SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY, INC.

BIRD STUDY GROUP

NEWSLETTER

Volume 5, Number 10

May 28, 1991

Bird Alert Service: Phone 318.797-5338, Mon., Wed. & Fri. after 5:00 PM
Bird Feeders and Birding Supplies: LSUS Museum of Life Sciences

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1990-91

President - WILL SMOLENSKI, 2
Vice-President - CHARLIE LYON, 2
Secretary - LARRY RAYMOND, 1
Treasurer - BETTY MASON, 1

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ED BITOWSKI, 2
CONNIE CONNORS, 2
Open position, 1
BILL HALL, 3
MAG HARDY, 3
SHIRLEY HUSS, 1
JAMES MCCAIN, Jr., 3
VELDA NEILSON, 3
DICK ROLANDT, 2
ROSEMARY KREIBER, 3
BOBBO WOMMACK, 1

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

PUBLICITY -- Bobbe Wommack
GIFT SHOP -- Vacant
MEMBERSHIP -- Shirley Huss
NEWSLETTER -- Mac Hardy
OUTINGS -- Bill Hall
PROGRAMS -- Charlie Lyon
PHONE TREE -- Dick Rolandt
HOSPITALITY -- Velda Neilson

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING:

Tuesday, 11 June 1991, 7:00 PM in the Science building, Room 229 on the LSUS campus. Our own Bill Wood will present the program entitled "Status Update of the Attwater's Prairie-chicken."

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Tuesday, June 4, 7:00 PM, at Will Smolenski's house, 526 Dunmoreland Drive, Shreveport (phone 865-2938). There are several items of business; all board members should try to attend. Officers will be elected.

SPECIAL INSIDE:

FIELD TRIPS
WHAT'S NEW
BALD EAGLE HOME STUDY
NEWSLETTERS NEEDED
BOOKS DONATED

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Norma Cobb
Hubert Hervey
Jim Ingold
Betty Mason
Caroline Upchurch

These five new board members were elected at the last meeting. Their term is for three years. Meet them and let them know your interests in birding at the next meeting.
EAGLE STUDY

The University of Alaska Southeast is offering a home study course, with many resources, on "Bald Eagles of Alaska's Coastal Rain Forest." The fee is $214.00 (non-credit) or $249.00 (three university credits). For more information call 1,800,421-3768. A brochure is available in the BSG office.

MINUTES of the LAST MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the SSNS Bird Study Group was held Tuesday, 14 May 1991, in Room 229 of the Science Building on the LSUS campus. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 P.M. by President Will Smolenaski. Will recognized visitors and guests at the meeting.

Will asked for additions or corrections to the minutes as published in the May newsletter. There being none, the minutes were accepted as recorded.

Will announced that elections of new board members to serve three-year terms would be held. The five members nominated to fill the five vacancies were Norma Cobb, Hubert Hervey, Jim Ingold, Betty Mason and Caroline Upchurch. Will asked for other nominations from the floor. There were no other nominations. A motion to elect the five nominees was made and passed unanimously.

Will reported income in April of $126.00, and expenses of $34.79, leaving a May balance of $1,627.27. The balance in the post office account is $214.20.

Bill Hall reported on the Birding "Big Day" at Paul Dickson's Loggy Bayou Plantation. Due to high water and a scarcity of water and shore birds, only seventy-one species were recorded. However, a large group of about 30 to 40 birders enjoyed the outing and the good food. The highlight of the meal was the delicious crawfish provided by Paul. Another highlight was the opportunity to help Jim Ingold net and band birds, including several species of migrants, as well as summer residents.

Shirley Huss reported that the membership is somewhere between 135 to 140 paid members. Mac Hardy reminded everyone to check their newsletter mailing labels to see if it is time to renew memberships. Mac also asked that members let him know what other things they would like in the newsletter.

Bill Hall reminded members of the June 22 field trip to see the cattle egret rookery on Cross Lake. He reported that a Great Blue Heron rookery is on Wallace Lake and might also make an interesting field trip. The members decided to go to Wallace Lake instead of Cross Lake. Participants in this trip will meet at the McDonald's on Linwood and Bert Kouns at 7:30 A.M. Hubert Hervey will lead this outing.

The June 1 field trip to the Kisatchie National Forest will be led by Charlie Lyon. See the May newsletter for details of this field trip.

Velda Neilson gave a report on the LOS meeting in Cameron. The LOS group total was 212 species seen. Velda's group, led by Hubert Hervey, recorded 163 species.

Hubert gave a report on birds seen at Clear Lake east of Mansfield. A Peregrine Falcon and possible nesting Black-crowned Night Herons have been seen on the lake.

Larry Raymond reported that the Caddo Parish Commission passed an ordinance protecting native song and insectivorous birds. The ordinance will go into effect around June 1.

Several door prizes were awarded to members in attendance. Winners included both Mr. and Mrs. Ashley, Caroline Upchurch, and Hubert Hervey.

Will introduced Dr. Jim Ingold who presented the program on the "Evolutionary History of Cranes." Jim discussed protein electrophoresis, DNA hybridization studies, and other aspects of his college research on crane evolution.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 P.M.
WHAT'S NEW IN ORNITHOLOGY?

I had the opportunity to attend a joint meeting of the Wilson and Cooper Ornithological Societies in Oklahoma City 14–19 May. Here I present some of the information gleaned from the presentations.

William Baltoke from the University of Arkansas—Little Rock presented information on the Black-chinned Hummingbird (Archilochus alexandri). He has found that there are two populations that differ in size. The smaller southern population is found mainly in Mexico while the larger birds are found in the rest of the species range in the United States. The smaller birds are the same size as Ruby-throated Hummingbirds and can be mistaken for them, especially the females and immature males. It is interesting to note that the small race is the one that shows up in Louisiana! Baltoke was able to tell the small Black-chinned and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds apart by the shape of the outermost primary. Keep on the look out this fall for small Black-chinned Hummingbirds.

Holly Edwards of the University of Oklahoma presented evidence that birds can be magnetized. The site for this magnetization is in the head and neck. How the magnetic material is laid down in the tissues and its specific location is not known. Daytime migrants such as the Chimney Swift and the Cliff Swallow have lesser amounts that do birds such as the Bobwhite and House Sparrow.

Kevin Winkler of the University of Minnesota and his collaborators examined the behavior of wintering Wood Thrushes in Veracruz, Mexico. There are two classes of migrants: sedentary ones who maintain a winter territory and wanderers. The wanderers are usually fatter but have a higher mortality due to predation. They suggest that winter territories in the Wood Thrush is an anti-predator behavior and not a method to maintain a reliable food supply.

Kimberly Smith of the University of Arkansas and R. Craig Hansley of Dodge Nature Center in St Paul, Mn created a new breeding population of Eastern Bluebirds in Arkansas by starting a bluebird trail. They monitored the sex ratio of the multiple broods and found that latter broods had a higher ratio of females to males. Is this a way to increase the size of the population? How do birds determine the sex of their offspring?

Colleen St. Clair and Timothy Lasney presented information on breeding biology of the crested penguins (Eudyptes). This group of penguins lay two eggs. However the second egg may be up to 50% larger than the first. Although the first egg is incubated before the second egg is laid, the second egg always hatches first and this nesting is always bigger and usually more successful. Why the disparity in egg size? Why does the second egg hatch first? No one knows at this time!

Charles Amalaner of the University of Arkansas presented the most interesting paper. It has been known that in sleeping marine mammals, only part of the brain shows sleep waves and the other part shows brain waves typical of the aroused state, this is called unihemispheric sleep. This may permit these animals to sleep during long distance migrations let still swim and breathe. Something similar had been described in some birds. It had been noted that while sleeping, birds will open one eye for a short time, close it and then open the other eye. Amalaner surgically implanted electrodes into the brains of three species of birds. He found that when the right eye is open the left side of the brain is showing the brain waves of an alert brain while the right side of the brain is showing sleep waves. When the right eye is closed and the left eye was opened, the brain changed the type of waves is was producing. Therefore he has shown that birds can sleep with only “half a brain.” Do birds sleep while flying on long distance migrations? Maybe!!!

-- Jim Ingold

NEWSLETTERS NEEDED

We are trying to assemble a complete set of the Bird Study Group Newsletters for the BSG office and scrapbook. If you have a copy of any of the following issues please let Mac Hardy know:

Vol. 1, no. 9
Vol. 1, no. 10
Vol. 1, no. 11
NEW BOOKS

Pat Lonnecker donated 18 different items to the Museum Library recently. We sincerely appreciate her generosity. The books are in the Museum office.

FIELD TRIPS

Big Day at Loggy Bayou Plantation

On May 11, Paul Dickson continued an annual tradition by treating the Bird Study Group to a special day of birding in the beautiful wooded hillsides of Loggy Bayou Plantation. Birding began at daybreak and continued until noon. Birders broke up into small groups and were directed by Paul to habitat areas that might produce species that group was interested in or might "fill in the gaps" of our budding "day list." He also saw to it that each group was matched with just the right amount of hiking for our desires or abilities. Unfortunately, the incredible spring floods left the usual waterbird habitats inundated and inaccessible. Without these birds the species list for the day (73) was noticeably shorter than usual, but that fact had no effect on the wonderful time had by all. For me, the birding is fun, but the real treasure of the day is the pleasure of walking in and observing the natural world, alone or in the company of others who share a love for it. What a privileged way to slip out of harness for a little while and get in touch with things and thoughts of real value.

At lunch time everyone gathered at Paul and Beverley's beautiful new home for a delicious meal of boiled crawfish (generously provided by the Dicksons), corn, potatoes, sausage, breads, beer, soft drinks, chips, dips, cakes, and cookies ... I'm afraid I got back in touch with gluttony.

It was a great outing. Thanks, Paul.

June 1 — Red-cockaded Woodpeckers

7:30 A.M. Meet in the LSUS parking lot next to the Museum to car-pool to the Kisatchie National Forest. Charlie Lyon will lead us in an attempt to locate Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. No matter what the outcome of that particular pursuit, you are sure to learn a lot about birding from Charlie and visit another beautiful natural area of northern Louisiana. Bring food and drink. An ice chest will be available.

June 22 — Waterbird Rookeries

Plans have changed again — please take note!

7:30 A.M. Meet in the parking lot of "McDonalds" on the corner of Linwood and Bert Kouns. Hubert Horvey will be leading the group to the rookeries on Wallace Lake, Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, Cattle Egrets, and Anhingas have all been sighted nesting there. We will be renting boats and motors (approx. cost is $4.00 per person) so we need to have a 'head count' as soon as possible. If you plan to go on this special outing, please call Hubert (925-9249) by June 15th. Don't miss this opportunity to see still another of the unique habitats in our area and learn more about birding from another of the outstanding birders in our group.

If you have any requests, suggestions, or comments on outings (past or future), please let me know. Help us plan more and better trips!

— Bill Hall, Outings

CONTINUE YOUR BSG MEMBERSHIP!

Many memberships in the Bird Study Group are expiring during the next two to three months. This is just at a time when we are expanding programs, having more outings, and making interesting discoveries concerning the birding in this part of the state. Take the time to check your label and pay your membership for next year. Use the membership form in this newsletter to either continue your membership or invite a new member to join.
BIRD NOTES -- MAY
Compiled
May 27, 1991

Report bird records for the Newsletter to Connie Conners (865-6422) by the 25th 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: 5/15 PO 3BB 1.5 means that on the fifteenth PO saw 3 birds; BB saw 1 at one locality and 5 at another. For the number of birds observed, a one is used both for one specimen or for numbers not reported by the observer. Two (or more) numbers following an observer are numbers of birds seen at two (or more) different localities. The month is abbreviated only if it is the month preceding the one being reported.

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<tr>
<th>Abbrev</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates and Places</th>
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<td>BH</td>
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<td>BHJNH</td>
<td>Bill Hall and Hubert Harvey</td>
<td>5/4/91 Clear Lake</td>
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<td>BHJNH</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Jane Hall and Hubert Harvey</td>
<td>5/4/91 Clear Lake (DeSoto Parish)</td>
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<td>BSG</td>
<td>Bird Study Group outing</td>
<td>5/11/91 Loggy Bayou Plantation Big Day (+ Numbers not recorded)</td>
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<td>BW</td>
<td>Bobbe Noyack</td>
<td>4/26/91 Stonewall; 4/27/91 Caroline Vernon Nature Center; 4/29/91 Stonewall; 5/9/91 Stonewall; 5/2/91 Dickson Park; 5/9/91 Stonewall; 5/10/91 Stonewall; 5/14/91 Stonewall; 5/26/91 residence</td>
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<td>Connie Conners</td>
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<td>CL</td>
<td>Charlie Lyon</td>
<td>4/29/91 Bichman Dickson Park; 4/20/91 Wallace Lake; 5/4/91</td>
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<td>Charlie Lyon and Bill Wood</td>
<td>5/4/91 Clear Lake</td>
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<td>Hubert Harvey</td>
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<td>HHd</td>
<td>Helen Hood</td>
<td>5/4/91 residence; 5/7/91 residence; 5/24/91 residence</td>
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<td>JEF</td>
<td>John &amp; Gloria Franzen</td>
<td>5/15/91 Toledo Bend</td>
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<td>JN</td>
<td>Jim McKinn</td>
<td>5/17/91 residence; 5/2/91 Wason Road near Blanchard; 5/9/91 Bichman Middle School; 5/11/91 Haywood Road; 5/12/91 Dixie; 5/15/91 Dixie; 5/21/91 Dixie; 5/23/91 Haywood Road; 5/24/91 Dixie</td>
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<td>LR</td>
<td>Larry Raymond</td>
<td>5/12/91 Walter Jacobs Nature Park; 5/19/91 Jacobs Nature Park</td>
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<td>LNH</td>
<td>Larry Raymond and Hubert Harvey</td>
<td>5/10/91 Byrd Lake Plantation (part of Clear Lake)</td>
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<td>LNHJ</td>
<td>Larry Raymond and Mac Hardy</td>
<td>5/10/91 Jacobs Nature Park; 5/25/91 Oil City</td>
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<td>MC</td>
<td>Norse boys</td>
<td>5/17/91 residence; 5/25/91 residence</td>
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<td>RSL</td>
<td>Rosemary Seidler and Laurie</td>
<td>5/9/91 N. Lakeshore and Richard Fleming Park; 5/6/91 Bichman Dickson Park and Clyde Fast Pawy</td>
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<td>SB</td>
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<td>VH</td>
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<table>
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<td>Pied-billed Grebe</td>
<td>May 8 RSAL 3</td>
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<td>Double-crested Cormorant</td>
<td>May 4 CLAM 1, B JW 2, 5 RSAL 20; 10 BB 5</td>
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<td>Ashingas</td>
<td>May 4 B JH 2; 10 LRB 6</td>
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<td>Snowy Egret</td>
<td>Apr. 25 CL 3; 30 CL 3; May 4 CL 2, B JW 19; 8 RSAL 1; 10 B JW 1; 19 CL 8</td>
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<td>Little Blue Heron</td>
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<td>Cattle Egret</td>
<td>Apr. 20 BB 3; 29 CL 20; May 2 SHAP 22; 4 CL 30, B JW 15; 5 RSAL 4; 10 JW 12</td>
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<td>Common Name</td>
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<td>Black-crowned Night-Heron</td>
<td>May 4 BJNAH 6; 18 LRAHH 6</td>
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<td>May 4 CLAUD 10; 18 LRAHH 7</td>
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<td>White Ibis</td>
<td>May 4 CLAUD 61; 5 RSAL 4; 10 LRAHH 17</td>
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<td>Bittern</td>
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<td>Rimsimipi Kite</td>
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<td>Sharp-shinned Hawk</td>
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<td>Broad-tailed Hawk</td>
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<td>Red-tailed Hawk</td>
<td>May 4 BJNAH 11; 11 BS 1</td>
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<td>American Kestrel</td>
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<td>Peregrine Falcon</td>
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<td>Greater Yellowlegs</td>
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<td>Lesser Yellowlegs</td>
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<td>Willet</td>
<td>May 4 CLAUD</td>
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<td>Spotted Sandpiper</td>
<td>May 2 BH 2; 4 BJNAH 1; 18 LRAHH 1; 11 BS 1</td>
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<td>Holand Sandpiper</td>
<td>May 4 CL 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baird's Sandpiper</td>
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<td>Pectoral Sandpiper</td>
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<td>Common Scythe</td>
<td>May 1 JM 4</td>
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<td>Forster's Tern</td>
<td>May 4 CLAUD 13</td>
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<td>Lice Ocean</td>
<td>May 26 LRAHH 4</td>
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<td>Yellow-billed Cuckoo</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 3; May 1 BH 1; 4 CL 2; BJNAH 2; BH 2; 5 RSAL 1; 11 BS 1; 15 JM 1; 19 CL 6; 20 BH 3; 24 HM 1</td>
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<td>Greater Roadrunner</td>
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<td>Common Night-Hawk</td>
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<td>Chuck-willie Widow</td>
<td>May 4 CLAUD 2; 9 LR 1; 10 BH 2; 11 BS 1</td>
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<td>Chimney Swift</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 12; May 4 BJNAH 10; BH 5; 5 RSAL 12; 10 LRAHH 2</td>
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<td>Ruby-throated Hummingbird</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 1; May 10 BH 2; 12 LR 1; 11 BS 1; 19 CL 1; 21 JM 3</td>
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<td>Red-headed Woodpecker</td>
<td>May 5 RSAL 2; 11 BS 1</td>
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<td>Olive-sided Flycatcher</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 2; 29 CL 1; May 4 CL 4; 8 RSAL 1; 11 BS 1; 19 CL 1</td>
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<td>Eastern Wood-Peewee</td>
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<td>Acadian Flycatcher</td>
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<td>Great Crested Flycatcher</td>
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<td>Eastern Kingbird</td>
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<td>Scissor-tailed Flycatcher</td>
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<td>Purple Martin</td>
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<td>Tree Swallow</td>
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<td>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</td>
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<td>Belt Swallow</td>
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<td>Cliff Swallow</td>
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<td>Barn Swallow</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 45; May 2 SNAP 1; 8 RSAL 10; 10 LRAHH 4; 11 BS 1; 15 JM 12</td>
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<td>Marsh Wren</td>
<td>May 6 HM 1</td>
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<td>Rufous-crowned Kinglet</td>
<td>Apr. 29 CL 1; May 4 CL 2</td>
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<td>Blue-gray Gnatcatcher</td>
<td>May 4 CL 6; 5 RSAL 2; 8 RSAL 1; 10 LRAHH 6; 10 LRAHH 2; 11 BS 1</td>
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<td>Swallow's Thrush</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 1; May 10 BH 1; 19 CL 1</td>
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<td>Wood Thrush</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 1; May 11 BS 1</td>
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<td>Gray Catbird</td>
<td>Apr. 30 CL 1; May 4 CL 1; 8 RSAL 1; 10 BH 2; BH 1; 11 BS 1; 25 LRAHH 2</td>
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<td>Cedar Waxwing</td>
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<td>Apr. 28 BH 1; 1; 29 CL 1; May 4 CL 1; BJNAH 2; BH 2; 10 BH 2; BH 1; 11 BS 1</td>
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<td>Bell's Vireo</td>
<td>23 HM 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellow-throated Vireo</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 1; May 4 CL 2; 11 BS 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warbling Vireo</td>
<td>Apr. 30 CL 22; May 20 HM 2</td>
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<td>Philadelphia Vireo</td>
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<td>Tennessee Warbler</td>
<td>May 4 CL 1; 4 BH 20; 5 RSAL 5; 10 BH 10; 11 BS 1</td>
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<td>Orange-crowned Warbler</td>
<td>May 5 RSAL 3</td>
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<td>Nashville Warbler</td>
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<td>Northern Parula</td>
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<td>Yellow Warbler</td>
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<td>Yellow-rumped Warbler</td>
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<td>Black-throated Green Warbler</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 2; 29 CL 3; 30 CL 1; May 4 CLAUD 1; 5 RSAL 2; 8 RSAL 11; 11 BS 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black-throated Blue Warbler</td>
<td>Apr. 26 BH 1; May 5 RSAL 1; 11 BS 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellow-throated Warbler</td>
<td>Apr. 30 CL 1; May 4 BJNAH 15; 10 LRAHH 4; 11 BS 1; 25 LRAHH 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prairie Warbler</td>
<td>May 11 BS 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barred Warbler</td>
<td>Apr. 23 HM 1; May 4 BH 3; 5 RSAL 1; 8 RSAL 1; 9 LR 1; 11 BS 1</td>
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<td>Black-and-white Warbler</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 1; May 4 CL 6; BH 2; 5 RSAL 2; 11 BS 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Redstart</td>
<td>Apr. 28 BH 1; May 4 BH 4; 8 RSAL 3; 10 LRAHH 1; BH 1; 11 BS 1; 19 CL 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Name</td>
<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prothonotary Warbler</td>
<td>Apr. 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Waterthrush</td>
<td>CL 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louisiana Waterthrush</td>
<td>Mar 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kentucky Warbler</td>
<td>May 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut Warbler</td>
<td>May 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Common Yellowthroat</td>
<td>Apr. 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hooded Warbler</td>
<td>Apr. 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilson’s Warbler</td>
<td>Apr. 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cape May Warbler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellow-breasted Chat</td>
<td>Apr. 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Tanager</td>
<td>Apr. 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rose-breasted Grosbeak</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Grosbeak</td>
<td>Apr. 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigo Bunting</td>
<td>Apr. 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-billed Starling</td>
<td>Apr. 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black-capped Chickadee</td>
<td>Apr. 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chipping Sparrow</td>
<td>May 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dark Sparrow</td>
<td>May 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savannah Sparrow</td>
<td>Apr. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Song Sparrow</td>
<td>May 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln’s Sparrow</td>
<td>Apr. 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>White-throated Sparrow</td>
<td>Apr. 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>White-crowned Sparrow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellow-headed Blackbird</td>
<td>Apr. 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orchard Oriole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Oriole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purple Finch</td>
<td>May 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>House Finch</td>
<td>May 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Goldfinch</td>
<td>Apr. 28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Printed 105 records.

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY, INC.

BIRD STUDY GROUP
Membership Application

Name ________________________________ Date ________________

Address ________________________________ Street __________ City ______ State ______ Zip ______

Phone (Home) _________________________, (work) _______________________

Membership Category: Regular ____($10.00) Sustaining ____($25.00)

Make Check Payable to: SSNS BIRD STUDY GROUP
Museum of Life Sciences
One University Place
Shreveport, LA 71115-2399
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are coming close to the end of another activity year for our Bird Study Group. Time goes by fast when you are having fun doesn't it. You have just elected four new Board Members and reelected one of the old standby's. This should bring in new ideas into the club which is always good. Be sure to support them in their efforts this coming year. The new officers will be elected at the Board Meeting this June 4.

It has been a pleasure to have served you as president this past year. I know you will support your new one as well as you did me. I think we had a good year and I thank you for your support. I apologize for forgetting names and using names with the wrong people (a weakness I have and getting worse as I grow older).

I want to thank those of you who have helped me in my birding. Even though I have watched birds for many years I learned a lot this year but still have a lot to learn. Do your serious birding while you are still young for as you get older you may encounter worsening eyesight, hearing loss, and meet Arthur Ritis. Just remember it is hell to get old.

Good birding this summer (July and August) while we recess for the coming new activity year.

-- Will Smolenski