

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY, INC.

## BIRD STUDY GROUP



# NEWSLETTER

Volume 7, Number 5  
January 4, 1993

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The CBC's have ended and Shreveport had one of the best ever with 104 species. Apparently we will have six "bold face print" birds to document. Merlin, Osprey, Gray Catbird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, "Oregon" Dark-eyed Junco, and House Finch comprise this prestigious list. A few of the other noteworthy birds seen include American White Pelican, Sharp-shinned Hawk, and Cooper's Hawk.

The real good news for this year is the apparent complete defeat of the Dangerfield Reach Project. Our club can take pride in the part we had in seeing that this environment devastating boondoggle has been killed. Congratulations!

What a great success our first annual auction was! Never was spending money more fun. Paul Dickson did a superb job as auctioneer. I predict great things for that young man.

New Year's resolution time: Mine is to scout out the Yearwood road area so I will have some "good" birds to show you on January 9, 1993. It is tough duty but someone has to do it! Happy New Year!

## JANUARY PROGRAM

A speaker from the Louisiana Nature Conservancy will discuss their current projects. This will be a good opportunity to learn more about what is happening in our area. See you at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 12, in the Museum of Life Sciences, LSUS campus.

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

BIRD REPORT -- Connie Conners 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 Lonnecker 865-4701  
 SPECIAL EVENTS -- Velda Neilson 1-872-4821, Norma Cobb 686-3959

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

### Shreveport -- December 26

A record of 104 species were reported. See the article inside for more details.

### Bossier -- January 2

As usual this was an interesting count. A record 111 species seen.

### Toledo Bend -- January 3

If you are interested in being a participant in any other area CBC's call Bill Wood (631-0412).

### 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 — JANUARY 12  
MUSEUM OF LIFE SCIENCES**

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**SUPPORT RECYCLING**

## FIELD TRIPS

**January 9 --** Yearwood Road. Meet at the Museum of Life Sciences parking lot at 7:30 AM. Leader: Hubert Hervey (925-9259)

**January 23 --** Soda Lake Wildlife Management Area. Leader: Larry Raymond (929-2806). Meet at the Burger King on North Market at 8:00 AM.

**February 6 --** Sandhill Crane trip to Cheneyville, Louisiana. Leader: Bill Hall (797-1727). Meet at the McDonald's on Bert Kouns and Linwood Avenue at 7:30 AM.

1. Arizona
2. California
3. Florida
4. Michigan
5. Texas

## LAST MEETING

The regular meeting of the SSNS Bird Study Group was held 10 November 1992, in the Museum of Life Sciences on the LSUS campus. The meeting opened at 7:15 p.m.

The treasurer's report was read by Betty Mason. We have \$1182.52 in our Pioneer Bank account, \$256 in our LSUS account and our standing balance at the post office is \$145.57.

We have between 100 and 105 paid members.

Will Smolenski passed out the first issue in the Birding Hot Spot Guide. The first issue covers Bickham-Dickson Park and was prepared by Larry Raymond. If you want a copy call Mac at the museum and pass on any corrections or suggestions to Larry.

A sign-up sheet was passed around for bringing food to the December meeting-holiday dinner.

Will Smolenski talked about the fund raising auction to be held at the December meeting-holiday dinner. If you have something to auction off bring it to the meeting.

A discussion was held in regard to lobbying for a law to prohibit the sale of wild caught parrots in the state of Louisiana.

The next field trip is the barge trip on cross lake: Saturday 28 November. If you want to go, call Chuck or Sally Moffet at 631-0736.

## LAST MEETING

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

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with our traditional December holiday dinner which was followed by an auction to raise funds for the Bird Study Group. Approximately \$587 was raised.

The two Christmas bird counts were discussed. Interested people should see Charlie Lyon for the Caddo count and Paul Dickson for the Bossier count.

## BIRD QUIZ #9

We all know that birds have distinct breeding ranges, this month's quiz deals with birds that nest in only 1 of the 50 United States. Below is a list of states, name the bird species that nest only in that state and no other. This will give you an opportunity to browse through your field guide!

Charlie Lyon has been re-elected to the the presidency of the Louisiana Ornithological Society.

Lots of birds sightings were reported during bird talk. Hubert had a Bald Eagle at Cross Lake and a Ground Dove and Canary-winged Parakeet at his farm. He also reported a group of Black-crowned Night Herons in the SE corner of Caddo Parish and many different races of Red-tailed Hawk on Yearwood Road. Will told about his trip to the LOS winter meeting and his experiences with the rails of Louisiana. An article on birding for rails was passed out. Velda reported that her video of an immature Black-necked Stilt taken at the barrow pits was accepted by the LOS records committee as a breeding record. She also reported seeing a female Black-throated Blue Warbler at the LOS meeting in Cameron as well as some western specialties she saw while visiting her sister in Kansas.

Hubert passed out an information sheet-membership form on the Hawk Migration Association of America. See Hubert if you would like a copy.

Door prizes were raffled off.

Future programs include someone from the Nature Conservancy in January and Mac will talk about his trip to Australia-New Zealand at the February meeting.

Charlie Lyon gave a very interesting and informative talk on the identification of winter shorebirds.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

## LAST BOARD MEETING

The board meeting of the SSNS Bird Study Group was held Tuesday 3 November 1992, at the home of Mac Hardy. The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. with 8 members present.

Betty Mason gave the treasurer's report: as of 13 October we had \$1812.41 in our Pioneer Bank account. Since that date we had income of \$35 in dues and expenses of \$429.89. Three hundred dollars was sent to the Baton Rouge Audubon Society, \$100 to the Caroline Dorman Preserve and \$29 to Velda for hospitality costs. We had \$165.40 as a balance in our account at the post office and \$56 in our LSUS account (gift shop). Our total combined balance, excluding the post office account, was \$1473.52. Two hundred dollars will be transferred to the LSUS account, shortly, to pay for newsletter costs.

Rosemary Seidler listed the speakers she has lined up for the next few months. Charlie Lyon will speak in November, December is the holiday party, a person from the Nature Conservancy will speak in January and Mac Hardy will speak in February. Other possibilities include Tom Sherry from Tulane and Andy Crowder, a doctoral student at LSU-BR, who studies birds that specialize on bamboo.

Will Smolenski talked about the auction at the December meeting that will be a fundraiser. He also passed out a revised data sheet for the birding hot spot guide. Discussion concerned the definitions to be used for occurrences and other locations.

Bill Hall talked about field

trips. The Vinton, LA trip is canceled due to duck hunting season. It was suggested by Jim Ingold that we try to do it in the spring. Hubert suggested we try to rent duck hunter cabins the weekend before the start of the hunting season. This will be brought up to the members at the November meeting. The next field trip is the Cross Lake barge trip on Saturday 28 November. December 12 will be a trip to North Lakeshore Dr. and the catfish ponds. The Caddo Christmas bird count will be held on 26 December, call Horace Jeter for information. January field trip will be to Yearwood Rd and an early February trip is scheduled to see the Sandhill Cranes near Alexandria.

The board gave Jim Ingold permission to buy a birding video for the library to be used for beginning birder workshops. The video cost approx. \$60. We will see if we can return it, if it does not meet our expectations. Jim was also instructed to buy the book on warblers by John Dunne when it is published in 1993.

Will suggested we buy the "Itty Bitty Book Light" in order to light the podium during the speaker part of our regular meeting. Mac informed the board that we had purchased a podium light in the past, we just need to locate it.

Mac suggested that Connie Conner may appreciate help in doing the bird reports. Bobbie Womack offered her help.

It was suggested that we buy an electronic stapler for putting the newsletter together. The board voted to do so.

Preparations for the Christmas

dinner were discussed and are to be brought up at the November regular meeting.

**New Business:** Hubert suggested that we push for a law to prohibit the sale of wild caught parrots in Louisiana if such a law does not already exist. Mac is to look up what federal laws apply to this problem.

There was also discussion on whether or not to publish, in the minutes, the names of people who make and second motions during board meetings. Rosemary suggested that we use: "The board voted to---". After some discussion it was voted on that the secretary will include the names if he/she believes that it would benefit the members; if not the secretary will just use the above phrase.

Hubert passed around a newsletter from the Gulf Coast Bird Club and suggested that we add a new membership category much like that used by the Gulf Coast Bird Club. This new category would be a subscription to the newsletter only for \$3.00 per year. After much discussion, the board voted against such a category.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. [These minutes and the November minutes were inadvertently omitted from the last Newsletter by me. I apologize for any inconvenience -- Mac Hardy]

### Answers to last quiz.

1. Pitohuis are the only known poisonous birds. They produce the same poison found in poison arrow frogs of South America.
2. The Marbled Murrelet's nest

- was the last nest of a North American bird to be discovered. The first nest was found in 1974 in a tree near Santa Cruz, California.
3. Pigeons are the only group of birds that can drink with their head held down.
4. Wood Duck, Black-bellied Tree Duck, Muscovy Duck, Common Goldeneye, Barrow's Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Harlequin Duck (needs confirmation), Hooded and Common Mergansers.
5. Green-backed Herons have been observed using pieces of bread as a fishing lures to bring the fish to them. The Egyptian Vulture uses rocks to break open Ostrich eggs. The Woodpecker Finch of the Galapagos Islands uses a cactus spine to pry grubs out of wood.

## BIRD NOTES -- DECEMBER

Compiled  
January 4, 1993

Report bird records for the Newsletter to Connie Connors (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: 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. 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
AB Alice Babers	12/23/92 residence
BSG Bird Study Group	12/12/92 Catfish ponds, Dixie, & N. Lakeshore Dr.
BW Bobbe Womack	12/27/92 residence
HH Hubert Hervey	12/06/92 residence; 12/24/92 residence; 12/27/92 residence
HH&BH Hubert Hervey & Bill Hall	12/05/92 Ellerbe Road area
HNO Helen Hood	12/30/92 residence; 12/03/92 residence; 12/07/92 residence; 12/11/92 residence; 12/15/92 residence; 12/16/92 residence; 12/22/92 residence; 12/25/92 U.S. hwy 71 and I-49; 12/26/92 residence; 12/27/92 Shreveport, S. Lakeshore Dr.
JI Jim Ingold	12/12/92 Plain Dealing; 12/21/92 LSU campus, Shreveport
JMcC Jim McCain	12/27/92 residence
MH Mac Hardy	01/04/93 Shreveport, LSU campus
NC Norma Cobb	12/08/92 residence; 12/26/92 residence; 01/04/93 catfish ponds on U.S. 71
SH Shirley Huss	12/14/92 residence

### RECORDS

Common Name	Data
Common Loon	12/27/92 HNO 4
Double-crested Cormorant	12/05/92 HH&BH 400; 12/12/92 BSG 2000; 12/27/92 HH 10; 12/27/92 HNO 150
Great Blue Heron	12/05/92 HH&BH 2; 12/12/92 BSG 7; 12/27/92 HH 1; 12/25/92 HNO 1; 12/27/92 HNO 2
Great Egret	12/05/92 HH&BH 1; 12/12/92 BSG 41; 12/27/92 HH 1; 12/25/92 HNO 2; 12/27/92 HNO 200
Cattle Egret	12/06/92 HH 2
Canada Goose	12/27/92 HNO 1
Wood Duck	12/12/92 BSG 4
Hallard	12/12/92 BSG 2; 12/27/92 HNO 18

Common Name	Data
Canvasback	12/12/92 BSG 50; 01/04/93 NC 1
Ring-necked Duck	01/04/93 NC 21
Lesser Scaup	12/12/92 BSG 400
Bufflehead	12/12/92 BSG 4
Hooded Merganser	12/12/92 BSG 15
Ruddy Duck	12/12/92 BSG 2000
Black Vulture	12/12/92 BSG 4; 12/12/92 JI 11; 12/27/92 HH 2
Turkey Vulture	12/05/92 HH&BH 4; 12/12/92 BSG 16; 12/12/92 JI 5; 12/27/92 HH 10
Northern Harrier	12/05/92 HH&BH 1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	12/12/92 BSG 1
Red-shouldered Hawk	12/12/92 BSG 3; 12/27/92 HH 2
Red-tailed Hawk	12/05/92 HH&BH 5; 12/12/92 BSG 25; 12/27/92 HH 1; 12/25/92 HHo 7
American Kestrel	12/05/92 HH&BH 4; 12/12/92 BSG 12; 12/27/92 HH 1
Merlin	12/12/92 BSG 1
Killdeer	12/05/92 HH&BH 6; 12/12/92 BSG 56; 12/27/92 HH 22
Common Snipe	12/12/92 BSG 80; 12/27/92 HH 1
Bonaparte's Gull	12/12/92 BSG 10; 12/27/92 HHo 25
Ring-billed Gull	12/12/92 BSG 140; 01/04/93 HH 118
Rock Dove	12/05/92 HH&BH 14; 12/12/92 BSG 100; 12/27/92 HH 11
Mourning Dove	12/05/92 HH&BH 10; 12/12/92 BSG 8; 12/07/92 HHo 2
Belted Kingfisher	12/12/92 BSG 3; 12/25/92 HHo 1
Red-headed Woodpecker	12/27/92 HH 3; 12/27/92 JMcC 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	12/12/92 BSG 2; 12/16/92 HHo 1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	12/05/92 HH&BH 2; 12/12/92 BSG 1; 12/21/92 JI 1
Downy Woodpecker	12/12/92 BSG 1
Hairy Woodpecker	12/12/92 BSG 1
Northern Flicker	12/05/92 HH&BH 6; 12/12/92 BSG 2; 12/27/92 HH 4
Eastern Wood-Pewee	12/12/92 BSG 3
Eastern Phoebe	12/05/92 HH&BH 1; 12/27/92 HH 1
Horned Lark	12/12/92 BSG 3
Blue Jay	12/05/92 HH&BH 6; 12/12/92 BSG 3; 12/27/92 HH 8; 12/16/92 HHo 2
American Crow	12/05/92 HH&BH 22; 12/12/92 BSG 50; 12/27/92 HH 15
Fish Crow	12/05/92 HH&BH 3
Carolina Chickadee	12/05/92 HH&BH 4; 12/12/92 BSG 6
Tufted Titmouse	12/05/92 HH&BH 6; 12/27/92 HH 2
White-breasted Nuthatch	12/12/92 BSG 1; 12/14/92 SH 3; 12/27/92 JMcC 1
Carolina Wren	12/03/92 HHo 2; 12/05/92 HH&BH 2; 12/12/92 BSG 1; 12/12/92 BSG 1
House Wren	12/12/92 BSG 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	12/05/92 HH&BH 1; 12/12/92 BSG 2; 12/11/92 HHo 1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	12/24/92 HH 1
Eastern Bluebird	12/05/92 HH&BH 14; 12/12/92 BSG 10
Hermit Thrush	12/12/92 BSG 1
American Robin	12/05/92 HH&BH 80; 12/12/92 BSG 100
Northern Mockingbird	12/05/92 HH&BH 2; 12/12/92 BSG 12; 12/21/92 JI 4; 12/27/92 HH 2
Brown Thrasher	12/12/92 BSG 1
American Pipit	12/05/92 HH&BH 220; 12/12/92 BSG 8; 12/27/92 HH 12
Cedar Waxwing	12/12/92 BSG 8
Loggerhead Shrike	12/05/92 HH&BH 4; 12/12/92 BSG 14; 12/21/92 JI 1
European Starling	12/05/92 HH&BH 60; 12/12/92 BSG 40; 12/27/92 HH 20
Yellow-rumped Warbler	12/12/92 BSG 15; 12/15/92 HHo 15
Pine Warbler	12/12/92 BSG 10; 12/27/92 HH 2
Cerulean Warbler	12/12/92 BSG 8
Northern Cardinal	12/05/92 HH&BH 40; 12/27/92 HH 15; 11/30/92 HHo 14
Chipping Sparrow	12/12/92 BSG 30; 12/22/92 HHo 3
Field Sparrow	12/12/92 BSG 4
Vesper Sparrow	12/12/92 BSG 4
Savannah Sparrow	12/05/92 HH&BH 12; 12/12/92 BSG 12; 12/27/92 HH 20
Le Conte's Sparrow	12/05/92 HH&BH 1
Fox Sparrow	12/05/92 HH&BH 1; 12/12/92 BSG 1
Song Sparrow	12/05/92 HH&BH 6; 12/12/92 BSG 28
Swamp Sparrow	12/12/92 BSG 1
White-throated Sparrow	12/05/92 HH&BH 21; 12/12/92 BSG 15; 12/27/92 HH 4; 12/03/92 HHo 4
White-crowned Sparrow	12/05/92 HH&BH 2; 12/12/92 BSG 35; 01/04/93 NC 1; 12/27/92 HH 2
Dark-eyed Junco	12/23/92 AB 10; 12/05/92 HH&BH 8; 12/27/92 HH 12; 12/11/92 HHo 1
Red-winged Blackbird	12/05/92 HH&BH 80; 12/12/92 BSG 400; 12/27/92 HH 50
Eastern Meadowlark	12/05/92 HH&BH 40; 12/12/92 BSG 12; 12/27/92 HH 35
Brewer's Blackbird	12/27/92 HH 8
Common Grackle	12/05/92 HH&BH 100; 12/12/92 BSG 1000; 12/27/92 HH 200

Common Name	Data
Brown-headed Cowbird	12/05/92 HWBN 80; 12/12/92 BSG 20; 12/27/92 HH 20
Purple Finch	12/08/92 HC 2; 12/26/92 HC 2; 12/26/92 HNo 3; 12/27/92 BW 1
House Finch	12/26/92 HC 15; 12/27/92 BW 15
Pine Siskin	12/26/92 HC 10; 12/22/92 HNo 3
American Goldfinch	12/23/92 AB 2; 12/26/92 HC 10; 12/05/92 HWBN 24; 12/12/92 BSG 50; 12/27/92 HH 24; 12/15/92 HNo 1;
House Sparrow	12/22/92 HNo 6; 12/27/92 JMcC 25; 12/27/92 BW 15 12/12/92 BSG 2; 12/27/92 HH 4
Printed 183 records of 82 species.	

Shreveport Society for Nature Study, Inc.  
BIRD STUDY GROUP  
One University Place  
Shreveport, LA 71115-2399

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