

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY, INC.

## BIRD STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER

Volume 7, Number 2  
September 29, 1992

Bird Alert Service: Phone 318,797-5338, Mon-Fri. after 5:00 PM  
Bird Feeders and Birding Supplies: LSUS Museum of Life Sciences

### PROGRAM

Our speaker will be Dr. Charlie Viers, Northwestern State University, who will speak on "Cliff Swallows" at our next meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 1992, at 7:00 p.m. at the Museum of Life Sciences on the LSUS campus.

### SHORT PROGRAM

Pat Lonnecker will continue her very popular short programs that emphasize identification of the species of some particular group. In conjunction with the active fall migration that is in progress, this short program will be on fall warblers.

### OUTINGS

October 10 -- Pat Sewell's farm and the sandbars along the river. Leader: Bill Hall (797-1727). Meet at the LSUS parking lot near the Museum at 7:30 a.m.

October 23-25 -- LOS meeting, Cameron, LA. Contact Hubert Hervey if interested in going.

### THE PREZ SEZ

The big news here for September concerned many reports of Wood Storks in unprecedented numbers (70), and Roseate Spoonbills, both at Bickham-Dickson Park. I missed the Western Kingbird seen there by others. I saw a Wood Stork and a Roseate Spoonbill on the I-49 bar pits, also a Caspian Tern, but missed the Long-billed Curlew. The Bird Study Group had

a good turn out and enjoyed birding these same bar pits, the Natchitoches Fish Hatchery and Sibley Lake which is being lowered several feet. Shore birds and peeps, egrets and herons, White Ibis and one Long-billed Dowitcher were attracted to the exposed mud flats. Bill Hall did his usual great job helping us sort out Western Sandpipers, Semipalmated Sandpipers, Least Sandpipers, and Pectoral Sandpipers. Thanks Bill!

I had the pleasure of introducing one of our members to the challenge of hawk counting, Cameron style, on September 23. On September 22 following a cold front passage I saw 42 raptors sailing southward over Bickham-Dickson Park. The idea of all the hawks passing over our gulf coast the next day was more than I could stand. Pat Tuminello and I met Joe Kleiman (acting regional director for HMANA) at the Cameron burned restaurant location and for the full day of September 23 counted many hundreds of hawks of 9 species. Since Joe was keeping the totals I won't know if our total was over 1,000 birds until later. The trip bird was either 3 Black-shouldered Kites or any of several Peregrine Falcons, both species of which buzzed our locations several times, putting on a glorious show!

Until next we meet here's wishing you "good to great birding."

### TOPICS INSIDE:

BIRD NOTES	NEWS NEEDED
PHONE TREE	MINUTES
FIELD TRIPS	BIRD QUIZ

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

BIRD REPORT -- Connie Connors 865-6422  
 BIRD HOT SPOTS -- Larry Raymond 929-2806, Will Smolenski 865-2938  
 FIELD TRIPS -- Bill Hall 797-1727  
 FUND RAISING -- Will Smolenski 865-2938  
 GIFT SHOP -- VACANT  
 HISTORIAN -- Jim McCain 929-2691 w, 929-7285 h  
 HOSPITALITY -- Velda Neilson 1-872-4821, Betty Mason 687-0225  
 LIBRARIAN -- Jim Ingold 797-5236 w, 742-5067 h  
 MEMBERSHIP -- Shirley Huss 865-5959  
 NEWSLETTER -- Mac Hardy 797-5338 w, 687-6738 h  
 BEGINNING BIRDERS -- Larry Raymond 929-2806, Jim Ingold 797-5236  
 PHONE TREE -- Dick Rolandt 797-0255  
 PROGRAMS -- Rosemary Seidler 869-5231 w, 424-2972 h  
 PUBLICITY -- Norma Cobb 686-3959  
 SHORT PROGRAMS -- Pat Lonacker 865-4701  
 SPECIAL EVENTS -- Velda Neilson 1-872-4821, Norma Cobb 686-3959

**REPORTS TO CONNIE**

Call in your reports of birds sighted to Connie Connors (phone 865-6422) on or before the 25th of each month for inclusion in the Bird Reports of the next newsletter. The Bird Reports is a very important part of our newsletter and one in which bird sightings are documented and are available to birders in other areas. You can help by calling your list to Connie before the deadline. This will save her a lot of time and trouble.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
1992-93

President - HUBERT HERVEY, 2  
 Vice-Pres - ROSEMARY SEIDLER, 1  
 Secretary - JIM INGOLD, 2  
 Treasurer - BETTY MASON, 2  
 Members at Large:  
 BILL HALL, 1  
 MAC HARDY, 1  
 SHIRLEY HUSS, 3  
 JIM INGOLD, 2  
 PAT LONNECKER, 3  
 JAMES MCCAIN, Jr., 1  
 VELDA NEILSON, 1  
 LARRY RAYMOND, 3  
 WILL SMOLENSKI, 3  
 CAROLINE UPCHURCH, 2  
 BOBBE WOMMACK, 3

**NEXT MEETING = OCTOBER 13**  
**MUSEUM OF LIFE SCIENCES**

## REVISED PHONE TREE

The phone tree has several changes since the last edition. Be sure to pick up a new copy at the next meeting and post it by your phone. The phone tree really paid off during the last month and made it possible for several of us to see good birds that we might have missed.

## NEWS NEEDED

If you have items that might be useful for the Newsletter get them to Mac Hardy (the deadline for inclusion in the next issue is the 25th of each month).

## MINUTES

The regular meeting of the SSNS Bird Study Group was held 8 September 1992, in the Museum of Life Sciences on the LSUS campus.

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with a welcome from our new president Hubert Hervey.

The treasurers report was given. As of the end of June we had 106 paid members and 35 gratis members for a total of 141.

The local Hot Spot guide was discussed. At the next regular meeting, assignments will be made for different members to write a hot spot guide for a particular area for which they are familiar. Will Smolenski will lead this effort.

Will Smolenski suggested that we have an auction at the December meeting as a fund raiser. Members would bring old books, posters, prints etc or donate their time for a speciality bird walk. Details later.

We still need someone to handle the gift shop. In order to increase interest in the gift shop it was suggested that we purchase a particular item and sell to members at cost as a one time deal. The future of the gift shop was also discussed.

A list for the new phone tree was passed around. If you want to be added or taken off the phone tree call Dick Rolandt 797-0255.

Hubert will lead a hawk watch on Saturday and Sunday 26-27 September 1992. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

Velda is still the hospitality person. You may bring munchies to the monthly meetings to add to the refreshments Velda will provide for the group.

A possible beginner birder outing was discussed as a spring event with lots of advertisement. If it is not a success we will not try beginner birder events in the future.

The list of future bird outings was read. See elsewhere in the newsletter. Larry Raymond suggested that we have a table at the the National Hunting and Fishing Day at Bodcau on 26 September 1992 in order to advertized the bird club.

Bird talk included Wood Storks and a Willow Flycatcher at Bickham-Dickson, a Long-billed Curlew at the borrow pit on I-49, and 33 Common Nighthawks at fair ground field. Velda talk about her trip to Cameron in the hours before Hurricane Andrew and brought in a video tape of a young Black-necked Stilt she and her sons made at the borrow pits earlier in the summer.

Pat Lonnecker gave a short program on hawks in preparation for the hawk watch on the 26.

Rosemary Seidler gave the long program with a talk about her trip to the western United States including Montana and Colorado. Everyone enjoyed her talk.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 and everyone partook of tasty snacks and good conversation.

## BOARD MINUTES

The board meeting of the the SSNS Bird Study Group was held Tuesday 1 September 1992, at the home of Hubert Hervey. The meeting opened at 7:10 p.m. with 11 members present.

No treasurer's report was given.

The birding hot spots project was discussed. It was mentioned that Larry Raymond needs help from the membership. It was decided that each hot spot would be published as a separate account, each written by a different person. Each writer would be the expert for that particular hot spot, having birded it extensively.

A tentative field list trip was discussed. This list will be published in the newsletter.

Will Smolenski suggested we hold an auction at the December meeting in order to raise funds. People would donate items of interest to birders (books, artwork etc.) including personalized field trips.

Velda is once again the hospitality chairperson and will make sure there are refreshments at the monthly meetings.

As of this date we had 106 paying members and 35 gratis members for a total of 141. This is the time that most members need to renew their memberships.

The possibility of having a beginning birders outing was discussed. It was agreed that we do one more with a lot of effort (Jim Ingold agreed to lead this effort); if it does not succeed we will abandon our efforts in working with new birders.

The new format for the newsletter was applauded including the addition of the total number of species seen at the end of bird notes.

Dick Rolandt has agreed to continue as the director of the phone tree.

The program for the year was discussed. Rosemary Seidler will present the first program on her trip west. Other possibilities are someone from LSU-Baton Rouge, Tom Sherry from Tulane, a person from the Nature Conservancy.

The future of the gift shop was discussed. It was decided that we should

keep the gift shop for the membership.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

## BIRD QUIZ #6

### BIRDS IN SONG

Name the bird or birds mentioned in the following popular songs.

1. Oklahoma (from the musical play Oklahoma by Rodgers and Hammerstein)
2. Surrey with the Fringe on Top (also from Oklahoma)
3. It's Delovely
4. My Blue Heaven
5. Rockin' Robin

### ANSWERS TO BIRD QUIZ #5

#### BIRD POTPOURRI

1. Why do many large white birds have black primaries? It has been shown that black pigment makes the feather stronger against wear due to abrasion.

2. Can you name at least three species of birds that have been added to the Louisiana avifauna recently due to their movement in a northwest direction from south Texas and/or Mexico? According to Hubert the following birds fit this category: Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Masked Duck, White-tailed Hawk, Harris Hawk, White-winged Dove, Inca Dove, Groove-billed Ani, Buff-bellied Hummingbird, Tropical Kingbird, Great Kiskadee, Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, Brown-crested Flycatcher, Vermillion Flycatcher, Curve-billed Thrasher, Painted Redstart, Scott's Oriole, Bronzed Cowbird, Least Grebe

3. What is wing loading? It is the ratio between the surface area of the wing and the weight of the bird. "In general the larger this ratio (i.e. the larger the wings in proportion to the load carried), the less power needed to sustain flight" (Welty 1975).

4. Here is a question I often pose to students: Why do birds lack teeth? Teeth and

the jaw bone required to hold them are very heavy and the head would require large muscles to hold it up. Therefore, birds have given up teeth for the very light and useful bill or beak.

5. A lot of seabirds nest on sheer cliffs; what keeps their eggs from rolling off? These birds have oval eggs, that if they would start to roll, just roll around in a tight circle and therefore donot fall off of the cliff.

## BIRD NOTES -- SEPTEMBER

Compiled  
September 29, 1992

Report bird records for the Newsletter to Connie Conners (865-6422) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Only records not printed since 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: 15 PD 3 means that on the fifteenth PD saw 3 birds. 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. All bird records reported here are the responsibility of the observer. The Bird Study Group is reporting observations on the word of the observers.

### REPORTERS

Abbrev--Name	Dates and Places
BH Bill Hall	09/13/92 residence; 09/26/92 residence
BSG Bird Study Group	09/19/92 I-49 ponds and Natchitoches Fish Hatchery; 09/26/92 S edge Wallace Lake and dam
CL Charlie Lyon	09/14/92 Bickham-Dickson Park, Shreveport; 09/21/92 Bickham-Dickson Park, Shreveport
GF Gloria Frantom	09/24/92 residence
HH Hubert Hervey	09/11/92 residence; 09/15/92 Bickham-Dickson Park, Shreveport
HH&PT Hubert Hervey & Pat Tuminello	09/09/92 I-49 ponds & Natchitoches Fish Hatchery; 09/22/92 Bickham-Dickson Park, Shreveport
HHo Helen Hood	08/29/92 Stoner Avenue, Shreveport; 09/02/92 residence; 09/09/92 residence; 09/11/92 residence; 09/18/92 residence; 09/22/92 residence
JMcC Jim McCain	09/18/92 Hwy. 71 S Elm Grove; 09/22/92 North highlands; 09/25/92 residence; 09/26/92 residence
MS Mildred Smith	09/25/92 residence
NC Norma Cobb	09/26/92 residence
PD Paul Dickson	09/18/92 Loggy Bayou Plantation; 09/19/92 Loggy Bayou Plantation; 09/19/92 Elm Grove; 09/20/92 Elm Grove; 09/21/92 Elm Grove; 09/22/92 Elm Grove; 09/23/92 Elm Grove; 09/24/92 Elm Grove; 09/25/92 Elm Grove; 09/26/92 Elm Grove; 09/27/92 Elm Grove
SH Shirley Huss	09/01/92 residence; 09/23/92 inner loop, Shreveport

### RECORDS

Common Name	Data
Pied-billed Grebe	09/19/92 BSG 7
American White Pelican	09/19/92 BSG 200; 09/22/92 PD 60; 09/23/92 PD 60
Double-crested Cormorant	09/22/92 HH&PT 15; 09/26/92 BSG 2
Great Blue Heron	09/09/92 HH&PT 12; 09/18/92 JMcC 1 ; 09/19/92 BSG 14 ; 09/22/92 HH&PT 2 ; 09/26/92 BSG 4
Great Egret	09/09/92 HH&PT 20; 09/18/92 JMcC 2 ; 09/19/92 BSG 120 ; 09/22/92 HH&PT 8; 09/26/92 BSG 6
Snowy Egret	09/09/92 HH&PT ; 09/19/92 BSG 11; 09/22/92 HH&PT ; 09/26/92 BSG 3
Little Blue Heron	09/09/92 HH&PT 1; 09/19/92 BSG 24; 09/22/92 HH&PT 4; 09/26/92 BSG 2
Tricolored Heron	09/09/92 HH&PT 1; 09/18/92 PD 1; 09/19/92 PD 1; 09/19/92 BSG 2
Cattle Egret	09/09/92 HH&PT 2; 09/19/92 BSG 40; 09/22/92 HH&PT 8; 09/26/92 BSG 5
Green-backed Heron	09/09/92 HH&PT 2; 09/19/92 BSG 4
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	09/19/92 BSG 3
White Ibis	09/09/92 HH&PT 5; 09/19/92 PD 100; 09/19/92 BSG 23; 09/20/92 PD 100; 09/21/92 PD 100; 09/22/92 PD 100; 09/23/92 PD 100; 09/24/92 PD 100; 09/25/92 PD 100; 09/26/92 PD 100; 09/27/92 PD 100
Roseate Spoonbill	09/15/92 HH 1
Wood Stork	09/09/92 HH&PT 1; 09/14/92 CL 71; 09/19/92 PD 100; 09/20/92 PD 100; 09/21/92 PD 100; 09/22/92 PD 100; 09/22/92 HH&PT 1; 09/23/92 PD 100; 09/24/92 PD 100; 09/25/92 PD 100; 09/26/92 PD 100; 09/27/92 PD 100
Wood Duck	09/19/92 BSG 22; 09/22/92 HH&PT 4; 09/26/92 BSG 18

Common Name	Data
Green-winged Teal	09/19/92 BSG 2
Mallard	09/18/92 PD 3; 09/19/92 PD 3; 09/19/92 BSG 38
Blue-winged Teal	09/09/92 HH&PT 40; 09/19/92 BSG 75; 09/22/92 HH&PT 12; 09/26/92 BSG 1
Northern Shoveler	09/19/92 BSG 7; 09/22/92 PD 1
Black Vulture	09/09/92 HH&PT 12; 09/19/92 BSG 2; 09/22/92 HH&PT 6; 09/26/92 BSG 8
Turkey Vulture	09/09/92 HH&PT 6; 09/19/92 BSG 80; 09/22/92 HH&PT 10; 09/26/92 BSG 3
Osprey	09/22/92 HH&PT 1; 09/26/92 BSG 1
Mississippi Kite	09/01/92 SH 1; 09/22/92 HH&PT 1; 09/25/92 MS 2
Red-shouldered Hawk	09/19/92 BSG 1; 09/22/92 HH&PT 2; 09/25/92 JMcC 1; 09/26/92 BSG 3
Broad-winged Hawk	09/22/92 HH&PT 16
Red-tailed Hawk	09/09/92 HH&PT 1; 09/19/92 BSG 15; 09/22/92 HHO 1; 09/22/92 HH&PT 2; 09/22/92 JMcC 1
American Kestrel	09/26/92 BSG 1
Semipalmated Plover	09/19/92 BSG 2
Killdeer	09/09/92 HH&PT 6; 09/19/92 BSG 14; 09/26/92 BSG 4
Black-necked Stilt	09/09/92 HH&PT 2
Greater Yellowlegs	09/09/92 HH&PT 7; 09/19/92 BSG 4
Lesser Yellowlegs	09/09/92 HH&PT 4; 09/19/92 BSG 12
Spotted Sandpiper	09/19/92 BSG 1; 09/26/92 BSG 1
Semipalmated Sandpiper	09/19/92 BSG 50
Western Sandpiper	09/09/92 HH&PT 10; 09/19/92 BSG 2
Least Sandpiper	09/09/92 HH&PT 12; 09/19/92 BSG 15
Pectoral Sandpiper	09/19/92 BSG 15
Long-billed Dowitcher	09/19/92 BSG 1
Common Snipe	09/19/92 BSG 1
Ring-billed Gull	09/19/92 PD 2
Caspian Tern	09/09/92 HH&PT 1
Rock Dove	09/19/92 BSG 14
Mourning Dove	09/09/92 HH&PT 4; 09/11/92 HHO 1; 09/19/92 BSG 2; 09/22/92 HH&PT 3; 09/25/92 MS 6
Common Nighthawk	09/01/92 SH 5; 09/26/92 BSG 1
Chimney Swift	09/19/92 BSG 6; 09/22/92 HH&PT 8
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	09/09/92 HHO 2; 09/13/92 BH 4; 09/25/92 JMcC 1; 09/25/92 MS 5
Belted Kingfisher	08/29/92 HHO 1; 09/19/92 BSG 6; 09/22/92 HH&PT 1; 09/26/92 BSG 2
Red-headed Woodpecker	09/25/92 JMcC 2; 09/25/92 MS 4; 09/26/92 NC 5
Red-bellied Woodpecker	09/18/92 HHO 1; 09/19/92 BSG 2; 09/22/92 HH&PT 4; 09/26/92 NC 5; 09/26/92 BSG 2
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	09/26/92 BH 1
Downy Woodpecker	09/09/92 HHO 1; 09/22/92 HH&PT 3; 09/26/92 BSG 1
Hairy Woodpecker	09/22/92 HH&PT 2
Northern Flicker	09/09/92 HHO 1
Pileated Woodpecker	09/11/92 HHO 1; 09/24/92 GF 1; 09/26/92 JMcC 1; 09/26/92 BSG 1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	09/22/92 HH&PT 2; 09/26/92 BSG 1
Western Kingbird	09/21/92 CL 1
Eastern Kingbird	09/21/92 CL 3; 09/22/92 HH&PT 2
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	08/29/92 HHO 1; 09/19/92 BSG 1; 09/21/92 CL 20; 09/22/92 HH&PT 10; 09/23/92 SH 2
Tree Swallow	09/19/92 BSG 10
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	09/09/92 HH&PT 30; 09/19/92 BSG 20; 09/22/92 HH&PT 15; 09/26/92 BSG 14
Cliff Swallow	09/19/92 BSG 4
Barn Swallow	09/09/92 HH&PT 50; 09/19/92 BSG 20; 09/26/92 BSG 6
Blue Jay	09/13/92 BH 4; 09/19/92 BSG 6; 09/22/92 HH&PT 4; 09/26/92 BSG 8
American Crow	09/09/92 HH&PT 6; 09/19/92 BSG 10; 09/22/92 HH&PT 6; 09/26/92 BSG 7
Fish Crow	09/11/92 HH 150; 09/19/92 BSG 14
Carolina Chickadee	09/11/92 HHO 1; 09/13/92 BH 4; 09/19/92 BSG 1; 09/22/92 HH&PT 2; 09/24/92 GF 2; 09/25/92 MS 30; 09/26/92 BSG 6; 09/26/92 NC 5
Tufted Titmouse	09/11/92 HHO 2; 09/13/92 BH 2; 09/22/92 HH&PT 4; 09/24/92 GF 2; 09/25/92 MS 15; 09/26/92 NC 2; 09/26/92 BSG 8
White-breasted Nuthatch	09/09/92 HHO 1; 09/13/92 BH 2; 09/24/92 GF 2; 09/25/92 MS 1
Brown-headed Nuthatch	09/13/92 BH 2; 09/24/92 GF 2; 09/26/92 BSG 2
Carolina Wren	09/11/92 HHO 2; 09/13/92 BH 2; 09/19/92 BSG 1; 09/22/92 HH&PT 2; 09/26/92 BSG 9; 09/26/92 NC 3
House Wren	09/25/92 MS 1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	09/13/92 BH 1; 09/22/92 HH&PT 5; 09/26/92 BSG 1
Eastern Bluebird	09/02/92 HHO 2; 09/13/92 BH 6; 09/22/92 HH&PT 11
American Robin	09/02/92 HHO 4; 09/24/92 GF 2; 09/25/92 MS 2
Gray Catbird	09/13/92 BH 1
Northern Mockingbird	09/13/92 BH 4; 09/19/92 BSG 2; 09/22/92 HH&PT 2; 09/26/92 BSG 3
Brown Thrasher	09/13/92 BH 3; 09/18/92 HHO 1
Loggerhead Shrike	09/09/92 HH&PT 1; 09/19/92 BSG 1; 09/22/92 HH&PT 1; 09/26/92 BSG 2
European Starling	09/19/92 BSG 22; 09/22/92 HH&PT 20; 09/26/92 BSG 8
White-eyed Vireo	09/19/92 BSG 2; 09/26/92 BSG 3
Blue-winged Warbler	09/22/92 HH&PT 1
Black-throated Green Warbler	09/24/92 PD 1
Pine Warbler	09/11/92 HHO 1; 09/13/92 BH 1; 09/26/92 BSG 4

Common Name	Data
American Redstart	09/13/92 BH 1
Common Yellowthroat	09/26/92 BSG 2
Hooded Warbler	09/13/92 BH 1; 09/26/92 BSG 2
Wilson's Warbler	09/21/92 CL 1
Summer Tanager	09/02/92 HHo 1; 09/09/92 HHo 1; 09/26/92 BSG 2
Northern Cardinal	09/02/92 HHo 9; 09/13/92 BH 8; 09/18/92 HHo 10; 09/22/92 HH&PT 12; 09/24/92 GF 2; 09/25/92 MS 8; 09/26/92 BSG 12; 09/26/92 NC 11
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	09/24/92 PD 1
Indigo Bunting	09/22/92 HH&PT 4
Field Sparrow	09/22/92 HH&PT 4; 09/26/92 BSG 3
Eastern Meadowlark	09/26/92 BSG 2
Common Grackle	09/19/92 BSG 8; 09/22/92 HH&PT 30
Brown-headed Cowbird	09/19/92 BSG 14; 09/22/92 HH&PT 6; 09/26/92 BSG 25
House Sparrow	09/19/92 BSG 4

Printed 268 records of 96 species.

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY, INC.

**BIRD STUDY GROUP**

Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Street City State Zip

Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_, (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category: Regular \_\_\_\_\_ (\$10.00) Sustaining \_\_\_\_\_ (\$25.00)

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