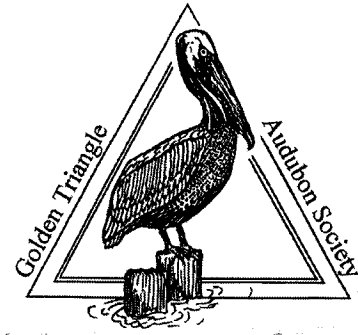


# *Brown Pelican*

**Scanned from Originals**

# The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 6 No. 12

December 2000

## **Sea Rim State Park Christmas Bird Count Sunday December 31, 2000 Meet in Sabine Pass at 7:15 a.m.**

**at the intersection of Texas 87 and FM3322 in Sabine Pass. This is where Highway 87 turns to the right (west) towards Sea Rim.**

**Countdown dinner at 6:00 p.m., location to be confirmed.**

**Please contact John Whittle (409) 722-4193 (H), (409) 880-8276 (W) or whittleja@hal.lamar.edu; or Robert Hurt (409) 724-2202 (H) or rh77706@aol.com and let us know you plan to attend.**

The Audubon Christmas Bird Counts enter their second century this year! Please join us for what we hope will be an enjoyable day's birding. All are invited, even if you are not an experienced birder or are only able to bird for part of the day. Let us know in advance and we will find a suitable group for you to join. We normally bird in groups of three or four, with at least one experienced birder in each group. The more pairs of eyes in a group, the more birds will be seen.

Other local counts which will welcome your participation include the Bolivar Peninsula Count on December 27 (contact Bill Graber 409-866-5452), the Turkey Creek Count (in the Big Thicket north of Kountze) on December 16 (contact David Baker 409-839-2689, ext. 235) and the Beech Creek Count (in the Steinhagen Lake area) on December 30 (contact David Baker).

## **November Membership Meeting**

At the membership meeting on Thursday, November 16, 2000, elections were held for officers and board members for the calendar year 2001. After the votes were counted, recounted and the judge made a ruling, the following officers were reelected: President, Ken Sztraky; Vice-President, Steve Mayes; Treasurer, Nancy Fisher; Recording Secretary, Jana Whittle; Corresponding Secretary, John Whittle. Directors at large include: Bob Collier, John Haynes, Joe Halbrook, Jeannie Lanclos, Sherrie Roden, and Mary Stafford. The new Board formally takes office on January 1, 2001 and would like to have your suggestions and offers of assistance. There are many non-birding tasks that could be performed by someone other than an officer or board member. For example, volunteers are needed to provide refreshments for almost every meeting in 2001 starting with the March meeting. Please volunteer! Many thanks to everyone who volunteered last year for the various activities the club is involved with! Without volunteers our club could not survive.

*(continued on page 7)*

## *The Brown Pelican*

Vol. 6, No.12 Dec. 2000

Golden Triangle  
Audubon Society

**RARE BIRD ALERT AND  
SOCIETY INFORMATION  
TELEPHONE NUMBER**

**(409) 768-1340**

**<http://goldtriaudubon.tripod.com> (NEW!)**

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**Treasurer**

Nancy Fisher (751-0119)

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Jana Whittle (722-4193)

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John Haynes (724-6842)

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**Field Trips**

Steve Mayes (722-5807)

**Conservation, Publicity**

Joe Halbrook (892-3090)

**Membership**

Volunteer needed

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**Newsletter Distribution**

Mary Stafford (962-8070)

**Newsletter Editor**

John Whittle (722-4193)

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Texas 77627-1292

## Calendar of Events

If you can present a program of interest to a Membership Meeting, or know of some person who can, please contact Jana Whittle at (409) 722-4193.

For more information on field trips, please contact Steve Mayes, (409) 722-5807 or the trip leader.

**Saturday Dec. 16 - Turkey Creek CBC.**

Meet at the Big Thicket Visitor Center on FM420 (off US 69 seven miles north of Kountze) at 6:30 a.m. For further information, call David Baker (409) 839-2689 ext. 235.

**Wednesday Dec. 27 – Bolivar Peninsula CBC.**

Contact Bill Graber, (409) 866-5452 for more information.

**Saturday Dec. 30 - Beech Creek CBC.**

Meet at the Corps of Engineers Picnic Area on FM92 just north of Town Bluff at 6:30 a.m. For further information, call David Baker (409) 839-2689 ext. 235.

**December 31 - Sea Rim State Park Christmas Count.**

This is the count that we sponsor. Please plan on joining us for this count. Call John Whittle (409) 722-4193 for more details. The meeting place for those not pre-assigned will be immediately north of the intersection of TX 87 and FM 3322 – the main intersection – in Sabine Pass at 7:15 a.m.

**Thursday Jan. 18, 2001 - Membership Meeting.**

David Sarkozi, President of the Ornithology Group of the Outdoor Nature Club of Houston will give a presentation on "The Birds of Belize."

**Saturday Jan. 20 – Field Trip**

Destination(s) to be arranged. Most likely targeted for waterfowl.

**Thursday Feb. 15 – Membership Meeting.** Speaker not yet confirmed.

**Saturday Feb. 17 – Field Trip.**

Tentatively a trip to west Harris County to look for raptors and wintering sparrows.

**Thursday Mar.15 – Membership Meeting.**

Ro Wauer will speak on the Birds of Big Bend. Ro Wauer was

Superintendent of Big Bend NP for many years so this promises to be a very interesting program

**Saturday Mar. 17 – Field Trip.** Our annual pilgrimage to Bolivar Flats to look at shorebirds.

## Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. We thank Andrea Billingsley, Glen Cook and Marcelean Howell for the refreshments in October For January 2001, Lynn Otto, Dean Hollingswood and Needa Reed have volunteered. In February Lou and Grady Skillern have signed up; we are now seeking volunteers for the March and April 2001.

## Subscription Renewal Reminder

Please check the mailing label on this issue. If the date on your label NOT prefixed by AU has passed, please remit your contribution of \$15 to Golden Triangle Audubon Society at P.O. Box 1292, Nederland, Texas 77627-1292. Although this contribution towards the cost of the Brown Pelican is voluntary for National Audubon Society members living in the official chapter territory, we will appreciate your support.

## Tour of El Cielo Region of Mexico

Gerald Duhon is arranging a "custom" tour with Vamonos Nature Tours to the "El Cielo" region of Mexico, about 150 miles south of McAllen, March 20 to 24. These dates are for departure from and return to Harlingen. The "El Cielo" region includes "cloud forest" habitat in the Sierra Madre Oriental mountain range in Tamaulipas. For further details of the area to be visited, see [www.geocities.com/RainForest/2240/Vamonos.htm](http://www.geocities.com/RainForest/2240/Vamonos.htm) For further details of cost and arrangements, contact Gerald at [allswellendswell@email.msn.com](mailto:allswellendswell@email.msn.com) or (409) 899-3368.

## Texas Christmas Bird Counts within 300 miles of the Golden Triangle

**Aransas NWR**, Tues. Dec. 28, Barbara Bruns, brbrns@tisd.net  
**Attwater NWR**, Wed. Dec. 20, P.D.Hulce, 713-863-1142, pdhulce@io.com  
**Balcones Canyonlands NWR** (west of Austin), Thu. Dec. 14, John Kelly, 512-331-8693  
**Beech Creek**, Sat. Dec. 30, David Baker, 409-839-2689, ext. 235, Meet at the Corps of Engineers Picnic Area on FM 92 just north of Town Bluff at 6:30 am.  
**Bolivar Peninsula**, Wed. Dec. 27, Bill Graber, 409-866-5452  
**Brazos Bend SP**, Sat. Dec. 23, David Heinicke, 979-553-5124, brazosvo@bbbspvo.org. Meet at visitor ctr at 6:30 am  
**Buffalo Bayou**, Sat. Dec. 30, Bob Honig, 713-665-6963, TXBFCBC@aol.com. Meet at 6 am at Houston Arboretum and Nature Center, 4501 Woodway in Memorial Park.  
**College Station**, Sat. Dec. 16, Mike Manson, 979-693-9548 hm, 979-993-9697 wk, 979-845-2891 fax, manson@tca.net, mike@mail.bio.tamu.edu  
**Corpus Christi**, Sat. Dec. 16, Kent Taylor, 361-814-5209 hm, 361-993-9697 wk, Ktaylor@electrotex.com  
**Corpus Christi, (Flour Bluff)**, Sun. Dec. 17, Jim Hailey, irascibl@vsta.net  
**Cypress Creek (Houston)**, Mon. Jan. 1, Fred Collins, 713-667-6550  
**Gibbons Creek (College Station)**, Thu. Dec. 28, Bert Frenz, bert@bafrenz.com  
**Freeport**, Sun. Dec. 17, contact Dick Peake, 409-744-4301, rpeak1@excite.com if you do not have an area leader.  
**Galveston**, Tue. Dec. 19, Dwight Peake, 409-740-4621, dpeake@flash.net  
**Houston**, Sat. Dec. 16, P.D.Hulce, 713-863-1142, pdhulce@io.com  
**Mad Island Marsh (Matagorda)**, Mon. Dec. 18, Brent Ortego, 361-576-0022 wk, 361-572-9848 hm, brentortego@hotmail.com  
**Old River (N of Anahuac)**, Thu. Dec. 28, P.D.Hulce, 713-863-1142, pdhulce@io.com  
**Pineywoods**, Sat. Dec. 16, Mimi and David Wolf, 936-564-9345 or 936-569-6531  
**Port Aransas**, Mon. Dec. 18, Joan and Scott Holt, 361-749-6715, sholt@utmsi.utexas.edu or joan@utmsi.utexas.edu  
**San Antonio**, Sun. Dec. 17, Ernie Roney, 210-656-4239  
**San Bernard NWR**, Fri. Dec. 15, Ron Weeks, 409-299-0066, igarapet@brazosport.cc.tx.us. Meet at the refuge headquarters at 6:30 am on CR 306.  
**Sea Rim State Park**, Sun. Dec. 31, John Whittle, 409-880-8276 (W), 722-4193 (H), whittleja@hal.lamar.edu. See p.1.  
**Trinity River (E of Cleveland)**, Tue. Dec. 26, P.D.Hulce, 713-863-1142, pdhulce@io.com  
**Turkey Creek**, Sat. Dec. 16, David Baker, 409-839-2689, ext. 235, Meet at the Big Thicket Visitor Center on FM420 (off US69 seven miles north of Kountze) at 6:30.  
**Victoria**, Sat. Dec. 16, F.W.(Bill) Farnsworth, 361-578-9745, farnswfw@viptx.net  
**Welder Wildlife Refuge (Sinton)**, Fri. Dec. 15, Terry Blankenship, 361-364-2643, welderwf@aol.com.  
*Listing courtesy of P. D. Hulce. For a complete listing of Texas counts, see www.io.com/~pdhulce/*

## Laguna Madre Designated Part of Western Hemisphere Shorebird Network

The WHSRN Council gave final approval to the designation of 4 new Sites into the Network. At its regular meeting September 17 in Indianapolis, Indiana the Council formally endorsed the nominations of Elkhorn Slough (California), Lake Erie Marshes (Ohio & Michigan), Laguna Madre (Texas & Mexico), and Guerrero Negro (Mexico) bringing the total number of recognized shorebird reserves up to 46. The total area of these sites brings over 120,000 acres (75,000 hectares) into the reserve system and includes 22 partners who are committed to the conservation of these critical wetland habitats.

Elkhorn Slough, located on the California coast at Monterey Bay, confirms the presence of 21 shorebird species (plus 19 uncommon/rare sightings!) totalling 39,000 shorebirds during spring and fall migrations and the site serves as important wintering habitat for many shorebirds. Partners include the State of California, The Nature Conservancy, and the Elkhorn Slough Foundation. Contact: Mark Silberstein, Elkhorn Foundation, email: esf@elkhornslough.org

The Lake Erie Marshes, located along the northwestern shoreline of Lake Erie in Ohio and Michigan, hosts 38 species of shorebirds totally at least 48,000 birds. Partners include the Black Swamp Bird Observatory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (3 refuges), the states of Ohio and of Michigan, and FirstEnergy Company. Contact: Julie Shieldcastle, Black Swamp Bird Observatory, email: bsbobird@thirdplanet.net

The Laguna Madre site is the first Bi-National Site with coastal habitat in both Texas, USA and Tamaulipas, Mexico. In Texas the site includes the Laguna Atascosa NWR and The Nature Conservancy South Padre Island Reserve and in Tamaulipas, Mexico the site includes the Rancho Rincon lands along Laguna Madre. Both of these sites are also under consideration as a Ramsar site. The combined site hosts at least 100,000 shorebirds during migration and during the winter. Thirty-seven species have been counted at the site, including the endangered Piping Plover during the winter season. The Laguna Madre is also a major area for waterfowl, especially Redheads, and is the only breeding area for Ocelots in the U.S.A. Partners include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, the State of Texas, Texas Center for Policy Studies, the Rancho Rincon, ProNatura, DUMAC, and SEMARNAP. Contact: Stephen Labuda, USFWS, email: FW2\_RW\_Laguna@fws.gov.

Guerrero Negro, located along the shores of Ojo De Liebre Lagoon in Baja California Sur, Mexico, is the site of a long established salt extraction facility ("salina") run jointly by the Government of Mexico and Mitsubishi Corporation. The site has confirmed the presence of over 124,000 shorebirds during migration and over-wintering with at least 20 species identified. The area has also become famous for the gray whales that use the area. Partners at the site include Exportadora de Sal (ESSA), the town of Guerrero Negro, ProNatura, El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve, and the Autonomous University of Baja California Sur in La Paz. Contact: Edmundo Elorduy Dahlhaus, Marine Operations, email: eelorduy@mail.nextgeninter.net.mx

# Governor's Conservation Task Force Recommendations

The Governor's Task Force on Conservation today approved a set of specific recommendations about how Texas can meet our state's conservation and outdoor recreation needs in the 21st century.

Governor Bush created the twelve-member task force by Executive Order on February 24, 2000. He charged its members with studying the issues of conservation, land-fragmentation, public parks, outdoor recreation, and nature tourism, and making recommendations for how best to protect and enhance the state's natural resources and increase outdoor recreation opportunities for Texans.

"I commend this task force of conservation leaders for outlining a bold vision for Texas' future," said Governor Bush. "The task force has recommended ways for a dynamic and growing Texas to better protect our natural resources - including open spaces, habitat and water - and to provide more accessible outdoor recreational opportunities for generations to come."

The task force makes the following recommendations in three major categories: private lands, public lands, and water.

## Recommendations on Private Lands

Ninety-seven percent of the land in Texas is privately owned, so any comprehensive conservation effort in Texas depends on private landowners' participation and cooperation. The task force recommends that the state provide landowners additional incentives and partnership opportunities to better care for and conserve their lands:

- Create a statewide Purchase of Development Rights program to compensate willing landowners for restricting future development of their lands. The Legislature would create the fund and a council to administer the fund.
- Reform federal and state tax laws to encourage conservation by private landowners.
- Expand incentives and assistance to landowners for habitat management, including expanding the use of Wildlife Management Plans, conservation agreements and the Landowner Incentive Program, increasing technical assistance to landowners, and forming more voluntary Wildlife Co-ops to help improve wildlife habitats.
- Encourage outdoor recreation development opportunities on private lands, including nature tourism, by encouraging partnerships between public and private sectors, and examining liability issues that may inhibit private participation in recreation and conservation projects.

## Recommendations on Public Lands

The task force found that as Texas continues to grow and the demand for recreation and natural resource conservation continues to grow, the State's current park lands will not be able to meet future needs. The Task Force recommends that the State assess local and state needs and resources and develop a strategic, statewide plan to meet the identified conservation and outdoor recreation demands.

- Develop a comprehensive system to address conservation and to assure easily accessible outdoor recreation, including urban nature centers and outdoor recreation programs.
- Ensure funds to repair, maintain, and develop our existing public lands, and to acquire lands that meet the state's

strategic conservation and outdoor recreation needs; create a blue-ribbon panel to identify state sites that should be transferred to other entities.

- Strengthen the ability of local governments to address conservation and outdoor needs by increasing grants for local parks and conservation, and giving fast-growing counties more tools to address growth.

## Recommendations on Water

The task force found water to be the most critical conservation issue in Texas. The Senate Bill 1 regional water planning groups and several legislative interim committees are also addressing Texas' water needs. Water is the limiting factor for all aquatic life, plants, wildlife, and many types of recreation. The task force found that as the State faces increasing water demands for municipal growth, industry, and agriculture, we also must provide water to meet the needs of our natural resources. Recommendations include:

- For new water use, ensure adequate quantity and quality of water to support healthy land and water ecosystems.
- Incorporate the needs of fish and wildlife into existing water resource management.
- Promote agricultural water uses that also benefit wildlife.
- Protect Texas springs that are an important contributor to many Texas streams and rivers.

The Task Force recommendations serve as a blueprint that legislators can draw from in the 2001 Session and sessions to come. Implementing these recommendations will position Texas as a leader in conservation and enhance the quality of life of our citizens for generations to come.

*Office of the Governor, Austin, Texas October 19, 2000*

## Audubon Named Partner Designate for North America by BirdLife International

New York, NY November 20, 2000 - The National Audubon Society was named a partner designate of BirdLife International, it was announced by Frank Gill, Audubon's senior vice president for Science. Under the agreement, which was made earlier this fall, Audubon will cooperate with BirdLife International on a variety of bird conservation projects, serving as that organization's provisional partner for the United States. BirdLife International is a global partnership of more than 100 conservation organizations with a focus on birds that works together on shared priorities, policies and programs of conservation action, exchanging skills, achievements, and information.

"We are truly honored to be working with BirdLife International," said Audubon's Gill. "Audubon and BirdLife International approach conservation with the same philosophy, using the same guiding principles. We believe that our conservation goals can only be met through a balanced, science based course of action that helps people and protects the earth's diversity of life. This is a natural partnership."

Audubon already devotes significant resources to BirdLife International's Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program first started by BirdLife International in Europe in the 1980s. A priority of Audubon's bird conservation efforts, the IBA program aims to identify and protect a network of sites critical for the long-term viability of naturally occurring bird populations. Having helped identify and create hundreds of IBAs, Audubon is the organization most closely identified with the program in the United States.

# Bird Sightings - October 2000

**Coverage:** Jefferson, Orange, Hardin, Tyler, Jasper, Newton, Angelina, San Augustine and Sabine counties. **Send Reports to:** John Whittle, 3015 Nashville Avenue, Nederland, Texas 77627-6749 by the 10th of the month after or e-mail to whittleja@hal.lamar.edu or call (409) 880-8276 or fax to (409) 880-8270. For "very rare" birds, please submit a brief account of your sighting, including a description of the bird (unless unmistakable), brief details of what it was doing, and where it was seen (if on publicly accessible property). **Format:** "Common" to "abundant" birds are shown in the

fashion "JEF 4 reps(25)" which means four reports in Jefferson County totaling 25 birds. Less than "common", as "JEF-SW 7/5(2) ABC", which means seen in Jefferson County (JEF) at Sabine Woods (SW) on the 5th of July, two (2) birds, reported by observer "ABC".

**Commentary:** It has certainly been an interesting fall migration season! The effects of the lengthy drought and an "early" strong cold front which came through October 9 made for interesting birding. This fall has had it all, and the details are recorded below.

GREBE, Pied-billed	JEF 4 reps(10)
PELICAN, Amer. White	JEF 5 reps(838); SAA 1 rep(150)
PELICAN, Brown	JEF 7 reps(42)
CORMORANT, Neotropic	JEF 19 reps(171)
CORMORANT, Double-cr.	JEF 6 reps(20)
HERON, Great Blue	JEF 9 reps(72)
EGRET, Great	JEF 11 reps(83)
EGRET, Snowy	JEF 8 reps(68)
HERON, Little Blue	JEF 3 reps(4)
HERON, Tricolored	JEF 4 reps(7)
EGRET, Cattle	JEF 10 reps(403)
HERON, Green	JEF 10/1(2) KS; JEF 10/8(1) KS
NIGHT-HERON, Black-cr.	JEF 3 reps(6)
NIGHT-HERON, Yellow-cr.	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/21(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/29(1) JAW
IBIS, White	JEF 7 reps(384); SAA 1 rep(15)
IBIS, <i>Plegadis</i>	JEF 10/1(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 10/8(50) JAW; SAA 10/18(9) FW
SPOONBILL, Roseate	JEF-TXPT 10/7(3) JAW; JEF-PI 10/21(20) JAW; JEF-PI 10/22(10) JAW
STORK, Wood	JEF-SW 10/8(4) JAW
VULTURE, Black	JEF 7 reps(19)
VULTURE, Turkey	JEF 14 reps(150)
GOOSE, White-fronted	JEF-SW 10/7(125) JAW; JEF-TX87 10/7(40) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(80) JAW; JEF 10/22(20) KS
DUCK, Wood	JEF 10/8(2) KS
GADWALL	SAA 10/18(3) FW
DUCK, Mottled	JEF-PI 10/22(15) JAW
TEAL, Blue-winged	JEF 4 reps(285)
SHOVELER, Northern	JEF 5 reps(128); SAA 1 rep(50)
PINTAIL, Northern	JEF 2 reps(30)
TEAL, Green-winged	JEF 3 reps(28)
DUCK, Ring-necked	SAA 10/18(2) FW
SCAUP, Lesser	JEF-TXPT 10/29(5) JAW
DUCK, Ruddy	JEF-PI 10/21(50) JAW; JEF-PI 10/22(50) JAW; JEF-PI 10/29(20) JAW; SAA 10/18(3) FW
OSPREY	JEF-TX87 10/7(2) JAW; JEF-MCFW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 10/8(1) JAW; JEF 10/21(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 10/22(2) JAW
KITE, White-tailed	JEF 4 reps(8)
EAGLE, Bald	SAA 10/18(1) FW
HARRIER, Northern	JEF 16 reps (34)
HAWK, Sharp-shinned	JEF 4 reps(6)
HAWK, Cooper's	JEF 2 reps(2); SAA 1 rep(1)
ACCIPITER species	JEF 1 rep(1)
HAWK, Red-shouldered	JEF 5 reps(5)
HAWK, Broad-winged	JEF 1 rep(13)
HAWK, Swainson's	JEF 1 rep(3)
HAWK, Red-tailed	JEF 5 reps(8)
KESTREL, American	JEF 14 reps(75)
MERLIN	JEF-SW 10/1(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/7(2) JAW; JEF 10/8(1) KS; JEF-SRSP 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF 10/21(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW; JEF 10/22(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/22(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT

10/22(1) JAW	
FALCON, Peregrine	JEF-SRSP 10/8(2) JAW
BOBWHITE, Northern	JEF 4 reps(22)
RAIL, Clapper	JEF 3 reps(9)
MOORHEN, Common	JEF 2 reps(10)
COOT, American	JEF 2 reps(8)
PLOVER, Black-bellied	JEF 7 reps(2742)
PLOVER, Snowy	JEF-SRSP 10/8(3) JAW; JEF-SRSP 10/19(6) HUWH; JEF-SRSP 10/22(14) JAW; JEF-SRSP 10/29(12) JAW
PLOVER, Semipalmated	JEF 5 reps(333); SAA 1 rep(4)
PLOVER, Piping	JEF-SRSP 10/8(2) JAW; JEF-SRSP 10/19(7) HUWH; JEF-SRSP 10/22(3) JAW; JEF-SRSP 10/29(4) JAW
KILLDEER	JEF 7 reps(45)
STILT, Black-necked	JEF 4 reps(124)
AVOCET, American	JEF 4 reps(7150); SAA 1 rep(15)
YELLOWLEGS, Greater	JEF 1 rep(2); SAA 1 rep(5)
YELLOWLEGS, Lesser	JEF 2 reps(4)
WILLET	JEF 7 reps(3051)
SANDPIPER, Spotted	JEF-SW 10/1(2) JAW; JEF-PI 10/21(2) JAW; JEF-PI 10/22(1) JAW; JEF-PI 10/29(2) JAW
WHIMBREL	JEF-TXPT 10/21(1) JAW
CURLEW, Long-billed	JEF 5 reps(26)
GODWIT, Marbled	JEF-PI 10/21(60) JAW; JEF-PI 10/22(50) JAW; JEF-PI 10/29(10) JAW
TURNSTONE, Ruddy	JEF 2 reps(2)
KNOT, Red	JEF-SRSP 10/8(2) JAW; JEF-SRSP 10/19(4) HUWH; JEF-SRSP 10/29(2) JAW
SANDERLING	JEF 4 reps(157); SAA 1 rep(1)
SANDPIPER, Semipalm.	JEF-SRSP 10/19(1) HUWH
SANDPIPER, Western	JEF 4 reps(8002)
SANDPIPER, Peep	JEF 2 reps(5010)
SANDPIPER, Least	JEF 5 reps(252); SAA 1 rep(80)
SANDPIPER, Pectoral	JEF-SRSP 10/8(1) JAW
DUNLIN	JEF-SRSP 10/19(5) HUWH; JEF-PI 10/29(25) JAW; SAA 10/18(1) FW
SANDPIPER, Stilt	JEF-PI 10/21(500) JAW; JEF-PI 10/22(100) JAW; JEF-PI 10/29(200) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/29(1) JAW; SAA 10/18(2) FW
DOWITCHER, Short-billed	JEF-PI 10/21(10) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/21(4) JAW; JEF-PI 10/22(10) JAW; JEF 10/29(1) KS; JEF-TXPT 10/29(1) JAW
DOWITCHER, Long-billed	JEF 2 reps(7); SAA 1 rep(5)
DOWITCHER species	JEF 4 reps(752)
SNIPE, Common	JEF 10/22(1) JAW; SAA 10/18(10) FW
GULL, Laughing	JEF 7 reps(3707)
GULL, Franklin's	SAA 10/18(3) FW
GULL, Ring-billed	JEF 5 reps(51); SAA 1 rep(5)
GULL, Herring	JEF 2 reps(30)
TERN, Gull-billed	JEF-PI 10/21(100) JAW; JEF-PI 10/22(100) JAW; JEF-PI 10/29(5) JAW
TERN, Caspian	JEF 6 reps(270)
TERN, Royal	JEF 4 reps(183)

**TERN, Sandwich** JEF 1 rep(1)  
**TERN, Common** JEF 3 reps(4)  
**TERN, Forster's** JEF 7 reps(443); SAA 1 rep(20)  
**SKIMMER, Black** JEF 4 reps(560)  
**DOVE, Rock** JEF 5 reps(24)  
**COLLARED-DOVE, Eur.** JEF 10/1(4) JAW  
**DOVE, White-winged** JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP  
 10/19(1) HUWH; JEF-SW 10/19(1) HUWH; JEF-TX87 10/22(1)  
 JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW  
**DOVE, Mourning** JEF 8 reps(271)  
**DOVE, Inca** HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 2 reps(2)  
**GROUND-DOVE, Com.** JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW  
**CUCKOO, Yellow-billed** JEF 10/8(3) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(5) JAW  
**OWL, Barn** JEF 10/8(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/28(3) JAW  
**OWL, Great Horned** JEF 10/22(2) KS; JEF-SW 10/29(1)  
 JAW  
**WILL'S-WIDOW, Chuck-** JEF-SW 10/7(3) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/14(1) GD; JEF-SW 10/19(2) HUWH;  
 JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW  
**WHIP-POOR-WILL** JEF 10/1(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(2) JAW  
**HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr.** JEF-NEDR 10/1(4) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/1(20) JAW; JEF-NEDR 10/5(2) JAW; JEF-NEDR 10/6(4)  
 JAW; JEF-NEDR 10/7(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/7(30) JAW;  
 JEF-TXPT 10/7(3) JAW; JEF 10/8(3) KS; JEF-NEDR 10/8(2)  
 JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(50) JAW JEF-SW 10/21(25) JAW;  
 JEF-NEDR 10/22(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/22(10) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/28(5) JAW  
**HUMMINGBIRD, Black-ch.** JEF-NEDR 10/6(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR  
 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 10/21(1) JFW  
**HUMMINGBIRD, Rufous** HAI 10/29(3) LJW; HAI 10/31(3) LJW;  
 JEF-NEDR 10/22(0) JAW; JEF-NEDR 10/29(1) JAW  
**KINGFISHER, Belted** JEF 11 reps(33)  
**WOODPECKER, Red-bell.** JEF 7 reps(15)  
**SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bell.** JEF-SW 10/8(3) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/19(2) HUWH  
**WOODPECKER, Downy** JEF 13 reps(31)  
**FLICKER, Northern** JEF 10/8(1) KS; JEF-SRSP 10/8(1)  
 JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/19(1) HUWH;  
 JEF-SW 10/21(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/22(1) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/28(1) JAW  
**WOOD-PEWEE, Eastern** JEF 10 reps(21); SAA 1 rep(1)  
**FLYCATCHER, Yellow-bell.** JEF-SW 10/19(1) HUWH; JEF-SW  
 10/21(1) JAW  
**FLYCATCHER, Least** JEF 10/1(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/7(3)  
 JAW; JEF 10/8(2) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(3) JAW  
**EMPIDONAX species** JEF 10/8(1) KS; JEF 10/15(1) KS;  
 JEF-SW 10/19(2) HUWH; JEF-SW 10/21(2) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/22(1) JAW  
**PHOEBE, Eastern** JEF 12 reps(35)  
**FLYCATCHER, Gt. Crest.** JEF-SW 10/7(3) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/8(4) JAW  
**KINGBIRD, Western** JEF 10/22(3) KS; JEF 10/29(1) KS  
**KINGBIRD, Eastern** JEF 10/1(2) JAW; JEF-TX87 10/19(2)  
 HUWH  
**FLYCATCHER, Scissor-tail.** JEF 12 reps(131)  
**SHRIKE, Loggerhead** JEF 14 reps(102)  
**VIREO, White-eyed** JEF 12 reps(27)  
**VIREO, Yellow-throat** JEF 10/8(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(1)  
 JAW; JEF-SW 10/14(1) GD  
**VIREO, Blue-headed** JEF 10/8(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(1)  
 JAW; JEF-SW 10/19(2) HUWH; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW;  
 JEF-SW 10/29(1) JAW  
**VIREO, Warbling** JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW  
**VIREO, Philadelphia** JEF-SW 10/7(1) JAW  
**VIREO, Red-eyed** JEF-SW 10/7(4) JAW; JEF 10/8(1)  
 KS; JEF-SW 10/8(3) JAW; JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW  
**JAY, Blue** JEF 13 reps(85)  
**CROW, American** JEF 1 rep(4)  
**CROW, species** JEF 1 rep(3)  
**MARTIN, Purple** JEF 10/5(400) JAW; JEF-SW 10/7(1)

JAW  
**SWALLOW, Tree** JEF 7 reps(71)  
**SWALLOW, N. Rough-wing.** JEF 5 reps(51)  
**SWALLOW, Barn** JEF 4 reps(16)  
**CHICKADEE, Carolina** JEF 5 reps(26)  
**WREN, Carolina** JEF 2 reps(2)  
**WREN, House** JEF 10/14(3) GD; JEF-SW 10/19(2)  
 HUWH; JEF-SW 10/21(3) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/21(1) JAW; JEF  
 10/22(3) KS; JEF-SW 10/22(4) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(2) JAW;  
 JEF 10/29(6) KS; JEF-SW 10/29(1) JAW  
**WREN, Sedge** JEF 10/14(2) GD; JEF-SW 10/21(2)  
 JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/21(2) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/22(2) JAW;  
 JEF-SW 10/28(2) JAW; SAA 10/18(2) FW  
**WREN, Marsh** JEF 10/14(8) GD; SAA 10/18(6) FW  
**KINGLET, Golden-crowned** JEF 10/22(1) KS; JEF 10/29(1) KS  
**KINGLET, Ruby-crowned** JEF 10/8(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(5)  
 JAW; JEF 10/15(8) KS; JEF-SW 10/19(5) HUWH; JEF-SW  
 10/21(6) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/21(3) JAW; JEF 10/22(17) KS;  
 JEF-SW 10/22(5) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(2) JAW; JEF 10/29(5)  
 KS JEF-SW 10/29(3) JAW  
**GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray** JEF 12 reps(113); SAA 1 rep(3)  
**THRUSH, Swainson's** JEF-SW 10/7(3) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/8(4) JAW; JEF-SW 10/19(1) HUWH  
**THRUSH, Hermit** JEF-SW 10/19(6) HUWH  
**THRUSH, Wood** JEF-SW 10/7(1) JAW; JEF 10/8(1)  
 KS; JEF-SW 10/19(4) HUWH  
**ROBIN, American** JEF-NEDR 10/7(3) JAW  
**CATBIRD, Gray** JEF 12 reps(51)  
**MOCKINGBIRD, Northern** JEF 16 reps(99)  
**THRASHER, Brown** JEF 13 reps(93)  
**STARLING, European** JEF 10 reps(234)  
**PIBIT, American** JEF 10/22(3) KS; SAA 10/18(10) FW  
**WARBLER, Blue-winged** JEF-SW 10/7(1) JAW  
**WARBLER, Golden-winged** JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW  
**WARBLER, Tennessee** JEF 6 reps(11)  
**WARBLER, Orange-crowned** JEF-SW 10/7(2) JAW; JEF 10/8(2)  
 KS; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/14(3) GD; JEF-SW  
 10/21(3) JAW; JEF-SW 10/22(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(3) JAW;  
 JEF-SW 10/29(2) JAW  
**WARBLER, Nashville** JEF 10/1(2) KS; JEF-SW 10/7(5)  
 JAW; JEF 10/8(6) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(4) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/21(12) JAW; JEF-SW 10/22(3) JAW; SAA 10/18(5) FW  
**PARULA, Northern** JEF 10/1(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/7(1)  
 JAW; JEF 10/8(2) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(6) JAW; JEF 10/15(6)  
 KS; JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW  
**WARBLER, Yellow** JEF 10/8(2) KS  
**WARBLER, Chestnut-sided** JEF 3 reps(3)  
**WARBLER, Magnolia** JEF 8 reps(21)  
**WARBLER, Black-thr. Blue** JEF-SW 10/7(2) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/14(1) GD  
**WARBLER, Yellow-rumped** JEF-SW 10/7(1) JAW; JEF 10/8(1)  
 KS; JEF 10/22(4) KS; JEF-SW 10/29(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT  
 10/29(1) JAW; SAA 10/18(5) FW  
**WARBLER, Black-thr. Green** JEF 9 reps(25)  
**WARBLER, Yellow-throated** JEF-SW 10/1(1) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/7(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW  
**WARBLER, Pine** JEF 3 reps(6)  
**WARBLER, Palm** JEF 10/1(1) KS  
**WARBLER, Black-and-white** JEF 10 reps(52)  
**REDSTART, American** JEF 10/1(10) KS; JEF-SW 10/1(6)  
 JAW; JEF-SW 10/7(12) JAW; JEF 10/8(20) KS; JEF-SRSP  
 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(13) JAW; JEF-SW 10/14(2) GD;  
 JEF 10/15(8) KS; JEF-SW 10/19(2) HUWH; JEF-SW 10/21(3)  
 JAW JEF 10/22(2) KS; JEF-SW 10/22(3) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/28(10) JAW; JEF 10/29(3) KS; JEF-SW 10/29(8) JAW  
**WARBLER, Prothonotary** JEF 10/8(1) KS  
**WARBLER, Worm-eating** JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/14(1) GD  
**OVENBIRD** JEF-SW 10/1(1) JAW; JEF-SW  
 10/7(4) JAW; JEF 10/8(10) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(5) JAW;

	JEF-SW 10/14(1) GD; JEF 10/15(2) KS; JEF 10/29(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/29(1) JAW
<b>WATERTHRUSH, Northern</b>	JEF 10/8(12) KS; JEF 10/15(1) KS
<b>WARBLER, Kentucky</b>	JEF 10/8(2) KS
<b>YELLOWTHROAT, Common</b>	JEF 12 reps(33)
<b>WARBLER, Hooded</b>	JEF-SW 10/7(7) JAW; JEF 10/8(8) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(16) JAW; JEF-SW 10/14(3) GD; JEF 10/15(2) KS; JEF-SW 10/19(1) HUWH; JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/29(1) JAW
<b>WARBLER, Wilson's</b>	JEF 10/1(6) KS; JEF-SW 10/1(5) JAW; JEF-SW 10/7(5) JAW; JEF 10/8(3) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(4) JAW; JEF-SW 10/19(1) HUWH; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW; JEF 10/29(1) KS
<b>CHAT, Yellow-breasted</b>	JEF 10/1(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/1(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/22(1) JAW
<b>TANAGER, Summer</b>	JEF 8 reps(15)
<b>TANAGER, Scarlet</b>	JEF 10/1(1) KS; JEF 10/8(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW
<b>TOWHEE, Green-tailed</b>	JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW
<b>TOWHEE, Spotted</b>	JEF-SW 10/22(1) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Chipping</b>	JEF 10/14(1) GD; JEF-SW 10/19(1) HUWH; JEF-SW 10/21(4) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/21(2) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Clay-colored</b>	SAA 10/18(1) FW
<b>SPARROW, Savannah</b>	JEF-TXPT 10/19(2) HUWH; JEF-PI 10/21(1) JAW; JEF-PI 10/22(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/22(4) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/22(2) JAW; JEF 10/29(2) JAW; JEF-PI 10/29 (10) JAW; JEF-SW 10/29(2) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/29(5) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Grasshopper</b>	JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Nelson's Sharp-t.</b>	JEF 10/14(5) GD; JEF-TXPT 10/21(3) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/22(3) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/29(1) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Seaside</b>	JEF 4 reps(32)
<b>SPARROW, Song</b>	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF 10/14(2) GD; JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW; JEF 10/29(1) KS
<b>SPARROW, Lincoln's</b>	JEF-SW 10/8(2) JAW; JEF 10/14(1) GD; JEF-SW 10/19(2) HUWH; JEF-TXPT 10/19(2) HUWH; JEF-SW 10/21(3) JAW; JEF 10/22(1) KS; JEF-SW 10/22(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/29(1) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Swamp</b>	JEF 10/14(4) GD; JEF-TXPT 10/19(3) HUWH; JEF-SW 10/21(2) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/21(2) JAW; JEF 10/22(3) KS; JEF-SW 10/22(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/29(2) JAW
<b>SPARROW, White-throated</b>	JEF 10/22(1) KS
<b>SPARROW, White-crowned</b>	JEF-SW 10/21(2) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/21(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/22(3) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/22(2) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/29(1) JAW; SAA 10/18(1) FW
<b>CARDINAL, Northern</b>	JEF 8 reps(40)
<b>GROSBEAK, Rose-breasted</b>	JEF-SW 10/7(15) JAW; JEF 10/8(12) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(5) JAW; JEF 10/15(3) KS; JEF-SW 10/21(1) JAW
<b>GROSBEAK, Blue</b>	HAI 10/9(1) LJW; JEF 10/1(2) KS; JEF 10/8(8) KS; JEF-SW 10/8(2) JAW; JEF 10/15(12) KS
<b>BUNTING, Indigo</b>	HAI 4 reps(32); JEF 13 reps(662)
<b>DICKCISSEL</b>	JEF-SW 10/8(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/21(5) JAW
<b>BLACKBIRD, Red-winged</b>	JEF 6 reps(485)
<b>MEADOWLARK, Eastern</b>	JEF 5 reps(25)
<b>MEADOWLARK species</b>	JEF 1 rep(3)
<b>GRACKLE, Common</b>	JEF 4 reps(69)
<b>GRACKLE, Boat-tailed</b>	JEF 8 reps(210)
<b>GRACKLE, Great-tailed</b>	JEF 8 reps(273)
<b>COWBIRD, Brown-headed</b>	JEF 3 reps(17)
<b>BLACKBIRD species</b>	JEF 2 reps(1000)
<b>ORIOLE, Baltimore</b>	JEF-SW 10/1(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(2) JAW
<b>SPARROW, House</b>	JEF 2 reps(12)

**Number of Species** 195  
**Number of Individuals** 43901

**County Abbreviations:**

HAI - Hardin; JEF - Jefferson; SAA - San Augustine

**Location Codes:**

MCFW - McFaddin NWR; NEDR - Nederland; PI - Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; SRSP - Sea Rim State Park; SW - Sabine Woods; TX87 - Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim; TXPT - Road to Pilot Station at Texas Point

**Observer Abbreviations:**

FW - Jesse Fagan and David Wolf; GD - Gerald Duhon; HUWH - Jay Huner and John Whittle; JAW - John Whittle; JFW - Jana Whittle; KS - Ken Sztraky; LJW - Larry and Jane Wilson

## Notes on Very Rare Species

### Green-tailed Towhee -- 21 Oct 2000

Seen in Sabine Woods during the October Field trip by many of the participants. Large Sparrow. Grayish bird with almost brick-red cap, pale yellowish-green (a little yellower than "parrot green") wings and upper tail. Pale gray undersides, with whiter throat with black whisker.

## Bird Alerts

By the first few days of December, our winter residents were present in good numbers. Following the cold front, there were a lot of Red-tailed Hawks and Kestrels along the coast between Sabine Pass and Sea Rim. Golden-crowned Kinglets were present in Sabine Woods, as was a good variety of sparrows, including a flock of Field Sparrows and several Chipping Sparrows.

## November Meeting *(cont. from page 1)*

This was our holidays (Thanksgiving and Christmas) meeting which was full of food, drink and socializing. Don Jeane started the program off with slides of birds taken at several different localities: Rio Grande Valley, Big Bend, Anahuac, Dam B, Alaska, and Southeastern Arizona. A variety of birds were shown: Wood Duck, Pyrrhuloxia, Roadrunner, Black-bellied Whistling-duck, Plain Chachalaca, Morning Dove, Acorn Woodpecker, Green Heron, American Coots, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Anhinga, Ptarmigan, Mew Gull, immature Great Horned Owl, rail, Bald Eagle, Arctic Tern, Tundra Swan, Gila Woodpecker, female Calliope Hummingbird, Gambel's Quail, Yellow Grosbeak, Curved-billed Thrasher, Canyon Towhee, White-winged Doves, Virginia Rail, Sora Rail, Cinnamon Teal, Broad-billed Hummingbird, Yellow-eyed Junco, Mexican Jay, Black-headed Grosbeak, and Scott's Oriole. Like Rose Ann last year, Don's slides also included some wonderful sunset pictures. Next, Steve Mayes showed some slides that were taken at Cattail Marsh. The bird slide was of White Ibis. He also included some non-bird slides which included a dragonfly and a White Stripped Long Tail Butterfly (this was a first timer for Cattail Marsh). Last but not least, Rose Ann Jordan shared some slides taken at Cape May. She took a pelagic trip were she saw a Golden-crowned Kinglet, a flock of Robins, and a junco but very few sea birds that one would expected to see. At the Hawk Watch, they saw large kettles of hawks. They also saw flocks of Snow Geese, beautiful fall foliage, and a Peregrine Falcon. Thank you Don, Steve and Rose Ann for sharing your slides with us.

*Nancy Fisher*



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## RARE BIRD ALERTS

Below is a listing of Rare Bird Alert telephone numbers for nearby areas. Transcriptions of some current tapes are available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.stat.wharton.upenn.edu/~siler/hoturls.html>

Detailed information (maps and text) on birding sites on the Upper Texas Coast is also available on the Web at <http://texasbirding.simplenet.com>.

This includes all the Jefferson County hotspots published in early issues.

### Golden Triangle (409) 768-1340

Texas (Houston)	(713) 369-9673
Abilene	(915) 691-8981
Austin	(512) 926-8751
Ft. Worth (N. Cent)	(817) 329-1930
Lubbock	(806) 797-6690
N. E. Texas	(903) 839-4804
Rio Grande Valley	(210) 969-2731
San Antonio	(210) 308-6788
Waco	(254) 299-8175
Louisiana	(504) 768-9874

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