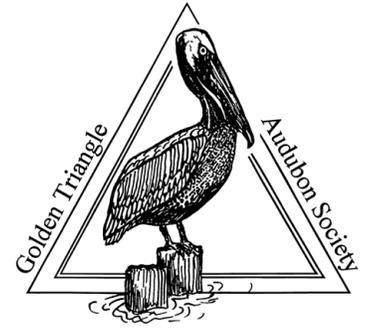


The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 17 No. 4

April 2011

**Membership Meeting
Thursday, April 21, 2011, 7:00 PM
Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont
"Extreme Birding by an Extreme Birder"
Lynn Barber**

Lynn E. Barber was born in Wisconsin, and has lived in Alaska, Oregon, North Carolina and, since 2000, Texas. Lynn obtained her scientific education at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She has a B.A. in zoology, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in bacteriology. After receiving her doctorate, she worked for eight years as a research microbiologist at Oregon State University and North Carolina State University. She obtained her J.D. from Duke University Law School and has been a registered patent attorney since 1985.

She is currently treasurer of the Fort Worth Audubon Society, president of the Texas Ornithological Society, and a member of the board of directors of the American Birding Association. Her big year of birding in Texas in 2005 broke the record for number of species, and in 2008, she tallied 723 bird species in the ABA Area (continental US and Canada).

Her talk will include pictures and adventure tales from her big years, as well as from other birding. She will have copies of her book *Extreme Birding: One Woman's Big Year* available for sale and signing.

We plan on having the doors open by 6:00 p.m. with refreshments available shortly thereafter and the program will start at 7:00 p.m. sharp.

Sabine Woods Field Trip - Saturday April 16, 2011

Please note that our April field trip to Sabine Woods will be one week earlier than our normal schedule, to avoid Easter weekend. This trip will focus on Neotropical passerine migrants. We will start about 7:30 a.m., but you should be able to find the group if you come later. This field trip does not necessitate a lot of walking, and you can watch the birds from the numerous benches throughout the Woods if you wish. Bring lunch and insect repellent. Sabine Woods is on Highway 87, on the north side of the road, 4.1 miles west of Sabine Pass. Please pull as far off the road as you can when you park.

The Brown Pelican

Vol. 17, No.4 April 2011
Issue number 173

Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Web Site for more information
www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

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Calendar of Events

Saturday April 16. Field Trip to Sabine Woods and Sabine Pass Area.

Note that, because the "normal" Saturday in on Easter Weekend, this Field Trip is the Saturday before the meeting.

This trip will look for Neotropical migrants, and does not necessitate extensive walking.

We will assemble at Sabine Woods at 7:30 a.m. While it is conceivable that we may go to Pilot Station Road or the Sea Rim and McFaddin areas, we are likely to be in Sabine Woods for at least the first couple of hours, and you should be able to find the group if you are late. At Sabine Woods, there is a small parking area, but additional parking is improvised by using the roadside verges beyond the limits of the parking area. Please pull as far off the highway as is reasonably possible.

Sabine Woods is on the north side of Highway 87, 4.1 miles west of the stop sign in Sabine Pass. Take Highway 87 from Port Arthur to Sabine Pass, turn right at the stop sign, and go 4.1 miles.

This trip involves relatively easy walking on the trails at Sabine Woods to look for migrant songbirds. However, Hurricane Ike completely destroyed the boardwalks, and the trails may be muddy and slippery if it has rained in the prior day or two. Armadillos are still active, so there may be holes to avoid! There is a \$5 sanctuary pass donation at Sabine Woods for those who are not members of Golden Triangle Audubon or Texas Ornithological Society. This field trip is especially suited for not-very-experienced birders.

Bring insect repellent. Most participants will bring lunch. Facilities in Sabine Pass are quite limited, although food and gasoline are now available.

Birding in late April can be exciting. However, we cannot promise anything, as the number of birds in the coastal woodlots is strongly dependent on the weather conditions over the Gulf. Immediately after a cold front passes and the following day are usually considered to be among the most likely days to have a good concentration of migrants at favored coastal locations.

Thursday April 21. Membership Meeting. Details on page 1.

Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. We thank all those who brought refreshments in March: Jean Beavens, Claire and Bob Collier, Terry Ferguson, Sherry Gibson, Carol Lynn Loker, Phil Rogers, Mary and Herb Stafford and Jana Whittle. **We need volunteers to bring items for April and May 2011 meetings.** Please do not wait until the last minute to volunteer! We do not expect one person to bring everything, but please call so we can coordinate! Even if you would like to bring drinks and cookies or something similar, please call Jennifer Armacost at (409) 790-7222 or armacostj@yahoo.com **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 such 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.



EarthShare of Texas represents Audubon Foundation of Texas and the National Audubon Society in payroll contribution programs in workplaces throughout Texas. For more information about how you can support Audubon Foundation of Texas and the National Audubon Society at your workplace, call 1-800-GREENTX, or visit www.earthshare-texas.org

Fund Raiser for our Education Programs

We will be holding a raffle for three items to be awarded at the conclusion of the May membership meeting on May 19, 2011.

Wild Birds Unlimited has donated a Vortex Stokes Sandpiper 65 mm spotting scope (with 15 to 45 zoom eyepiece) that is now discontinued but was sold for at least \$300. I have seen it listed online for \$359.99. The reviews I have read about this scope are very good. It comes with a cloth, zippered cover, a mini table-top tripod, and it is in the original box. This is a brand new scope, but the big lens cover is missing. The person that wins this will need a tripod or a window mount. This scope will be displayed at the March, April and May meetings.

The second item is a weekend at a beach cabin overlooking Bolivar Flats. This would be a Friday and Saturday night in a two bedroom beach cabin that has a porch where you can sit and look at shorebirds on the beach. This weekend was donated by Max and Edith Watson who live on the same street and own this cabin. Edith prefers birders to stay at her cabins. This weekend cabin stay would be at least \$400 if you just rented a cabin in that area. The weekend is the first weekend in June.

The third item is a pair of Zen Ray binoculars donated by Gerald Duhon. These binoculars are brand new also and are worth \$200. These binoculars will be displayed at the meetings in March, April, and May.

Our raffle tickets will cost ten dollars each. You may purchase them at the March, April, or May membership meetings or from Jana Whittle by calling 409-722-4193. Tickets cannot be mailed. The drawings will be held at the end of the May meeting. You do not need to be present to win. We will contact you to let you know if you won. We will write your name and phone number on each ticket. *Jana Whittle*

March Program Report

As usual, Gerald Duhon had a wonderful program at our March meeting that included humor, gorgeous pictures of birds and sights, and very good information about Costa Rica. I laughed out loud several times while totally enjoying the presentation.

Gerald told us that Costa Rica is about the size of West Virginia. It is 19,000 square miles, but it has 893 species of birds. The U.S.A. has 850 to 875 species of birds in 7 million square miles. Costa Rica has more parks and reserves than any other place. It has low crime and it is very safe. It has well defined wet and dry seasons and lots of rocky headlands; but also has low swampy areas and rain forests. Costa Rica has two international airports because it is a hotspot for diving, hiking, birding, and sightseeing.

There are active volcanoes. On the mountaintops, you can see tropical tundra, temperate oak forests, cloud forest, rain forest, and the coastline of the Pacific Ocean. The land seems to change every few miles because of the diversity. There are wild orchids growing everywhere. One of the plants he took a

picture of at one the lodges where he stayed was a very unusual looking carnivorous plant.

He did hire a guide and recommends the website birdingcraft.com. The guide he used grew up in from Niagara Falls. One of the non-birding places that his family went to was the National Gold Museum. He feels that it is a must-see for anyone who chooses to go to Costa Rica and that it should be about a half-day time allotment. At this museum he showed pictures of intricate carved gold and lots of gold huge gold nuggets. There was one carved piece of gold at the museum that seemed to resemble a man working out a gym and we laughed about that. One of the funniest pictures that his wife had asked him to include is when Gerald sat next to a statue that was sitting on a bench. He put his arm around this statue and he called it a picture of him and his Uncle Stony.

Orchids, mountains, volcanoes, rainforests, monkeys, birds, crocodiles, black sand beaches, the Pacific Ocean, being able to see 194 species in two weeks.....what a great place! Thank you, Gerald, for a wonderful program. You have been such an important part of Golden Triangle Audubon and we all really appreciate everything that you do. Gerald has done eight programs for us since 1997. We loved them all!

Here is a list of some of the birds that he was able to photograph while in Costa Rica:

Green-breasted Mango, Hoffman's Woodpecker, Green Thorntail, Violet-crowned Woodnymph, Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer, Snowcap, Black-and-Yellow Tanager, Keel-billed Toucan (they will eat nestlings), Great Kiskadee, Turquoise-browed Motmot (they have a long tail feather from which they pluck most of the vane), White-ringed Flycatcher, Dusky-capped Flycatcher, Broad-winged Hawk, Black Hawk-Eagle, Long-tailed Tyrant, Chestnut-sided Warbler (the Costa Rican locals call this bird the "Oh never mind bird" because it is numerous), Golden-headed Tanager, Green Honeycreeper, Scarlet-thighed Dacnis, Blue Dacnis, Shining Honeycreeper, White-rumped Attila, Passerini's Tanager, American Pygmy Kingfisher, Ruddy Ground-Dove, Black-and-White Owl, Squirrel Cuckoo, Stripe-headed Sparrow, Violaceous Trogon, Rose-throated Becard, Summer Tanager, Yellow-billed Cotinga, Northern Jacana, Scarlet Macaws, Philadelphia Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-crowned Motmot (The locals call this bird the tick-tock bird because its tail moves side to side when agitated), Rufous-capped Warbler (its call is one pure tone that is well-spaced), Blue-gray Tanager, Tropical Kingbirds (all over Costa Rica), Rufous-naped Wren, Flame-colored Tanager, Mountain Robin, Nightingale Thrush, Slaty Flowerpiercer (they pierce the corolla of the flower and drink the nectar), Spotted Tanager, Fiery-throated Hummingbird, Volcano Hummingbird, Ashy-headed Bush Tanager, Buff-crowned Wood-Partridge, Magnificent Hummingbird, Resplendent Quetzal, Large-footed Finch, Sooty Robins, Rufous-tailed Hummingbird, Green Kingfisher, Boat-billed Flycatcher, Chestnut-mandibled Toucans, Fiery-billed Aracari, Grooved-billed Ani, Pale-vented Pigeons, Red-napped Woodpecker, Black-crowned Tityra, Streaked Flycatcher, Rufous-collared Sparrows, Blue-gray Tanager, Silver-throated Tanager, Baltimore Orioles, Gray-necked Wood-Rail.

Monkeys included Howler Monkeys; White-face Capuchin Monkeys and Squirrel Monkeys. *Jana Whittle*

Field Trip to Bolivar Flats – March 19, 2011

There are a lot of great things about the Houston Audubon Society's Bolivar Flats Sanctuary but one of the most important for birders is its reliability. You can always count on Bolivar Flats to have lots of birds. Depending on tide, weather, etc. they may not always be easy to see but you can bet they are out there somewhere. This is one of the main reasons that the Golden Triangle Audubon Society usually runs two field trips a year to this shorebirding mecca. It is also the reason why the March trip is usually well attended! So it was not surprising when eight Golden Triangle birders made the hour and a half drive to Bolivar Flats.

Birding starts as soon as you get out of your car (and often before) and this hot spot. From the parking spot at the vehicle barrier Willets were immediately obvious along with the ubiquitous Laughing Gulls. Two long billed specialties of the flats, Long-billed Curlew and Marbled Godwit, were picked out almost immediately. Sanderlings and Dunlins were easy to spot along the water's edge. Most of these birds were still in their duller winter plumages but a few Sanderlings showed the rusty plumage that signifies breeding readiness and a few Dunlin were sporting black belly feathers for the same reason.

Moving further from the vehicles more species kept turning up. Ruddy Turnstones picked at shells and flotsam while Gull-billed Terns soared overhead. A Northern Harrier quartered over nearby wetlands scaring up small numbers of Blue-winged Teal. Black-bellied Plovers were easy to find but few showed a black belly yet (I guess this is why they are called Grey Plover in Britain). Wilson's Plovers were the most obvious of the small plovers seen on the flats. Several of these heavy-billed shorebirds were present and great scope views were had of them. The other small plovers were less cooperative though Piping and Semipalmated were eventually located.

A group of Least Terns had arrived on the flats and were loafing about giving easy looks to all. A large group of distant birds included several Common Terns (not that common on the upper Texas coast) and a few Sandwich Terns along with the more numerous Royal and Forster's Terns. Many more Marbled Godwits were spotted along with smaller shorebirds including Least, Western and Semipalmated Sandpipers. One of the great spectacles of Bolivar Flats is the large number of wintering American Avocets. The Avocets did not disappoint on this trip as several thousand, some showing breeding plumage, were on hand to wow even the most jaded birder. Great looks were also had of male and female Horned Larks. Bolivar Flats is definitely the most reliable spot for this species close to Jefferson County. No trip to Bolivar Flats is complete without seeing at least one Reddish Egret and there were several to choose from on this day including both dark and light morph birds.

Eventually, the weather took a bit of a turn at the flats as a heavy fog began to roll in making birding difficult. This created the perfect time to take an early lunch break at Fort Travis Park. Not much birding was done in the fog here

(outside of watching Laughing Gulls and Great-tailed Grackles begging for a hand out) but it provided a needed break. After lunch, it was on to Frenchtown Road. The ponds on this road are a reliable spot for American Oystercatcher and sure enough, multiple birds were on hand to be scoped out. Moving on to Bob's Road and Yacht Basin Road, even more species were picked out. Bonaparte's Gulls and Black Tern were seen along the intracoastal waterway. Multiple Ospreys were seen hunting for or already carrying fish dinners. Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs worked the roadside ditches while both Brown and American White Pelicans were seen well. Rollover Pass can sometimes hold as many birds as the flats and there were plenty on hand for this trip. Many Piping Plovers worked the shorelines while Black Skimmers were content to rest. More American Oystercatchers and Reddish Egrets were located along with a small flock of Gadwall along the shoreline.

The Bolivar field trip traditionally ends with a trip to the Houston Audubon's High Island sanctuaries. Boy Scout Woods was the first stop and it demonstrated pretty much what the birders already knew: strong south winds provide few neotropical migrants. Birding was slow at the sanctuary but that does not mean nothing was seen. A cooperative Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was a treat and a calling Eastern Towhee spruced up the cathedral. Inca Doves and Common Grackles also provided great looks. Moving on to Smith Oaks, land birds were still hard to come by. Orange-crowned and Yellow-rumped Warblers were located along with Ruby-crowned Kinglet and Swamp Sparrow. If land birds were scarce, the water birds certainly made up for it. The rookery at Clay Bottom Pond was in full swing and, as always, was a joy to behold. Roseate Spoonbills battled for territory while Great Egrets were already sitting on teal-colored eggs. Dozens of Black-crowned Night-Herons haunted the far side of the pond with one Yellow-crowned Night-Heron thrown in for good measure. Anhinga was seen here along with Common Moorhen. The differences between Double-crested and Neotropic Cormorants were easily seen with both present at close range. Heading away from the rookery, the birding was not quite done as calling Long-billed Dowitchers and a quiet Green Heron were noted.

Another great day of birding Bolivar Flats and High Island was wrapped up at this point. Closing it down with dinner at Al-T's and a countdown of the day's highlights, it would be hard to ask for anything more! Luckily, more is to come as any birder on the upper Texas coast knows. As March passes, April approaches and hordes of migrating birds still await the Golden Triangle birders. With easy access to great birding spots like Bolivar Flats and High Island, it is easy to see what a birder's paradise we have here before us, so get out and enjoy it!

The following species were recorded by the field trip leaders: Gadwall (30); Blue-winged Teal (23); Red-breasted Merganser (8); Pied-billed Grebe (9); American White Pelican (290); Brown Pelican (139); Neotropic Cormorant (122);

Double-crested Cormorant (6); Anhinga (4); Great Blue Heron (4); Great Egret (100); Snowy Egret (10); Little Blue Heron (2); Tricolored Heron (2); Reddish Egret (11); Green Heron (1); Black-crowned Night-Heron (70); Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (1); White Ibis (7); Roseate Spoonbill (206); Black Vulture (1); Turkey Vulture (36); Osprey (5); White-tailed Kite (1); Northern Harrier (4); Cooper's Hawk (1); Red-tailed Hawk (14); Red-tail (Krider's) Hawk (1); American Kestrel (2); Common Moorhen (3); American Coot (20); Black-bellied Plover (9); Wilson's Plover (17); Semipalmated Plover (4); Piping Plover (30); Killdeer (2); American Oystercatcher (6); Black-necked Stilt (10); American Avocet (3000); Spotted Sandpiper (1); Greater Yellowlegs (5); Willet (71); Lesser Yellowlegs (11); Yellowlegs species (1); Long-billed Curlew (3); Marbled Godwit (20); Ruddy Turnstone (6); Sanderling (180); Semipalmated Sandpiper (30); Western Sandpiper (6); Least Sandpiper (6); "Peep" Sandpiper (50); Dunlin (153); Short-billed Dowitcher (3); Long-billed Dowitcher (6); Bonaparte's Gull (33); Laughing Gull (101); Ring-billed Gull (17); Herring Gull (3); Least Tern (15); Gull-billed Tern (4); Caspian Tern (1); Black Tern (2); Common Tern (7); Forster's Tern (134); Royal Tern (100); Sandwich Tern (3); Black Skimmer (32); Rock Pigeon (25); Eurasian Collared-Dove (1); Mourning Dove (3); Inca Dove (6); Belted Kingfisher (2); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (1); Loggerhead Shrike (4); Blue Jay (2); Horned Lark (2); Purple Martin (2); Tree Swallow (8); Northern Rough-winged Swallow (1); Barn Swallow (14); Ruby-crowned Kinglet (2); Northern Mockingbird (3); European Starling (56); Orange-crowned Warbler (1); Yellow-rumped Warbler (10); Eastern Towhee (1); Savannah Sparrow (5); Swamp Sparrow (7); White-throated Sparrow (7); Northern Cardinal (3); Red-winged Blackbird (19); Meadowlark species (1); Common Grackle (11); Great-tailed Grackle (31); House Sparrow (3).

Steve Mayes

Sponsor our Birdathon

Once again, we will be raising money for Golden Triangle Audubon and for Audubon Texas in our Birdathon. You may be assured that all your contributions will stay close to home as it were. Royce Pendergast will again be joining with me in this year's Spring Birdathon.

A Birdathon is very similar to other "athons" you may be familiar with, such as telethons, walkathons, etc. The idea is for us to start birding at the crack of dawn on a day in mid April and make a run to include the coast of east Jefferson County, the woods of East Texas, parts of Jefferson and Chambers counties, High Island and Bolivar Flats looking for as many species of birds as can be found. We're aiming for at least 150 species. We will pick an exact date guided by the weather forecasts. Our preferred period will be April 12 to 14 but we are prepared to wait until the following week if need be. While there are often more individual birds towards the end of the April, we are hoping for a greater number of species, including more lingering winter residents earlier.

We're hoping you will sponsor us at \$1.00 or more, \$0.75, \$0.50, or (or whatever amount you choose) per bird species. A flat donation is also welcome. Please take the time

to make a pledge today -- your donation to our Birdathon will be earmarked to support Audubon's mission of protecting our natural heritage in Texas and the nation by supporting conservation, education and advocacy. Again this year, we plan on half of the funds we raise will be designated for Golden Triangle Audubon projects and the other half for Audubon Texas activities and programs. (If you wish, you may earmark your contributions for a specific use.) Checks should be made out to Golden Triangle Audubon Society and all contributions are, of course, tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Local business people and businesses are often very receptive to this kind of fund raising and we would welcome any suggestions of where we might find receptive potential supporters. We appreciate all of you who contributed generously last year, and hope you will consider supporting us again. Please contact me at 3015 Nashville Ave, Nederland, TX 77627 or at johnawhittle@aol.com or 409-722-4193 with your pledges and your suggestions.

John A. Whittle

Build a Bond with Birds

Whether in a shrub, a tree, or a nest box, bird nests are all around us. By monitoring a nearby nest you can help scientists study the biology of North America's birds and how it might be changing over time. Every spring and summer, volunteers from across the country visit nests and report their findings to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch program. As a NestWatcher, you keep tabs on bird family life, following the progression from incubated eggs, to fuzzy chicks, to gawky youngsters ready to take their first fluttering flight. All the information you gather is submitted online to the NestWatch database. "NestWatch helps people of all ages and backgrounds connect with nature," says project leader Jason Martin. "The information that our dedicated citizen scientists collect allows us to understand the impact that various threats, such as environmental change and habitat destruction, have on breeding birds. Armed with this knowledge, we can take the necessary steps to help birds survive in this changing world."

Instructions and all the materials you need to participate are available on the NestWatch website at www.nestwatch.org. You'll also get directions on how to find and monitor nests without disturbing the birds. It's fun, it's easy, and it's free. The Cornell Lab's immensely popular NestCams are back too. Cameras broadcast live video over the web from the nests of Barn Owls, bluebirds, wrens, Wood Ducks, and many other species. Our newest camera is focused on a Great Horned Owl family in Houston, Minnesota. Check it out at www.nestcams.org. And please join us for NestWatch this season—you'll build a bond with birds and with nature in your own backyard.

Jason Martin, NestWatch Program

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is a membership institution dedicated to interpreting and conserving the earth's biological diversity through research, education, and citizen science focused on birds.

*Cornell Lab of Ornithology
159 Sapsucker Woods Rd, Ithaca NY 14850;
Toll-free (800) 843-BIRD (2473)
<http://www.birds.cornell.edu>*

Bird Sightings – February 2011

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 johnawhittle@aol.com or call (409) 722-4193. For "very rare" birds, or very much out-of-season species, 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: A very interesting February! Many wintering hummingbirds were again recorded during the month. In several cases, we have shown the presence of a hummingbird at a particular

wintering location for all or most of the month in a single entry. We probably have missed recording some hummingbird reports that were conveyed to us orally more or less in passing. We encourage those who have "feeder" birds of all species to send a report to us shortly after the end of each month. However, especially for hummingbirds, these reports may be in abbreviated form!

Three chicks became visible in the Bald Eagle nest near FM105 between Vidor and Orangefield by the end of the month. If all three fledge, this will be a rare event in the eagle world, and indicative of an abundance of prey in the area.

A report from Sabine Woods on the last day of February raised expectations about the upcoming spring migration, but as this is written, March is all but gone, with the early and middle parts of the month very slow, and the only wave of migrants seen being that in the wake of a cold front at the very end of March.

Included below is a very welcome report from Angelina County. We would be pleased to receive more reports from the areas north of Hardin and Orange Counties. We know there are some birders up there!

WHISTLING-DUCK, Blk-bell. (27-27)	JEF 2/27(1) JAW	
GADWALL (12-27)	ANG 1 rep(2); JEF 3 reps(51);	
ORA 1 rep(41)		
WIGEON, American (13-27)	JEF-TP 2/13(5) SM; JEF-TP	
2/26(2) HM; JEF-TP 2/27(2) JAW		
DUCK, Mottled (13-26)	JEF-TP 2/13(5) SM; JEF-TP	
2/26(2) HM; ORA 2/20(1) JAW		
TEAL, Blue-winged (13-27)	JEF 4 reps(242); ORA 1	
rep(5)		
TEAL, Cinnamon (13-27)	JEF-TP 2/13(2) SM; JEF-TP	
2/26(4) HM; JEF-TP 2/27(3) JAW		
SHOVELER, Northern (12-27)	ANG 1 rep(2); JEF 3	
reps(2060); ORA 1 rep(28)		
PINTAIL, Northern (13-27)	JEF 2 reps(36); ORA 1	
rep(10)		
TEAL, Green-winged (13-27)	JEF 3 reps(2070); ORA 1	
rep(5)		
CANVASBACK (12-12)	ANG 2/12(155) DHKK	
REDHEAD (12-12)	ANG 2/12(12) DHKK	
DUCK, Ring-necked (27-27)	JEF-TP 2/27(10) JAW	
SCAUP, Lesser (20-20)	ORA 1 rep(110)	
SCAUP species (12-12)	JEF 2/12(10) WMRS	
BUFFLEHEAD (12-12)	ANG 2/12(10) DHKK	
MERGANSER, Hooded (20-20)	ORA 2/20(5) JAW	
DUCK, Ruddy (12-27)	ANG 2/12(25) DHKK; JEF-TP	
2/26(10) HM; JEF-TP 2/27(50) JAW		
LOON, Common (12-12)	ANG 2/12(4) DHKK	
GREBE, Pied-billed (12-27)	ANG 2/12(45) DHKK; JEF	
2/27(3) JAW; JEF-TP 2/27(12) JAW		
GREBE, Horned (12-12)	ANG 2/12(2) DHKK	
GREBE, Eared (13-13)	JEF-TP 2/13(1) SM	
PELICAN, Amer. White (12-12)	ANG 1 rep(10); JEF 1 rep(2)	
PELICAN, Brown (20-27)	JEF 2 reps(4); ORA 1 rep(6)	
CORMORANT, Neotropic (20-27)	JEF 2 reps(6); ORA 1 rep(12)	
CORMORANT, Double-crest (12-20)	ANG 2/12(400) DHKK; JEF	
2/13(1) JAW; ORA 2/20(1) JAW		
HERON, Great Blue (6-27)	ANG 1 rep(3); JEF 4 reps(7);	
ORA 1 rep(6)		
EGRET, Great (6-28)	JEF 6 reps(293); ORA 1	
rep(7)		
EGRET, Snowy (6-27)	JEF 4 reps(30); ORA 1 rep(4)	
HERON, Little Blue (20-20)	ORA 2/20(2) JAW	
HERON, Tricolored (20-20)	ORA 2/20(1) JAW	
EGRET, Cattle (12-12)	JEF 2/12(20) WMRS	
IBIS, White (6-27)	JEF 3 reps(1074)	
IBIS, Glossy (26-26)	JEF-TP 2/26(1) HM	
IBIS, White-faced (26-26)	JEF-TP 2/26(30) HM	
IBIS, Plegadis (6-27)	JEF 4 reps(753); ORA 1	
rep(51)		
SPOONBILL, Roseate (20-20)	JEF-GROV 2/20(2) JAW	
VULTURE, Black (6-27)	HAI 1 rep(3); JEF 4 reps(9)	
VULTURE, Turkey (6-27)	ANG 1 rep(25); HAI 4 reps(7);	
JEF 5 reps(30)		
OSPREY (13-20)	JEF 2/13(1) JAW; JEF-TP	
2/13(1) SM; ORA -BC 2/20(2) JAW		
KITE, White-tailed (26-26)	JEF-TX87 2/26(1) JAW	
EAGLE, Bald (12-28)	ANG 2/12(4) DHKK; ORA	
2/18(2) TF; ORA 2/28(2) JHH; ORA 2/28(3) FM		
HARRIER, Northern (6-27)	JEF 3 reps(13)	
HAWK, Sharp-shinned (13-13)	JEF 2/13(1) JAW	
HAWK, Cooper's (9-23)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 7 reps(7)	
HAWK, Red-shouldered (11-27)	JEF 5 reps(8)	
HAWK, Red-tailed (6-27)	ANG 1 rep(1); JEF 14	
reps(108)		
HAWK, Red-tailed (Kriders) (6-18)	JEF 2/6(1) JAW; JEF-TX87	
2/18(1) CK		
KESTREL, American (6-27)	JEF 6 reps(22)	
MERLIN (13-13)	JEF-TP 2/13(1) SM	
FALCON, Peregrine (27-27)	JEF-TP 2/27(1) JAW	
RAIL, Clapper (18-18)	JEF-MCFW 2/18(1) CK	
RAIL, Virginia (13-13)	JEF-TP 2/13(2) SM	
SORA (13-13)	JEF-TP 2/13(2) SM	
MOORHEN, Common (20-20)	ORA 2/20(1) JAW	
COOT, American (12-27)	ANG 2/12(1500) DHKK; JEF-	
TP 2/13(10) SM; JEF-TP 2/27(100) JAW		
CRANE, Sandhill (6-21)	JEF 2/6(414) JAW; JEF	
2/21(20) CSL		
KILLDEER (6-27)	JEF 5 reps(61)	
STILT, Black-necked (20-27)	JEF 1 rep(28); ORA 1 rep(1)	
YELLOWLEGS, Greater (6-27)	JEF 3 reps(29); ORA 1 rep(2)	
YELLOWLEGS, Lesser (27-27)	JEF-TP 2/27(1) JAW	
YELLOWLEGS species (13-13)	JEF-TP 2/13(10) SM	
SANDPIPER, Least (13-13)	JEF-TP 2/13(10) SM	
DOWITCHER, Long-billed (13-27)	JEF 2 reps(60)	
SNIPE, Wilson's (13-27)	JEF 2 reps(3)	
GULL, Bonaparte's (12-12)	ANG 2/12(2) DHKK	
GULL, Laughing (20-27)	JEF 3 reps(41); ORA 1 rep(2)	
GULL, Ring-billed (6-27)	ANG 1 rep(2); JEF 5	
reps(182)		
GULL, Herring (20-27)	JEF 1 rep(1); ORA 1 rep(1)	
TERN, Forster's (20-20)	ORA 1 rep(26)	
PIGEON, Rock (6-27)	JEF 4 reps(38)	
COLLARED-DOVE, Euras. (6-12)	JEF 3 reps(22)	
DOVE, White-winged (4-28)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 14 reps(52)	
DOVE, Mourning (1-28)	HAI 17 reps(244); JEF 8	
reps(45); ORA 1 rep(1)		
DOVE, Inca (12-26)	ANG 2/12(1) DHKK; JEF	
2/26(3) HM		

DOVE, Inca	(12-26)	ANG 1 rep(1); JEF 1 rep(3)
OWL, Great Horned	(4-9)	HAI-SILS 2/9(1) MG; JEF-BMT 2/4(1) RHJ
HUMMINGBIRD, Buff-bellied	(1-28)	JEF-BMT 2/1 thru 2/25(1) RHJ; JEF-NEDR 2/1 thru 2/28(1) JJW;
HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr.	(14-22)	JEF-NEDR 2/14(1) JFW; JEF-NEDR 2/15(1) HS; JEF-NEDR 2/15(1) JFW; JEF-NEDR 2/16(1) JFW; JEF-NEDR 2/22(1) HS
HUMMINGBIRD, Black-chin.	(1-28)	JEF-NEDR 2/1 thru 2/28(1) JJW
HUMMINGBIRD, Anna's	(15-15)	JEF-NEDR 2/1 thru 2/15(1) HS
HUMMINGBIRD, Broad-tail.	(1-27)	JEF-BMT 2/1 thru 2/27(1)
HUMMINGBIRD, Rufous	(2-28)	JEF-BMT 2/2(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 2/4(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 2/7(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 2/8(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 2/10(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 2/11(1) RHJ; JEF-NEDR 2/26(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 2/26(1) JFW; JEF-NEDR 2/27(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 2/28(1) JFW
HUMMINGBIRD species	(3-26)	JEF 10 reps(10)
KINGFISHER, Belted	(6-26)	ANG 1 rep(1); JEF 3 reps(8); ORA 1 rep(1)
WOODPECKER, Red-bellied	(1-27)	ANG 1 rep(2); HAI 18 reps(37); JEF 4 reps(7)
SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bell.	(12-26)	ANG 2/12(2) DHKK; HAI-SILS 2/19(1) MG; HAI-SILS 2/26(1) MG
WOODPECKER, Downy	(2-27)	ANG 1 rep(1); HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 19 reps(21)
WOODPECKER, Pileated	(8-28)	HAI 6 reps(6)
PHOEBE, Eastern	(6-27)	ANG 1 rep(11); HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 4 reps(12)
SHRIKE, Loggerhead	(6-27)	JEF 5 reps(16)
VIREO, White-eyed	(27-27)	JEF-TP 2/27(3) JAW
JAY, Blue	(1-26)	ANG 1 rep(10); HAI 10 reps(40); JEF 6 reps(11)
CROW, American	(12-13)	ANG 1 rep(6); JEF 1 rep(5)
CROW, species	(13-13)	JEF 2/13(2) JAW
MARTIN, Purple	(12-27)	ANG 2/12(4) DHKK; JEF-TP 2/13(5) SM; JEF-TP 2/27(1) JAW
SWALLOW, Tree	(6-27)	ANG 1 rep(1); JEF 5 reps(43); ORA 1 rep(1)
SWALLOW, N. Rough-wing.	(12-12)	ANG 2/12(2) DHKK
CHICKADEE, Carolina	(1-28)	ANG 1 rep(2); HAI 17 reps(34); JEF 9 reps(21)
TITMOUSE, Tufted	(1-27)	ANG 1 rep(2); HAI 8 reps(17); JEF 1 rep(2)
NUTHATCH, White-breasted	(12-12)	ANG 2/12(2) DHKK
CREEPER, Brown	(12-12)	ANG 2/12(3) DHKK
WREN, Carolina	(1-27)	ANG 1 rep(3); HAI 15 reps(36); JEF 2 reps(5)
WREN, House	(13-13)	JEF 2/13(1) JAW
WREN, Winter	(26-26)	JEF-TP 2/26(1) HM
KINGLET, Ruby-crowned	(12-19)	ANG 2/12(1) DHKK; JEF-BMT 2/19(1) RHJ
BLUEBIRD, Eastern	(1-26)	ANG 1 rep(10); HAI 6 reps(11); JEF 3 reps(4)
THRUSH, Hermit	(9-23)	ANG 2/12(4) DHKK; HAI-SILS 2/9(1) MG; HAI-SILS 2/23(1) MG
ROBIN, American	(3-27)	HAI 7 reps(536); JEF 11 reps(453)
MOCKINGBIRD, Northern	(6-27)	ANG 1 rep(1); HAI 4 reps(10); JEF 6 reps(48)
THRASHER, Brown	(1-28)	HAI 19 reps(21); JEF 5 reps(9)
STARLING, European	(6-27)	HAI 1 rep(30); JEF 4 reps(87)
PIPIT, American	(6-27)	JEF 5 reps(44)
WAXWING, Cedar	(3-17)	HAI-SILS 2/3(8) MG; HAI-SILS 2/17(20) MG; JEF 2/6(4) JAW
WARBLER, Orange-crown.	(1-28)	ANG 1 rep(1); HAI 18 reps(21); JEF 10 reps(19)
PARULA, Northern	(26-28)	JEF-SW 2/28(3) JHH; ORA 2/26(1) JM
WARBLER, Yellow-rumped	(6-28)	ANG 1 rep(2); HAI 2 reps(3); JEF 6 reps(47); ORA 1 rep(2)
WARBLER, Pine	(1-28)	ANG 1 rep(12); HAI 13 reps(18); JEF 43 reps(149)

WARBLER, Palm	(18-28)	JEF-SW 2/18(1) CK; JEF-SW 2/28(1) JHH
WARBLER, Black-and-wh.	(28-28)	JEF-SW 2/28(1) JHH
YELLOWTHROAT, Common	(18-18)	JEF-SW 2/18(1) CK
WARBLER, Wilson's	(1-17)	HAI-SILS 2/1 thru 2/17(1) MG
TOWHEE, Eastern	(12-28)	ANG 2/12(3) DHKK; JEF-SW 2/18(2) CK; JEF-SW 2/26(1) JAW; JEF-SW 2/28(1) JHH
SPARROW, Chipping	(1-28)	ANG 1 rep(15); HAI 28 reps(1247); JEF 7 reps(10)
SPARROW, Savannah	(6-27)	ANG 1 rep(3); JEF 2 reps(21)
SPARROW, Song	(6-27)	JEF 2/6(10) JAW; JEF 2/13(1) JAW; JEF-SW 2/18(2) CK; JEF-TP 2/27(1) JAW
SPARROW, Swamp	(12-13)	ANG 1 rep(1); JEF 1 rep(1)
SPARROW, White-throated	(1-28)	HAI 20 reps(73); JEF 22 reps(104)
CARDINAL, Northern	(1-28)	ANG 1 rep(7); HAI 27 reps(1010); JEF 8 reps(10)
BLACKBIRD, Red-winged	(1-27)	HAI 14 reps(155); JEF 7 reps(275); ORA 1 rep(12)
MEADOWLARK, Eastern	(6-13)	JEF 2/6(29) JAW; JEF 2/13(3) JAW
BLACKBIRD, Brewer's	(6-6)	JEF 2/6(6) JAW
GRACKLE, Common	(6-27)	JEF 3 reps(14)
GRACKLE, Boat-tailed	(20-27)	JEF 1 rep(5); ORA 1 rep(13)
GRACKLE, Great-tailed	(5-27)	JEF 7 reps(471)
GRACKLE, Gt./Boat-tailed	(6-20)	JEF 2 reps(13); ORA 1 rep(5)
COWBIRD, Bronzed	(5-20)	JEF-GROV 2/5(5) JJW; JEF-GROV 2/18(3) CK; JEF-GROV 2/20(4) JAW
COWBIRD, Brown-headed	(1-28)	HAI 21 reps(78); JEF 3 reps(252)
FINCH, Purple	(12-12)	ANG 2/12(3) DHKK
FINCH, House	(1-22)	HAI 2 reps(5); JEF 7 reps(16)
GOLDFINCH, American	(1-28)	ANG 1 rep(10); HAI 20 reps(74); JEF 40 reps(393)
SPARROW, House	(4-28)	JEF 13 reps(175)
Number of Species		134
Number of Individuals		35132

County Abbreviations:

ANG — Angelina; HAI — Hardin; JEF — Jefferson; ORA — Orange

Location Codes

BC — Bridge City; BMT — Beaumont; GROV — Groves; MCFW — McFaddin NWR; NEDR — Nederland; SILS — Silsbee; SW — Sabine Woods; TP — Tyrrell Park incl. Cattail Marsh; TX87 — Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim SP

Observer Abbreviations

CK — Cody Conway and Kelley Sampeck; CSL — Christine Sliva; DHKK — Louis Debetaz, Ruth Heino, Allan & Kara Kaplowitz; FM — Fritz Meyer; HM — John Haynes and Steve Mayes; HS — Harlan Stewart; JAW — John Whittle; JFW — Jana Whittle; JHH — John H. Haynes; JJW — John and Jana Whittle; JM — John Mariani; MG — Melanie Goetsell; RHJ — Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan; SM — Steve Mayes; TF — Terry Ferguson; WMRS — Jana and John Whittle, Steve Mayes, Sherrie Roden, Christine Sliva.

Spring Migration Count

We will be holding our annual Jefferson County Spring Migration Count on Saturday May 14. This is a county-wide survey, and we are always seeking volunteers to help, especially in the four or five hours after dawn when bird activity is highest. Please contact John Whittle at johnawhittle@aol.com or 409-722-4193 to volunteer. It is not necessary that you be available all day.

Counts are carried out throughout the country on the Saturday of the second weekend in May each year. We know that by this date many of the migrating birds fly over us and keep going, but we often find a surprising variety of both migrating and breeding birds. The data becomes more valuable as each successive year is added.

NATIONAL AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Form

To join the National Audubon Society, please complete this form and return with Introductory Membership fee of \$20 (payable to the National Audubon Society, or indicate you wish to be billed) to National Audubon Society, P.O. Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250. To use this form to give a membership as a gift, please complete the form and indicate your name in the appropriate space. Payment should accompany gift memberships.

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Golden Triangle Audubon C1ZW250Z

Brown Pelican

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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/> Email alerts are also available for a fee. Most rare bird sightings in Texas are posted on the TEXBIRDS listserv. Archives of the listserv are at <http://lists.texbirds.org/texbirds.html> It is not necessary to subscribe to the listserv to view the archives, which include postings up to the most recent.

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>.