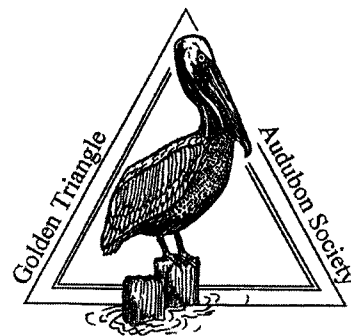


The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 13 No. 11

November 2007

**Annual Meeting
Thursday, November 15, 2007
7:00 PM, "The Green Barn"
adjacent to the Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont**

**Hummingbirds of Texas
Shirley and Sid Rucker**

Shirley and Sid Rucker are a husband and wife nature photography team, who photograph birds (specializing in hummingbirds), mammals, insects and other nature subjects. They are full time travelers and have traveled the continental United States extensively. Their list of publication credits include national and international magazines, books, and calendars. Frequent publications are: Wildbird magazine, Texas Parks & Wildlife, International Wildlife, Ranger Rick, National Geographic World (cover), National Geographic books, Smithsonian, Donald and Lillian Stokes' "The Hummingbird Book", and Connie Toops' "Hummingbirds: Jewels in Flight".

Their program is based on the book, "Hummingbirds of Texas", published by Texas A.& M. University Press last year. Shirley and Sid were the photographers for the book, a photography project which lasted four seasons. Nineteen species of hummingbirds have been documented in Texas and all are featured in the book with photographs.

The slide show will consist of pictures of the birds, stories related to the photography of them, and photographic techniques used. It will end with slides of hummers in flight with music background.

The Ruckers will have copies of "Hummingbirds of Texas" available for purchase.

As is also our November tradition, this is our potluck dinner meeting, and we ask you to bring something if you are able. We will plan on having the doors open by 6:00 p.m. and the program will start at 7:00 p.m. sharp. This is our annual meeting and we will also be holding our elections.

The Brown Pelican

Vol. 13, No.11 November 2007

Golden Triangle Audubon Society

See Web Site for more
information
www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

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Calendar of Events

Saturday November 10. Operation Green Streets. The Golden Triangle Group of the Sierra Club, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, the Texas Forest Service, and Time Warner Cable, is organizing Operation Green Streets, a program to replace and replenish the urban tree canopy that was destroyed by Hurricane Rita by distributing free trees to be planted in front yards of residential homes within city limits in Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange and Tyler counties. Volunteers are being solicited to help with distribution of the trees at multiples sites within the listed counties. The distribution days will be November 10, 2007 and February 9, 2008. To volunteer to help distribute trees, you may email ogs@tfs.tamu.edu or call toll free 1-800-512-8733. For more information on the program, go to <http://operationgreenstreets.tamu.edu>

Thursday November 15. Annual Meeting. Sid and Shirley Rucker on Hummingbirds. Details on page 1

Saturday November 17. Field Trip to West Jefferson County This trip will explore west Jefferson County, just as the wintering birds should be arriving. The trip will likely find raptors, sparrows and Sandhill Cranes, and, depending on the presence or absence of water in the rice fields, waterfowl. Last year, this trip encountered a Red Phalarope on South China Road while checking for a Golden Eagle that had been seen there the previous weekend.

Meet at the intersection of FM365 and Johnson Road (on the "north/west" side of Johnson Road at that intersection). From the intersection of Interstate 10 and FM365 in Fannett, proceed along FM365 in the direction that is marked as "north" (even though it is actually very nearly due west at that point) for about six miles. Shortly after you cross over the second of two bridges (this one over Ground Bridge Gully) and emerge out of the woodlands, South China Road goes to the right (east then north) and immediately afterwards, on the left, is Johnson Road. There is a sign for the G and A Turf Farm on Johnson Road at the intersection. Contact Steve Mayes

sgmayes@hotmail.com, or call 409-722-5807 for further information.

Saturday December 15. Turkey Creek Christmas Bird Count. Meet at the Big Thicket Visitor Center on US69 at FM420, about 7 miles north of Kountze at 6:30 a.m. Tentative information. Check for any changes before coming. Contact Paula Rivers at 409-951-6720 or John Whittle at john.whittle@lamar.edu or 409-722-4193 or for more details.

Saturday January 5. Beech Creek Christmas Bird Count. Meet at the Corp of Engineers Picnic Area on FM92 immediately north of the intersection with FM1746 in Town Bluff at 6:30 a.m. Check for any changes before coming. Contact Paula Rivers at 409-951-6720 or John Whittle at john.whittle@lamar.edu or 409-722-4193 or for more details.

Saturday December 29. Sea Rim State Park Christmas Bird Count. Meet outside the Olde Tyme Diner at the corner at the stop sign on Highway 87 in Sabine Pass at 7:00 a.m. Contact John Whittle at john.whittle@lamar.edu or 409-722-4193 or for more details.

Tuesday January 1, 2008. Orange County Christmas Bird Count. Contact Ken Sztraky at 409-385-2835 or kens@ih2000.net for more information.

Thursday January 17, 2008. Membership Meeting. Speaker (tentative) Dr. Andrew Kasner of Audubon Texas on the Texas Important Bird Area Program.

Saturday January 19, 2008 Field Trip to Katy Prairie/West Harris County.

This is always one of our most popular trips, looking for waterfowl, sparrows, raptors in Baer Creek Park and areas west of there that unfortunately are rapidly being consumed by development. Full details in future issues of the *Brown Pelican*.



Earth Share
OF TEXAS

Earth Share of Texas represents the Audubon Foundation of Texas and the National Audubon Society in payroll deduction plans for charitable giving. For information, call 1-800-GREENTX or email esbx@earthshare-texas.org.

The Continuing Attack and the Texas Bird Conservation Initiative

[We are in a time period when there are more habitat damaging projects being proposed than at any time in the last twenty or thirty years. This post by Ted Eubanks addresses some of them in detail, and mentions others. Not mentioned are wind energy projects — wind "farms" comprising large numbers of massive wind turbines proposed for offshore along the Upper Texas Coast, and also on Kenedy Ranch property adjacent to the Laguna Madre south and east of Kingsville. While wind as an energy source may be something we have to support, siting of the turbines is critical, and it seems that all the current proposals are in areas we can predict are migration corridors for birds or other areas of high bird activity. Editor]

..... Let me continue this thread with additional news about that area of the upper coast. Bolivar Flats, Galveston's East Beach (which includes Big Reef, the East End Lagoons, and Apffel Park), and the Pelican Island Lagoons represent a complex of waterbird and shorebird habitats that are used (at least to some degree) interchangeably. We demonstrated this many years ago when I color banded shorebirds at Bolivar Flats and tracked them as they appeared on East Beach and Pelican Island. The birds seem to move between these sites as tide levels and weather conditions change. In any case, I am certain that hundreds of thousands of individual birds depend on this complex of habitats during a single year.

The first component of this complex to be protected, Bolivar Flats, is now being threatened by a proposed housing development immediately adjacent to the sanctuary. More information is available from Houston Audubon at <http://www.houstonaudubon.org/index.cfm?act=Newsletter.cfm&category=News&newsletterid=1045&menugroup=Reference> [If this link no longer works when you want to read this information, go to www.houstonaudubon.org and look for a relevant link.] I urge you to write the Army Corps of Engineers and express your opposition to this project. [The initial comment period has ended; however, there will be additional opportunities to comments later in the process.]

The second component, Pelican Island Lagoons, is about to be threatened by a new container port being proposed by the ports of Houston and Galveston. Although I suspect that this proposal will unfold rather slowly over a number of years, the threat is no less real. At this moment the best we can do is to stay alert and to express our concerns when the opportunities arise. I will try to keep abreast of any new developments and post updates on [TEXBIRDS](http://www.texbirds.org).

Finally, Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson announced this week that the General Land Office and the city of Galveston are going to replenish the beaches between the east end of the island and 61st Street. They are proposing to widen the beach by as much as 200 feet. What the Land Commissioner did not mention is where the sand for this replenishment would come from. My understanding is that they are looking at the South Jetty. In other words, they are

considering Big Reef and the East End sand flats as their sources of sand.

Needless to say, there should be no birder in Texas nor one who has ever traveled here (or plans to) that should not be alarmed by these developments. The Bolivar Flats complex is one of the most important shorebird habitats in this country, and the complex is being attacked from all angles. If you care about the birds of our state, the time to stay disengaged has passed.

This is precisely why a number of us have been working to organize the Texas Bird Conservation Alliance and the Texas Bird Conservation Initiative. Whether it be the border wall in South Texas, the continuing efforts of Dallas to drain the Neches or the attacks on shorebird and wetland bird habitats along the Texas coast, these threats are real and they are immediate.

What can you do? First, get involved in the projects nearest to you. There is no place in our state where we can be complacent (the Christmas Mountains sale in West Texas, the continuing decline of Lesser Prairie-Chickens in the Panhandle, rampant over development in the Hill Country, etc.). Sign the on-line petition opposing the Marquette project, call Galveston's mayor and city council expressing your concerns, write the Army Corps of Engineers opposing the development at Bolivar Flats, participate in the next march opposing the border wall, and otherwise get involved.

Second, join us in February in McAllen where we will formalize our Texas Bird Conservation Initiative.

Third, become involved in citizen science. The latest turn of events regarding East Beach is precisely why I have continued to promote Texas eBird. If we are going to successfully demonstrate the value of these sand flats to shorebirds (particularly those listed such as the Piping Plovers) we need good numbers. We need methodical, consistent, and dependable surveying of these sites and habitats that are being threatened. Please, if you bird East Beach this winter enter your sightings into Texas eBird. Your numbers, your counts, and your observations are important!

Finally, help us get the public involved in our efforts. The birds of Texas are not the exclusive interest or property of birders. We need more effort to engage the public in this discussion. For example, between now and February you will see an interpretive exhibit (sponsored, in part, by Houston's Birds and Bayous initiative) about the birds of the upper coast at Hobby Airport in Houston. Every passenger flying in and out of that airport must pass the exhibit. In early February the exhibit will be moved to Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston for an additional extended stay. In 2006 these two airports served more than 50 million passengers. In my opinion, we need more efforts of this sort to raise the awareness of the general public about Texas birds and their plight.

See you in McAllen.

*Ted Eubanks, Galveston <eubanks@FERMATAINC.COM>
Posted on TEXBIRDS on Thu, 25 Oct 2007*

Field Trip to Sabine Woods – 20 October 2007

Fall migration is a funny time and you never know what you will find. Fewer birders make a great effort to get out in the fall than in the spring so the patterns of species occurrence are, perhaps, less well understood. A unique mixture of migrants and wintering birds creates an exciting time for birders as they try to find rare migrants or overshooting winter birds. And birds are not the only interesting creatures about on a nice autumn day as the participants on the October Golden Triangle Audubon field trip would find out.

The day started out at the Texas Ornithological Society's Sabine Woods Sanctuary, one of the top birding locations on the upper Texas coast (or anywhere else). And what a start it was! One of the first birds located was a Red-breasted Nuthatch. Quickly, the birders learned that there was actually a pair of these birds in the oaks near the sanctuary entrance. The birds gave their "yank!" calls and gave good looks to all the birders. Two more of these special birds were located at "the Willows" at Sea Rim State Park. This species is among a number that don't normally winter on the immediate coast but sometimes get blown down during fall frontal passages. The day immediately after a front in October or November is a great time to hit the coastal spots to look for species like Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Winter Wren and Northern Flicker. Often, these species will realize that this is not where they are "supposed" to be and will quickly head back north but, in the mean time, they can be much easier to see in these coastal spots than in their usual winter haunts up in the Big Thicket. Hopefully, a few of these birds will hang around for Christmas Count season!

Fall migration tends to be a bit more drawn out and less concentrated than spring migration. This means that you may have fewer really intense days of many migrants but the migration period lasts longer and the chance to see some of the migrating species may actually be greater. Some nice migrants were seen on this day. Warblers such as Northern Parula, Black-throated Green Warbler, American Redstart, Hooded Warbler, Magnolia Warbler and Black and White Warbler were all recorded at Sabine Woods. Several of these species were also recorded at the Willows and Palm Warblers were recorded at the mulberry trees near McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge and on Pilot Station Road. Several White-eyed Vireos were also recorded along with Eastern Wood-Pewees and a single Empidonax Flycatcher that defied species identification. Other migrants seen included Summer Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Indigo Bunting.

Some migrants are actually easier to find in the fall than in the spring. Nashville Warblers and Wilson's Warblers are quite common in the fall but can be difficult to locate even on those big days in April. Mourning Warbler, though never easy to see, is more common in autumn and the Black-throated Blue Warbler (though never common in Texas) is a little easier to find. On this October day, this group was represented by a few Nashville Warblers and, especially, by a female Black-throated Blue Warbler all seen at Sabine Woods. Unfortunately, only a couple of people got to see this uncommon bird but there's always next year!

Raptors also put on a nice show on the day. An Osprey was found on the Pilot Road while a Northern Harrier was

hunting over the marsh across from Sabine Woods. Sabine Woods also had a Merlin fly over while birders had to go to the Sabine Pass Cemetery to find an American Kestrel. The stretch of Highway 87 between Sabine Woods and Sea Rim State Park is often productive and produced Red-tailed Hawk, White-tailed Kite and Crested Caracara on this day. A nice Cooper's Hawk was found near McFaddin. And the night time avian predators were also represented as the group kicked up a Barn Owl early in the day at Sabine Woods.

More typical wintering species also began showing up on this day. Species like Blue-headed Vireo, Eastern Phoebe, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Lincoln's Sparrow and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher were well represented. A less typical wintering species (at Sabine Woods, anyway) is Eastern Bluebird but a small flock of was found at the sanctuary. A pair of overshooting Northern "Yellow-shafted" Flickers was found flying along a fence line along Highway 87 near the H&B Ranch. A Western Kingbird seen across from the new McFaddin headquarters building was also a nice find.

But birds were not the only interesting creatures seen on the day. Butterflies were out in force and the bright orange Gulf Fritillary was among the most common. Other species seen included, Monarch, Red Admiral, Question Mark, Giant Swallowtail, Pipevine Swallowtail and Long-tailed Skipper, among others. A huge Black Witch Moth was also seen fluttering through the woods resembling a bat more than moth. One of Sabine Woods' resident Nine-banded Armadillos put in an appearance. But the best show of the day was put on by several Bobcats. The first was an adult seen slinking through the underbrush at Sabine Woods. Unfortunately, only a few people got a look at this individual. Fortunately, better looks were had at a family of Bobcats at the Willows. A mother and her three kittens were on the boardwalk and were spotted initially by Gerald Duhon. The mother quickly hopped down into the marsh when she realized they were being watched and was followed by her kittens. But one kitten did not cooperate as well as the others (there's one in every family!). Apparently, this little one did not like getting its feet wet and it hopped back up onto the boardwalk almost as soon as it had hopped down! It spent about a minute cleaning its feet while the group all got good looks. Great looks at a normally elusive species!

So that's October on the upper Texas coast. Some migrants, some wintering birds, some overshoots and some surprises! What more could you ask for?

The following species were recorded by the trip leader:

American White Pelican(1), Brown Pelican(9), Neotropic Cormorant(25), Great Blue Heron(4), Great Egret(24), Snowy Egret(11), Tricolored Heron(5), White Ibis(22), Roseate Spoonbill(27), Black Vulture(7), Turkey Vulture(4), Wood(?) Duck(1), Osprey(1), White-tailed Kite(1), Northern Harrier(1), Cooper's Hawk(1), Red-tailed Hawk(3), Crested Caracara(1), American Kestrel(2), Merlin(2), Clapper Rail(10), King Rail(5), Common Moorhen(1), Black-bellied Plover(1), Semipalmated Plover(1), Greater Yellowlegs(1), Willet(3), Sanderling(3), Laughing Gull(20), Ring-billed Gull(1), Royal

continued on page 7

Bird Sightings – September 2007

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. 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." The range of dates for which the species was reported is shown in parentheses in a column before the sighting details or report summaries.

Commentary: September is our "big" month for fall migration, although October brings many migrants also. Two sightings stand out as worthy of comment this month. A White-breasted Nuthatch was seen very briefly in Sabine Woods on September 23 by Terry Baldwin. Despite much effort, this bird could not be relocated to fully confirm the ID. The other sighting has actually turned into a series of sightings, as two subadult/second year White-tailed Hawks, first seen September 9, have apparently taken up residence along Highway 87 across from Sea Rim State Park near the H&B Ranch.

WHISTLING-DUCK, Black-bell. (2-15) JEF 3 reps(178)
WHISTLING-DUCK, Fulvous (15-15) JEF 2 reps(93)
DUCK, Wood (15-15) JEF-TP 9/15(3) MC5
DUCK, Mottled (15-15) JEF 2 reps(13)
TEAL, Blue-winged (3-29) JEF 6 reps(426)
SHOVELER, Northern (15-15) JEF 9/15(7) MC9
DUCK, Ruddy (15-15) JEF-TP 9/15(1) MC5
GREBE, Pied-billed (15-15) JEF 3 reps(35)
PELICAN, Amer. White (3-15) JEF 2 reps(18)
PELICAN, Brown (2-15) JEF-SRSP 9/2(10) JAW;
 JEF 9/15(2) MC9; JEF-SRSP 9/15(19) MC11
CORMORANT, Neotropic (2-23) JEF 10 reps(247)
CORMORANT, Double-crest. (15-15) JEF 9/15(3) MC78; JEF-TP
 9/15(6) MC5
CORMORANT, Species (15-15) JEF 9/15(1) MC3
ANHINGA (15-15) JEF 2 reps(8)
BITTERN, Least (15-15) JEF-TP 9/15(2) MC5
HERON, Great Blue (2-16) HAI 3 reps(5); JEF 11
 reps(41)
EGRET, Great (2-24) JEF 18 reps(288); SAB 1
 rep(1)
EGRET, Snowy (2-24) JEF 19 reps(604)
HERON, Little Blue (2-15) JEF 10 reps(25)
HERON, Tricolored (9-16) JEF 5 reps(32)
EGRET, Cattle (2-24) JEF 17 reps(2201)
HERON, Green (3-29) HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 9
 reps(23)
NIGHT-HERON, Black-crown. (9-15) JEF 2 reps(13)
NIGHT-HERON, Yellow-cr. (15-15) JEF 2 reps(3)
IBIS, White (2-23) JEF 13 reps(506)
IBIS, White-faced (15-16) JEF 4 reps(105)
IBIS, Plegadis (3-15) JEF 6 reps(889)
SPOONBILL, Roseate (3-15) JEF 5 reps(24)
VULTURE, Black (2-30) JEF 9 reps(58)
VULTURE, Turkey (2-30) HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 19
 reps(105)
OSPREY (15-29) JEF 9/15(2) MC6; JEF-
 TX87 9/23(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/29(1) SM
KITE, White-tailed (28-28) JEF 1 rep(1)
KITE, Mississippi (15-15) JEF-SW 9/15(1) MC10
HARRIER, Northern (9-29) JEF 9/9(1) JAW; JEF
 9/15(1) MC6; JEF-SW 9/29(1) SM
HARRIER, Northern (9-29) JEF 3 reps(3)
HAWK, Sharp-shinned (8-30) JEF 8 reps(11)
HAWK, Cooper's (2-2) JEF-SW 9/2(1) JAW
ACCIPITER species (8-30) JEF-SW 9/30(1) SM; SAB
 9/8(1) JFW
HAWK, Red-shouldered (11-30) JEF 11 reps(15)
HAWK, Broad-winged (3-30) JEF-TX87 9/3(1) JAW; JEF
 9/9(1) JAW; JEF 9/15(3) MC2; JEF 9/15(2) MC3; JEF 9/15(1)
 MC78; JEF-SW 9/15(1) MC10; JEF-SW 9/28(4) SM; JEF-SW
 9/30(1) OW; JEF-SW 9/30(3) SM
HAWK, Swainson's (15-15) JEF 2 reps(3)
HAWK, White-tailed (9-28) JEF-TX87 9/9(2) JAW;
 JEF-SRSP 9/15(1) MC11; JEF-TX87 9/28(2) SM

HAWK, Red-tailed (3-18) HAI-SILS 9/3(1) MG; HAI-
 SILS 9/18(1) MG; JEF 9/9(1) JAW; JEF 9/15(1) MC78; JEF-TP
 9/15(1) MC5
CARACARA, Crested (9-29) JEF-TX87 9/9(1) JAW;
 JEF-SRSP 9/15(2) MC11; JEF-TX87 9/28(2) SM; JEF-TX87
 9/29(1) SM
KESTREL, American (15-15) JEF 1 rep(1)
MERLIN (14-23) JEF-SW 9/14(1) JHH; JEF-
 SRSP 9/15(1) MC11; JEF-SRSP 9/23(2) JAW
FALCON, Peregrine (14-29) JEF-SW 9/14(1) JHH; JEF-
 SW 9/28(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/29(1) SM
RAIL, Clapper (15-15) JEF 1 rep(19)
RAIL, King (15-30) JEF 9/15(1) MC9; JEF-SW
 9/28(2) SM; JEF-SW 9/29(4) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(3) SM
SORA (15-15) JEF-TP 9/15(1) MC5
GALLINULE, Purple (15-15) JEF-TP 9/15(3) MC5
MOORHEN, Common (3-15) JEF 5 reps(77)
COOT, American (15-15) JEF 1 rep(2)
PLOVER, Black-bellied (2-15) JEF 5 reps(37)
PLOVER, Snowy (2-15) JEF-MCFW 9/2(1) JAW;
 JEF-SRSP 9/15(11) MC11
PLOVER, Wilson's (2-2) JEF 1 rep(4)
PLOVER, Semipalmated (15-15) JEF 1 rep(3)
PLOVER, Piping (15-15) JEF 2 reps(11)
KILLDEER (2-23) JEF 11 reps(113)
STILT, Black-necked (3-15) JEF 8 reps(431)
AVOCET, American (3-3) JEF 1 rep(1)
SANDPIPER, Spotted (15-15) JEF 2 reps(10)
YELLOWLEGS, Greater (3-15) JEF 5 reps(32)
WILLET (2-15) JEF 4 reps(14)
YELLOWLEGS, Lesser (3-15) JEF 2 reps(70)
YELLOWLEGS species (9-9) JEF 1 rep(1)
GODWIT, Marbled (15-15) JEF-SRSP 9/15(1) MC11
TURNSTONE, Ruddy (2-2) JEF 1 rep(1)
KNOT, Red (15-15) JEF-SRSP 9/15(2) MC11
SANDERLING (2-15) JEF 4 reps(50)
SANDPIPER, Semipalmated (3-15) JEF-TP 9/3(2) JAW; JEF
 9/15(10) MC2
SANDPIPER, Western (3-15) JEF 4 reps(25)
SANDPIPER, Least (3-15) JEF 4 reps(55)
SANDPIPER, Pectoral (15-15) JEF 1 rep(5)
SANDPIPER, Stilt (3-15) JEF-TP 9/3(30) JAW; JEF
 9/15(5) MC2
DOWITCHER, Long-billed (3-15) JEF 3 reps(39)
DOWITCHER species (15-15) JEF 1 rep(2)
PHALAROPE, Wilson's (3-3) JEF-TP 9/3(35) JAW
GULL, Laughing (2-23) JEF 11 reps(665)
GULL, Ring-billed (8-15) JEF 1 rep(3); SAB 1 rep(4)
GULL, Herring (15-15) JEF 9/15(1) MC6; JEF-
 MCFW 9/15(1) MC12; JEF-SRSP 9/15(2) MC11
TERN, Least (2-2) JEF 1 rep(1)
TERN, Gull-billed (15-15) JEF 9/15(1) MC78; JEF-
 SRSP 9/15(11) MC11
TERN, Caspian (15-15) JEF 2 reps(122)
TERN, Black (2-15) JEF 4 reps(160)

TERN, Common	(2-15)	JEF-MCFW 9/2(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP 9/15(5) MC11
TERN, Forster's	(2-23)	JEF 7 reps(114)
TERN, Royal	(2-15)	JEF 4 reps(127)
TERN, Sandwich	(2-2)	JEF 1 rep(1)
SKIMMER, Black	(15-15)	JEF 1 rep(1)
PIGEON, Rock	(2-25)	HAI 2 reps(19); JEF 9 reps(315)
COLLARED-DOVE, Eurasian	(9-24)	JEF 9 reps(142)
DOVE, White-winged	(1-30)	JEF 24 reps(279)
DOVE, Mourning	(2-24)	HAI 4 reps(74); JEF 19 reps(520)
DOVE, Inca	(10-24)	HAI 2 reps(4); JEF 4 reps(12)
CUCKOO, Yellow-billed	(3-30)	JEF 7 reps(7)
CUCKOO, Black-billed	(15-15)	JEF-SRSP 9/15(1) MC11
SCREECH-OWL, Eastern	(19-19)	JEF-NEDR 9/19(1) JAW
OWL, Great Horned	(14-14)	HAI-SILS 9/14(2) MG
OWL, Barred	(15-15)	JEF 9/15(2) MC78
NIGHTHAWK, Common	(2-15)	JEF 3 reps(4)
WILL'S-WIDOW, Chuck-	(15-29)	JEF-SW 9/15(1) MC10; JEF-SW 9/28(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/29(1) SM
SWIFT, Chimney	(3-30)	HAI 2 reps(18); JEF 9 reps(109)
HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr.	(1-30)	HAI 10 reps(30); JEF 52 reps(1139)
HUMMINGBIRD, Rufous	(11-23)	JEF-BMT 9/11(1) RHJ; JEF-NEDR 9/13(21) JJW; JEF-BMT 9/14(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 9/16(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 9/17(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 9/20(1) RHJ; JEF-NEDR 9/23(1) JAW
HUMMINGBIRD species	(8-15)	JEF 9/15(1) MC1; SAB 9/8(3) JFW
KINGFISHER, Belted	(2-30)	JEF 16 reps(41)
WOODPECKER, Red-headed	(1-24)	HAI-SILS 9/1(1) MG; JEF- BMT 9/24(1) RHJ
WOODPECKER, Red-bellied	(1-28)	HAI 8 reps(17); JEF 6 reps(41); SAB 1 rep(1)
WOODPECKER, Downy	(2-30)	HAI 5 reps(9); JEF 23 reps(46)
FLICKER, Northern	(4-15)	HAI-SILS 9/4(2) MG; JEF- TP 9/15(1) MC5
WOODPECKER, Pileated	(3-28)	HAI 6 reps(7); JEF 3 reps(13); SAB 1 rep(1)
FLYCATCHER, Olive-sided	(3-15)	JEF-SRSP 9/3(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP 9/9(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/15(1) MC10
WOOD-PEWEE, Eastern	(2-29)	HAI 5 reps(7); JEF 12 reps(63)
FLYCATCHER, Yellow-bellied	(3-30)	JEF-SW 9/3(1) JAW; JEF- SW 9/9(1) JAW; JEF 9/15(1) MC78; JEF-SW 9/15(1) MC10; JEF-SW 9/28(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/29(2) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(1) OW; JEF-SW 9/30(1) SM
FLYCATCHER, Acadian	(3-30)	JEF-SW 9/3(2) JAW; JEF 9/15(2) MC2; JEF-TP 9/15(1) MC5; JEF-SW 9/30(1) SM
FLYCATCHER, Willow	(15-15)	JEF 9/15(1) MC2
FLYCATCHER, Traill's	(2-30)	JEF-SW 9/2(1) JAW; JEF- SRSP 9/15(1) MC11; JEF-SW 9/15(1) MC10; JEF-SW 9/29(2) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(1) OW
FLYCATCHER, Least	(3-29)	JEF-SRSP 9/3(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/3(2) JAW; JEF-SRSP 9/9(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/15(2) MC10; JEF-SW 9/29(2) SM
EMPIDONAX species	(3-28)	JEF 11 reps(42)
PHOEBE, Eastern	(15-15)	JEF 9/15(1) MC3
FLYCATCHER, Vermilion	(15-15)	JEF 9/15(1) MC78
FLYCATCHER, Gt. Crested	(1-30)	HAI 3 reps(3); JEF 13 reps(29)
KINGBIRD, Eastern	(1-16)	HAI 4 reps(38); JEF 9 reps(25)
FLYCATCHER, Scissor-tailed	(9-29)	JEF 11 reps(29)
SHRIKE, Loggerhead	(2-29)	JEF 18 reps(147)
VIREO, White-eyed	(1-30)	HAI 8 reps(26); JEF 14 reps(55)
VIREO, Yellow-throated	(3-15)	HAI 2 reps(3); JEF 1 rep(1)
VIREO, Blue-headed	(15-28)	JEF 9/15(1) MC3; JEF- SRSP 9/28(1) SM
VIREO, Blue-headed	(15-28)	JEF 2 reps(2)
VIREO, Warbling	(3-29)	JEF-SW 9/3(1) JAW; JEF- SW 9/14(2) JHH; JEF-SW 9/15(2) MC10; JEF-SW 9/28(3) SM; JEF-SW 9/29(1) SM
VIREO, Philadelphia	(14-15)	JEF-SW 9/14(1) JHH; JEF- SW 9/15(1) MC10
VIREO, Red-eyed	(2-30)	JEF 14 reps(32)
JAY, Blue	(2-30)	HAI 2 reps(24); JEF 15 reps(100); SAB 1 rep(1)
CROW, American	(3-15)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 2 reps(16); SAB 1 rep(4)
CROW, Fish	(2-15)	JEF-TX87 9/2(2) JAW; JEF 9/15(2) MC2; JEF 9/15(5) MC9
CROW, species	(2-15)	JEF 4 reps(12)
MARTIN, Purple	(26-26)	JEF-BMT 9/26(50) CSL
SWALLOW, Tree	(3-15)	JEF 5 reps(89)
SWALLOW, N. Rough-winged	(3-29)	JEF 6 reps(100)
SWALLOW, Bank	(3-15)	JEF 2 reps(54)
SWALLOW, Cliff	(3-3)	JEF-TP 9/3(20) JAW
SWALLOW, Barn	(2-30)	JEF 13 reps(262)
SWALLOW species	(9-23)	JEF 3 reps(11)
CHICKADEE, Carolina	(1-30)	HAI 4 reps(23); JEF 12 reps(51); SAB 1 rep(1)
TITMOUSE, Tufted	(8-28)	HAI 3 reps(21); JEF 3 reps(8); SAB 1 rep(1)
NUTHATCH, White-breasted	(23-23)	JEF-SW 9/23(1) TB
NUTHATCH, Brown-headed	(15-15)	JEF 9/15(1) MC2; JEF 9/15(1) MC78
WREN, Carolina	(2-30)	HAI 4 reps(22); JEF 11 reps(45)
KINGLET, Ruby-crowned	(15-29)	JEF 4 reps(13)
GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray	(1-30)	HAI 8 reps(44); JEF 20 reps(132)
BLUEBIRD, Eastern	(10-25)	HAI 7 reps(28); JEF 3 reps(47)
VEERY	(28-28)	JEF-SRSP 9/28(1) SM
THRUSH, Swainson's	(15-15)	JEF-SRSP 9/15(1) MC11
ROBIN, American	(3-18)	JEF 6 reps(19)
CATBIRD, Gray	(3-30)	HAI 2 reps(3); JEF 6 reps(7)
MOCKINGBIRD, Northern	(1-30)	HAI 8 reps(20); JEF 19 reps(204)
THRASHER, Brown	(1-30)	HAI 4 reps(5); JEF 14 reps(32)
STARLING, European	(2-24)	JEF 12 reps(991)
WARBLER, Blue-winged	(14-30)	JEF-SW 9/14(4) JHH; JEF- SW 9/15(1) MC10; JEF-TP 9/15(2) MC5; JEF-SW 9/28(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(1) OW; JEF-SW 9/30(1) SM
WARBLER, Tennessee	(29-30)	JEF-SW 9/29(1) SM; JEF- SW 9/30(1) SM
WARBLER, Orange-crowned	(23-23)	JEF-SW 9/23(1) TB
WARBLER, Nashville	(14-30)	JEF 9 reps(10)
PARULA, Northern	(2-30)	JEF 6 reps(12)
WARBLER, Yellow	(2-29)	JEF 12 reps(17)
WARBLER, Chestnut-sided	(15-30)	JEF 9/15(1) MC1; JEF-SW 9/28(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(1) SM
WARBLER, Magnolia	(15-30)	JEF-SW 9/15(2) MC10; JEF-SRSP 9/29(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/29(2) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(3) OW
WARBLER, Black-thr. Green	(14-28)	JEF-SW 9/14(1) JHH; JEF- SW 9/28(1) SM
WARBLER, Blackburnian	(14-14)	JEF-SW 9/14(2) JHH
WARBLER, Yellow-throated	(14-29)	JEF-SW 9/14(1) JHH; JEF 9/15(1) MC78; JEF-SW 9/15(1) MC10; JEF-SRSP 9/29(1) SM
WARBLER, Pine	(10-28)	JEF 8 reps(35)
WARBLER, Prairie	(2-15)	JEF-SRSP 9/2(1) GD; JEF- SRSP 9/3(1) GD; JEF-SRSP 9/9(1) GD; JEF-SRSP 9/15(1) MC11
WARBLER, Black-and-white	(2-30)	JEF 11 reps(37)
REDSTART, American	(15-30)	JAS 1 rep(2); JEF 6 reps(27)
WARBLER, Prothonotary	(2-28)	HAI-SILS 9/2(2) MG; JEF- SW 9/2(3) JAW; JEF-SW 9/14(3) JHH; JEF-SW 9/15(1) MC10; JEF-SW 9/23(1) TB; JEF-SW 9/28(1) SM
WARBLER, Worm-eating	(2-14)	JEF-SW 9/2(1) JAW; JEF- SW 9/14(1) JHH

OVENBIRD	(14-30)	JEF-SW 9/14(1) JHH; JEF-SRSP 9/28(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(1) OW; JEF-SW 9/30(2) SM
WATERTHRUSH, Northern	(3-30)	JEF 7 reps(11)
WARBLER, Kentucky	(2-15)	JEF 4 reps(10)
WARBLER, Mourning	(2-23)	JEF-SW 9/2(4) JAW; JEF-SRSP 9/3(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/3(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/3(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/14(2) JHH; JEF-SW 9/15(3) MC10; JEF-SW 9/23(1) TB
YELLOWTHROAT, Common	(2-30)	JEF 13 reps(24)
WARBLER, Hooded	(1-28)	HAI 3 reps(3); JEF 7 reps(18)
WARBLER, Wilson's	(2-30)	JEF 9/2(1) GD; JEF-SRSP 9/15(1) MC11; JEF-SW 9/15(2) MC10; JEF-SW 9/23(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/23(1) TB; JEF-SW 9/28(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/29(5) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(1) SM
WARBLER, Canada	(2-30)	JEF-SW 9/2(8) JAW; JEF-SRSP 9/3(3) JAW; JEF-SW 9/3(5) JAW; JEF-SW 9/8(1) HM; JEF-SRSP 9/9(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/14(5) JHH; JEF 9/15(1) MC78; JEF-SRSP 9/15(1) MC11; JEF-SW 9/15(6) MC10; JEF-SW 9/16(1) JAW; JEF-SW 9/29(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(1) OW
CHAT, Yellow-breasted	(3-30)	HAI 6 reps(23); JEF 7 reps(9)
TANAGER, Summer	(3-28)	HAI 6 reps(6); JEF 6 reps(9)
TANAGER, Scarlet	(15-15)	JEF 9/15(1) MC6
TANAGER, Western	(23-28)	JEF-SW 9/23(1) TB; JEF-SW 9/28(1) SM
TOWHEE, Eastern	(14-14)	JEF-SW 9/14(1) JHH
SPARROW, Lark	(15-15)	JEF 9/15(1) MC1; JEF 9/15(1) MC6
SPARROW, Seaside	(2-15)	JEF 2 reps(22)
CARDINAL, Northern	(2-30)	HAI 2 reps(39); JEF 17 reps(149); SAB 1 rep(1)
GROSBEAK, Blue	(2-16)	JEF 9/2(15) GD; JEF 9/9(1) JAW; JEF 9/15(7) JAW; JEF 9/15(2) MC1; JEF-TX87 9/16(1) JAW
BUNTING, Indigo	(28-30)	JEF-SW 9/28(4) SM; JEF-SW 9/29(1) SM; JEF-SW 9/30(2) SM
BUNTING, Painted	(3-28)	JEF-SW 9/3(4) JAW; JEF-SW 9/15(1) MC10; JEF-SW 9/28(2) SM
DICKCISSEL	(15-15)	JEF 2 reps(6)
BLACKBIRD, Red-winged	(2-29)	JEF 14 reps(282)
MEADOWLARK, Eastern	(15-15)	JEF 2 reps(9)
MEADOWLARK species	(15-15)	JEF 1 rep(10)
GRACKLE, Common	(3-25)	HAI 1 rep(28); JEF 10 reps(233)
GRACKLE, Boat-tailed	(2-29)	JEF 11 reps(332)
GRACKLE, Great-tailed	(2-29)	HAI 2 reps(33); JEF 14 reps(802)
GRACKLE, Gt./Boat tailed	(2-16)	JEF 4 reps(111)
COWBIRD, Brown-headed	(15-24)	JEF 4 reps(115)
BLACKBIRD species	(9-24)	JEF 2 reps(2100)
ORIOLE, Orchard	(2-23)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 4 reps(7)
ORIOLE, Baltimore	(2-29)	HAI 7 reps(23); JEF 10 reps(85)
FINCH, House	(1-30)	HAI 7 reps(19); JEF 19 reps(62)
SPARROW, House	(3-25)	HAI 2 reps(6); JEF 7 reps(127)

Number of Species 207
Number of Individuals 20626

County Abbreviations

HAI — Hardin; JAS — Jasper; JEF — Jefferson; SAB — Sabine

Location Codes

BMT — Beaumont; MCFW — McFaddin NWR; NEDR — Nederland; 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

CSL — Christine Sliva; GD — Gerald Duhon; HM — John Haynes and Steve Mayes; JAW — John Whittle; JFW — Jana Whittle; JHH — John H. Haynes; JJW — John and Jana Whittle; JL — Jeannie Lanclos;

MC1 — Migration Count Area 1; MC2 — Area 2; MC3 — Area 3; MC5 — Area 5; MC6 — Area 6; MC78 — Areas 7 and 8; MC9 — Area 9; MC10 — Area 10; MC11 — Area 11; MC12 — Area 12 ;MG — Melanie Goetsell; OW — Orion Weldon; RHJ — Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan; SM — Steve Mayes; TB — Terry Baldwin.

Bird Alerts

As this issue goes to press, the fall migration season has drawn to a close and attention has turned to our winter residents. The weekend of October 27-28 was very interesting, with the Saturday dominated by the last of the neotropical migrants, and the Sunday dominated by our arriving winter residents, especially sparrows. Although the number of species of warbler was well into the double digits on both days, it was the 14 species of sparrow seen Sunday that stood out. Go to the web site at www.goldentriangleaudubon.org to read the latest Bird Alerts.

Field Trip *(continued from page 4)*

Tern(4), Forster's Tern(10), Rock Pigeon(4), White-winged Dove(10), Mourning Dove(20), Barn Owl(2), Ruby-throated Hummingbird(1), Belted Kingfisher(4), Downy Woodpecker(4), Northern "Yellow-shafted" Flicker(3), Eastern Wood-Pewee(3), Empidonax sp.(1), Eastern Phoebe(8), Western Kingbird(1), Scissor-tailed Flycatcher(54), Loggerhead Shrike(4), White-eyed Vireo(6), Blue-headed Vireo(4), Blue Jay(8), Tree Swallow(10), Northern Rough-winged Swallow(20), Cliff Swallow(2), Barn Swallow(20), Carolina Chickadee(1), Red-breasted Nuthatch(4), Carolina Wren(1), House Wren(4), Marsh Wren(2), Ruby-crowned Kinglet(13), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher(15), Eastern Bluebird(3), Gray Catbird(1), Northern Mockingbird(4), Brown Thrasher(5), European Starling(15), Nashville Warbler(4), Northern Parula(2), Black-throated Blue Warbler(1), Black-throated Green Warbler(2), Palm Warbler(3), American Redstart(2), Common Yellowthroat(5), Hooded Warbler(2), Summer Tanager(2), Savannah Sparrow(6), Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow(1), Lincoln's Sparrow(1), Swamp Sparrow(1), White-crowned Sparrow(3), Northern Cardinal(4), Rose-breasted Grosbeak(2), Indigo Bunting(15), Red-winged Blackbird(110), Eastern Meadowlark(1), Common Grackle(1), Boat-tailed Grackle(45), Great-tailed Grackle(17), Brown-headed Cowbird(25)

Steve Mayes

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. The date prefixed by AU is the date your National Audubon Society subscription expires. 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.

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RARE BIRD ALERTS

Unfortunately, almost all the local and regional telephone Rare Bird Alerts have been discontinued in favor of various Internet based means of distribution.

The Texas-wide Rare Bird Alert, maintained by Houston Audubon Society, is available on their web-site at <http://www.houstonaudubon.org/> and each new alert is posted on the TEXBIRDS listserv. The archives of this listserv can be accessed at <http://listserv.uh.edu/archives/texbirds.html> It is not necessary to subscribe to the listserv to view the archives.

Transcriptions of many current and recent email alerts are available on the 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 very early issues.

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