



BIRD STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER

Volume 9, Number 7
February 24, 1995

Bird Alert Service: Phone 318,797-5338, Mon-Fri. after 5:00 PM
Meeting Place and Headquarters: LSUS Museum of Life Sciences

NEXT MEETING

March 14, 1995

7:00 PM

The North American Bluebird Society

Presents

"Eastern Bluebirds"

And

"Cavity Nesters"

Learn how to attract and keep nesting Eastern Bluebirds and Purple Martins

A variety of houses and plans will be available
at the meeting, both for purchase and free
distribution.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

BIRD REPORT -- **Bobbe Wommack** 686-0369, **Will Smolenski** 865-2938
 BIRD HOT SPOTS -- **Larry Raymond** 929-2806, **Will Smolenski** 865-2938
 FIELD TRIPS -- **Bill Hall** 797-1727
 FUND RAISING -- **Will Smolenski** 865-2938
 HISTORIAN and LIBRARIAN -- **Jim Ingold** 797-5236, **Betty Mason**, 752-1029
 HOSPITALITY and SPECIAL EVENTS -- **Betty Mason** 752-1029, **Margaret Fontaine**
 861-0483, **Norma Cobb** 686-3959, and **June Haynie** 868-5441
 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 -- **Jeff Trahan** 868-7360 (h), 869-5217 (w); **Will Smolenski** 865-2938
 PROGRAMS -- **Jim Ingold** 797-5236
 PUBLICITY -- **Nancy Meier** 688-0085
 SHORT PROGRAMS -- **Pat Lonneck** 865-4701

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1994-95

President - **HUBERT HERVEY**, 3
 Vice-Pres - **JIM INGOLD**, 3
 Secretary - **PAT TUMINELLO**, 2
 Treasurer - **BETTY MASON**, 3

Members at Large:

NORMA COBB, 3
MARGARET FONTAINE, 2
BILL HALL, 2
MAC HARDY, 2
SHIRLEY HUSS, 1
PAT LONNECKER, 1
NANCY MEIER, 2
LARRY RAYMOND, 1
WILL SMOLENSKI, 1
JEFF TRAHAN, 3
BOBBE WOMMACK, 1

BSG Atlas Quad

East Point

The Bird Study Group is taking one quad as a group project for the Louisiana Breeding Bird Atlas this spring. Our quad is **East Point**. **Mac Hardy** is the coordinator; if you want more information and/or want to help with this quad please let Mac know.

In Sympathy

Our sincere condolences go out to the family members saddened by the death of Mr. Lea R. Hall. To Bill Hall and Jane we especially offer our sympathy in the loss of his brother.

We also were saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs. Wellborn Jack, Sr. To Wellborn Jack, Jr. and his family, please accept our condolences in the loss of his mother.

BIRD QUIZ #30

A BIRD QUIZ THAT WILL NOT BE HARD TO SWALLOW

1. Which Louisiana swallow(s) are known to eat berries?
2. Most swallows have white eggs, yet the eggs of the **Barn, Cave, and Cliff Swallows** are white, spotted with brown. Why?
3. How many swallows, common to Louisiana, nest in colonies?
4. Why are swallows called swallows?
5. Why are martins called martins?
6. Which swallow is known to lays its eggs in the nests of other individuals of the same species?
7. Name a behavior that **Rough-winged Swallows** perform that **Bank Swallows** never perform.
8. Why is the **Rough-winged Swallow** so named?
9. Which swallow winters the farthest south?
10. In which swallow do the young birds hang out at the nests of other swallows of the same species in order to steal food?

ANSWERS TO BIRD QUIZ #29

1. The **Sandhill Crane** did breed in Louisiana. The last Louisiana record of adults with chicks was 1918.
2. Florida and Mississippi have their own recognized subspecies of **Sandhill Crane**.
3. The island nation of Cuba has its own recognized subspecies of **Sandhill Crane**.
4. Two eggs are normally laid per clutch (range 1-3).
5. The Platte River in Nebraska is famous for its

abundance of **Sandhill Cranes** during migration.

6. It is thought that **Sandhill Cranes** start to breed at 3-4 years of age but it may be at a much older age.
7. Both parents normally incubate the eggs.
8. The young stay with the parents for up to 10 months.
9. **Sandhill Cranes** are named after the sandhills of Nebraska.
10. The oldest **Sandhill Crane** on record was 18 years and 3 months old.

A River Bottom Diary Part Six

Late winter brings a certain calm upon the river land. Though colder, February shares many similarities to its reciprocal August. During the doldrums of winter the land sleeps and the wildlife just tries to get by. Relieved of the strain of reproduction or the urgency of migration, the birds and the mammals slow their pace and only do what is necessary to fuel the fire of life.

There is a good stand of Johnsongrass and Giant Ragweed in a neglected corner of an adjacent farm. It has much to teach about the life of wintering sparrows. Early in winter the sparrows relish its seeds and cover. Ragweed seed is an important food for small birds. It's recently bare stalks are thick, strong, and spreading. Prey species use this cover to take refuge from raptors by day and from owls by night. Rarely have I seen a hawk stoop into dead ragweed. To do so would likely lead to injury at the point of a sharp cane. As winter proceeds, this sanctuary degrades as the ragweed decays and the seed supply diminishes. There is a noticeable shift in February amongst the sparrows which move from the ragweed to heavier, more woody cover. This is a sign of harder times. Indeed the feeding stations scattered around the farm are more frequently visited now.

Many of the sparrows that winter on the farm carry leg bands. From these little subjects of scrutiny has come a wealth of insight into their

lives. Rarely are banded White Crowned Sparrows seen far from the area where they were originally caught. Even returning birds which were banded the previous year seem to stay close to a chosen home range. This reliance on a specific patch of weeds makes them vulnerable to any change that might come to their place. I no longer burn ditch banks or mow weeds in winter. A "clean farm" once appealed to me but that was before I learned the value of winter ragweed. Indeed, little that grows wild lacks purpose or value.

The blackbirds' strategy is quite different of course. They are marauders, gleaners of surplus. They, in swirling, mixed flocks of Cowbirds, Redwings, and Grackles descend upon the ragweed to the expense of the locals and clean out what can be found in a day or less and then on they go to swarm on the larder of another field somewhere distant. Behind they leave a pillaged food source and sparrows who must scratch deeper in the ground litter each day.

As in August, the birds in February foretell of change, as singing is more vibrant now on the warmer mornings and plumage is brighter. Spring is not so far off. By the 2nd the Woodcock are displaying in the evenings and a flock of Least Sandpipers scurries about the shore of the marsh each day. The Red-tailed Hawks seem tamer in later winter. The Cotton Rats must be getting fewer and more educated. A young female Cooper's Hawk has settled into hunting at the feeding stations. It is only fair that raptors also benefit from the feeders. The hawk's presence makes the bird feeder complete. I must make a point to check below her favorite perches for spent leg bands.

BANDING DAY A BIG SUCCESS

On Saturday, 11 February, many hearty souls braved the wind, rain and cold to attend the annual bird banding expedition at Paul Dickson's property. This year we banded at the deer farm instead of the house. A total of 71 new birds of 12 species were banded: Carolina Chickadee (2), Eastern Tufted Titmouse (3), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (1), Brown Thrasher (1), Northern

Cardinal (8), White-crowned Sparrow (21), White-throated Sparrow (4), Song Sparrow (16), Swamp Sparrow (2), Lincoln Sparrow (1), American Goldfinch (11), and Red-winged Blackbird (1). Four birds that had been banded in previous years were also netted: one American Goldfinch (originally banded in 1993) and three White-crowned Sparrows (originally banded in 1994).

*** Jim Ingold

OUTINGS

March 11.--Bodcau Wildlife Management Area, Ponderosa Farm for **Wild Turkeys**, woodland and meadow birds, early spring migrants. *Where/When:* 6 AM Carpool from LSUS Museum of Life Sciences (We need to be there very early for the turkeys). Leader: Hubert Hervey **925-9249**.

March 18.--LSU Experiment Station for the last of the winter residents, and first of the spring migrants. Pipits (**Sprague's Pipit** is possible), **Horned Larks**, **Western Meadowlarks**, **Bewick's Wren**, shorebirds, and sparrows. *Where/When:* Carpool from LSUS Museum of Life Sciences, 7:00 AM. Leader: Bill Hall **797-1727**.

April 8.--Kisatchie Natl. Forest, Longleaf Vista Area. All Day Trip for piney woods residents, perhaps **Red-cockaded Woodpecker** and **Bachman's Sparrow**. *Where/When:* LSUS Museum of Life Sciences, 7:00 AM. Leader: Charlie Lyon **865-2674**.

April 22.--Soda Lake WMA. Beautiful woods, bayou and lakes for spring migrants, warblers, hawks, and shorebirds. *Where/When:* N. Market St. What-a-Burger 7:00 AM. Leader: Mac Hardy **797-5338** (w) or **687-6738** (h).

April 28-30.--Louisiana Ornithological Society Spring Meeting, Cameron, La. Have I said "best trip of the year," yet? Peerless two-day meeting/outing, one of the best places for neotropical migrants in the U. S. For more information call Hubert Hervey **925-9249**.

CORRECTIONS: **Herring Gull** 01/01/95 HHo 50 and **Eastern Wood-Pewee** 12/24/94 J,J,KT 3, should be deleted.

T-Shirt Sales

Several styles and colors of Bird Study Group T-Shirts are available. If your favorite combination is not in Will's T-shirt box, place an order with Will Smolenski at the next meeting or call him at 865-2938.

10th Anniversary

The Bird Study Group is almost ten years old! Next year we will celebrate our tenth anniversary and plans are developing now. Jim Ingold is organizing our celebration; let him (797-5236) know your ideas to make this a fun and memorable event.

Other Meetings

The Southwestern Association of Naturalists, a professional organization of biologists from an eight state region of the southwestern United States, will meet in Shreveport during April 6-8. Co-hosted by Centenary College and LSU in Shreveport, the scientific presentations and most other activities will be held at Centenary.

The Association of Interpretive Naturalists will also be meeting in Shreveport during March 5-8. See Larry Raymond for more information.

BIRDING FUN: EAST TEXAS

Saturday, January 21, 1995, the Terrible T's shanghaied Rosemary Seidler to take a birding tour of Lake O' the Pines. We were only slightly late picking up Rosemary. Kathryn said that we would have been forgiven if we had stopped and bought some doughnuts. But we had to stop and count **Double-crested Cormorants** flying towards Champion Lake.

Crossing the Texas line, we immediately spotted the rare "murrican" crow, an auspicious beginning. After a pause at Waskom to juice up our vehicle, we started down FM 134 where on a pond just off the road we found **Lesser Scaup**. A bit further up the same road we had a bonanza of "dickey" birds. We spotted **American Goldfinches**, **Northern Cardinals**, **Brown Creepers**, **Brown-headed Nuthatches**, **Field** happy. Licking our wounds and candy, we birded

Sparrows, **Dark-eyed Juncos**, **White-throated Sparrows**, an **American Kestrel**, etc. What a start to a birding trip! Unfortunately, we didn't do quite so well on the rest of the stops towards our ultimate destination. We had great close up views of **Cedar Waxwings** feeding on privet berries just outside of Jefferson. Rosemary bemoaned her lack of a camera. The birds displayed all their most photogenic sides within six to ten feet.

After a great deal more stopping and starting, we arrived at the lake. Our decision was to do the dam and south side of the lake before lunch and the north side after lunch. At the dam **Common Goldeneyes**, **Pied-billed Grebes**, **Double-crested Cormorants**, **Ring-billed Gulls**, the ubiquitous **American Coot**, scaup (mostly lesser) and **Common Loons** were seen. Hordes of fisherpersons were also present.

The next stop was at Lakeside Park at the other end of the dam where we met a young birder, Cameron Cox, of NETFO. He said that we could spot **Canvasbacks** and a **Bald Eagle** from that area. We trekked up the park road (closed to auto traffic) and not only found the **Canvasback**, but had some great views of a **Horned Grebe**, a lifer for Kathryn and me. Unfortunately the **Bald Eagle** had been called away. (Cameron's mom deserves a medal of some sort. She is not a birder, but she does chauffeur Cameron around on his birding tours.)

Cameron recommended Sunrise Cove on the south side of the lake and Alley Creek Park on the north side of the lake as good places to visit. At Sunrise Cove the wind had picked up so we didn't see much except more **Common Loons** and **Horned Grebes**. But at Alley Creek Park, we found the elusive **Bald Eagle**. The water was much calmer -- no choppy water or waves to obscure vision. A group of **Lesser Scaup** had a diving **Hooded Merganser** bouncing in and out of their party. We scouted out birds, pushed, hooted, and kissed hands until our ears rang, but we still only had 58 bird species on our checklist. No **Great Egret**, no **Belted Kingfisher**, not even a **Brown-headed Cowbird** to be found no matter how hard we looked. We weren't even trying for rarities.

A brief stop at the Fudge Store in Jefferson sweetened our tempers slightly and made Kathryn

our way back to Shreveport. All in all a very satisfactory day even if the magic 60 eluded us.

A trip to Lake O' the Pines is highly recommended to our BSG members who haven't been there. We have a map and some written literature on what to look for and where to go. There are some other spots in Texas that would make a nice day trip that Jeff, Kathryn, and I hope to make soon. Rosemary is still invited to go with us.

*** Jean Trahan

Cross Lake Barge Trip

Chuck Moffett's barge and arrangements went off like clockwork. Many of us enjoyed seeing the water birds, as the weather cleared up just in time. Too bad Barron Landing's barge had no steering. We got out into the bay without crashing but I soon determined that it was not safe to continue if I couldn't guide the barge. Jeff Trahan took a paddle and pushed the rear of the motor around so the barge would go in the direction of the boat dock. We returned successfully, but I was sad that people who were prepared for a day on the lake couldn't go out. Some of us did join Chuck's group later.

We saw a **Horned Grebe**, **52 Canvasbacks**, and two adult **Bald Eagles**. One delighted us by catching a fish in front of the barge and flying to a nearby pine tree to eat it. One merganser (Red-breasted or Common) flew around the barge and left us wondering what it was. Odds are 95% it was Red-breasted.

I am open to your suggestions as to how to solve the problem of barge breakdown when furnished by Barron's Landing. Trip total was 42 species.

*** Hubert Hervey

Favorite Birding Places

I can't believe that you don't have any favorite birding place, and I have so many. The obvious choice is "where I live." Since I can't write about birding around your home, why don't you? This

Nature's beautiful places somehow inspire a

feature was intended to make it possible for you to tell us about a place that you really enjoy birding, and I have written every article so far. Help me out please, because when I write about birding at my farm you will know that my contribution to this series has ended. But I'm not finished yet!

Several of our BSG members have been with me to this place. They will recognize it, I'm sure. The rest of you will have to ask personally because I doubt I'll ever lead a BSG trip to it. The reason is because I treasure the remote, wild atmosphere of this cypress swamp lake area and dread any further development that would detract from its natural beauty. A picture of tall cypress trees, draped with Spanish moss, dripping wet in the early morning mist will set the scene for you. Nutria swim across the duck weed covered waters. The young cling to their mother's back, slowing her progress. Her nipples are located along her back so the young can nurse, even if she is partially submerged. I hear the grunts of the young alligators, still counting on mama gator's protection. If they are in danger from papa she will run him off.

A naturalist that I took on a tour of the lake commented about the richness of the water life. Plants are everywhere and so is life, even life to spare. Another of my friends took home a dozen young cypress trees to add to his Bonsai collection. They are dwarfing well. **Peregrine Falcons** stop here in migration, perhaps attracted by the **Wood Ducks**, **Pied-billed Grebes**, or **Blue-winged Teal**. Dragonflies dance everywhere, attracting **Barn Swallows**, **Purple Martins**, and other insect-eaters. **Parula Warblers** hide their nests from all eyes in the thick Spanish Moss. **Red-headed Woodpeckers** find dead trees in the lake especially to they liking. I'm glad they have a place free from **European Starlings**.

The heronry here is small; on a side slough are 25-30 nests. It is a noisy time in June with young **Little Blue Herons**, **Great Egrets**, **Great Blue Herons**, **Anhingas**, and **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons**, all calling for more fish, or crawfish, or frogs, or (well, you get the idea). I have also seen **Tri-colored Herons** and **Black-crowned Night-Herons** and suspect that they nest somewhere nearby.

religious reverence in me. Once when leading a BSG boat tour into Norton's Lake I asked the group for silence, so we could all feel the awesome sensation such a place inspires. I sincerely hope you are aware of such a place where you can go and achieve an inner peace. May you find time to make that special place your own again, real soon.

*** Hubert Hervey

NOTICE - BREEDING BIRD ATLAS SURVEYORS

David Weidenfeld will be in Shreveport, Saturday, March 25th to conduct an "in-the-field" clinic for us. Those who have volunteered to survey a quad will benefit from this outing. The location has not yet been decided, but since East Point is our club quad, that is a possibility. Other club members interested in learning what is involved in the Breeding Bird Atlas and surveying techniques may also attend. Full details should be available by the time of the March club meeting.

*** Hubert C. Hervey

BAYOU PIERRE WATERFOWL REFUGE OPENS

On February 23, 1995 I was able to locate the newly opened BPWR. I am certain you will enjoy birding on this 1400-acre refuge in the future. The old field between Bayou Pierre and the Connisnia Lake Canal is flooded and holding from 1 - 5 feet of water. A new levee, taller and wider than the old one, enclosed a 200 acre area, with 185 acres under water. The ducks and other waterfowl are not easily visible because of the height of the flooded vegetation. Over 400 individual of five species were seen, with 60 Pintails being the most exciting discovery. Plans for further development is evident. Smartweed, native millets and other native moist soil plants are to be encouraged rather than seasonal plantings.

Access is difficult at this time and involves a

walk of about 1-1/2 miles. If it has been dry for a week, it is possible to drive 1/2 mile of the way. Refer to the Hot Spot Site Guide for Yearwood Road published in the newsletter last year for directions, or call me at 925-9249. The trail in is a roadway and easily walked if dry. It is gumbo river clay and impossible to travel on if wet.

Hardwood trees have been planted on 90 acres with plans to plant 100 acres next year. Much of the hardwoods will eventually be flooded and used by Mallards and Wood Ducks as a green tree reservoir. Road improvement is scheduled for this summer. A viewing tower over the impoundment is planned. I encourage you to visit this area now. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is well aware of our interest and your presence may have an impact on future usage plans. Let them know that we appreciate their efforts and thank them for including the interests of birdwatchers in their plans.

*** Hubert C. Hervey

BODCAU BAYOU CAMPING & BIRD OUTING

We plan to combine a lot of activities on the weekend of March 10th and 11th. Join us at the campsite near the dam. Come Friday afternoon and set up your tents or camping trailers. Jim will be banding birds. Would it be too much to expect a returning Henslow Sparrow? Saturday a.m. we will try to locate some wild turkeys. We have had good luck twice in a row with strutting and gobbling Toms seen by all. If you want to boat or canoe, I suggest you bring what you have, because Bodcau is a beautiful cypress-filled reservoir.

However, if you don't want to camp out, all you need to do is meet us before we leave the camping area. I plan to leave there at 7:00 a.m. sharp and go to wherever Richard McMullen says we can find Turkeys. These final details are hard to say for certain so I suggest you call me at 925-9249 for any changes in plans. Of course, the camping portion is dependent upon decent weather.

*** Hubert C. Hervey

MINUTES of the LAST BOARD MEETING

The last Board Meeting of the BSG committee members was held on February 7, 1995. Hubert Hervey read the minutes from the board meeting of November 1, 1994, which was approved, following correction of the misspelling of Eleanor Craven to Elinor Craven. The Treasurer's January Report was called in. Combined balance of our account is \$1,988.47 with \$91.76 in the Post Office account. The Bird Report will be checked closer for errors before being turned in. A Northern Oriole was seen and written up. Regarding the Hot Spots, Cross Lake should be turned in. No comments have been made regarding the hot spots already published in Newsletter. An editorial committee consisting of Larry, Jim, Jeff and Mac was formed for review and standardizing. Birding Trips - February 11 at Paul Dixon's for Banding. February 18 to Cheneyville for Sandhill Cranes. Fund-Raising - Will has 24 more T-shirts to sell. At each meeting they will be available for sale. Larry has volunteered to arrive early to sell the shirts. Suggestions for advertising were signs or banners before the next meeting and hanging them up to be seen at the meetings. The next meeting will be in the Science Lecture Auditorium at 7:00pm. Jim Ingold invited his Animal Behavioral Class to attend Dr. Thomas Sherry's program on the American Redstart. The Hospitality Committee will prepare accordingly. Historian - the BSG will celebrate its tenth year anniversary next year. Jim suggested a banquet, and someone like Roger Tory Peterson as our speaker. Jim and Larry are on that committee. Membership - no report. The BSG members are encouraged to write articles for the newsletter. Beginning Birders - Jim led 24 people on a trip. Bickham Dickson Park in February is good for beginners. On March 11 is the Bodcau Trip. Programs - March - Bluebirds. This is a fundraiser program. Jim and Will need help in building bluebird houses. Good, strong advertising should pull in more guests for the Bluebird program. Mac will help build bluebird houses. April program is Steve Lynch on his trip to Africa. May is open with a couple of possibilities,

June is an ornithologist from Mississippi on neotropical migrants.

Hubert read a letter from Van Remson regarding cooperation by our group in writing up birds. Also, Hubert passed their letter around to Ms. Elinor Craven of the Tourist Bureau regarding the Tourist Bird Book/Birding Locality Guide. Larry said March was the target date for the book. Mac agreed to print 40 or 50 bird species in each newsletter showing early and late dates, something that everyone can look at and realize the importance of dates for migratory species.

Hubert had some seeds for sale that he purchased in New Orleans at the LOS meeting to attract hummingbirds. Six species of hummingbirds were seen in New Orleans.

Jeff read the Contest Rules - 2 \$50.00 prizes for most birds seen. One prize for the period September - December, the other for January - May. Only those birds seen on BSG trips will count. Both contestant and group leader have to sign checklists which must be turned in by December. A committee appointed by the President will determine the winner and award the prizes. The rules are to be printed and put in the newsletter.

Will made a motion to give \$100.00 to NAI. It was seconded and passed. The LA Conservation question - Hubert read letter of suggestions, and asked for comments, or changes. A motion to send as is passed.

Mac announced April 6, 7 and 8 is the 8th Regional meeting for biologist - will have bird outings - southwestern committee to elect. A nominating committee consisting of Will, Shirley and Jeff will report at April general meeting with recommendation for five board members.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the SSNS Bird Study Group was held February 14, 1995 in the Science Lecture Auditorium of the LSU-S campus. Hubert Hervey opened the meeting at 7:05pm.

Dr. Jim Ingold, Program Chairman, introduced Dr. Thomas Sherry who gave a program on the American Redstart. Redstart males began declining in the mid-80's, but began rising in 1987, up over 50% in 1989, but lower in 1990, with nest predation the primary cause by Red Squirrels, Blue Jays, Flying Squirrels, Chipmunks, Raccoons, Fishers and Black Bears. Hubbard Brooks has a total of nineteen predators, but have a refuge which partially protects because of their work. Also, habitat makes a difference which is being destroyed. Favorite wintering habitat of the American Redstart is Black Mangrove.

Sympathy is extended to Dr. Bill Hall for the loss of his brother and to Wellborn Jack for the loss of his mother.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved as written. Betty Mason gave the Treasurer's Report. \$1,739.12 in the Pioneer Account, \$281.02 Museum, and \$42.93 at the Post Office. The club will send \$100 to the Post Office to get us through September 1995. Will Smolenski will take orders for sweat shirts for next year, but will not order more T-shirts until these are sold. Mac, Larry and Hubert worked until some midnights getting the information ready for the Tourist Center's upcoming Louisiana Birding Hot Spots publication. Jim Ingold wants a big name speaker for

our tenth year anniversary. Bill Hall will lead Cheneyville trip on February 18th. The Bodcau Trip (Turkey and camping out) is on March 11th. MARCH PROGRAM - if you know someone interested in Bluebirds or Purple Martins, ask them to come to our meeting on March 14, 1995. The April Program is Birds of South Africa by Steve Lynch. Hubert read the rules of the contest and will appoint a committee to name the winners. A \$100 contribution will be sent to NAI.

Larry Raymond received a call re: a Summer Tanager seen every year. Also, an Inca Dove was reported. Seventeen people took part in the test Christmas count at Caddo Lake in December, 1994. It was a 17 mile radius, and encircled Caddo Lake Dam and the State Park. Will had a report of a Northern Oriole. Eagles at Lake DeGray are still dying.

Jim Ingold had an article on Blue Grosbeaks published in Wild Bird.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13pm.

NEXT MEETING MARCH 14

Extralimital Dates: Vireos

This is the first in a series of reports on extralimital dates for migratory birds in our area. In some cases, permanent residents are included if annual data is incomplete (for example, **White-eyed Vireo**). Six dates are given for each species. The first three dates are the earliest arrival dates for summer residents arriving in the spring and the last three dates are the latest departure dates for those summer residents departing in the fall (for example, the **Yellow-throated Vireo**). For winter residents, the first three dates are the latest departure dates and the last three are the earliest arrival dates in the fall (for example, the **Solitary Vireo**). The last column gives months for which additional data is needed.

White-eyed Vireo	01/03, 02/18, 03/20 -- 10/25, 10/31, 11/29	Report Jan., Feb., Nov., Dec.
Bell's Vireo	05/06, 05/24 --	Report all dates.
Solitary Vireo	04/12, 04/13, 04/23 -- 09/18, 09/27, 10/15	Report Apr. through Sep.
Yellow-throated Vireo	03/17, 03/25, 03/30 -- 09/23, 10/17, 10/30	Report Mar. and earlier; Oct. and later.
Warbling Vireo	04/18, 04/23, 04/26 -- 09/15, 09/21, 10/13	Report Apr. and earlier; Oct. and later.
Philadelphia Vireo	04/14, 04/18, 04/30 -- 09/15, 09/21, 10/16	Report Apr. and earlier; Oct. and later.
Red-eyed Vireo	03/30, 03/31, 04/03 -- 10/04, 10/16, 10/30	Report Mar. and earlier; Oct. and later.

BIRD NOTES -- FEBRUARY

Compiled March 2, 1995

Report bird records for the Newsletter to Bobbe Wommack (686-0369) or to Will Smolenski (865-2938) by the 15th 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
B&BW	Bob & Bobbe Wommack	01/25/95 Residence
BH	Bill Hall	02/17/95 residence
BSG	Bird Study Group	02/18/95 S. of Alex & Mr. Wimples Farm.; 02/18/95 S. of Alex Indian Creek St. Rec. Area
BW	Bobbe Wommack	02/09/95 Residence; 02/10/95 Residence
GF	Gloria Frantom	02/09/95 Residence
H&PH	Hubert and Pat Hervey	02/16/95 Stonewall Farm; 02/20/95 Bayou Pierre Waterfowl Refuge; 02/20/95 Yearwood Road
HHo	Helen Hood	01/19/95 Residence; 01/26/95 Residence; 01/28/95 Residence; 01/29/95 South Lakeshore Dr. Cross Lake; 02/13/95 Residence
Jl	Jim Ingold	01/25/95 West 70th @ Youree Dr.; 02/02/95 Hamel's Memorial Park and Red River; 02/16/95 Youree Drive @ Burt Kouns
JMCC	Jim McCain	02/01/95 Residence; 02/01/95 Dixie, La Hwy 173; 02/02/95 Belcher, La Hwy 71; 02/08/95 Bickham Middle School; 02/15/95 Residence

Abbrev	Name	Dates and Places
LR	Larry Raymond	02/11/95 Residence
MT	Margo Tuller	01/25/95 Residence; 01/26/95 7543 Millbrook Dr.; 01/27/95 7543 Millbrook Dr.; 01/28/95 residence; 01/29/95 Residence; 01/29/95 7543 Millbrook Dr.; 01/30/95 7543 Millbrook Dr.; 01/31/95 7543 Millbrook Dr.; 02/01/95 Residence; 02/01/95 Residence; 02/02/95 7543 Millbrook Dr.; 02/03/95 Residence; 02/05/95 Residence; 02/13/95 Residence; 02/17/95 East Gate Shopping Center
NC	Norma Cobb	02/13/95 Residence
SH	Shirley Huss	02/14/95 Residence; 02/15/95 Residence
TS	Thomas Sanders	02/14/95 Hutchington St., near Hillsdale Elem. Sch.; 02/15/95 Hutchington St., near Hillsdale Elem. Sch.; 02/16/95 Hutchington St., near Hillsdale Elem. Sch.
WM&MT	Will Smolenski & Margo Tuller	02/05/95 7543 Millbrook Dr.
WS	Will Smolenski	02/01/95 7543 Millbrook Dr.; 02/13/95 Bickham Dickson Park; 02/17/95 C. Bickham Dickson Park

RECORDS

Common Name	Data
Pied-billed Grebe	02/13/95 WS 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 2; 02/17/95 WS 2; 02/18/95 BSG 15
Double-crested Cormorant	01/29/95 HHO 10; 02/02/95 JI 30; 02/13/95 WS 145; 02/16/95 H&PH 12; 02/17/95 WS 17; 02/18/95 BSG 40
Great Blue Heron	01/29/95 HHO 3; 02/03/95 MT 1; 02/13/95 WS 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 3; 02/17/95 WS 2; 02/18/95 BSG 50
Great Egret	01/29/95 HHO 1; 02/13/95 WS 9; 02/16/95 H&PH 1; 02/17/95 WS 7; 02/18/95 BSG 74
Cattle Egret	02/16/95 H&PH 3; 02/18/95 BSG 37
White Ibis	02/18/95 BSG 400
Snow Goose	02/18/95 BSG 250
Canada Goose	02/13/95 WS 7; 02/17/95 WS 6
Wood Duck	02/16/95 H&PH 4
Green-winged Teal	02/18/95 BSG 8; 02/20/95 H&PH 5
Mallard	01/29/95 HHO 11; 02/13/95 WS 5; 02/17/95 WS 4; 02/18/95 BSG 20; 02/20/95 H&PH 262
Northern Pintail	02/18/95 BSG 150; 02/20/95 H&PH 60
Northern Shoveler	02/18/95 BSG 4
American Wigeon	02/18/95 BSG 4; 02/20/95 H&PH 6
Canvasback	02/18/95 BSG 1
Lesser Scaup	02/16/95 H&PH 2
Hooded Merganser	02/18/95 BSG 5
Red-breasted Merganser	02/18/95 BSG 5
Black Vulture	02/08/95 JMCC 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 18; 02/20/95 H&PH 2
Turkey Vulture	02/08/95 JMCC 6; 02/13/95 WS 3; 02/17/95 WS 1; 02/18/95 BSG 4; 02/20/95 H&PH 8
Osprey	02/17/95 WS 1
Bald Eagle	02/08/95 JMCC 1
Northern Harrier	01/25/95 JI 1; 02/01/95 JMCC 1; 02/02/95 JMCC 1; 02/16/95 H&PH 1; 02/18/95 BSG 4; 02/20/95 H&PH 2; 02/20/95 H&PH 9
Sharp-shinned Hawk	02/18/95 BSG 1
Cooper's Hawk	01/25/95 B&BW 1; 02/16/95 H&PH 1; 02/20/95 H&PH 1
Red-shouldered Hawk	02/01/95 JMCC 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 2; 02/18/95 BSG 2
Red-tailed Hawk	02/01/95 MT 2; 02/08/95 JMCC 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 3; 02/18/95 BSG 14; 02/20/95 H&PH 15
American Kestrel	02/01/95 JMCC 1; 02/13/95 WS 1; 02/17/95 WS 1; 02/18/95 BSG 1; 02/20/95 H&PH 2
Northern Bobwhite	02/16/95 H&PH 8
American Coot	01/29/95 HHO 5; 02/13/95 WS 1; 02/17/95 WS 1
Sandhill Crane	02/18/95 BSG 307
Killdeer	02/02/95 JI 1; 02/08/95 JMCC 2; 02/13/95 WS 4; 02/16/95 H&PH 5; 02/17/95 WS 4; 02/18/95 BSG 95; 02/20/95 H&PH 2
Greater Yellowlegs	02/18/95 BSG 2
Lesser Yellowlegs	02/18/95 BSG 200
Spotted Sandpiper	02/02/95 JI 1
Least Sandpiper	02/18/95 BSG 165
Long-billed Dowitcher	02/18/95 BSG 180
Common Snipe	02/18/95 BSG 3
Ring-billed Gull	02/02/95 JI 21; 02/13/95 WS 45; 02/17/95 MT 36; 02/17/95 WS 17
Herring Gull	02/20/95 H&PH 3
Forster's Tern	02/02/95 JI 5; 02/13/95 WS 21; 02/16/95 H&PH 1; 02/18/95 BSG 2
Rock Dove	02/13/95 NC 25; 02/16/95 H&PH 8
Mourning Dove	01/19/95 HHO 3; 02/02/95 JI 3; 02/05/95 MT 2; 02/13/95 WS 4; 02/13/95 NC 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 3; 02/17/95 WS 2 ; 02/20/95 H&PH 1
Barn Owl	02/20/95 H&PH 1
Eastern Screech-Owl	02/16/95 H&PH 1
Barred Owl	02/01/95 JMCC 1; 02/16/95 H&PH 2; 02/20/95 H&PH 2
Belted Kingfisher	02/16/95 H&PH 1; 02/18/95 BSG 3
Red-bellied Woodpecker	01/19/95 HHO 2; 02/05/95 MT 1; 02/08/95 JMCC 1; 02/09/95 GF 2; 02/11/95 LR 1; 02/13/95 WS 2; 02/13/95 NC 2;

Common Name	Data
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	02/16/95 H&PH 2; 02/17/95 BH 1; 02/17/95 WS 1; 02/18/95 BSG 3
Downy Woodpecker	02/16/95 H&PH 1; 02/20/95 H&PH 1
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	02/09/95 GF 2; 02/13/95 WS 1; 02/13/95 NC 2; 02/17/95 WS 1; 02/18/95 BSG 1
Northern Flicker	02/18/95 BSG 3 01/28/95 HHo 1; 02/09/95 GF 2; 02/13/95 WS 1; 02/16/95 H&PH 4; 02/17/95 WS 1; 02/18/95 BSG 2; 02/20/95 H&PH 2
Pileated Woodpecker	02/18/95 BSG 1
Eastern Phoebe	02/16/95 H&PH 2; 02/18/95 BSG 1; 02/20/95 H&PH 2; 02/20/95 H&PH 1
Horned Lark	02/18/95 BSG 18
Purple Martin	02/16/95 II 1
Tree Swallow	02/18/95 BSG 2
Blue Jay	01/19/95 HHo 5; 02/05/95 MT 2; 02/11/95 LR 1; 02/13/95 WS 2; 02/13/95 NC 3; 02/16/95 H&PH 6; 02/18/95 BSG 3 ; 02/20/95 H&PH 6
American Crow	02/13/95 WS 6; 02/16/95 H&PH 8; 02/17/95 WS 4; 02/18/95 BSG 21; 02/20/95 H&PH 3; 02/20/95 H&PH 6
Fish Crow	02/16/95 H&PH 3; 02/18/95 BSG 50
Carolina Chickadee	01/25/95 B&BW 6; 02/11/95 LR 1; 02/13/95 WS 1; 02/13/95 NC 3; 02/16/95 H&PH 4; 02/17/95 BH 8; 02/18/95 BSG 4; 02/20/95 H&PH 2
Tufted Titmouse	01/19/95 HHo 2; 01/25/95 B&BW 6; 02/11/95 LR 1; 02/13/95 NC 3; 02/16/95 H&PH 5; 02/17/95 BH 8; 02/18/95 BSG 2
White-breasted Nuthatch	02/08/95 JMCC 1; 02/09/95 GF 2; 02/13/95 HHo 1
Brown-headed Nuthatch	02/18/95 BSG 8
Carolina Wren	01/25/95 B&BW 2; 02/09/95 GF 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 2; 02/18/95 BSG 3; 02/20/95 H&PH 4
House Wren	02/18/95 BSG 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	01/19/95 HHo 1; 01/25/95 B&BW 1; 02/18/95 BSG 2
Eastern Bluebird	01/26/95 HHo 2; 02/13/95 WS 15; 02/13/95 NC 2; 02/15/95 JMCC 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 11; 02/17/95 BH 2; 02/17/95 WS 5; 02/18/95 BSG 122; 02/18/95 BSG 42; 02/20/95 H&PH 8
American Robin	01/28/95 HHo 1; 02/02/95 JI 4; 02/05/95 MT 4; 02/11/95 LR 3; 02/13/95 WS 52; 02/13/95 NC 2 ; 02/14/95 SH 4 ; 02/16/95 H&PH 45; 02/17/95 WS 34; 02/18/95 BSG 60; 02/18/95 BSG 20; 02/20/95 H&PH 3
American Robin (albino)	02/14/95 TS 1; 02/15/95 TS 1; 02/16/95 TS 1
Northern Mockingbird	01/19/95 HHo 1; 02/02/95 JI 1; 02/11/95 LR 1; 02/13/95 WS 3; 02/13/95 NC 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 2; 02/17/95 WS 2 ; 02/18/95 BSG 2; 02/20/95 H&PH 2
Brown Thrasher	02/16/95 H&PH 1; 02/17/95 BH 1; 02/20/95 H&PH 1
American Pipit	02/16/95 H&PH 12; 02/18/95 BSG 60
Sprague's Pipit	02/18/95 BSG 1
Cedar Waxwing	01/28/95 HHo 11; 02/08/95 JMCC 20; 02/09/95 BW 30; 02/13/95 NC 50; 02/16/95 H&PH 23; 02/18/95 BSG 105 ; 02/20/95 H&PH 4
Loggerhead Shrike	02/02/95 JMCC 1; 02/16/95 H&PH 2; 02/17/95 WS 1; 02/18/95 BSG 41; 02/20/95 H&PH 5
European Starling	02/17/95 WS 26
Yellow-rumped Warbler	01/19/95 HHo 5; 01/25/95 B&BW 10; 02/13/95 WS 46; 02/13/95 NC 5; 02/17/95 WS 42; 02/18/95 BSG 9; 02/20/95 H&PH 7
Pine Warbler	01/28/95 HHo 1; 02/09/95 GF 2; 02/13/95 NC 1; 02/16/95 H&PH 6; 02/18/95 BSG 14
Northern Cardinal	02/01/95 WS 2; 02/05/95 MT 5; 02/09/95 GF 19; 02/11/95 LR 3; 02/13/95 HHo 20; 02/13/95 WS 4; 02/13/95 NC 14 ; 02/15/95 JMCC 20; 02/16/95 H&PH 24; 02/17/95 WS 2; 02/18/95 BSG 5; 02/20/95 H&PH 9
Rufous-sided Towhee	02/11/95 LR 1; 02/18/95 BSG 1
Chipping Sparrow	01/19/95 HHo 6; 02/11/95 LR 1; 02/13/95 NC 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 20; 02/17/95 BH 15; 02/18/95 BSG 1
Field Sparrow	02/16/95 H&PH 6; 02/20/95 H&PH 8
Savannah Sparrow	02/16/95 H&PH 35; 02/18/95 BSG 24
LeConte's Sparrow	02/16/95 H&PH 2
Song Sparrow	02/16/95 H&PH 8; 02/18/95 BSG 4; 02/20/95 H&PH 16
Lincoln's Sparrow	02/16/95 H&PH 1
Swamp Sparrow	02/20/95 H&PH 80
White-throated Sparrow	01/19/95 HHo 2; 02/09/95 GF 30; 02/11/95 LR 60; 02/13/95 NC 8; 02/14/95 SH 3; 02/15/95 JMCC 6; 02/16/95 H&PH 12; 02/17/95 BH 4; 02/18/95 BSG 8; 02/20/95 H&PH 17
White-crowned Sparrow	02/01/95 WS 3; 02/13/95 WS 2; 02/20/95 H&PH 200
Dark-eyed Junco	01/19/95 HHo 1; 01/29/95 MT 3; 02/09/95 GF 20; 02/11/95 LR 2; 02/13/95 WS 11; 02/13/95 NC 2; 02/15/95 JMCC 15; 02/16/95 H&PH 7
Red-winged Blackbird	01/28/95 HHo 1; 02/13/95 WS 65; 02/13/95 NC 20; 02/16/95 H&PH 200; 02/17/95 BH 10; 02/17/95 WS 62 ; 02/18/95 BSG 1200; 02/20/95 H&PH 500
Eastern Meadowlark	02/16/95 H&PH 60; 02/18/95 BSG 27; 02/20/95 H&PH 8
Rusty Blackbird	02/16/95 H&PH 3
Common Grackle	02/11/95 LR 100; 02/13/95 WS 17; 02/13/95 NC 10; 02/14/95 SH 6; 02/16/95 H&PH 40 ; 02/17/95 BH 20 ; 02/18/95 BSG 7; 02/20/95 H&PH 100
Brown-headed Cowbird	01/29/95 MT 30; 02/13/95 WS 60; 02/13/95 NC 50; 02/14/95 SH 2; 02/16/95 H&PH 80; 02/17/95 WS 5; 02/18/95 BSG 25
Northern Oriole	01/25/95 MT 1; 01/26/95 MT 1; 01/27/95 MT 1; 01/28/95 MT 1; 01/29/95 MT 1; 01/30/95 MT 1; 01/31/95 MT 1; 02/01/95 MT 1; 02/01/95 WS 1; 02/02/95 MT 2; 02/05/95 WM&MT 1
Purple Finch	02/13/95 WS 15
House Finch	01/26/95 HHo 6; 02/01/95 WS 4; 02/05/95 MT 14; 02/13/95 NC 50; 02/15/95 SH 2; 02/17/95 WS 6
Pine Siskin	02/09/95 BW 1; 02/10/95 BW 3; 02/11/95 LR 2; 02/13/95 NC 1

Common Name	Data
American Goldfinch	01/26/95 HHo 19; 02/01/95 WS 12; 02/09/95 BW 30; 02/09/95 GF 105; 02/10/95 BW 200; 02/11/95 LR 40; 02/13/95 MT 50; 02/13/95 NC 40; 02/15/95 SH 4; 02/15/95 JMCC 20; 02/16/95 H&PH 200; 02/17/95 BH 75; 02/17/95 WS 19
House Sparrow	02/13/95 NC 25; 02/16/95 H&PH 20; 02/18/95 BSG 7 Printed 383 records of 99 species

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