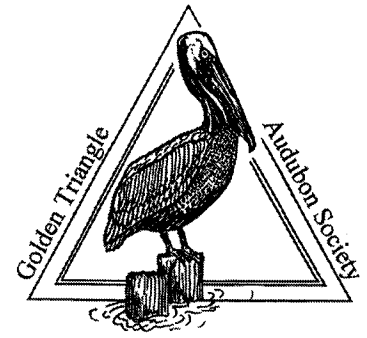


Brown Pelican

Scanned from Originals

The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 11 No. 10/11

October/November 2005

Annual Meeting
Thursday, November 17, 2005
6:30 PM, Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont

Your Favorite Bird Pictures or Videos
Covered Dish Requested

We invite you to bring along your five (or more) favorite bird pictures, videos or stories. We can accommodate PowerPoint if we know in advance. Please bring a covered dish, hors d'oeuvres or soft drinks, so we can all enjoy food and drink.

This meeting is also the Society's Annual Meeting and we will conduct elections for 2006 Officers and Board. 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.

After Rita

We assume everyone reading this at the time of publication is aware that the center of Hurricane Rita crossed over the area of Southeast Texas that we normally cover in the early morning hours of Saturday September 24. Although the peak storm surge and heaviest rains were slightly to our east, the winds of the western eye wall exacted heavy damage on structures and trees alike, and virtually shut down the area for approximately two weeks. One result was that we were unable to produce and distribute an October *Brown Pelican*. We also felt it prudent to reschedule our planned October Membership Meeting (John O'Neill on Birds of Peru) for March 2006. However, the main building at the Garden Center was not damaged, and our November Annual Meeting will, as indicated above, go on as scheduled.

The storm surge and winds severely damaged Sabine Pass. However, the storm surge apparently reached up to but not into Sabine Woods, although there was much tree damage. All the large live oak trees are still standing, but several large limbs were broken off. Many hackberry trees were toppled, along with a few golden rain trees. There was no apparent damage to the boardwalk or shelter area, although there were medium sized limbs all over the boardwalk. A work day was scheduled for October 29, and hopefully the boardwalks and most of the other trails will have been cleared by the time you read this. The Willows at Sea Rim suffered minimal damage from the storm, only to have some trees butchered by tree companies supposedly clearing trees from electric lines. The mulberry trees further west were especially brutally dealt with by these crews. The salt cedars along the road to the former Pilot Station at Texas Point were heavily impacted, but it is difficult to kill salt cedars and they will doubtless come back.

Although numerous trees in Tyrrell Park were blown over, there was no impact on Cattail Marsh (and limited salt water impact on the coastal marshes). In the wooded areas in the counties further inland, the tree damage was exceptionally heavy. What impact there was and will be on bird life remains to be determined. Woodpeckers and other cavity nesters may proliferate for a while!

The Brown Pelican

Vol. 11, No.10/11 Oct/Nov 2005

Golden Triangle
Audubon Society

**RARE BIRD ALERT AND
SOCIETY INFORMATION
TELEPHONE NUMBER
(409) 728-6957 (728-OWLS)**

www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

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Society,

P. O. Box 1292, Nederland,
Texas 77627-1292

Calendar of Events

Thursday November 17. Annual Meeting and Pot-luck Dinner. See page 1 for details.

Saturday November 19. Field Trip. Thanks to the generosity of Brenda Gilbert, we will explore the 700 or so acres of Gilbert Ranch in west Jefferson County. We will meet at the gate to the ranch, which is on Johnson Road, at 8:00 a.m. From the Golden Triangle, the easiest way to the ranch is by way of FM365. From IH-10 in Fannett, take FM365 west/north towards Nome for about six miles to Johnson Road on the left. The entrance gate to the ranch is obvious and just beyond the G&A Turf Farm about a mile from FM365. Alternatively, Johnson Rd is on the right on FM365 eight miles south/east of Nome.

Thursday December 22. Bolivar Peninsula Christmas Bird Count. Contact Bill Graber, 409-866-5452.

Wednesday December 28. Turkey Creek Christmas Bird Count. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at the Big Thicket NP Visitor Center, 8 miles north of Kountze on US 69. Contact Merle King for more details 409-951-6725 or Merle_King@nps.gov

Friday December 30. Beech Creek Christmas Bird Count. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at the Corps of Engineers Picnic Area immediately north of Town Bluff on FM92 (just north of the intersection with FM1746). Contact Merle King for more details 409-951-6725 or Merle_King@nps.gov

Sunday January 1, 2006. Orange County Christmas Bird Count. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Convenience Store at the intersection of FM1442 and FM105 in Orange County.

Monday January 2, 2006. Sea Rim State Park Christmas Bird Count. Meet at the entrance to the Sabine Pass Battleground State Historical Park on FM3322 1 mile south of the stop sign in Sabine Pass. Be aware that the park will probably not be open, and public toilet facilities in Sabine Pass may be very hard to find. Contact John Whittle, 409-722-4193 or john.whittle@lamar.edu.

Thursday January 19. Membership Meeting. Details in next issue.

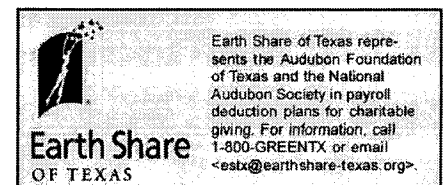
Saturday January 21. Field Trip to West Harris County. This has become one of our most popular field trips. Houston is rapidly advancing towards the heart of this excellent birding area, with its wintering waterfowl, sparrows (including Fox) and raptors (including Caracara and Bald Eagle). Full details in next issue.

Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. We thank the following for bringing refreshments in September: Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan, Linda Lang, Betsy Ray, Sherrie Roden, Gail Slocum and Jana Whittle. We now **need volunteers to bring all items for all 2006 meetings.** 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 far in advance 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, or there is no other date, 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.



Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Members of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society will take place on Thursday, November 17, 2005 in the Garden Center, Beaumont Botanical Gardens, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont, Texas at 7:00 p.m. The Agenda is as follows.

1. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of November 18, 2004.
2. President's Report on the Activities of the Society in 2005.
3. Amendments to the Bylaws (see below).
4. Election of Officers and Board of Directors for 2006.
5. Any Other Business which may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

Amendments to Bylaws

The following amendments to the Bylaws of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society have been proposed, and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting of the Society on Thursday November 17. The Board of Directors has considered these amendments and recommends that they be adopted. The Board considers that it will be helpful to the operation of the Society to involve more members in its governance and related activities, and therefore supports the increase in the maximum number of directors. Allowing for a range in the number of Board members is more practical and flexible, and solves a potential problem in the current Bylaws which require a specific number of directors but provide no procedure to replace resigned directors. However, to avoid quorum problems, it is proposed that the quorum be set at six members of the Board. This is the number that is required presently, although it is currently defined as a majority of the Board. In this day and age, with everyone's busy schedules, it has been found better to have fewer Board meetings each with more substantive matters to deal with. The change in the notice requirements for the Annual Meeting will make it easier to meet the letter of the requirements within the normal schedule of publication of the *Brown Pelican*. Currently, we often do not mail a *Brown Pelican* in the period between 50 and 30 days prior to a meeting, even in the absence of hurricanes.

In the text below, additions are underlined and deletions are struck through.

ARTICLE II Meetings

Section 4.

Notice of the annual meeting, special meetings and regular meetings, at which SOCIETY business is to be conducted, shall be given not less than thirty (30) nor more than ~~fifty (50)~~seventy-five (75) days before the date of the meeting. Such notice is given when deposited in the United States mail, with postage thereon prepaid, and directed to the member at his address as it appears

on the record of members, or at such other address as he may request in writing to the Secretary of this SOCIETY, provided that members who elect to receive SOCIETY notices by email or facsimile may be served notice by such means in lieu of United States mail. Notice of such meetings may be published in the SOCIETY'S newsletter or other regular publication, provided such publication is mailed or otherwise distributed according to the provisions stated hereinabove.

ARTICLE III Board of Directors

Section 1.

The control and conduct of the business of the SOCIETY shall be vested in its Board of Directors. The Board shall include no fewer than seven (7) and no more than eleven (11) elected Directors and, ex-officio with full voting rights, the elected officers of the SOCIETY.

Section 4.

There shall be at least ~~six~~three regular meetings of the Board of Directors in any one calendar year, not more than one regular meeting in any one month. The dates for the regular meetings shall be determined by the Board at its first regular meeting following the annual meeting of members.

Section 6.

~~A majority~~Six members of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors ~~provided such quorum includes a majority of the elected Directors.~~

Hurricane Displaced Birds

The high winds associated with hurricanes always have the effect of carrying inland some birds that almost never leave the shore. Some of these may find it easier to ride out the storm in the air and are simply blown by the very high winds. It is also reasonably well documented that some birds become "trapped" in the calm that prevails in the eye of a hurricane, and back off from entering the turbulent areas in the eye wall, and travel inland in the eye for some considerable distance.

In hurricane Rita, Ken Sztraky observed the following on his property in Silsbee (Hardin County) on September 24; 25 Laughing Gulls, two Ring-billed Gulls, one Black Skimmer, one Royal Tern and four unidentified "Peep" Sandpipers.

On the Gau property in Buna (southern Jasper County), on September 24, the following were observed round some newly refilled ponds: 35 Laughing Gulls, two Ring-billed Gulls, one Black Skimmer, four Caspian Terns, four Royal Terns, two Gull-billed Terns, 15 Forster's Terns, one Black Tern, two Least Terns, in addition to two Lesser Yellowlegs, three White-faced Ibis and one American Avocet.

Bird Sightings – August and September 2005

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 john.whittle@lamar.edu or call (409) 880-8276 or fax to (409) 880-7977. 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: Two months to cram in this time. Very little birding was done during the last 10 days in September due to Hurricane Rita and its aftermath. However, there were a couple of reports of birds which normally don't stray inland in Hardin and Jasper counties immediately after the storm passed.

August 2005

WHISTLING-DUCK, Black-bell. JEF 1 rep(3)
WHISTLING-DUCK, Fulvous JEF 1 rep(1)
DUCK, Mottled JEF 8/6(15) JAW; JEF 8/21(1) MW;
 JEF-PI 8/21(15) MW; JEF-TX87 8/21(1) MW
TEAL, Blue-winged JEF-TP 8/27(10) SM
TEAL, Green-winged JEF-TP 8/27(1) SM
DUCK, Ruddy JEF-TP 8/27(1) SM
GREBE, Least JEF-TP 8/12(2) CTL
PELICAN, Brown JEF-SRSP 8/21(45) MW
CORMORANT, Neotropic JEF 3 reps(13)
HERON, Great Blue JEF 3 reps(4)
EGRET, Great JEF 8 reps(78)
EGRET, Snowy JEF 8 reps(15)
HERON, Little Blue JEF 4 reps(16)
HERON, Tricolored JEF 1 rep(4)
EGRET, Reddish JEF 1 rep(1)
EGRET, Cattle JEF 14 reps(1603)
HERON, Green JEF 5 reps(8)
NIGHT-HERON, Black-cr. JEF 1 rep(1)
NIGHT-HERON, Yellow-cr. JEF 2 reps(2)
IBIS, White JEF 2 reps(51)
IBIS, Glossy JEF-TP 8/27(1) SM
IBIS, White-faced JEF 3 reps(10)
IBIS, Plegadis JEF 2 reps(5)
SPOONBILL, Roseate JEF 8/7(2) KS; JEF 8/13(3) JAW;
 JEF-PI 8/21(3) MW; JEF-TP 8/27(2) SM
STORK, Wood JEF 8/7(60) JAW; JEF 8/7(18) KS;
 ORA 8/22(6) KS
VULTURE, Black JEF 3 reps(9)
VULTURE, Turkey JEF 4 reps(9)
OSPREY JEF-BMT 8/15(2) DMW
KITE, Swallow-tailed JEF-BMT 8/11(1) SM
KITE, Mississippi HAI-SILS 8/6(60) DMW; HAI-SILS
 8/17(50) DMW; HAI 8/18(1) JM
HAWK, Cooper's JEF 8/6(1) JAW
HAWK, Broad-winged JEF-BMT 8/13(1) CTL; JEF-TX87
 8/21(1) MW
KESTREL, American JEF 8/13(1) JAW
MERLIN JEF-BMT 8/15(1) DMW
MOORHEN, Common JEF 3 reps(12)
PLOVER, Black-bellied JEF 3 reps(22)
PLOVER, Snowy JEF-SRSP 8/21(17) MW
PLOVER, Wilson's JEF 1 rep(3)
PLOVER, Semipalmated JEF 8/13(1) JAW; JEF-PI 8/21(50)
 MW
PLOVER, Piping JEF-SRSP 8/21(1) MW
KILLDEER JEF 4 reps(20)
STILT, Black-necked JEF 6 reps(243)
AVOCET, American JEF 8/13(3) JAW; JEF-PI 8/21(32)
 MW; JEF-TP 8/27(2) SM
YELLOWLEGS, Greater JEF 1 rep(3)
YELLOWLEGS, Lesser JEF 1 rep(2)
YELLOWLEGS species JEF 2 reps(14)
WILLET JEF 1 rep(24)
SANDPIPER, Spotted JEF 1 rep(1)
CURLEW, Long-billed JEF-PI 8/21(1) MW
TURNSTONE, Ruddy JEF-SRSP 8/21(2) MW
SANDERLING JEF 1 rep(28)
SANDPIPER, Western JEF 2 reps(205)
SANDPIPER, Peep JEF 3 reps(3021)

SANDPIPER, Least JEF 2 reps(11)
SANDPIPER, Pectoral JEF 3 reps(68)
SANDPIPER, Stilt JEF 8/13(1) JAW; JEF-PI 8/21(75)
 MW; JEF-TP 8/27(2) SM
DOWITCHER, Long-billed JEF 5 reps(712)
DOWITCHER species JEF 2 reps(25)
PHALAROPE, Wilson's JEF 8/21(60) CTL; JEF-PI 8/21(4)
 MW
GULL, Laughing JEF 3 reps(1328)
TERN, Gull-billed JEF 1 rep(20)
TERN, Caspian JEF 1 rep(1)
TERN, Royal JEF 1 rep(27)
TERN, Sandwich JEF 1 rep(1)
TERN, Forster's JEF 2 reps(21)
TERN, Least JEF 1 rep(211)
TERN, Black JEF 2 reps(164)
SKIMMER, Black JEF 1 rep(10)
DOVE, Rock JEF 11 reps(87)
COLLARED-DOVE, Eurasian JEF 10 reps(25)
DOVE, White-winged JEF 17 reps(202)
DOVE, Mourning JEF 13 reps(305)
DOVE, Inca HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 4 reps(17)
OWL, Barn JEF-SW 8/28(1) SM
OWL, Barred HAI 8/18(1) JM
NIGHTHAWK, Common JEF 2 reps(8)
WILL'S-WIDOW, Chuck- JEF-SW 8/24(1) LB; JEF-SW 8/28(2)
 SM
SWIFT, Chimney JEF 6 reps(18)
HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr. HAI 2 reps(10); JEF 18 reps(44)
HUMMINGBIRD, Black-chin. JEF-NEDR 8/20(1) JAW
HUMMINGBIRD, Broad-tail. JEF-NEDR 8/20(1) JFW
HUMMINGBIRD, Rufous JEF-NEDR 8/23(1) JFW; JEF-NEDR
 8/24(1) JFW; JEF-NEDR 8/26(1) JAW
HUMMINGBIRD species JEF-NEDR 8/21(2) MW; JEF-SW
 8/21(2) MW; JEF-TX87 8/21(1) MW
KINGFISHER, Belted HAI 8/3(1) JM; JEF-TX87 8/21(1) MW
WOODPECKER, Red-headed ORA 8/5(5) KS; ORA 8/22(5) KS
WOODPECKER, Downy JEF 7 reps(8)
FLICKER, Northern JEF 8/1(1) JAW
FLYCATCHER, Olive-sided JEF-SW 8/21(3) MW
WOOD-PEWEE, Eastern JEF 3 reps(5)
FLYCATCHER, Yell-bellied JEF-SW 8/24(1) LB
FLYCATCHER, Acadian JEF 1 rep(1)
FLYCATCHER, Alder JEF-SW 8/24(1) LB
FLYCATCHER, Willow JEF-SW 8/21(1) MW
FLYCATCHER, Traill's JEF-SW 8/21(1) MW; JEF-SW
 8/24(5) LB
FLYCATCHER, Least JEF-SW 8/21(1) MW; JEF-SW
 8/28(1) SM
EMPIDONAX species JEF 2 reps(3)
FLYCATCHER, Gt. Crested JEF-SW 8/21(1) MW; JEF-SW
 8/24(2) LB; JEF-SW 8/28(1) SM
KINGBIRD, Eastern JEF 5 reps(31)
FLYCATCHER, Scissor-tailed JEF 3 reps(7)
SHRIKE, Loggerhead JEF 5 reps(30)
VIREO, White-eyed HAI 1 rep(1)
VIREO, Yellow-throat HAI 1 rep(1)
VIREO, Red-eyed HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 2 reps(3)
JAY, Blue JEF 6 reps(14)
CROW, American JEF 1 rep(8)
CROW, Fish JEF 8/7(10) KS; JEF 8/15(2) JAW;
 JEF-PTA 8/21(2) MW

CROW, species	JEF 8 reps(19)
MARTIN, Purple	JEF 1 rep(14)
SWALLOW, Barn	JEF 4 reps(57)
CHICKADEE, Carolina	JEF 3 reps(5)
WREN, Carolina	JEF 1 rep(1)
GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray	JEF 2 reps(21)
BLUEBIRD, Eastern	HAI 2 reps(5); JEF 1 rep(1)
THRUSH, Wood	HAI-SILS 8/6(3) DMW
ROBIN, American	JEF 8/1(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 8/1(2)
	JAW; JEF 8/2(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 8/2(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 8/3(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 8/4(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 8/6(3) JAW; JEF 8/9(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 8/11(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 8/12(2) JAW; JEF-NEDR 8/22(1) JAW
MOCKINGBIRD, Northern	JEF 12 reps(90)
THRASHER, Brown	JEF-SW 8/21(3) MW
STARLING, European	JEF 5 reps(122)
WARBLER, Blue-winged	JEF-SW 8/21(1) MW; JEF-SW 8/24(1) LB
PARULA, Northern	JEF 1 rep(1)
WARBLER, Yellow	JEF 8/15(1) JP; JEF-SW 8/21(3) MW; JEF-SW 8/24(6) LB; JEF-TP 8/27(1) SM; JEF-SW 8/28(3) SM
WARBLER, Black-thr. Green	JEF-SW 8/24(2) LB
WARBLER, Yellow-thr.	HAI-SILS 8/1(3) DMW
WARBLER, Black-and-white	JEF 3 reps(8)
WARBLER, Prothonotary	JEF 1 rep(3)
WARBLER, Mourning	JEF-SW 8/24(2) LB
YELLOWTHROAT, Common	JEF 2 reps(8)
WARBLER, Hooded	JEF 1 rep(1); ORA 1 rep(1)
WARBLER, Canada	JEF-SW 8/24(1) LB; JEF-SW 8/28(2) SM
CHAT, Yellow-breasted	JEF-SW 8/24(1) LB
TANAGER, Summer	JEF 2 reps(2)
CARDINAL, Northern	JEF 5 reps(10)
GROSBEAK, Blue	JEF 8/15(4) JP; JEF 8/16(4) JP
BUNTING, Painted	JEF-SW 8/28(1) SM
DICKCISSEL	JEF 2 reps(2)
BLACKBIRD, Red-winged	JEF 5 reps(23)
MEADOWLARK species	JEF 3 reps(3)
GRACKLE, Common	JEF 3 reps(19)
GRACKLE, Great-tailed	JEF 13 reps(200)
GRACKLE, Gt./Boat-tailed	JEF 2 reps(13)
COWBIRD, Brown-headed	JEF 3 reps(94)
ORIOLE, Orchard	JEF 4 reps(7)
ORIOLE, Baltimore	JEF-SW 8/24(1) LB
SPARROW, House	JEF 9 reps(17)
Number of Species	138
Number of Individuals	10282

County Abbreviations:

HAI – Hardin; JEF – Jefferson; ORA – Orange

Location Codes:: BMT – Beaumont; MCFW – McFaddin NWR; NEDR – Nederland; PI – Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; PTA – Port Arthur; SILS – Silsbee; SRSP – Sea Rim State Park; SW – Sabine Woods; TP – Tyrrell Park incl. Cattail Marsh; TX87 – Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim SP

Observer Abbreviations; CTL – Cin-Ty Lee; DMW – Debby McWhorter; JAW – John Whittle; JFW – Jana Whittle; JM – John Mariana; JP – John Park; KS – Ken Sztraky; LB – Lynn Barber; MW – Steve Mayes and John Whittle; RO – Richard Orgeron; SM – Steve Mayes

September 2005

WHISTLING-DUCK, Black-bell.	JEF 2 reps(3)
WHISTLING-DUCK, Fulvous	JEF 1 rep(26)
DUCK, Mottled	JEF 9/11(20) JAW; JEF 9/17(12) MC7/8; JEF-PI 9/17(157) MC09; JEF-TP 9/17(3) MC5T; JEF-PI 9/18(300) JA
TEAL, Blue-winged	JEF 6 reps(1119)
SHOVELER, Northern	JEF-TP 9/17(3) MC5T
PINTAIL, Northern	JEF-TP 9/17(2) MC5T
TEAL, Green-winged	JEF-TP 9/4(2) JAW; JEF 9/17(1) MC7/8

PHEASANT, Ring-necked	JEF 9/17(1) MC06
BOBWHITE, Northern	JEF 1 rep(7)
GREBE, Pied-billed	JEF 2 reps(6)
PELICAN, Amer. White	JEF 2 reps(21)
PELICAN, Brown	JEF 9/17(45) MC09; JEF 9/17(4) MC11
CORMORANT, Neotropic	JEF 15 reps(228)
CORMORANT, Double-crested	JEF-TP 9/17(4) MC5T
ANHINGA	JEF 2 reps(2)
HERON, Great Blue	JEF 9 reps(56)
EGRET, Great	JEF 17 reps(236)
EGRET, Snowy	JEF 15 reps(585)
HERON, Little Blue	JEF 9 reps(30)
HERON, Tricolored	JEF 11 reps(27)
EGRET, Reddish	JEF 3 reps(9)
EGRET, Cattle	JAS 1 rep(7); JEF 16 reps(3136)
HERON, Green	JEF 10 reps(19)
NIGHT-HERON, Black-cr.	JEF 4 reps(8)
NIGHT-HERON, Yellow-cr.	JEF 4 reps(13)
IBIS, White	JEF 9 reps(628)
IBIS, White-faced	JAS 1 rep(3); JEF 4 reps(61)
IBIS, Plegadis	JEF 5 reps(311)
SPOONBILL, Roseate	JEF 8 reps(257)
STORK, Wood	HAI-SILS 9/28(22) KS
VULTURE, Black	JEF 9 reps(94)
VULTURE, Turkey	HAI 1 rep(1); JAS 1 rep(1); JEF 12 reps(58)
OSPREY	JEF 9/17(1) MC09; JEF-TX87 9/18(1) JAW
KITE, White-tailed	JEF 5 reps(6)
KITE, Mississippi	JEF-SW 9/11(1) JAW
HARRIER, Northern	JEF 9/17(1) MC09; JEF 9/17(1) MC11; JEF 9/17(1) MC12
HAWK, Sharp-shinned	JEF 9/17(1) MC01; JEF 9/17(1) MC06
HAWK, Cooper's	JEF 9/17(1) MC05; JEF 9/17(1) MC7/8
HAWK, Red-shouldered	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 7 reps(14)
HAWK, Broad-winged	HAI-SILS 9/28(8) KS; JEF 9/3(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 9/3(1) JAW; JEF 9/4(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 9/5(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/11(1) JAW; JEF 9/17(1) MC01; JEF 9/17(2) MC03; JEF 9/17(1) MC10; JEF 9/17(1) MC7/8; JEF-SW 9/18(5) JAW; JEF-TX87 9/18(1) JAW
HAWK, Swainson's	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 1 rep(2)
HAWK, Red-tailed	JEF 9/17(3) MC7/8
MERLIN	JEF-TX87 9/11(1) JAW
RAIL, Clapper	JEF 2 reps(31)
GALLINULE, Purple	JEF 9/17(3) MC7/8
MOORHEN, Common	JEF 5 reps(153)
PLOVER, Black-bellied	JEF 4 reps(46)
PLOVER, Snowy	JEF 9/17(24) MC11; JEF-SRSP 9/18(18) JAW
PLOVER, Semipalmated	JEF 1 rep(65)
PLOVER, Piping	JEF 2 reps(8)
KILLDEER	JAS 2 reps(3); JEF 14 reps(148)
STILT, Black-necked	HAI 1 rep(1); JAS 1 rep(4); JEF 7 reps(1013)
AVOCET, American	JAS 1 rep(1); JEF 4 reps(372)
YELLOWLEGS, Greater	JEF 7 reps(49)
YELLOWLEGS, Lesser	JAS 1 rep(2); JEF 5 reps(36)
YELLOWLEGS species	JEF 1 rep(1)
WILLET	JEF 6 reps(92)
SANDPIPER, Spotted	JEF 2 reps(6)
SANDPIPER, Upland	JEF 9/4(2) JAW; JEF 9/17(2) MC11
CURLEW, Long-billed	JEF 1 rep(1)
GODWIT, Marbled	JEF 9/17(15) MC09; JEF-PI 9/18(2) JAW
TURNSTONE, Ruddy	JEF 3 reps(6)
SANDERLING	JEF 3 reps(92)
SANDPIPER, Semipalmated	JEF-TP 9/17(1) MC5T
SANDPIPER, Western	JEF 3 reps(2136)
SANDPIPER, Peep	HAI 1 rep(4); JEF 5 reps(1050)
SANDPIPER, Least	JEF 6 reps(702)
SANDPIPER, Baird's	JEF-TP 9/4(7) JAW; JEF-TP 9/17(3) MC5T
SANDPIPER, Pectoral	JEF 3 reps(24)

SANDPIPER, Stilt JEF-TP 9/11(20) JAW; JEF 9/17(50)
MC09; JEF-TP 9/17(19) MC5T; JEF-PI 9/18(55) JAW

DOWITCHER, Short-billed JEF 1 rep(1)

DOWITCHER, Long-billed HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 4 reps(415)

PHALAROPE, Wilson's JEF-TP 9/4(8) JAW; JEF-TP 9/17(35)
MC5T

GULL, Laughing HAI 1 rep(25); JAS 1 rep(35); JEF 12
reps(3813)

GULL, Franklin's JEF-TP 9/17(4) MC5T

GULL, Ring-billed HAI-SILS 9/24(2) KS; JAS 9/24(2)
JAW; JEF 9/17(1) MC09; JEF 9/17(2) MC11; JEF-PI 9/18(1)
JAW

GULL, Herring JEF 9/17(4) MC06; JEF 9/17(1)
MC11; JEF-SRSP 9/18(1) JAW

TERN, Gull-billed JAS 9/24(2) JAW; JEF 9/17(2) MC09;
JEF 9/17(10) MC11; JEF-SRSP 9/18(15) JAW

TERN, Caspian JAS 1 rep(4); JEF 3 reps(76)

TERN, Royal HAI 1 rep(1); JAS 1 rep(4); JEF 4
reps(317)

TERN, Sandwich JEF 1 rep(3)

TERN, Forster's JAS 1 rep(15); JEF 9 reps(685)

TERN, Least JAS 1 rep(2); JEF 4 reps(143)

TERN, Black JEF 6 reps(676); JAS 1 rep(1)

SKIMMER, Black HAI 1 rep(1); JAS 1 rep(1); JEF 3
reps(136)

DOVE, Rock JEF 7 reps(101)

COLLARED-DOVE, Eurasian JEF 10 reps(50)

DOVE, White-winged JEF 9 reps(35)

DOVE, Mourning JEF 17 reps(779)

DOVE, Inca JEF 5 reps(15)

CUCKOO, Yellow-billed JEF 1 rep(1)

OWL, Barn JEF-SW 9/3(1) JAW; JEF 9/17(1)
MC01; JEF 9/17(1) MC11

OWL, Great Horned JEF-SW 9/4(2) MA

OWL, Barred JEF 9/17(1) MC03

NIGHTHAWK, Common HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 1 rep(3)

WILL'S-WIDOW, Chuck- JEF-SW 9/3(2) JAW; JEF-SW 9/4(1)
MA; JEF 9/17(1) MC09; JEF 9/17(4) MC10; JEF-SW 9/18(6)
JAW

WHIP-POOR-WILL, JEF-SW 9/3(2) JAW

SWIFT, Chimney HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 5 reps(606)

HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr. HAI 4 reps(95); JAS 5 reps(85); JEF
15 reps(531)

HUMMINGBIRD, Black-chin. JEF 9/17(1) MC06

HUMMINGBIRD, Broad-tailed JEF-NEDR 9/5(1) JAW

HUMMINGBIRD species JEF-TX87 9/5(1) JAW; JEF 9/17(2)
MC01

KINGFISHER, Belted JEF-TX87 9/3(1) JAW; JEF-TX87
9/5(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 9/11(7) JAW; JEF 9/17(2) MC01; JEF
9/17(1) MC05; JEF 9/17(5) MC06; JEF 9/17(4) MC09; JEF
9/17(1) MC7/8; JEF-TX87 9/18(1) JAW

WOODPECKER, Red-bellied HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 6 reps(25)

WOODPECKER, Downy HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 10 reps(30)

FLICKER, Northern JEF 9/17(1) MC03

WOODPECKER, Pileated JEF 1 rep(5)

FLYCATCHER, Olive-sided JEF-SW 9/4(1) MA

WOOD-PEWEE, Eastern JEF 9 reps(22)

FLYCATCHER, Yellow-bellied JEF-SW 9/4(2) MA; JEF-SW 9/5(1)
JAW; JEF-SW 9/11(4) JAW; JEF 9/17(2) MC10; JEF 9/17(1)
MC7/8; JEF-SW 9/18(3) JAW

FLYCATCHER, Acadian JEF-SW 9/3(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/4(3)
MA; JEF 9/17(1) MC02

FLYCATCHER, Willow JEF-SW 9/3(2) JAW

FLYCATCHER, Trail's JEF-SRSP 9/4(1) MA; JEF 9/17(1)
MC10; JEF 9/17(2) MC11; JEF-SW 9/18(1) JAW

FLYCATCHER, Least JEF-SW 9/4(6) MA; JEF-SW 9/11(2)
JAW; JEF 9/17(1) MC09; JEF 9/17(3) MC10; JEF 9/17(1)
MC7/8; JEF-SW 9/18(6) JAW

EMPIDONAX species JEF 3 reps(25)

PHOEBE, Eastern JEF 9/17(2) MC03

FLYCATCHER, Gt. Crested JEF-SW 9/3(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/4(3)
MA; JEF-SW 9/5(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/11(5) JAW; JEF 9/17(3)
MC02; JEF 9/17(4) MC03; JEF 9/17(1) MC09; JEF 9/17(8)
MC10; JEF 9/17(4) MC7/8; JEF-SW 9/18(4) JAW

KINGBIRD, Western JEF 9/4(1) JAW

KINGBIRD, Eastern JEF 10 reps(74)

FLYCATCHER, Scissor-tailed JEF 9 reps(77)

SHRIKE, Loggerhead JEF 15 reps(124)

VIREO, White-eyed JEF 6 reps(18)

VIREO, Warbling JEF-SW 9/11(1) JAW; JEF-SW
9/18(1) JAW

VIREO, Red-eyed JEF 3 reps(4)

JAY, Blue JEF 14 reps(134)

CROW, American JAS 1 rep(2); JEF 3 reps(31)

CROW, Fish JEF 9/17(6) MC03; JEF 9/17(12)
MC05

CROW, species JEF 6 reps(16)

SWALLOW, Tree JEF 4 reps(142)

SWALLOW, N. Rough-winged JEF 1 rep(30)

SWALLOW, Bank JEF 4 reps(186)

SWALLOW, Cliff JEF 9/3(6) JAW; JEF 9/17(5) MC09

SWALLOW, Barn JEF 10 reps(424)

SWALLOW species JEF 2 reps(59)

CHICKADEE, Carolina JAS 4 reps(4); JEF 12 reps(42)

TITMOUSE, Tufted JAS 1 rep(1); JEF 3 reps(16)

WREN, Carolina HAI 1 rep(2); JAS 2 reps(2); JEF 10
reps(39)

WREN, House JEF 9/17(1) MC01

WREN, Marsh JEF-TP 9/17(1) MC5T

KINGLET, Ruby-crowned JEF 9/17(1) MC06

GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray JAS 3 reps(3); JEF 11 reps(113)

BLUEBIRD, Eastern HAI 1 rep(3); JAS 1 rep(1); JEF 3
reps(8)

ROBIN, American JEF-NEDR 9/1(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR
9/2(10) JAW; JEF-NEDR 9/5(1) JAW; JEF 9/17(36) MC03; JEF
9/17(6) MC06; JEF 9/17(2) MC7/8

CATBIRD, Gray JEF 9/17(1) MC06

MOCKINGBIRD, Northern HAI 1 rep(5); JEF 15 reps(396)

THRASHER, Brown JEF-SW 9/4(1) MA; JEF 9/17(1)
MC03; JEF 9/17(3) MC10; JEF 9/17(1) MC7/8; JEF-SW 9/18(3)
JAW

STARLING, European JEF 16 reps(613)

WARBLER, Blue-winged JEF-BMT 9/8(1) HJ; JEF 9/17(3)
MC10; JEF-SW 9/18(1) JAW

PARULA, Northern JEF 4 reps(5)

WARBLER, Yellow JEF 4 reps(11)

WARBLER, Black-thr. Green JEF-SW 9/4(1) MA; JEF 9/17(1)
MC10; JEF-SW 9/18(1) JAW

WARBLER, Townsend's JEF 9/17(1) MC10; JEF-SW 9/18(1)
JAW

WARBLER, Yellow-throated JEF-BMT 9/8(1) HJ

WARBLER, Pine JEF 3 reps(10)

WARBLER, Prairie JEF-SRSP 9/4(1) MA; JEF-SW 9/4(1)
MA

WARBLER, Blackpoll JEF 9/17(1) MC10

WARBLER, Black-and-white JEF 6 reps(16)

REDSTART, American JEF 9/17(1) MC10

WARBLER, Prothonotary JEF 9/17(1) MC03

WARBLER, Worm-eating JEF-SW 9/11(1) LB

OVENBIRD JEF 9/17(1) MC10; JEF-SW 9/18(1)
JAW

WATERTHRUSH, Northern JEF 4 reps(6)

WARBLER, Kentucky JEF 2 reps(2)

WARBLER, Mourning JEF-SW 9/4(3) MA; JEF-SW 9/5(2)
JAW; JEF-SW 9/11(1) LB; JEF-SW 9/18(5) JAW

YELLOWTHROAT, Common JEF 7 reps(9)

WARBLER, Hooded JEF 5 reps(14)

WARBLER, Wilson's JEF-SW 9/4(1) MA; JEF 9/17(1)
MC7/8; JEF-TP 9/17(1) MC5T; JEF-SW 9/18(1) JAW

WARBLER, Canada JEF-SW 9/4(2) MA; JEF-SW 9/11(1)
JAW; JEF 9/17(6) MC10; JEF-SW 9/18(5) JAW

CHAT, Yellow-breasted JEF 5 reps(13)

TANAGER, Summer JEF 3 reps(3)

TANAGER, Scarlet JEF 9/17(1) MC03

SPARROW, Seaside JEF 1 rep(25)

CARDINAL, Northern HAI 1 rep(8); JEF 14 reps(127)

GROSBEAK, Blue JEF 9/4(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/4(1) MA;
JEF 9/17(1) MC04; JEF 9/17(1) MC7/8; JEF-SW 9/18(1) JAW

BUNTING, Indigo JEF 9/17(6) MC05; JEF 9/17(1)
MC10; JEF 9/17(1) MC7/8

BUNTING, Painted JEF-SW 9/4(1) MA; JEF-SW 9/5(1)
JAW; JEF 9/17(1) MC10; JEF-SW 9/18(6) JAW

DICKCISSEL	JEF 1 rep(1)
BLACKBIRD, Red-winged	JEF 9 reps(67)
MEADOWLARK, Eastern	JEF 2 reps(16)
MEADOWLARK species	JEF 1 rep(1)
GRACKLE, Common	JEF 9 reps(151)
GRACKLE, Boat-tailed	JEF 12 reps(305)
GRACKLE, Great-tailed	JEF 14 reps(1375)
GRACKLE, Gt./Boat tailed	JEF 3 reps(1093)
COWBIRD, Brown-headed	JEF 3 reps(20)
ORIOLE, Orchard	JEF 4 reps(9)
ORIOLE, Baltimore	JEF-SW 9/4(8) MA; JEF-BMT 9/8(1)
	HJ; JEF-SW 9/11(2) JAW; JEF 9/17(5) MC03; JEF 9/17(1)
	MC04; JEF 9/17(4) MC06; JEF 9/17(5) MC10; JEF 9/17(2)
	MC7/8; JEF-SW 9/18(15) JAW; ORA-ORG 9/11(1) SBE
SPARROW, House	HAI 1 rep(6); JEF 9 reps(129)
Number of Species	183
Number of Individuals	29017

County Abbreviations

HAI – Hardin; JAS – Jasper; JEF – Jefferson; ORA – Orange

Location Codes

BMT – Beaumont; NEDR – Nederland; ORG – Orange; PI – Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; SILS – Silsbee; SRSP – Sea Rim State Park; SW – Sabine Woods; TP – Tyrrell Park incl. Cattail Marsh; TX87 – Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim SP

Observer Abbreviations

HJ – Harrison Jordan; JAW – John Whittle; JJW – John and Jana Whittle; KS – Ken Sztraky; LB – Lynn Barber; MA – Mike Austin; MC01 – Migration Count – Area 1; MC02 – Area 2; MC03 – Area 3; MC04 – Area 4; MC05 – Area 5; MC06 – Area 5 (Tyrrell Park); MC09 – Area 6; MC10 – Area 7/8; MC11 – Area 9; MC12 – Area 10; MC5T – Area 11; MC7/8 – Area 12; SBE – Sheri Bethard; SM – Steve Mayes.

Bird Alert

A good chunk of fall Passerine migration probably went unrecorded this year. Post hurricane, there were several days with good numbers of warbler species, and stragglers continue to be seen.

As this is written in late October, attention is turning to the wintering species. A good number of ducks is already present in Cattail Marsh at Tyrrell Park in Beaumont. Several sparrow species have been reported in the places that sparrows usually first appear – along the immediate coast at places such as the Willows at Sea Rim and along the road to the Pilot Station at Texas Point.

Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza

by Richard and Kathi Orgeron

We attended Gulf Coast Bird Observatory's 2005 Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza September 10 at GCBO's Lake Jackson facility and are definitely going back next year. Steady rain hampered hummingbird and songbird banding, but activities and exhibits were held under cover, and there was a steady turnout of visitors. The Nature Store was excellent with lots of hummer feeders and good bird and nature books for adults and children. A variety of hummingbird plants were available. The highlight of our visit was "Hummingbird Q & A" by hummer bander Charlie Brower, who fielded many questions and repeatedly emphasized the importance of keeping feeders clean. Brower has seen many bills deformed from feeder fungus. Here are some of the questions and answers.

Optimum height for a feeder? High enough to keep cats from catching birds. Hummers feed on flowers near the ground all the way to flowers up in trees.

How long does a ruby throat remain in your yard—several days or longer? The hummingbirds you see change from day to day. They are migrating; you see a male or female, and they all look alike, so you think it is the same bird each day.

Group feeders close together or space them out around the yard? If you live in a transition area where hummers are moving through during migration, it does not matter. Don't put out more feeders than you can keep clean.

Leave feeders out all year long? You can leave feeders out all year long, but you must regularly service

the feeders and keep them clean. Don't put out a feeder and abandon it.

Why do hummers claim a feeder and keep others from using it? A hummingbird does not understand that a well looked after feeder is a bottomless source of food that can feed lots of birds. It thinks of feeders in terms of flowers containing finite amounts of food. A hummer claims a certain amount of flowers and will claim a feeder. Late in the evening, hummers are more likely to share feeders due to the need to get food to last through the night.

Do ruby throats stay here in winter? Some do, for reasons such as a bird lacking a migration impulse or a bird that for physical reasons knows it cannot migrate. The hummers found in Southeast Texas during winter are most likely black chinned, rufous or *Selasphorus* birds.

How do you tell the difference between black chinned and ruby throated hummingbirds? Adult males are easy. It is difficult to tell the difference between immatures and females, and there are birds that have been incorrectly banded. A black chinned has a longer bill, slightly curved down. When feeding, a black chinned flicks its rump, but if feeding on flowers with no perch, a ruby throat might, too. The best way to tell is to look at the outermost primary, p10.

If you could have only one plant, what should it be? Scarlet sage or scarlet salvia, which is easy to reseed.

A good hummingbird book? There are many; the Peterson hummingbird guide is one.

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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) 728-6957
Texas (Houston)	(713) 369-9673
Abilene	(915) 691-8981
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Ft. Worth (N. Cent)	(817) 329-1930
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N. E. Texas	(903) 839-4804
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