wommack agreed that it would take the assistance of a lawyer to change the Articles of Incorporation. Pat Lonnecker and Ann Elston agreed to review these documents to report on changes
possibly needed. Steve Klotz stated that we should include the "Inc." on any official papers, such as the bulk mailing permit.

On the subject of membership, Mac presented several ideas to the board. The mailing list is over 300; comprised of some 40+ paying members of the Bird Study Group, several contributors from the general public, interested past members of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study, and various other birding groups throughout the state. In the discussion that followed, it was agreed to continue mailing to this list for several more months before purging, with announcements in the newsletter that membership was vital.

The board was given copies of a proposal by Mac to mail the newsletter to paid members separately in order to include a one-sheet insertion with a different special benefit each month. Members not paid would not get the extra insert in their newsletter. He suggested that such an inclusion might be a coupon with the members name, good for 20% special discount on one purchase of bird feeders. Other suggestions offered to make the insertion for members a valuable item were: list of ideal Christmas gifts for birders; new nomenclature of birds; a roster of members; a list of all birds seen on local field trips each month; birding tips column by John McBride. The board agreed to encourage membership throughout the year.

Mac agreed to continue the full newsletter to all for two more months. He will stress the need for both new members and renewal of membership. A purging of the mailing list will then be in order.

Next board meeting will be November 17.

Meeting adjourned.

FIELD TRIPS:

Saturday, October 15
A field trip for migrants and shore birds along the Red River at George Road. Maybe we will see another Osprey.
Meet at the North Market Whataburger at 7:30 AM. John McBride will be the leader.

Saturday, October 1
Bickham-Dickson Park will be the site for another outing to explore the woods and good sand bar habitat along the Red River. Meet at the stables at 7:30 AM. There is a 50 cent fee for entry to the trails along the river. Steve Klotz and Will Smolenski will lead the group.
Saturday, November 19
Caddo Lake near the town of Trees has unexplored lake-edge and woods. Many picturesque areas with large cypress trees, water lilies and cattail marshes were found. Car pooling will be necessary. John McBride will be the leader.

Saturday and Sunday, October 22-23
The fall meeting of the Louisiana Ornithological Society in Cameron. The program will be on birding in the Big Bend National Park. Check with Shirley Huss or John McBride for details.

FIELD TRIP RESULTS
Ten birders enjoyed the outing to George Road on September 10, 1988. With good weather but rather light birding 45 species were seen from 8:00 to 11:00 AM, including Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, several Snowy Egrets, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper’s Hawk, Solitary Sandpiper, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Common Yellowthroat, and an Osprey.

We had an unexpected opportunity to see Rosette Spoonbills on some private property in southern Bossier Parish. We assembled a small group (Larry Raymond, Steve Klotz, Paul Dickson, John McBride, Pat Lonnecker, Horace Jeter, and Ann and Willard Elston) on very short notice Friday night for an outing Saturday morning. We were limited to one vehicle. The surprise of the summer was a Swallow-tailed Kite! Other noteworthy birds seen included Tricolored Heron, Tree Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Least Sandpiper, and Western Sandpiper.

RECENT BOOKS
Nest Building and Bird Behavior by Nicholas E. Colllias and Elsie C. Colllias. Princeton Univ. Press, 336 pp, 85 illustrations, 1984, $47.50; $17.50 (paper). "This is the first comprehensive monograph on avian nests. It succeeds in synthesizing a widely scattered literature, and does so in a creative way, as could only be done by individuals who have devoted their entire careers to the study of their subject." -- Robert E. Smolker, The Quarterly Review of Biology.
BIRD NOTES -- September

Report bird sightings for the Newsletter to Vera Lee Grubbs (635-4852) or Shirley Huss (865-5959) by the 25th of each month.

Also see Field Trip Results above. A Northern Pintail was seen on September 3 (PD). An Olive-sided Flycatcher and a Yellow Warbler were seen September 5 at 12 Mile Bayou (JM). An early American Kestrel and Red-headed Woodpecker was seen north of Caddo Lake (JM, MH) on September 10. Five Rosette Spoonbills and several Wood Storks were seen on September 14 and 16 in southern Bossier Parish (PD, MH) along with a Blue-winged Warbler on September 16 (PD). Five Yellow Warblers, 8 Black and White Warblers, 1 Magnolia Warbler, 1 Wilson’s Warbler, 1 Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1 Red-tailed Hawk (all George road), and 2 American Kestrels were seen on 18 September (JM). An American Kestrel and Orchard Oriole were seen September 24 and Red-tailed Hawks and Broad-winged Hawks were seen all through September (W&AE). A Red-headed Woodpecker was visiting a feeder on September 24 (SA). Several reported Ruby-throated Hummingbirds still visiting feeders.

REPORTING: Sallie Anderton (SA), Paul Dickson (PD), Willard and Ann Elston (W&AE), Mac Hardy (MH), John McBride (JM),

AMERICAN BIRDS NEEDED

The Museum library contains an excellent collection of the birding periodical American Birds due to the generous donations from members of the Bird Study Group. The first volumes of American Birds were published as Audubon Field Notes. We still need the following issues to have a complete set:

Audubon Field Notes
Volumes 1-18
Vol. 19, numbers 2 and 5
Vols. 20-27
Vol. 28, number 1 (American Birds)

If anyone has any of these issues that could be donated to the Museum library they would be greatly appreciated. Any donation to the Museum of Life Sciences can be used as a tax deduction. We have a few duplicates for trade if that would be preferable. The issues available for trade are all American Birds, as follows: Vol. 32, no. 5; vol. 37, nos. 3-6; vols 38-39 (complete); vol. 40, nos. 1-3, 5; vol. 41, nos. 1, 2; and vol. 42, no. 1.
SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDIES
BIRD STUDY GROUP
Membership Application

Name __________________________ Date __________________________

Address ______________________ Street __________ City State Zip

Phone (Home) ____________________, (work) ______________________

Membership Category: Regular ___ ($5.00) Sustaining ___ ($25.00)

Make Check Payable to SSNS BIRD STUDY GROUP
Museum of Life Sciences
8015 St. Vincent Ave.
Shreveport, LA 71106

SPECIAL FOR MEMBERS ONLY

It has been apparent for some time that we needed an incentive for persons to become paid members. Thus far, everyone has had the same benefits -- everyone gets the newsletter, enjoys the outings, gets bird seed at a good price, etc. We made an early attempt to give a discount on feeders to paid members, but that did not work consistently. We needed some enticement that would cause people to want to be paid members.

Beginning with the November issue, each issue of the Newsletter will contain some item of interest to birders that will be sent only to those individuals of the Bird Study Group who are paid members. In November the special for paid members will be a pair of personalized coupons that give the bearer a 20% discount on all bird items in the gift shop, except bird feed. Members not paid for the current year will not get a discount on feeders. In other months the special insert might be birding tips, check lists, gift ideas, bird site maps, etc. The "extra" will not be much in any given month, but over a year it might add up to some benefit for the birder.