

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY

BIRD GROUP

NEWSLETTER Vol. 1; No. 1; October, 1986

Tuesday  
Oct. 28  
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study Bird Group will be held at the L.S.U. Life Sciences Museum, 8015 St. Vincent Avenue, Shreveport. Paul Dickson will present a program entitled "Discovering Birds 'Right in Your Own Backyard'". The talk will focus on quick and easy identification of birds using habitat and behavioural cues to guide identification. There will be tips for beginning birders as well as "brush-ups" for the more experienced birders. Study skins and slides will be used.

Saturday  
Nov. 1  
1:00 PM

A birding field trip will be conducted along the Red River. The meeting place will be the parking lot on the Clyde Fant Parkway located in the median strip just north of the Fant-Stoner Avenue intersection. Depending upon the turnout groups of 2 to 5 individuals will bird different sections of this urban riverine habitat. All birders are welcome.

BIRD ALERT

A Bird Alert service has been established and will be operating on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings after 5:00 PM. The recorder is located in the L.S.U. Life Sciences Museum, 226-7174. Interesting recent bird findings will be recorded. Messages detailing noteworthy bird sightings can be left on the recorder at the times noted above.

SEED CO-OP

Bird seed will be sold at regular meetings at the L.S.U. Life Sciences Museum. Currently millet is selling for 10 lbs. at \$2.00 and sunflower seed at 45¢/lb. Other seeds such as niger and milo will also be available.

BIRD NOTES

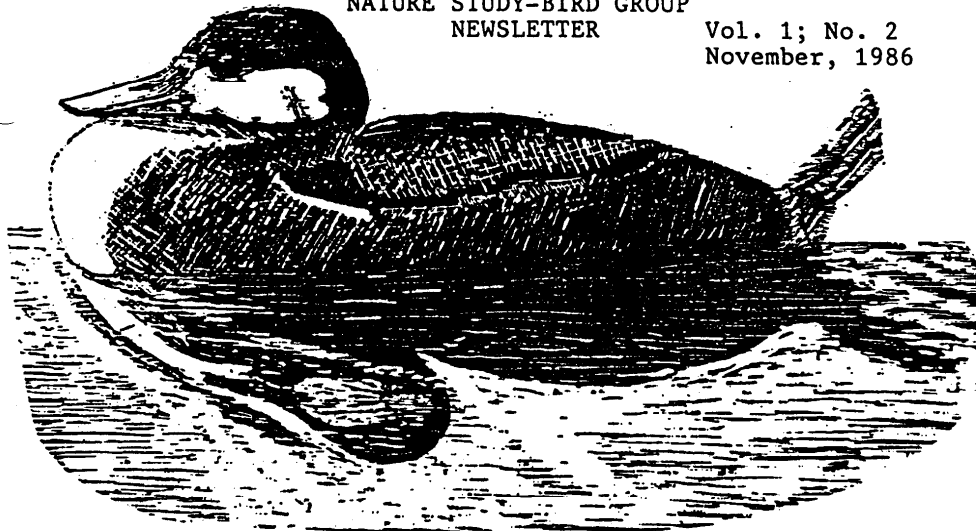
(15 Sept. to 15 Oct.)

The reporting period was warm and humid with one modest cold front arriving 11 October. Pied-bill grebes were seen by numerous observers with a pair seen on Noyes Lake by VG. Four white pelicans were seen at Caddo Lake Oct. 10 along with d.c. cormorants and coots (LR). The latter two species were seen on Cross Lake as well, in addition to an early sighting of a small group of ruddy ducks (HJ and PD). Cattle egrets were still in residence (i.R and SK) as well as first and second-year white ibises at

Dickson's (PD). Roseate spoonbill and wood stork were being seen along the Red River from Elm Grove to Ninock the week of Sept. 28 (HJ and PD). An osprey was seen over Caddo Lake by LR. An herring gull at Cross Lake (Oct. 14) by HJ and PD was an early arrival whereas HJ was still feeding an adult male ruby-throated hummingbird on Oct. 10 along with some females. Scissor-tailed flycatchers were still abundant (SK); there was one western kingbird seen (PD). VG reports a common yellow-throat and house wren in the backyard and PD found one sedge wren. CF had pine warblers feeding with Eastern bluebirds and LR noted the first ruby-crowned kinglet at Walter Jacobs Park on Oct. 16. Observers: Paul Dickson, Carol Foster, Vera Grubbs, Horace Jeter, Steve Klotz and Larry Raymond.

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR  
NATURE STUDY-BIRD GROUP  
NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1; No. 2  
November, 1986



Tuesday      The regular meeting of the Shreveport  
Dec. 9        Society for Nature Study-Bird Group will  
7:00 PM      be held at the L.S.U. Life Sciences  
                 Museum, 8015 St. Vincent Ave., Shreveport.  
                 (1) Larry Raymond will present a talk  
                 entitled: "We Care About Eagles". This  
                 is a slide program originally sponsored  
                 by the National Wildlife Federation.  
                 Several species of eagles will be discus-  
                 sed in addition to the bald and golden  
                 eagle.  
                 (2) Noel Perkins will inform us of  
                 members' favorite local birding spots.  
                 Send her a note or call before the meeting  
                 to give her details of your choice:  
                 1033 Willow Drive, Shreveport, 71118 or  
                 687-4163.  
                 (3) Paul Dickson will provide an update  
                 concerning the establishment of a new  
                 (additional) Christmas Bird Count area

which is designed to encompass more rural areas south and east of Shreveport and to provide more count areas in order to accommodate new birdwatchers.

The seed co-op will be open following the meeting.

#### November Field Trip

About 25 birders showed for the field trip of November 1 along the Red River. About 30 species were seen all told, along with numerous dirt bikes. A catbird was heard calling by several individuals, but was not seen. Mac Hardy had mist nets in several locations which yielded meadowlarks, cardinals, Carolina chickadees and 1 Carolina wren.

#### Bird Banding

Mac Hardy is planning to set out mist nets along the Red River on the late afternoon of Sunday, December 7. Anyone interested in helping band captives is encouraged to give him a call at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences.

#### Bird Notes

(15 October to 15 November)

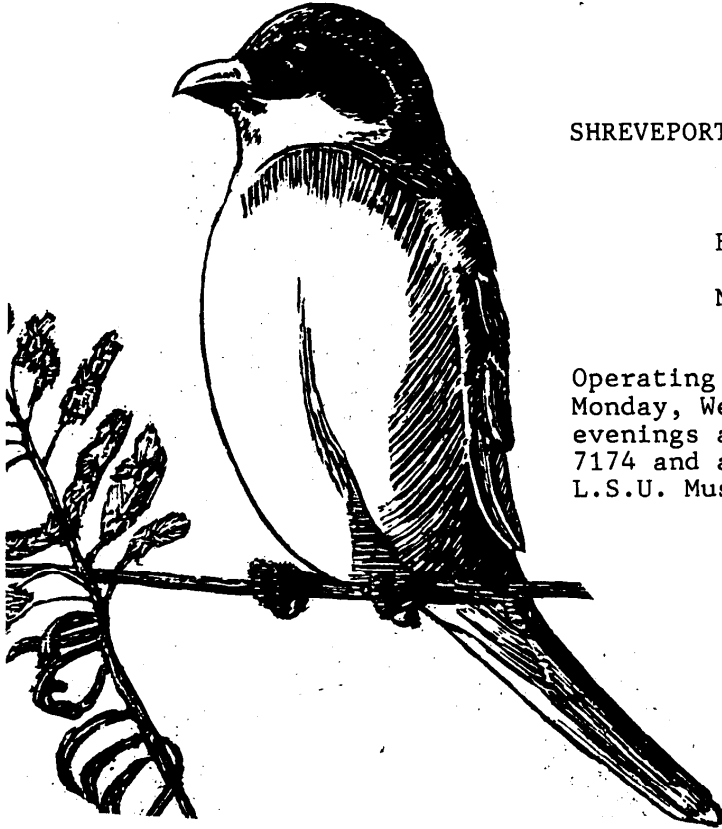
WJP: Walter Jacobs Park; CL: Cross Lake; M: Missionary, Louisiana; DF: Dickson's farm.

Bufflehead, ring-necked ducks and hooded mergansers are present at DF; about 20 snow geese were seen south of CL on Nov. 8 (SK); raptors were especially common during this period with a considerable influx of red-tailed hawks and kestrels; there were no Harlan's hawks noted as of yet; Cooper's hawks have been observed at DF and at CL Nov. 9 (SK); a close-up view of an unsuccessful attack of a male

sharp-shinned hawk on an eastern phoebe was had by HJ and SK at M Oct. 19; bald eagles have returned to CL; VG's source spotted 3 adults and 2 immatures on 5 Nov; 1 was seen on South Lakeshore 10 Nov. (SK). Numerous ring-billed gulls are feeding at the Bossier wastewater treatment plant but not in the numbers seen last year (SK). Three horned larks were seen at M along with a winter wren (HJ). PD was seeing sedge wrens up to 7 Nov.; The earliest report of a golden-crowned kinglet was 31 Oct. and LR reports that they are more numerous this year at WJP than in previous years. JM reported the earliest sighting of pine siskins seen on the Old Dixie Road on 26 Oct.; Lincoln's, white-crowned, and white-throated sparrows were present at M on 19 Oct.; JM noted 4 barn swallows and about 150 tree swallows on the old Dixie Rd. area as late as 5 Nov.

If you are out birding, jot down any interesting findings and send to Steve Klotz, 8028 Cardigan Way, Shreveport, 71129 before the 20th of the month.

PD: Paul Dickson; HJ: Horace Jeter; VG: Vera Grubbs;  
SK: Steve Klotz; JM: John McBride; LR: Larry Raymond



SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE

STUDY

BIRD GROUP

NEWSLETTER Vol. 1; No. 3  
December, 1986

Operating a Bird Alert service:  
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday  
evenings after 5:00 PM 226-  
7174 and a Seed Co-op at the  
L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences.

Tuesday  
Jan. 13  
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study Bird Group will be held at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences, 8015 St. Vincent Avenue, Shreveport. There will be informal summaries of the two local Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) by the compilers, Horace Jeter and Paul Dickson. After this, several officers need to be appointed to serve as co-chairmen (women) for a years tenure. This is necessary in order to set up the monthly agendas, bird trips, etc.

Saturday  
Jan. 3

The Shreveport CBC will be conducted on January 3. This is the longest-running consecutive CBC in the state. Usually  $100 \pm 5$  total species are seen on the CBC. Results of the CBC and the participating observers are published in a special edition of American Birds. The compiler is Horace Jeter.

Saturday  
Jan. 10

An informal "rehearsal" of a newly proposed CBC area will be conducted. This was discussed in detail at the last meeting by Paul Dickson. The proposed area will encompass a long stretch of the Red River, the Elm Grove area, and Lake Bisteneau. The purpose is twofold: to provide more rural terrain in the CBC and to accommodate individuals unable to take part in the Shreveport CBC. This will be an informal count and the results will not be published in American Birds. The compiler is Paul Dickson who should be contacted by any interested persons wishing to participate.

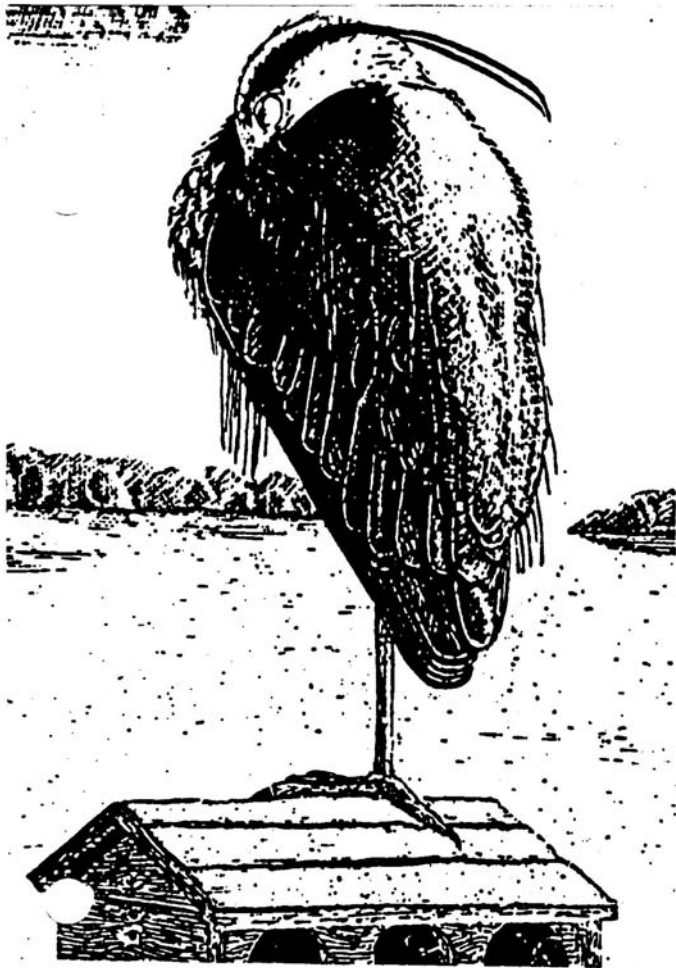
BIRD NOTES  
(15 November to 15 December)

Most of the weekends were either cold or wet which may account for the paucity of bird findings this month. Two horned grebes were recently spotted on Cross Lake by James Stewart. This species was present on last year's CBC. Large numbers of mallards,

gadwall, ruddy duck, wood duck, coot and double-crested cormorant are readily observable from the Cross Lake shoreline. Noteworthy raptors included a Harlan's red-tailed hawk along Highway 71 south of Bossier (PD) and Yearwood Road (N and JP) and a Kr ider's red-tailed again along Highway 71 (PD). N and JP observed a immature bald eagle also in the vicinity of Yearwood Road. A vermilion flycatcher has been seen on two separate occasions during the last month at Dickson's farm. If it is seen with any regularity or its territory discovered, PD will call it into the Bird Alert. LR noted a roadrunner off Blanchard Road--this bird has been absent from recent CBCs. The usual numbers of juncos and cedar waxwings seem to be in residence. There was no mention of towhees or Harris sparrows during the month. Evening grosbeaks are present at feeders in Minden. HJ had at least one Lapland longspur at Missionary, Dec. 14. Observers: Paul Dickson, Horace Jeter, Steve Klotz, Noel and Jeff Perkins, and Larry Raymond.

Mailing Notice: Over 50 separate individuals requested and were mailed a Newsletter last month. If you are aware of persons interested in receiving the newsletter have them contact Dr. Hardy at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences where the directory is being maintained.





SHREVEPORT SOCIETY

FOR

NATURE STUDY

BIRD GROUP

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1; No. 4; January, 1987

Operating a Bird Alert service:  
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday  
evenings after 5:00 PM, 226-  
7174; and a Seed Co-op at the  
L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences.

Dues for the Bird Group will  
not be collected until Fall,  
if you are receiving this News-  
letter for the first time or  
know of someone who wants to  
receive it, please phone the  
L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences  
and place the name on the  
mailing directory.

MEETINGS:

TUESDAY  
FEBRUARY 10  
7:00 PM

The monthly meeting of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study-Bird Group will be held at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences, 8015 St. Vincent Avenue, Shreveport. Laurence Hardy will give a program on the ornithology-related activities and facilities of the Museum including the field mount specimen collection and data collection activities on local birds.

TUESDAY  
MARCH 10  
7:00 PM

A program on the spring migrants in the Caddo-Bossier area--what they are and where to find them. Emphasis to be placed on warblers.

#### FIELD TRIPS

SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 14  
8:30 AM

Bob Hauser, a local falconer, will demonstrate the skill of his two Harris hawks in the field. Although originally described by Audubon from a specimen secured in Louisiana, this hawk is native to arid and semi-arid regions of the Southwest. Meeting place is the Walter Jacobs Nature Park; the coordinator is Larry Raymond. Note the time.

SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 28  
9:00 AM

A field trip is planned to bird the Cross Lake shoreline in caravan-style. Field scopes will be available. Anticipated species will be canvasback, bufflehead, various puddle ducks, up to 3 gull species, bald eagle, LeConte's sparrow, and with luck, mergansers, grebes or a loon. Coordinators: Clyde Massey and Steve Klotz. The meeting place will be at the City Marina off South Lakeshore Drive near Ford Park. We will start around the fish ponds near the deer cages.

SATURDAY  
MARCH 14

A field trip to Millwood Lake in Arkansas for water birds. More details in the next Newsletter.

#### CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT RESULTS

The Shreveport CBC was conducted on Saturday, 3 January 1987 in driving rain and drizzle. There were 22 participants who saw a total of 94 species representing 31,230 individuals. Noteworthy sightings included: common loon, horned grebe, red-breasted merganser, Bonaparte's gull, 6 bald eagles, Cooper's hawk, sedge wren, solitary vireo, and a number of LeConte's sparrows.

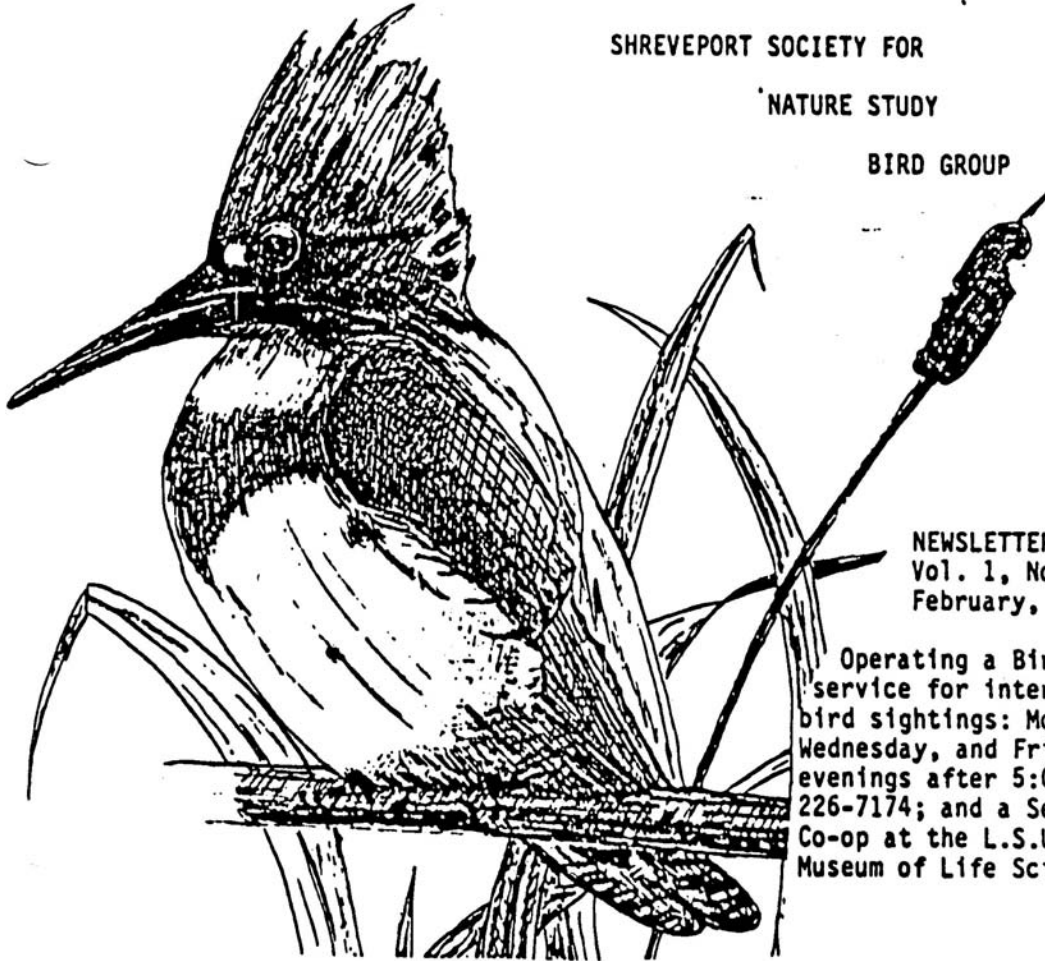
The South Bossier CBC was conducted on Saturday, 10 January 1987 in gale force winds. Ninety-one species were tallied. Species not seen on the Shreveport count were osprey, Harlan's hawk, a black phase Western red-tailed hawk, horned lark, water pipit, catbird, Lapland longspur and vesper sparrow.

#### NOTE

Officers for the Bird Group were elected by acclamation at the January meeting. They will serve for 1 year. These included: Larry Raymond, President; Noel Perkins, Secretary; and Betty Mason, Treasurer. A Program Committee was also established to include: Marilyn Kirkus, Noel Perkins, Clyde Massey, and John McBride. Suggestions (which are solicited from all) concerning meeting topics or field trips and activities should be directed to a member of the Program Committee.

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR  
NATURE STUDY

BIRD GROUP



NEWSLETTER  
Vol. 1, No. 5,  
February, 1987

Operating a Bird Alert  
service for interesting  
bird sightings: Monday,  
Wednesday, and Friday  
evenings after 5:00 PM,  
226-7174; and a Seed  
Co-op at the L.S.U.  
Museum of Life Sciences

MEETINGS:

Tuesday  
March 10  
7:00 PM  
to  
8:00 PM

The monthly meeting of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study--Bird Group will be held at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences, 8015 St. Vincent Avenue, Shreveport. Clyde Massey will present a program on "Spring Migrants". This will include slides and field specimens with emphasis on migrant warblers. Tips on when and where to see selected species in the Caddo-Bossier area will be given.

FIELD OUTINGS:

Saturday  
March 14  
6:00 AM

A field trip to Millwood Lake, Arkansas for water birds is planned. The leader is Clyde Massey. This is approximately a 2 hour drive from Shreveport. Meeting place will be at 6:00 AM at the parking lot of the Holiday Inn Motel on North Market (Hiway 1 and 71). Call Clyde Massey by March 12 to confirm meeting place and time (868-4549).

Saturday  
March 21  
8:00 AM  
to  
Noon

A bird banding outing at Walter Jacobs Park is planned with Laurence Hardy as the leader. This will be a preliminary to a more extensive banding in the same area during the height of spring migration. Call L. Hardy, or leave a message on the answering machine at 226-7174 or Larry Raymond at 929-2806 by March 20 to confirm time and meeting place.

**NOTE**

Harold Wales will have 30 bird photographs on show for viewing at the Barnwell Center from March 2 to March 29.

Monthly Bird Notes

Early Blue-winged Teal were sighted by PD at his ponds on February 15; Snow Geese were present on Feb 10 (SK); displaying male Woodcock can be seen throughout the area although numbers may be diminishing due to northerly movement, a recent outing to PDs by several members turned up several displaying males;

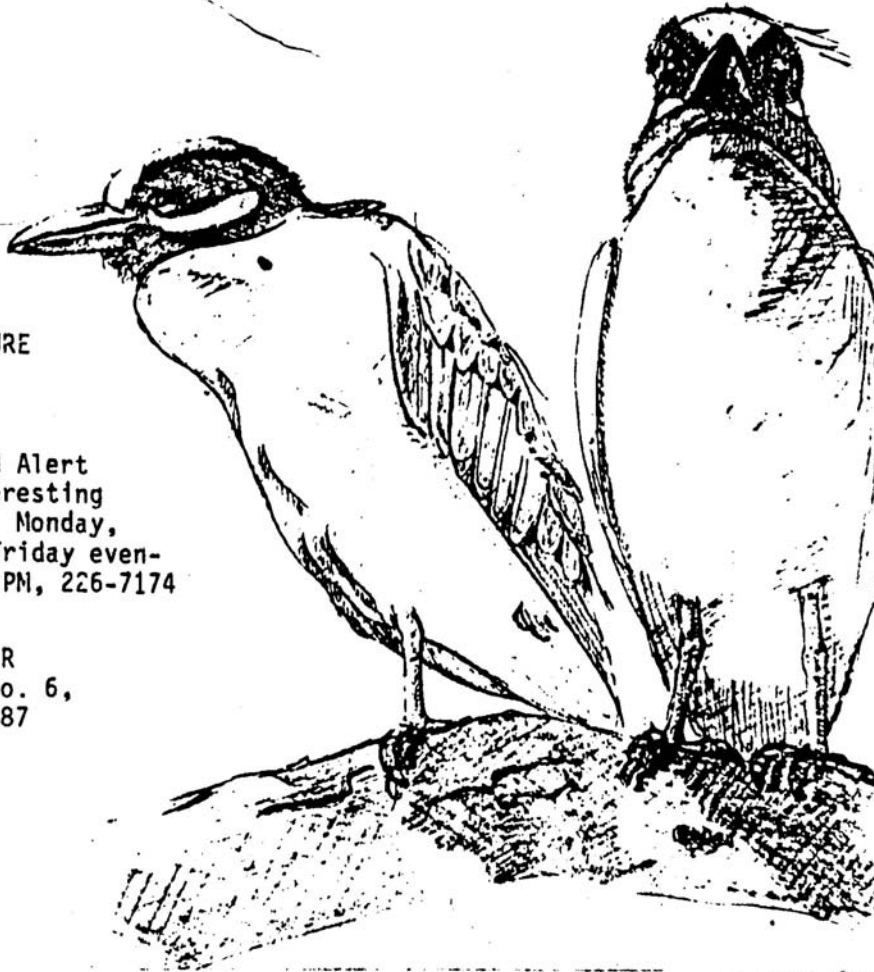
unusual reports of escapees were those of HJ who had a pair of foraging Macaws in January and more recently a Parakeet; unusual numbers and activity of roadrunners along I-20 in Bossier Parish were noted by LR and LH (Feb. 17); most of the interesting activity centered around passerines such as the recent sighting of a male Vermillion Flycatcher at PDs seen by numerous observers and still being seen; Purple Martins were reported as early as 29 January; Evening Grosbeaks are being seen at feeders at PDs since the first week in February; KM reports a partial albino Pine Siskin at a feeder in Waskom and DC has spotted on two separate visits an Audubon's form of Yellow-rumped Warbler at Bickham-Dickson Park around the first picnic table; resident Starlings are also noted to be in breeding plumage.

Reporting: Dot Cady, Paul Dickson, Laurence Hardy, Horace Jeter, Steve Klotz, Kate Micheals, and Larry Raymond.

SHREVEPORT  
SOCIETY FOR NATURE  
STUDY  
BIRD GROUP

issuing a Bird Alert  
service for interesting  
bird sightings: Monday,  
Wednesday, and Friday even-  
ings after 5:00 PM, 226-7174

NEWSLETTER  
Vol. 1, No. 6,  
March, 1987



MEETINGS:

Tuesday  
April 14  
7:00 PM  
to  
8:00 PM

The monthly meeting of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study-Bird Group will be held at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences, 8015 St. Vincent Avenue, Shreveport. Pat Sewell will present a talk on shorebirds. The program will include the speaker's own slides taken in Louisiana. The photography promises to be exceptional.

FIELD OUTINGS:

Saturday  
April 12  
8:00 AM  
to  
Noon

A bird banding outing to Walter Jacobs Park is planned with Laurence Hardy as leader. This will be a followup of a similar outing on March 21 in the same area. Expected are several species of migrant warblers, thrushes, and fringillids. Call L. Hardy at 226-7174 to confirm the time and meeting place.

Saturday-  
Sunday  
April 25-26

The annual Louisiana Ornithological Society spring meeting and field trip to Cameron, LA. For further information about the birding and transportation, call the Bird Alert Service, 226-7174.

RECENT OUTINGS:

A field trip around Cross Lake on a blustery Saturday morning (February 28) was attended by about 25 persons. Forty-four species of birds were seen at or between 5 stops. Noteworthy sightings included: Spotted Sandpiper; numerous Bald Eagles, immature and adult (10?); good views of feeding Buffleheads; too numerous to count LeConte's Sparrows; Sedge Wren; and a Cooper's Hawk.

Eight persons birded the dam and the adjacent campsites at Millwood Lake, Arkansas with Clyde Massey on March 14. The weather was perfect from a human standpoint. Thirty-five species were seen with especially good looks at a Greater Scaup and a Common Goldeneye drake in courtship display with several ducks.



## MONTHLY BIRD NOTES

PD reports Blue-winged Teal at his residence; Woodcock were last seen displaying Mar. 8 (SK); raptors received a lot of attention this past month: a Cooper's Hawk at Walter Jacobs Park on Mar 18 (LR); two separate Screech Owl sightings in urban bird houses with easy access for viewing (call Bird Alert for details); a Barred Owl has been incubating since Mar 1 in a nest occupied the last 2 years by Red-shouldered Hawks (SK), A. C. Bent states that eggs of both birds can be found in the same nest simultaneously and occupancy of the nest in alternate years by hawk and owl is not uncommon; the Vermillion Flycatcher at PDs was last seen Mar. 7 and Evening Grosbeaks were last seen Mar. 8 (PD); numerous Pine Siskins are feeding at WJP (LR and HJ); and Black and White Warblers were heard and seen at WJP, Mar. 15 (HJ); PD spotted returning Yellow-crowned Night Herons on Mar. 15, whereas 6 pairs were in advanced stages of nest building, but not incubating at the Veterans Hospital heronry on Mar. 16 (SK); HJ believes his latest escaped psittacine to be a Plum-headed Parakeet.

Reporting: Paul Dickson, Horace Jeter, Steve Klotz, Larry Raymond.



SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR

NATURE STUDY

BIRD GROUP

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1; No. 7; April, 1987

Operating a Bird Alert Service for interesting bird sightings Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings after 5:00 PM, 226-7174; and a Seed Coop at L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences.

MEETINGS:

Tuesday  
May 12  
7:00 PM  
to  
8:00 PM

The monthly meeting of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study-Bird Group will be held at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences, 8015 St. Vincent Avenue, Shreveport. Horace Jeter will present a program on keeping personal field records and also information about the current system for recording noteworthy bird findings in Louisiana. Following this, Larry Raymond will give a brief description of the nesting bird record system.

Tuesday  
June 9

The planned program for the June, 1987 meeting is a presentation on racing homers by Micheal Monsour.

FIELD TRIPS:

Saturday  
May 2  
"Big Day"

An all day outing at Paul Dickson's farm. This will be during the passage of many warblers and other migrants through the area (see Monthly Bird Notes for recent sightings at PD's). Diverse habitats are present on the farm for birding. Paul will be providing crawfish and tea. Those planning to attend should call Sandra Sewell at 865-0393 to inform her of what food each attendee will be bringing (in addition to that provided by the host). Of course, everyone is free to leave or arrive at any time but a caravan will be forming at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences at 5:00 AM to leave for Dickson's. Otherwise, go about 20 miles South on Hiway 71 from Bossier City to Hiway 4, at which point turn left (West) and go 4.5 miles to Loggy Bayou Plantation (on lefthand side) and proceed to the first house on the right.

Saturday  
May 23  
8:00 AM  
to  
NOON

A field trip with the purpose of observing nesting herons and egrets. Meet at the main parking lot of the V.A. Hospital at 8:00 AM (where adult and young Yellow Crowned Night Herons are to be found). The next planned stop will be on South Lakeshore Drive for Cattle Egrets. The latter spot is best seen by boat which hopefully will be available. Leader: Steve Klotz.

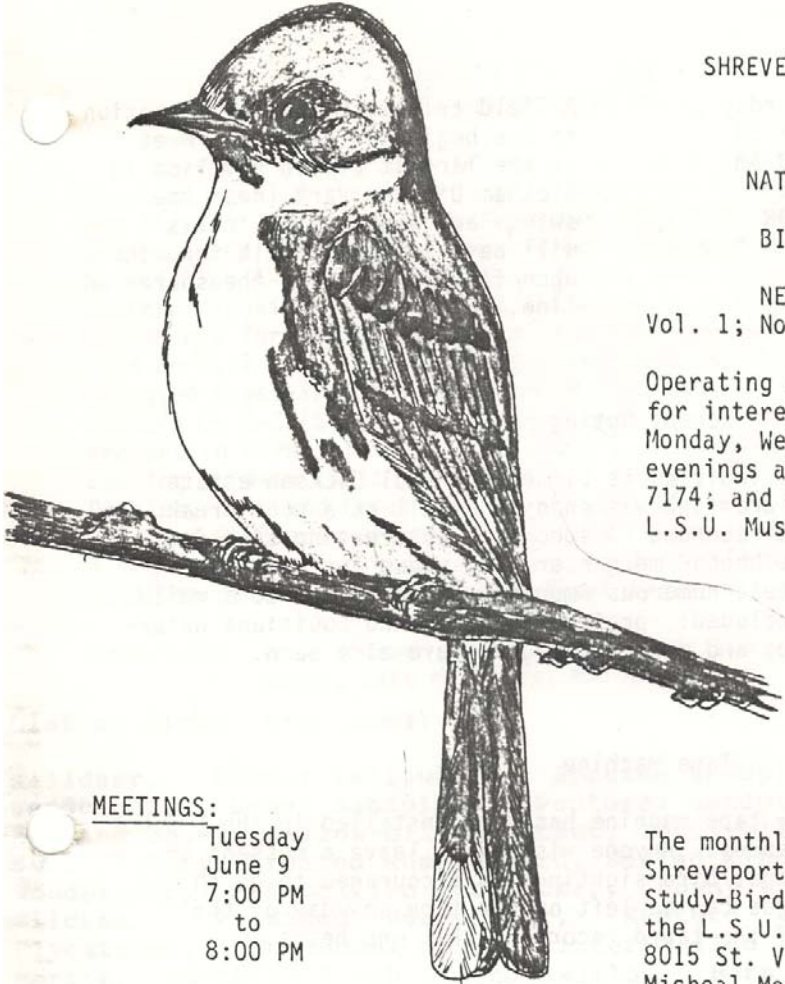
Bluebird Houses

Many attendees at the last monthly meeting were thankful to E.C. Kelly who gave bluebird houses away for the asking. Bluebirds are presently feeding young of the first brood in many areas.

MONTHLY BIRD NOTES  
(15 March-15 April)

Returning migrants received most of the attention this past month. Cattle Egrets were seen 4-11 (SK); American Bitterns, as many as 4 at a time were being seen at PD's since 4-11 along with Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs, Solitary, Pectoral, Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers throughout the month of April (PD); Wood Duck with young were seen 4-6 (N&JP); Broad-winged Hawks were spotted 3-29 (SK,HJ); among the passerines: Northern Parula on 4-11 (LR); Worm-eating, Prairie, and Hooded Warbler on 4-11 (PD); Louisiana Waterthrush, Yellow-throated and White-eyed Vireos on 3-29 (SK,HJ); Chimney Swift, 3-22 (N&JP); Barn Swallow, 3-20 (SK); Eastern Kingbird 4-8 (SK); Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, 4-5 (N&JP); Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were noted 4-11 (LR); PD relates that the recent frost caused the death of nestling Carolina Wrens that he has been monitoring but did not disrupt incubation (or success) in another nest; Carolina Wrens were laying on 4-11 (PD); nesting Ringed Turtle Doves were seen by many in the city after a Bird Alert.

Reporting: Paul Dickson, Horace Jeter, Steve Klotz, Noel and Jeff Perkins, and Larry Raymond.



SHREVEPORT SOCIETY

FOR

NATURE STUDY

BIRD GROUP

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1; No. 8; May, 1987

Operating a Bird Alert Service for interesting bird sightings Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings after 5:00 PM, 226-7174; and a Seed Coop at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences.

MEETINGS:

Tuesday  
June 9  
7:00 PM  
to  
8:00 PM

The monthly meeting of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study-Bird Group will be held at the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences, 8015 St. Vincent Avenue, Shreveport. Micheal Monsour will present a program on racing homer pigeons.

This should be an interesting topic to many, especially when one considers that over fifty years of intensive research have failed to reveal how homing pigeons orientate. Recent theories have invoked the use of olfaction in homing or orientation by geomagnetism.

FIELD TRIPS:

Saturday  
June 20  
8:00 AM  
to  
NOON

A field trip with special attention to the beginning birders. Meet at the largest picnic pavilion in Bickham Dickson Park (near the swings and jungle jim). This will be a leisurely walk through open fields and along the shoreline.

Recent Outing

About 25 individuals birded the Paul Dickson estate on May 2. Boiled crawfish was enjoyed by all at a noon break. A preliminary count recorded 84 species. Interesting sightings included: a female hooded merganser with young (an uncommon record for the state); numerous American bitterns and sora rails. Warblers sighted included: prairie warblers and Louisiana waterthrush; both scarlet and summer tanagers were also seen.

Tape Machine

The new tape machine has been installed in the L.S.U. Museum of Life Sciences. Anyone wishing to leave a message on the tape machine about bird sightings is encouraged to do so. Bird sighting records can be left on the tape any day of the week, regardless of the taped recording that one hears.

**List of Birds Recorded at Paul Dickson's Farm  
May 2, 1987**

Pied-billed Grebe, Anhinga, American Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Hooded Merganser, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Northern Bobwhite, Sora,  
Continued.

FIELD TRIPS:

Saturday  
June 20  
8:00 AM  
to  
NOON

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May 2, 1987**

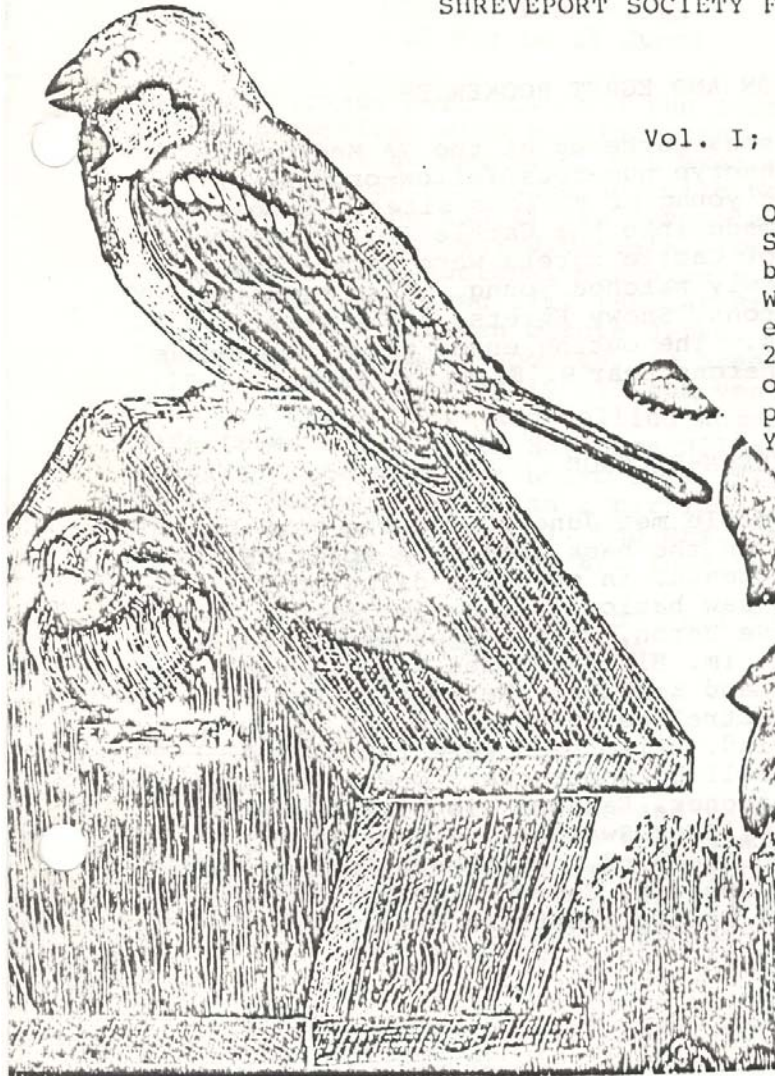
Pied-billed Grebe, Anhinga, American Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Hooded Merganser, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Northern Bobwhite, Sora,  
Continued.

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDIES

BIRD GROUP

NEWSLETTER

Vol. I; No. 98; June, 1987



Operating a Bird Alert Service for interesting bird sightings Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings after 5:00pm, 226-7174; and taking orders, preferably pre-paid, for Droll Yankee feeders.

MEETING: Tuesday  
July 14  
7:00pm  
to  
9:00pm

The program for this months meeting will be presented by Paul Dicson, with the topic being shorebirds. This will be in conjunction with our field trip on shorebirds planned for the month of July.

FIELD TRIP: Saturday  
July 25  
9:00am  
until  
11-12.

A field trip focused on spotting shorebirds. Paul Dickson will lead the group and will announce which mudflats we will visit at the July meeting. The location should also be on the hotline the week before the trip. We will be meeting at the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences at 9:00am and caravanning to the site.



## RECENT OUTINGS:

### HERON AND EGRET ROOKERIES

May 25, ten persons gathered at the VA Medical Center grounds to observe numerous Yellow-crowned Night Herons feeding young of various sizes. A boat excursion was then made into the Cattle Egret rookery. Thousands of pairs of Cattle Egrets were incubating eggs and some had newly hatched young. Also nesting were Little Blue Herons, Snowy Egrets, Anhingas and Green-backed Herons. The outing ended after observing nesting Great Blue Herons near R. Flemming Park.

### BICKHAM-DICKSON

About a dozen people met June 20, at the park by the large pavillion on the back side. We split up into two groups and headed in opposite directions. Even so both groups saw basically the same birds. They were: Great Blue Heron, Little Blue Heron, Great Egret, Cattle Egret, im. Black-crowned Night Heron, Green-backed Heron, and Kildeer. We spotted Mac's released American Kestrel being badgered off of every perch he tried to find. Also seen were the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downey Woodpecker Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Purple Martin, Barn Swallow, Bank Swallow, Chimney Swift, Mockingbird, Eastern Bluebird, Loggerhead Shrike with young, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Eastern Meadowlark, Northern Oriole, Northern Cardinal.

### BIRD FEEDERS

The Droll Yankee feeders (Happy-8 Hummingbird feeders, Oriole feeders, and the B-7 sunflower seed feeders) have arrived at the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences in record time. We've set prices that are pleasantly below retail rates. In addition future discounts can be had if the orders are pre-paid. These are super good feeders at super good prices.

MONTHLY BIRD NOTES  
(15 May to 25 June)

As the migrants left town and the summer residents busied themselves with raising young, the number of bird sightings dwindled, but even slow months have their moments. Three juvenile Wood Storks 6/20 (PD) and one adult, two juvenile White Ibises 6/3 were seen at Paul Dickson's. Two White-rumped sandpipers, five Pectoral Sandpipers and two Lesser Yellowlegs were seen 5/17 (SK) at Bickham-Dickson Park in slough between circle drive. A Lesser Yellowlegs was also spotted, in breeding plumage 6/25 (PD) that apparently did not venture north with his brethren. Red-bellied Woodpecker young were noted 6/5 (NP) in Southern Hills. The first Acadian Flycatcher was heard 5/19 (SK) at the VA Medical Center. Noel has a partially albino house sparrow at her feeder 6/7, and Mrs. Stuart Burris spotted a Painted Bunting 6/2 in Frierson, LA.

Reporting: Mrs. Stuart Burris, Paul Dickson, Steve Klotz, Noel Perkins.

SOME KIND OF DEVOTION

Recently Vera Lee Grubbs and Kate Michaels were on an outing in Waskom when they saw a large bird soar off the side of the road only to come plummeting down in the ditch. As they ran up the road to help they could tell it was a Red-shouldered Hawk with a three-foot snake winding itself around the bird.

Neither one could stand back and watch the bird die so they picked up old pine branches on the side of the road and tried to pry the snake off the hawk. The snake, however, proved to be too strong for the branches, and as they could see the bird going limp they decided to change their method. Vera Lee grabbed the tail and Kate grabbed the head of the snake and unwrapped the hawk's tail and neck. As he felt the hold of the snake brake the bird took a deep breath and flew straight up no doubt wondering what he ever did to receive that kind of devotion.