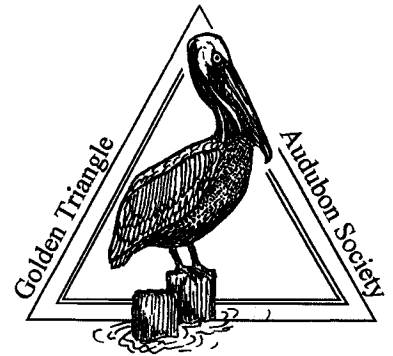


Brown Pelican

Scanned from Originals

The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 8 No. 5

May 2002

Membership Meeting
Thursday, May 16, 2002
6:30 PM, Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont

Report on the Search for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker

Chester Moore

Chester will follow up on the talk that he gave in January and describe his experiences with one of the search teams.

Bring Your Favorite Slides or Video

By popular demand, we have reinstated our annual opportunity for members and friends to share their favorite bird slides or videos.

As usual, the doors will be open no later than 6:30 p.m., and the proceedings will start at 7:15 p.m. approximately.

April Membership Meeting

At the April meeting, Patrick Walther, biologist at McFaddin and Texas Point National Wildlife Refuges, first gave a comprehensive overview of the habitat and management goals and practices at the Refuges. Patrick made particular reference to the coastal erosion, to problems caused by the Intracoastal Waterway. He described the various marsh habitats and how they affected the various bird species. He explained the habitat preferences and use of the various species of wintering ducks and geese and the nesting Mottled Duck. He described why it was necessary to burn the marshes every so often – mostly on a three year cycle – in order to remove the dead vegetation and allow new growth to occur. Patrick discussed some of the marsh birds which receive less attention than the waterfowl. For example, he noted that he was able to show some ornithologists interested in American Bitterns 47 of them in the space of a couple of hours. He indicated he was particularly interested in research on these bitterns in order to better understand their migratory patterns, and in particular, where they went to breed. Patrick also noted that there were areas in the Refuges that were just as good for rails including Yellow Rails as the better known areas in Anahuac NWR, but that they were not readily accessible.

Patrick also described in some detail the Comprehensive Conservation Planning process that was currently being undertaken by the Texas Chenier Plains Refuge Complex and urged everyone to make sure that they submitted any comments that they had on the plan.

Sabine Woods Work Day – Saturday May 18 – please come and help if you can.

The Brown Pelican

Vol. 8, No.5 May 2002

Golden Triangle
Audubon Society

**RARE BIRD ALERT AND
SOCIETY INFORMATION
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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 May 11, 2002 – Jefferson County Migration Count.

Our annual Spring migration count. Contact John Whittle (409-722-4193 or whittleja@hal.lamar.edu) to offer to help. In May, the first three or four hours after dawn are the most important and we will welcome your participation for even a few hours.

Thursday May 16, 2002 – Membership Meeting.

For this meeting, Chester Moore will give us a brief report on his participation in the search of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker. Also, you are invited to bring your favorite recent slides or video.

Saturday May 18 – Sabine Woods Work Day. Start time 7:30 a.m. We need to do what we can to mow the trails so that they are not totally overgrown come September. Bring riding mowers, pruning shears and other similar implements. Although we will only work until 11 a.m. or noon, it will be hot so come prepared with water and insect repellent. On this occasion, Steve Mayes, telephone 722-5807 will be in charge.

June 8, 2002 –Field Trip to Hardin County. We plan to run a field trip to Hardin County to look for the nesting species of the area – Hooded, Pine, Prairie and Swainson's Warbler, Indigo and Painted Bunting, Gray Catbird, Summer Tanager, Acadian Flycatcher, Brown-headed Nuthatch and others.

The meeting place will be at 7:30 a.m. at the shopping center on the northeast corner of the intersection of FM92 and FM418 in the northern part of Silsbee. To reach this from Beaumont, take US 69 north and then US96 north. Take Business 96 into and through downtown Silsbee. When Business 96 turns left about three traffic lights after crossing the railroad,

continue straight ahead on FM92 a mile or two to the shopping center. There is a Bealls, a Dominos and an O'Reilly Auto Parts store in the center.

For those interested in Bachman's Sparrow, we would recommend a trip to Boykin Springs, site 007 on the UTC Birding Trail. For further details see [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/birdingtrails/
upper/welcome.htm](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/birdingtrails/upper/welcome.htm)

Fall Programs.

We already have exciting programs lined up for the Fall with Dick Benoit giving a hawk watching workshop on August 15, and Nancy Newfield talking about hummingbirds and hummingbird plants on September 19.

Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. We thank Kathi Orgeron and Margaret Johnson for the refreshments in April. Jack Baugh and Joe Tibbs have volunteered for May. Volunteers are now solicited for the fall meetings and onwards. We do not expect one person to bring everything, but please call so we can coordinate! If you can just bring drinks and cookies or something similar, please call Jana Whittle at (409) 722-4193 as soon as possible. Please help if you can!

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. Our official chapter territory is defined by zip codes, but is basically Jefferson, Hardin and Orange Counties and one or two localities close to those Counties.

Big Thicket Birding Festival – Kountze April 26-28, 2002

On Friday morning, we took the bus trip to Steinhagen Lake, Toledo Bend and the new Big Thicket Visitor Center. The bus departed at 6 a.m. and arrived back in Kountze at 5:40 p.m.; we made seven stops, including five for birding, one for a picnic lunch and one at the Visitor's Center. We stopped at two units of Martin Dies State Park in the Dam B area; stopped for lunch at a park in the Toledo Bend area; birded both observation decks of the Toledo Bend Dam (Texas and Louisiana side); toured the new Visitor Center; and lastly birded the Big Thicket's Turkey Creek Unit inner loop. A checklist of birds spotted on the Steinhagen tour is given below. The best bird was probably the Chestnut Sided Warbler.

We were fed breakfast and a sack lunch; provided all the milk, juice, soft drinks and water we could want; and personal tour guide was David Baker, recently retired federal Park Service ranger. All along the way, he gave us a lot of background information on local towns; wildflowers; and birds. There was a total of six of us taking the lakes area trip. The other bus trip was a guided tour to the Anahuac Wildlife Refuge; High Island; and Sabine Woods.

On Friday evening, we went on the guided Owl Hunt at Village Creek State Park (7 p.m. to 9 p.m.) Also on the hunt with us were GTAS members Jean Hollingsworth; Lynn Otto; and Needa Reed. Our guide was Jerry Rashall. The moon was full; Jerry Rashall did his barred owl calls (he was very good!) -- the effect was like being on a séance. Around 9:20 p.m. we heard three owls answering. We got to look at a pair of barred owls up in a tree, preening on each other. Other items Jerry showed us in the nighttime park: fireflies; a hollow tree used for the past three years as a barred owl nest; a bee hive tree with a 3-1/2 inch wolf spider on it; green, gray and squirrel tree frogs; the carnivorous sundew plant; a swamp rabbit; a millipede that became luminescent after a flashlight was shined on it; and a catalpa tree totally perforated top to bottom by sapsuckers.

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, we manned the GTAS booth at the festival market inside Kountze Middle School. There was a handful of booths: GTAS; the Big Thicket Visitors Center; the Festival registration table where you could also buy cookbooks and T-shirts; a plant booth; a hummingbird feeder booth; a silver jewelry booth; local artist Ruth Martin selling prints (she is very good!); a wood craft booth; and a Kountze crafter's booth selling the most wonderful, beautiful, original bird feeders made from a chick feeder-lidded mason jar topped by a glass dinner plate for \$10. The teachers' break room was made available to booth personnel (and anyone else in attendance)--we enjoyed hot coffee, juice, milk, soft drinks, fruit, chips, pastries, and Blue Bell vanilla ice cream (hope the Blue Bell didn't belong to the middle school teachers!).

Our booth was located beside the auditorium, which was where the speaker programs were going on. There were only a few attendees for each speaker session. Several GTAS members attended the speaker programs on Saturday. We had a total of 27 people sign up to win our bird feeder door prize; the winner was Gayle Stephens of Kountze, a volunteer helping out with the children's programs. She picked up the

bird feeder right after our drawing and was very excited about getting a feeder--she said her husband would really enjoy it. We would like to thank GTAS member Andrea Billingsley, who sat at our table at lunch time Saturday for us to take a break.

Checklist of Birds seen on the Big Thicket Bird Festival Steinhagen Lake/Toledo Bend Trip Saturday, April 27, 2002: Great Egret; Cattle Egret; Broad-winged Hawk; Merlin; Common Moorhen; Barred Owl; Ruby-Throated Hummingbird; Red-bellied Woodpecker; Downy Woodpecker; Acadian Flycatcher; Eastern Kingbird; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher; White-eyed Vireo; Red-eyed Vireo; Blue Jay; American Crow; Purple Martin; Cliff Swallow; Barn Swallow; Carolina Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Eastern Bluebird; Gray Catbird; Northern Mockingbird; European Starling; Northern Parula; Chestnut-sided Warbler; Pine Warbler; Prothonotary Warbler; Hooded Warbler; Summer Tanager; Scarlet Tanager; Savannah Sparrow; Northern Cardinal; Blue Grosbeak; Dickcissel; Orchard Oriole; plus, two downy baby hawks in a nest; we never saw the parent birds, so what type of baby hawk they are is unknown.

Kathi and Richard Orgeron

Promoting Community Involvement in Bird Conservation

The First State Wide Annual Meeting of
Audubon Texas
Friday, September 13, 2002
The Rockport Beach Pavilion, Rockport, Texas

Audubon Texas will hold its first-ever statewide meeting in conjunction with the Annual Rockport Hummer/Bird Celebration. This event is open to Audubon members and chapters, birding clubs and conservation organizations, as well as individuals interested in birds and wildlife and the conservation of their habitats.

This year's event will focus on sharing ideas and strategies on developing bird conservation programs at the community level, as well as how to get the community involved. We will have various Audubon leaders and presenters share their success stories relevant to community-based conservation as well as hold workshops for education and fun.

We will also conduct a meeting of the Audubon Texas Assembly on Saturday for our regional directors and chapter representatives to discuss key issues in conservation science, conservation education and public policy. On Sunday, the Audubon Texas Board of Directors will meet.

For more info on accommodations in Rockport and the surrounding area, please contact Monica Naples at mnaples@audubon.org.

Field Trip to Sea Rim and Sabine Woods

April 20, 2002

Spring migration is legendary on the upper Texas coast and more than twenty birders assembled at Sea Rim State Park on a recent April morning to partake of its wonders. It was the annual field trip to Sea Rim and Sabine Pass carried out by the Golden Triangle Audubon Society and the Park staff that drew the birders out. They knew that the coast in Spring means the possibility of dozens of warblers, vireos, tanagers and orioles - if the weather (and the birds) cooperate.

The possibilities did not look promising with gusty winds out of the south. Strong south winds are good for the birds but can be disappointing for birders. With a strong tail wind, many birds fly right over the coastal wood lots for more abundant habitat farther inland. Even during the heart of migration, migrant birds can be scarce under these conditions. But the started off well anyway. A scope set up on the observation deck of the headquarters building picked up several Northern Gannets feeding off the coast. These large sea birds are mostly winter residents in our area and April is a little late to see them. Also, Gannets are usually far off shore and difficult to observe so the sighting was a nice start.

Once everyone arrived, the assembled birders headed for "The Willows". This is a small area of Willow trees and other vegetation in an otherwise marshy area. It is the first bit of suitable habitat that many migrants arriving from the Gulf see and it often draws birds like a magnet. One of the first birds seen was not a typical migrant however. Instead of a warbler or thrush, it was a Common Loon flying by! A graceful bird in the water, it looked awkward in flight with its webbed feet trailing far behind its body. More typical birds were viewed on the walk including Sedge Wren and Common Yellowthroat. Just before reaching the Willows, a distinctive call heard. Experienced birders quickly recognized it but others did not know what awaited. All searched for the source of the calls until the bird was sighted in some tall reeds. It was a male Painted Bunting singing his heart out. The bird soon flew up to the nearby telephone wire to give everyone a good look at this spectacular bird. Showing off its blue, red and green plumage, this was the kind of thing everyone came to see!

The Willows were once a destination only for the most dedicated birders. Murky, shin-deep water with tall grasses awaited and the only way to see the birds was to wade through them in rubber boots. Fortunately, this is no longer the case as a nice boardwalk now provides good access to the trees. Arriving at the boardwalk, the group split into smaller units to better explore the area. Unfortunately, the birds did not cooperate. Very few migrants were around and the ones that were did not feel very sociable. A couple of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers was nice. A fleeting glimpse at a Yellow Warbler and numerous Swallows zipping past were about the only other show. But the day was not yet lost as Sabine Woods still lay ahead.

Arriving back at the headquarters, the group got treated to a few bonus birds before departing for Sabine Woods. In large puddles near the parking lot, Semipalmated Plovers and Least Sandpipers fed. A Lesser Yellowlegs looked on with a silent Dowitcher. Barn and Cliff Swallows were starting nesting

duties nearby and Boat-tailed Grackles waited for handouts. A hovering White-tailed Kite was seen in the distance. After a short look around, the group headed for the next stop.

Sabine Woods was once a near secret visited mostly by local birders and longtime veterans who know all the hotspots. In the past few years however, the secret has gotten out and dozens of birders now enjoy this spectacular migrant trap every Spring. Cars parked outside the Woods bore license plates from as far away as Yukon, Canada and accents from Great Britain, Sweden and other countries are overheard discussing the latest discoveries.

The group arrived at Sabine Woods eager to comb the large Live Oaks and Hackberries for migrants. Still, the birders often seemed to outnumber the birds on this day. Entering the Woods few birds were heard or seen. But longtime birders know that persistence is the key on days like this. With patience some nice bird can be found even on tough days. The morning was slow but Ruby-throated Humminbirds still buzzed around the Honeysuckle and a Blue-headed Vireo was a nice find. Lincoln's Sparrows, unusually common this season, were seen along with several Gray Catbirds. Working our way to the small pond on the eastern edge of the Woods, birds and birders were more numerous. A Northern Waterthrush bobbed along the shoreline as more Painted Buntings (male and female) put on a show for the tourists. A Gray-cheeked Thrush was eventually sighted near the boardwalk and Yellow Warblers made appearances. A Red-bellied Woodpecker was a little unusual.

As the day got later, the persistent birders were rewarded. A Blackpoll Warbler high in the oak, a female Cerulean Warbler flitting among dense branches, Scarlet and Summer Tanagers on open perches, all eventually found. A Veery was the first of this species of the year for most observers while Yellow-billed Cuckoos were appreciated again. Toward the end of the day, as often occurs in migration, birds began arriving. It was not exactly a fallout but an enjoyable spectacle nonetheless. Several birds came down together to bathe. Yellow Warblers bathed with a Common Yellowthroat. A female Prothonotary Warbler bathed with a male Blue-winged Warbler. Tennessee Warblers worked the overhead trees while Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Baltimore Orioles flew back and forth between Mulberry trees. This was a little more like Spring in Texas is supposed to be!

All in all, it was not one of those legendary Texas days that will be talked about for years to come but it was no less enjoyable. Summer Tanagers in red, Indigo Buntings in blue, Yellow Warbler in yellow (surprise), Baltimore Orioles in orange, and the multicolors of Painted Buntings and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks made for a Saturday that showed even a slow day in Sabine Pass in Spring can be a birding experience rarely equaled elsewhere.

The following birds were recorded on the trip:
Common Loon (1), Brown Pelican (5), Neotropic Cormorant (2), American Bittern (1), Great Blue Heron (1), Great Egret (6), Snowy Egret (16), Little Blue Heron (1), Tricolored
(continued on page 7)

Bird Sightings – March 2002

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: The last third of March produced an excellent showing of early migrants, mostly the expected species such as Yellow-throated, Prothonotary Warblers and Northern Parula. An American Redstart was early. The male Spotted Towhee at Sabine Woods continued to be seen regularly. Tyrrell Park produced (in Cattail Marsh) a good variety of shorebirds in very large numbers towards the end of the month. Pectoral Sandpipers were especially numerous, and also noteworthy were good numbers of American Golden-Plover and a few early Wilson's Phalaropes. A pair of Cinnamon Teal was very late.

LOON, Common	JEF 1 rep(5)	TEAL, Blue-winged	JEF 13 reps(1512)
GREBE, Pied-billed	JEF 8 reps(22)	TEAL, Cinnamon MW	JEF-SW 3/23(1) BHE; JEF 3/24(2)
PELICAN, American White	JEF 5 reps(76)	SHOVELER, Northern	JEF 9 reps(2185)
PELICAN, Brown	JEF-TX87 3/9(2) MHW; JEF-TX87 3/14(2) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/19(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT 3/19(14) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/24(1) MW; JEF-TX87 3/25(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(7) AM	PINTAIL, Northern	JEF 3 reps(90)
CORMORANT, Neotropic	JEF 8 reps(172)	TEAL, Green-winged	JEF 3 reps(600)
CORMORANT, Double-crested	JAS 1 rep(2); JEF 4 reps(34)	DUCK, Ring-necked	JEF 1 rep(2)
CORMORANT, Species	JEF 1 rep(50)	SCAUP, Greater MW; JEF-PI 3/31(6) AM	JEF-TP 3/18(2) JAW; JEF 3/24(2)
ANHINGA	JEF 1 rep(1)	SCAUP, Lesser	JEF 8 reps(306)
HERON, Great Blue	JEF 8 reps(12)	BUFFLEHEAD	JEF 1 rep(4)
EGRET, Great	JAS 2 reps(2); JEF 12 reps(167)	MERGANSER, Red-breasted	JEF 1 rep(200)
EGRET, Snowy	JEF 12 reps(86)	DUCK, Ruddy	JEF 3 reps(14)
HERON, Little Blue	JAS 1 rep(7); JEF 7 reps(81)	OSPREY	JEF 3/24(1) MW; JEF-TX87 3/25(2) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/27(2) AM
HERON, Tricolored	JEF 5 reps(10)	KITE, Swallow-tailed	JEF 3/12(1) JFW
EGRET, Cattle 1 rep(1)	JAS 1 rep(2); JEF 14 reps(221); ORA 1 rep(1)	KITE, White-tailed	JEF 7 reps(9)
HERON, Green	JEF-SW 3/25(10) JAW; JEF 3/27(1) AM; JEF-SW 3/30(4) MW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(1) AM	HARRIER, Northern	JEF 9 reps(28)
NIGHT-HERON, Yellow-cr.	JEF-SW 3/9(1) MHW; JEF 3/14(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/19(2) JAW; JEF 3/23(6) FTBF; JEF-SW 3/24(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/25(1) JAW; JEF 3/26(3) JAW; JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW; JEF-TX87 3/30(21) MW; JEF-TX87 3/31(1) JAW	HAWK, Sharp-shinned MW	JEF-TX87 3/27(1) AM; JEF 3/30(1)
IBIS, White	JAS 3/17(75) AM; JEF-TP 3/18(2) JAW; JEF 3/27(4) AM; JEF-TX87 3/30(7) MW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(4) AM	HAWK, Red-shouldered rep(1)	HAI 1 rep(2); JAS 2 reps(2); JEF 1 rep(1)
IBIS, Glossy	JEF-TP 3/18(1) JAW	HAWK, Broad-winged	HAI 3/31(6) KS; JAS 3/31(4) JAW; JEF 3/27(2) AM
IBIS, White-faced	JEF-TP 3/10(4) JAW; JEF-TP 3/18(12) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/19(1) JAW; JEF 3/24(10) MW	HAWK, Red-tailed	HAI 1 rep(2); JAS 1 rep(2); JEF 13 reps(55)
IBIS, Plegadis	JEF-SW 3/9(200) MHW; JEF 3/14(20) JAW; JEF-SW 3/14(2) JAW; JEF 3/18(20) JAW; JEF 3/23(100) FTBF; JEF-TX87 3/23(200) JS; JEF-SW 3/24(10) MW; JEF-TX87 3/24(4) MW; JEF 3/25(2) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/26(315) JAW JEF 3/27(230) AM; JEF-SW 3/30(510) MW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(140) AM; JEF-SW 3/31(200) JAW	HAWK, Red-tailed (Kriders)	JEF 3/14(1) JAW
SPOONBILL, Roseate	JEF 3/18(2) JAW; JEF 3/24(2) MW; JEF-TX87 3/24(11) MW; JEF 3/27(4) AM; JEF-TX87 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(4) AM; JEF-TX87 3/31(1) JAW	KESTREL, American	JEF 13 reps(60)
VULTURE, Black	JEF 7 reps(44)	MERLIN	JEF-SW 3/9(1) MHW; JEF-SW 3/13(1) JHH; ORA 3/18(1) BB
VULTURE, Turkey	HAI 2 reps(3); JAS 2 reps(9); JEF 13 reps(67); ORA 1 rep(1)	RAIL, Clapper	JEF 1 rep(2)
WHISTLING-DUCK, Fulvous	JEF 3/9(5) MHW; JEF 3/14(6) JAW; JEF-TP 3/18(11) JAW	SORA	JEF 1 rep(1)
DUCK, Wood	JAS 3/17(2) AM	MOORHEN, Common	JEF 6 reps(23)
GADWALL	JEF 5 reps(169)	COOT, American	JEF 8 reps(1410)
MALLARD	JEF 1 rep(3)	CRANE, Sandhill	JEF 3/3(3) JAW
DUCK, Mottled	JEF 3/3(6) JAW; JEF 3/10(6) JAW; JEF 3/14(5) JAW; JEF-TP 3/18(1) JAW; JEF 3/24(6) MW; JEF-TP 3/31(2) JAW	PLOVER, Black-bellied	JEF 3 reps(26)
		GOLDEN-PLOVER, American	JEF 3/3(28) JAW; JEF 3/10(62) JAW; JEF-TP 3/18(1) JAW; JEF 3/24(75) MW; JEF-TP 3/31(14) JAW
		PLOVER, Snowy	JEF-SRSP 3/19(11) JAW; JEF-SRSP 3/30(7) MW
		PLOVER, Wilson's	JEF 1 rep(1)
		PLOVER, Semipalmated	JEF 2 reps(16)
		PLOVER, Piping	JEF 2 reps(7)
		KILLDEER	JEF 8 reps(177)
		STILT, Black-necked	JEF 8 reps(134)
		AVOCET, American	JEF 2 reps(127)
		YELLOWLEGS, Greater	JEF 7 reps(155)
		YELLOWLEGS, Lesser	JEF 7 reps(291)
		YELLOWLEGS species	JEF 1 rep(1)

SANDPIPER, Solitary MW	JEF-TP 3/18(2) JAW; JEF 3/24(1)	FLYCATCHER, Gt. Crested	JEF-SRSP 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/31(1) AM
WILLET	JEF 4 reps(211)	KINGBIRD, Eastern	JAS 3/31(1) JAW; JEF-SW 3/22(2) SM; JEF-SRSP 3/23(2) BHE; JEF-SW 3/25(1) JAW; JEF 3/27(1) AM; JEF 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/31(1) AM; JEF-TP 3/31(1) JAW
SANDPIPER, Spotted	JEF-PI 3/19(1) JAW	FLYCATCHER, Scissor-tailed	JEF-SRSP 3/23(1) BHE; JEF-TX87 3/23(1) JS; JEF 3/31(2) JAW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(2) AM
SANDERLING	JEF 3 reps(132)	SHRIKE, Loggerhead	JEF 15 reps(137)
SANDPIPER, Semipalmated JAW	JEF-TP 3/18(2) JAW; JEF-TP 3/31(2)	VIREO, White-eyed	HAI 1 rep(3); JAS 1 rep(1); JEF 8 reps(27)
SANDPIPER, Western	JEF 4 reps(33)	VIREO, Yellow-throated	HAI 3/31(2) KS; JEF-SW 3/22(1) SM; JEF 3/27(1) AM; JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/31(1) AM
SANDPIPER, Least	JEF 6 reps(828)	VIREO, Blue-headed	JEF 3 reps(3)
SANDPIPER, Pectoral	JEF-TP 3/10(21) JAW; JEF-TP 3/18(18) JAW; JEF 3/24(100) MW; JEF-TP 3/31(500) JAW	VIREO, Red-eyed	HAI 3/31(1) KS; JEF-SW 3/22(1) SM; JEF 3/27(1) AM; JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW
DUNLIN	JEF 4 reps(18)	JAY, Blue	HAI 1 rep(6); JAS 1 rep(9); JEF 13 reps(49)
SANDPIPER, Stilt	JEF-TP 3/10(2) JAW; JEF-TP 3/18(5) JAW; JEF 3/24(10) MW; JEF-TP 3/31(3) JAW	CROW, American	JAS 1 rep(14); JEF 1 rep(4)
DOWITCHER, Short-billed	JEF 3/3(100) JAW; JEF-TP 3/18(4) JAW; JEF-PI 3/19(200) JAW; JEF 3/24(10) MW	CROW, Fish	JAS 3/17(2) AM; JEF-TP 3/10(12) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/14(2) JAW; JEF-TP 3/18(6) JAW; JEF-SW 3/31(2) AM; JEF-TP 3/31(10) JAW
DOWITCHER, Long-billed	JEF 5 reps(3453)	CROW, species	HAI 1 rep(3); JEF 6 reps(30); NEW 1 rep(3); ORA 1 rep(3)
DOWITCHER species	JEF 3 reps(941)	MARTIN, Purple	HAI 1 rep(4); JAS 2 reps(6); JEF 10 reps(109)
SNIPE, Common	JEF 4 reps(57)	SWALLOW, Tree	JEF 14 reps(865)
PHALAROPE, Wilson's MW	JEF-TP 3/18(4) JAW; JEF 3/24(2)	SWALLOW, N. Rough-winged	JEF-TP 3/18(1) JAW; JEF 3/24(1) MW
GULL, Laughing	JEF 13 reps(474)	SWALLOW, Cliff	JEF 3/30(1) MW
GULL, Bonaparte's	JEF 6 reps(538)	SWALLOW, Barn	HAI 3/31(4) JAW; HAI 3/31(3) KS; JAS 3/31(1) JAW; JEF-SW 3/9(1) MHW; JEF 3/18(3) JAW; JEF-TP 3/18(2) JAW; JEF-SRSP 3/19(12) JAW; JEF-SW 3/19(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT 3/19(1) JAW; JEF 3/23(1) FTBF; JEF-NEDR 3/24(1) MW JEF-SW 3/24(2) MW; JEF-TX87 3/24(2) MW; JEF-SW 3/25(2) JAW; JEF-SW 3/26(1) JAW; JEF 3/27(6) AM; JEF-NEDR 3/30(3) MW; JEF-SRSP 3/30(12) MW; JEF-SW 3/30(2) MW; JEF 3/31(4) JAW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(35) AM JEF-TP 3/31(2) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/31(1) JAW
GULL, Ring-billed	JEF 10 reps(469)	CHICKADEE, Carolina	HAI 1 rep(12); JAS 1 rep(22)
GULL, Herring	JEF 4 reps(32)	TITMOUSE, Tufted	HAI 1 rep(12); JAS 2 reps(19); JEF 1 rep(1)
TERN, Caspian	JEF 6 reps(15)	WREN, Carolina	HAI 1 rep(4); JEF 8 reps(9)
TERN, Royal	JEF 3 reps(20)	WREN, House	JEF-SRSP 3/19(1) JAW
TERN, Sandwich	JEF-SRSP 3/19(2) JAW; JEF-SRSP 3/30(2) MW	WREN, Sedge	JEF-SRSP 3/30(1) MW
TERN, Common	JEF-SRSP 3/30(2) MW	KINGLET, Ruby-crowned	HAI 1 rep(10); JAS 1 rep(4); JEF 9 reps(72)
TERN, Forster's	JEF 5 reps(219)	GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray	JAS 1 rep(1); JEF 10 reps(229)
TERN, Least	JEF-TX87 3/31(2) JAW	BLUEBIRD, Eastern	HAI 1 rep(4); JEF 2 reps(3)
DOVE, Rock	JEF 11 reps(76); ORA 1 rep(4)	THRUSH, Wood	JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/31(1) AM
COLLARED-DOVE, Eurasian	JEF-TX87 3/14(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/19(2) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/24(1) MW; JEF-TX87 3/25(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 3/27(2) AM; JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW; JEF 3/31(2) AM	ROBIN, American	JAS 1 rep(275); JEF 15 reps(66)
DOVE, White-winged	JEF-SW 3/9(1) RH; JEF-NEDR 3/10(2) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/14(2) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/18(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/19(3) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/23(1) FTBF; JEF-NEDR 3/24(1) MW; JEF-NEDR 3/26(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW	CATBIRD, Gray	JEF-SW 3/24(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/26(1) JAW; JEF 3/27(2) AM; JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/31(2) AM
DOVE, Mourning	JEF 14 reps(126)	MOCKINGBIRD, Northern	JEF 14 reps(71)
DOVE, Inca	JEF 3 reps(4)	THRASHER, Brown	JEF 8 reps(13)
OWL, Great Horned	JEF-SW 3/25(1) JAW; JEF-SW 3/31(1) AM	STARLING, European	JEF 10 reps(388); ORA 1 rep(1)
OWL, Barred	HAI 3/31(1) KS; JAS 3/17(1) AM	PIPIT, American	JEF 2 reps(30)
NIGHTHAWK, Common	JEF 3/31(1) AM	WAXWING, Cedar	HAI 1 rep(22); JEF 6 reps(86)
WILL'S-WIDOW, Chuck-	JEF-SW 3/9(1) HJ	WARBLER, Orange-crowned	JEF 9 reps(15)
SWIFT, Chimney	HAI 3/31(6) KS; JEF-NEDR 3/29(6) JJW; JEF-NEDR 3/30(2) MW; JEF 3/31(4) AM; JEF-NEDR 3/31(1) JAW	PARULA, Northern	HAI 3/31(3) KS; JAS 3/17(18) AM; JEF-SW 3/13(1) JHH; JEF-TP 3/18(1) JAW; JEF-SW 3/22(5) SM; JEF-SW 3/23(3) BHE; JEF-SW 3/24(2) MW; JEF-SW 3/25(2) JAW; JEF 3/27(4) AM; JEF-SRSP 3/30(2) MW; JEF-SW 3/30(4) MW JEF-SW 3/31(1) AM; JEF-TP 3/31(1) JAW
HUMMINGBIRD, Buff-bellied	ORA 3/18(1) BB	WARBLER, Yellow-rumped	JAS 1 rep(64); JEF 12 reps(210)
HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr.	JAS 3/17(1) AM; JAS 3/31(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/10(1) JFW; JEF-NEDR 3/18(5) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/19(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/26(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 3/27(2) JJW; JEF-NEDR 3/28(2) JJW; JEF-NEDR 3/29(1) JJW; JEF-NEDR 3/31(1) JAW	WARBLER, Yellow-throated	JEF-SW 3/13(2) JHH; JEF-SW 3/22(1) SM; JEF-SW 3/23(4) BHE; JEF 3/27(4) AM; JEF-SW
HUMMINGBIRD, Black-chin.	JEF-NEDR 3/10(1) JFW		
HUMMINGBIRD, Selasphorus	JEF-NEDR 3/10(1) JFW		
KINGFISHER, Belted	JEF 11 reps(19)		
WOODPECKER, Red-bellied	HAI 1 rep(4); JAS 1 rep(8); JEF 4 reps(4)		
SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bellied	JEF 2 reps(2)		
WOODPECKER, Downy	JEF 7 reps(12)		
FLICKER, Northern	JAS 1 rep(1); JEF 2 reps(2)		
WOODPECKER, Pileated	HAI 1 rep(1); JAS 1 rep(3); JEF 1 rep(1)		
FLYCATCHER, Acadian	JAS 3/17(1) AM		
PHOEBE, Eastern	JEF 8 reps(12)		
FLYCATCHER, Vermilion	JEF 3/10(1) JAW		

3/30(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/31(2) AM

WARBLER, Pine HAI 1 rep(11); JEF 1 rep(1)
WARBLER, Palm JEF-SRSP 3/23(2) BHE; JEF-SRSP
3/30(1) MW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(1) AM
WARBLER, Black-and-white JAS 3/17(1) AM; JEF-SW 3/13(7)
JHH; JEF-SW 3/22(1) SM; JEF-SW 3/23(6) BHE; JEF 3/27(6)
AM; JEF-SW 3/30(2) MW; JEF-SW 3/31(2) AM
REDSTART, American JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW
WARBLER, Prothonotary JAS 3/17(6) AM; JEF-SW 3/22(10)
SM; JEF-SRSP 3/23(6) BHE; JEF-SW 3/23(10) BHE; JEF-SW
3/24(8) MW; JEF-SW 3/25(10) JAW; JEF-SW 3/26(1) JAW;
JEF 3/27(10) AM; JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW; JEF-SW 3/31(4) AM
WARBLER, Worm-eating JEF-SW 3/22(1) SM; JEF-SW 3/23(1)
BHE; JEF 3/27(1) AM; JEF-SRSP 3/30(2) MW; JEF-SW
3/30(3) MW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(1) AM; JEF-SW 3/31(1) JAW
WATERTHRUSH, Louisiana JEF-SW 3/22(1) SM; JEF-SW 3/23(1)
BHE; JEF-SW 3/26(1) JAW
YELLOWTHROAT, Common JEF 11 reps(22)
WARBLER, Hooded HAI 3/31(5) KS; JEF-SW 3/22(1) SM;
JEF-SW 3/30(2) MW
WARBLER, Wilson's JEF-SW 3/13(1) JHH; JEF-SW
3/30(1) MW; JEF-SRSP 3/31(1) AM
TOWHEE, Spotted JEF-SW 3/13(1) JHH; JEF-SW
3/14(1) JAW; JEF-SW 3/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 3/24(1) MW;
JEF-SW 3/25(1) JAW; JEF 3/27(1) AM; JEF-SW 3/30(1) MW;
JEF-SW 3/31(1) AM
SPARROW, Chipping JAS 1 rep(10)
SPARROW, Savannah JEF 7 reps(112)
SPARROW, Song JEF 1 rep(1)
SPARROW, Lincoln's JEF-SW 3/13(2) JHH; JEF 3/27(1)
AM; JEF-SW 3/30(4) MW; JEF-SW 3/31(1) AM; JEF-SW
3/31(1) JAW
SPARROW, Swamp JEF 5 reps(20)
SPARROW, White-throated JEF 9 reps(60)
CARDINAL, Northern JAS 2 reps(6); JEF 14 reps(50)
BUNTING, Indigo JEF-SW 3/25(2) JAW; JEF-SW
3/30(4) MW
BLACKBIRD, Red-winged JAS 1 rep(60); JEF 11 reps(693)
MEADOWLARK, Eastern JEF 3 reps(18)
MEADOWLARK species JEF 7 reps(65)
BLACKBIRD, Brewer's JEF 3/10(1) JAW
GRACKLE, Common JAS 1 rep(42); JEF 7 reps(101)
GRACKLE, Boat-tailed JEF 7 reps(66)
GRACKLE, Great-tailed HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 10 reps(233)
COWBIRD, Brown-headed JAS 1 rep(5); JEF 4 reps(29)
ORIOLE, Orchard JEF-SRSP 3/30(2) MW; JEF-SW
3/30(19) MW; JEF-TXPT 3/30(2) MW
GOLDFINCH, American JAS 2 reps(54); JEF 2 reps(5)
SPARROW, House JEF 5 reps(19)

Number of Species 175
Number of Individuals 24955

County Abbreviations:

HAI - Hardin; JAS - Jasper; JEF - Jefferson; NEW - Newton; ORA - Orange

Location Codes:

BC - Bridge City; BMT - Beaumont; BTNB - Big Thicket NP - Neches Bottom; NEDR - Nederland; PI - Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; SRSP - Sea Rim State Park; SW - Sabine Woods; TP - Tyrrell Park incl. Cattail Marsh; TX87 - Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim; TXPT - Road to Pilot Station at Texas Point

Observer Abbreviations:

AM - Art Mackinnon; BB - Bruce Bishop; BHE - Brian Henderson; FTBF - Field Trip to Bolivar Flats; HJ - Harrison Jordan; JAW - John Whittle; JFW - Jana Whittle; JHH - John H. Haynes; JJW - John and Jana Whittle; JS - Jace Stansbury; KS - Ken Sztraky; MHW - Steve Mayes, John Haynes, John Whittle; MW - Steve Mayes and John Whittle; RH - Robert Hurt; SM - Steve Mayes

Bird Alerts

As this is written, spring migration is slowly winding down. Apart from one weather event on April 8, the season has been marked by continuous moderate south winds, and the only saving grace has been the tendency of a good selection of warblers to drop into Sabine Woods in the mid to late afternoon. Most of them, however, continued their journeys that night and were gone by the next morning. Noteworthy birds have been a male Black-throated Gray Warbler present, if not always easy to find, in Sabine Woods April 22-25, and a male Black-throated Blue Warbler there April 27-29 (at least).

We will have a complete analysis of the migration season in a future issue. Suffice it to say now that Blackpoll Warblers have been more numerous this year than ever before, while several other species and groups of species have been scarce - thrushes most notably. The warblers which migrate late have not yet appeared in numbers as this is being written (May 1), making them unusually late.

Suitable shorebird habitat has been relatively hard to find for most of April.

Field Trip Report *(continued from page 4)*

Heron (11), Cattle Egret (6), Green Heron (2), Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (2), White Ibis (14), Plegadis Ibis (17), Roseate Spoonbill (4), Black Vulture (3), Turkey Vulture (5), Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (2), Lesser Scaup (50), White-tailed Kite (1), Northern Harrier (1), Clapper Rail (1), Sora (1), Black-bellied Plover (1), Semipalmated Plover (2), Killdeer (3), Black-necked Stilt (3), Greater Yellowlegs (1), Lesser Yellowlegs (21), Willet (7), Whimbrel (1), Long-billed Curlew (1), Sanderling (10), Least Sandpiper (5), Short-billed Dowitcher (1), Dowitcher species (5), Laughing Gull (6), Ring-billed Gull (1), Herring Gull (7), Forster's Tern (3), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (4), Rock Dove (5), Mourning Dove (9), Common Nighthawk (1), Ruby-throated Hummingbird (11), Belted Kingfisher (1), Red-bellied Woodpecker (1), Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (1), Downy Woodpecker (1), Eastern Kingbird (14), Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (4), Loggerhead Shrike (9), Blue-headed Vireo (1), Red-eyed Vireo (3), Blue Jay (4), Fish Crow (1), Purple Martin (2), Tree Swallow (40), Northern Rough-winged Swallow (5), Cliff Swallow (10), Barn Swallow (4), Sedge Wren (3), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (1), Veery (1), Gray-cheeked Thrush (1), Gray Catbird (11), Northern Mockingbird (5), Brown Thrasher (4), Blue-winged Warbler (1), Tennessee Warbler (3), Yellow Warbler (5), Black-throated Green Warbler (1), Blackpoll Warbler (3), Cerulean Warbler (1), American Redstart (2), Prothonotary Warbler (2), Northern Waterthrush (3), Common Yellowthroat (14), Summer Tanager (3), Scarlet Tanager (7), Savannah Sparrow (1), Lincoln's Sparrow (5), Swamp Sparrow (1), Northern Cardinal (2), Rose-breasted Grosbeak (12), Blue Grosbeak (2), Indigo Bunting (15), Painted Bunting (11), Dickcissel (1), Red-winged Blackbird (3), Boat-tailed Grackle (2), Great-tailed Grackle (10), Brown-headed Cowbird (3), Orchard Oriole (14), Baltimore Oriole (15) 95 Species, 530 Individuals.

Steve Mayes

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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 on Siler's Birding on the Net at <http://birdingonthe.net/hotmail.html> Detailed information (maps and text) on birding sites on the Upper Texas Coast is also available on the Web at <http://www.texasbirding.net>. 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
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N. E. Texas	(903) 839-4804
Rio Grande Valley	(210) 969-2731
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