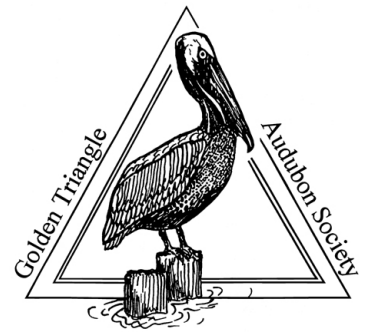


# The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 18 No. 12

December 2012

**Sea Rim State Park Christmas Bird Count  
Thursday January 3, 2013  
Meet in Sabine Pass at 7:00 a.m.**

at the intersection of Highway 87 and FM3322 in Sabine Pass. This is at the stop sign in Sabine Pass, where Highway 87 turns west.

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

Please contact John Whittle at [johnawhittle@aol.com](mailto:johnawhittle@aol.com) or 409-722-4193 (H), and let us know you plan to attend so we can make the best possible area assignments.

**Orange County Christmas Bird Count  
Tuesday January 1, 2013  
Meet in Orange at 7:00 a.m.**

at the Service Station at the intersection of Highway 105 and FM1442.

Contact Ken Sztraky 409-385-2835 (H) or [berrysheepfarm@att.net](mailto:berrysheepfarm@att.net).

Please join us for what we hope will be two enjoyable birding days. All are invited, even if you are not an experienced birder or are only able to bird for part of the day. Feeder watchers are welcome to participate. Let us know in advance and we will find a suitable group for you to join. The more pairs of eyes in a group, the more birds will be seen.

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Other local counts which will welcome your participation include the **Turkey Creek** Count (in the Big Thicket north of Kountze) on **Saturday, December 15** (contact John Whittle at [johnawhittle@aol.com](mailto:johnawhittle@aol.com)), the **Bolivar Peninsula** Count on **Thursday December 20** (contact Steve Mayes at [sgmayes@hotmail.com](mailto:sgmayes@hotmail.com) or 409-722-5807), the **Beech Creek** Count (in the Steinhagen Lake area) on **Saturday December 22** (contact as for Turkey Creek), and the **Johnson Bayou** count on **Saturday December 29** (contact Ken Sztraky, [berrysheepfarm@att.net](mailto:berrysheepfarm@att.net) or 409-385-2835).

## The Brown Pelican

Vol. 18, No.12 December, 2012  
Issue number 191

### Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Web Site for more information  
[www.goldentriangleaudubon.org](http://www.goldentriangleaudubon.org)

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## The Brown Pelican is

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## Calendar of Events

*Important Note: Field Trip notices published here should always be regarded as needing confirmation just before the date. We want to be able to take advantage of any good concentrations of interesting birds and to adjust in cases where access has changed. Changes will always be posted on the web site at [www.goldentriangleaudubon.org](http://www.goldentriangleaudubon.org). Confirmation of the location will also normally be available at the Membership Meeting that is usually, but not always, two days prior to each trip, or by contacting Field Trip Committee chair, Steve Mayes at 409-722-5807 or [sgmayes@hotmail.com](mailto:sgmayes@hotmail.com)*

**Saturday December 15. Turkey Creek Christmas Count.** Contact John Whittle at [johnawhittle@aol.com](mailto:johnawhittle@aol.com) or 409-722-4193. Meet at the Big Thicket Visitor Center on Highway 69 seven miles north of Kountze at 6:30 a.m.

**Thursday December 20. Bolivar Peninsula Christmas Count.** Contact Steve Mayes at [sgmayes@hotmail.com](mailto:sgmayes@hotmail.com) or 409-722-5807.

**Saturday December 22. Beech Creek Christmas Count.** Contact John Whittle at [johnawhittle@aol.com](mailto:johnawhittle@aol.com) or 409-722-4193. Meet at the Corps of Engineers Picnic Area on FM92 just north of the intersection with FM1746 in Town Bluff at 6:30 a.m.

**Saturday December 29. Johnson Bayou Christmas Count.** Contact Ken Sztraky ([berrysheepfarm@att.net](mailto:berrysheepfarm@att.net) or 409-385-2835) for more information. Meet at the Johnson Bayou High School on Highway 82 at 7:00 a.m.

**Tuesday January 1, 2013. Orange County Christmas Bird Count.** Our traditional way to celebrate the New Year. See the full details on page 1.

**Thursday January 3, 2013. Sea Rim State Park Christmas Bird Count.** Contact John Whittle (409 -722-4193 or [johnawhittle@aol.com](mailto:johnawhittle@aol.com)). This count includes Sabine Pass, Sea Rim State Park, Sabine Woods, Texas Point NWR and parts of Murphree WMA and McFaddin NWR. This count is

sponsored by Golden Triangle Audubon and typically records over 150 species. See full details on page 1.

**Thursday January 17, 2013. Membership Meeting.** Dana Nelson on Wildlife of Africa.

**Saturday January 19, 2013. Field Trip to Cattail Marsh and Tyrrell Park.** Meet at the parking lot for Cattail Marsh at 8:00 a.m. The parking lot is accessed from the loop road round the main picnic areas in Tyrrell Park in Beaumont. Some birds can be seen with minimal walking, but the group will probably make a leisurely three or so mile hike round the various cells in the marsh.

## Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. **We need volunteers to bring items for all the spring 2013 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 Jana Whittle at (409) 722-4193 (or email her at [janafw@aol.com](mailto:janafw@aol.com)) **as far in advance as possible.** Please help if you can!

**Thursday February 21, 2013. Membership Meeting.** Details in future issues.

**Saturday February 23, 2013. Field Trip** Plans are for a trip to western Calcasieu and western Cameron Parish looking for sparrows and waterfowl.



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](http://www.earthshare-texas.org).

## Memorial Benches at Sabine Woods – Part 2

*Several members have asked for information on the birders whose contributions are recognized by memorial benches at Sabine Woods. This is the second installment. The third and final installment will appear in a future issue .*

### Joe Halbrook (1933 – 2011)

Joe Halbrook was my best friend and a fellow birder. I met Joe soon after I moved to Beaumont in 1964 since our youngest sons were active in the same Cub Scout pack. Later our friendship really blossomed when our sons joined the same Explorer Post and Joe and I both became assistant scout leaders to Fred Madenwald, the scoutmaster of Explorer Post 15. Joe was an ardent outdoorsman and we both enjoyed immensely the hiking and canoe trips with the explorers. In fact it was on a canoe trip that Joe introduced me to birding. We were paddling together down village creek and every so often Joe would reach into his pack and pull out a pair of binoculars and start scanning the stream bank. Curious, I asked Joe what he was looking for. Of course he said birds. Upon further questioning I learned that Joe often went out looking for birds, an activity he called “birding” (a new term for me). After learning a lot more about this hobby of Joe's, I developed a keen interest in birding myself and subsequently Joe and I made many birding trips together to the area birding hot spots such as High Island, Bolivar Peninsula, and of course Sabine Woods.

Joe Halbrook was born in Greenville, Mississippi on Sept 30, 1933 to John C Halbrook and Ernestine McCall Halbrook. His parents provided him, his twin Jerry, and his two older brothers, Cullum and David with rich childhoods rooted in the fertile delta around their home in Belzoni, Miss. Joe's appreciation of work and love of the natural world were nurtured and ingrained upon his personality. After obtaining his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Mississippi State University, he moved to Beaumont, Texas to work for Mobil Oil.

Joe was also a regular participant in Golden Triangle sponsored outings such as visits to Cattail Marsh, the hawk watch, or west Jefferson County, and was regularly involved in the many maintenance work sessions at Sabine Woods. He was also active in most local bird counts including the Christmas and migration counts. Joe's interest in birding led him to do birding in many foreign countries and on other continents including Europe and even a sailing trip to Antarctica via the tip of South America.

Joe was a thorough birder, always hesitant to make a hasty call on a bird I.D. I recall one early incident when we were birding in Sabine Woods; we had just arrived and were nearing the end of a trail and I spotted a bird and immediately called out Canada Warbler and Joe asked how did you I.D. it so fast? I told him I saw the necklace! Joe just stood there a few minutes studying the bird and finally said I believe you are right. I realized then and there Joe didn't make hasty I.D.'s. Joe did most of his birding from an old Chevy van. Joe was innovative, and at one point he had mounted a sheet of plywood on top of the van to serve as a

viewing platform. From there he could set up his tripod for birding. Needless to say he had a head and shoulders better view of the surrounding marsh than other birders. Joe was also an active member of Golden Triangle Audubon, and served on the Board of Directors from 1995 to 2009, as Vice President in 1997 and as President in 1998-99. Joe was a Christian gentleman and a faithful member of First Baptist Church Beaumont, serving as church deacon and teaching Sunday School in the children's department for many years. Joe's birding activity was severely curtailed during the last few years of his life due to his wife Jerolyn's debilitating terminal illness, Huntington's disease. Joe served as a faithful caregiver during the last few years of her life. Shortly after Joe's wife passed away, Joe succumbed to lung cancer.

*Bob Collier*

## Wildlife Diversity Program of Texas Parks and Wildlife

**Thursday December 13**

**Beaumont Central Park Community Center**

**2925 Fannin at 4th Street, 7:00 p.m.**

John Davis, Director of the program will explain the current goals and activities of the program, how it is funded and what is needed to do a good job of stewarding wildlife diversity in Texas. There are 59 game species in Texas, but well over 1,000 non-game species. Texas. Come hear more about the people and the programs in TPWD that every wildlife supporter should know more about. Co-hosted by the Golden Triangle Audubon Society, Big Thicket Association, Golden Triangle Sierra Club and the Sabine-Neches Texas Master Naturalists. Groups with interests in other TPWD programs are good at making the support for their proposals and priorities known. We need to make sure our support for the programs and activities we care about is equally well demonstrated. Good attendance at this meeting would help achieve this!

## Late Delivery of Some Copies of the November Brown Pelican

Unfortunately, some mailed copies of the November *Brown Pelican* were not delivered until one or two days after the November meeting. First, we want to make it clear that this was in no way the fault of Mary and Herb Stafford, who have prepared the Newsletters for mailing and delivered them to the Post Office for many years. We owe them a great debt of gratitude all they have done for us. In this case, as always, the Newsletters were delivered to the Post Office in the middle of the week prior to the meeting. Non-profit mail is "Standard mail," and does not enjoy First Class mail priority. If you are able, you can be sure to get the *Brown Pelican* in a timely manner by opting to receive a PDF copy as an attachment to an email. To do this, simply send an email with your name and address and request to johnawhittle@aol.com. The meeting announcements are also posted about the first of the month on the web site at [www.goldentriangleaudubon.org](http://www.goldentriangleaudubon.org).

## Field Trip to West Jefferson County – 17 November 2012

The western section of Jefferson County is a bit different than much of the county. Less developed than the eastern section, less forested than the north and less wet than the south, the west contains more open, upland (relatively) grasslands and its own unique combination of local birds. November has become the time for the Golden Triangle Audubon's annual field trip to the western section of Jefferson County and it has quickly become one of our most popular trips. This was proved again on the 2012 version of the trip and the many participants would not go home disappointed!

Starting off on Johnson Road, the group started birding the wet grasslands along the roadside and were quickly rewarded. Numerous LeConte's Sparrows popped up to the groups pushing giving sustained, great looks at this often elusive species. LeConte's can be numerous in the correct habitat but finding that habitat (on accessible land) and then getting the shy little birds up can be more difficult. This made it especially nice that these particular LeConte's Sparrows were so cooperative. Other sparrows were also noted in the area including long-tailed Song Sparrows and many Savannah Sparrows, chipping Swamp Sparrows and dapper White-crowned Sparrows. Tiny Sedge Wrens also flitted up and down in the grasses.

Traveling down Johnson Road to the next intersection, you'll find a little spot of woodlands among the grasslands that can hold a surprising variety of woodland birds. Woodpeckers were on display here including Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and two large, noisy Pileated Woodpeckers. Our wintering warblers were well represented by Yellow-rumped Warblers (the "Myrtle" variety), Orange-crowned Warblers and a few Pine Warblers. Carolina Chickadees called along with a Carolina Wren. Ruby-crowned Kinglets gleaned insects from the foliage along with their more colorful Golden-crowned cousins. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers called weakly from the trees while White-throated Sparrows sang from the underbrush. This winter's invasion of Red-breasted Nuthatches continued with several of these little birds calling and foraging in the trees. Some strategic playing of a screech-owl call brought in more birds including Hermit Thrush, White-eyed Vireo and even a Brown Creeper. In fact, the call caused a large flock of wintering song birds to descend on the group in a spectacular display of aggressive behavior. Those little birds wanted to find that owl! Though no really rare birds were in the flock, the sheer numbers of birds and the proximity of the birds to the people created the most memorable moment of the field trip! It even got an actual Eastern Screech-Owl to answer our calls (even if he wouldn't show himself).

Heading further afield, the group traveled to a spot that usually holds a Vermilion Flycatcher and the group struck paydirt again! A brilliant male Vermilion Flycatcher perched up for the birders and gave good looks for all. It fought a little with a nearby Eastern Phoebe but otherwise behaved itself well! Some other nice birds seen along the way included Eastern Bluebirds, White Ibis, Belted Kingfisher, Vesper Sparrow and Eastern Meadowlark. Sandhill Cranes are always one of the highlights of this trip as they can be quite common

in this area in the winter. Sure enough good numbers of these stately gray birds were well seen on the day. Though most of the flock stayed in an area hidden from view, numerous flying birds and a few foraging birds showed off for all to see.

Raptors and waterfowl are main targets of this trip so they were much sought after by the group. Raptors were pretty easy to come by with Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrels especially numerous. One colorful, male Merlin was a nice find while several Northern Harriers were spotted. A couple of Crested Caracaras feeding on some unfortunate critter in a field provided a great viewing opportunity for the birders. A dry fall made finding waterfowl a bit more difficult. Greater White-fronted Geese and Snow Geese flew over in flocks but other species were hard to come by. Finally, some flooded fields along FM 365 provided some ducks and other water birds. Northern Shovelers and Green-winged Teal represented the ducks but Black-necked Stilts, American Coots, Long-billed Dowitchers and Stilt Sandpipers all were seen but the best sighting was above the water. While observing the waterbirds, an adult Bald Eagle was spotted soaring overhead! Soon a second Bald Eagle appeared and then a third! None came too close to the group but everyone got a look at these majestic birds anyway. Any trip with Bald Eagles has to be a good one!

Western Jefferson County always provides great birding opportunities in the fall/winter. Many of the sightings on the day (Sandhill Cranes, Snow Geese) are expected species every year and others (Bald Eagle, Vermilion Flycatcher) are quickly becoming so. Add in Crested Caracaras, LeConte's Sparrows and Red-breasted Nuthatches and you turn a good day of birding into a great day! Who knows what will show up in west Jefferson County next? Head out that way and find out yourself or wait for next year's trip to this terrific birding location.

The following species were recorded on the trip:

Greater White-fronted Goose (6); Snow Goose (40); White Goose (500); Northern Shoveler (50); Green-winged Teal (10); Great Blue Heron (3); Great Egret (7); White Ibis (5); Plegadis species Ibis (195); Black Vulture (1); Turkey Vulture (17); Bald Eagle (3); Northern Harrier (13); Red-shouldered Hawk (1); Red-tailed Hawk (31); Crested Caracara (3); American Kestrel (13); Merlin (1); American Coot (5); Sandhill Crane (117); Killdeer (10); Black-necked Stilt (10); Stilt Sandpiper (10); Long-billed Dowitcher (100); Wilson's Snipe (1); Eurasian Collared-Dove (1); Mourning Dove (25); Eastern Screech-Owl (1); Red-bellied Woodpecker (2); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (1); Northern Flicker (1); Pileated Woodpecker (2); Eastern Phoebe (13); Vermilion Flycatcher (1); Loggerhead Shrike (6); White-eyed Vireo (1); Blue Jay (1); American Crow (4); Tree Swallow (19); Carolina Chickadee (3); Red-breasted Nuthatch (3); Brown Creeper (1); Carolina Wren (1); Sedge Wren (1); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (1); Golden-crowned Kinglet (4); Ruby-crowned Kinglet (2); Eastern Bluebird (2); Hermit Thrush (1); Northern Mockingbird (7); American Pipit (2); Orange-crowned Warbler (3); Pine Warbler (4); Yellow-rumped Warbler (3); Vesper Sparrow (2); Lark Sparrow (1); Savannah Sparrow (62); LeConte's Sparrow (10); Song Sparrow (3); Lincoln's Sparrow (1); Swamp Sparrow (2); White-throated Sparrow (3); White-crowned Sparrow (18); Red-winged Blackbird (5); Eastern Meadowlark (25); Meadowlark species (3); Brown-headed Cowbird (750); American Goldfinch (1)     *Steve Mayes*

## Bird Sightings –October 2012

**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.

We have continued the modified reporting of hummingbirds described last month where appropriate. When continuing presence of the same individual bird can be determined from photographs or reasonably inferred, we have indicated these by summaries.

**Commentary:** First, we need to repeat a comment we make from time to time. In frequently birded locations, it is quite common for our regular observers to bird together for some part of the day, the composition of the group varying as observers arrive and leave. The observer(s) to whom the report is ascribed reflects the observer who submitted the report and many reports include contributions from others not specifically mentioned. We are grateful to all! Sometimes we get more than one report from the same day at a location. We do not attempt to eliminate duplicate reports in these monthly listings,

although we do in the compiled Spring Migration reports we publish each year.

October was an interesting month. First, we would note the extensive variety of wintering hummingbirds. Already, it seems clear that Black-chinned Hummingbirds are present this winter in much higher numbers than normal, and Broad-tailed Hummingbirds also.

Also evident below is that this winter will be remembered in this area for the massive invasion of Red-breasted Nuthatches. Eight on multiple days at as small a location as Sabine Woods is totally without precedent! The same applies to seven Brown Creepers in one day. Golden-crowned Kinglets used not to venture south of IH-10 very often, but now they are regular in Sabine Woods.

Flycatchers are always a feature of fall birding in the area. However, Olive-sided Flycatchers seemed to linger later than usual this year. Normally, we jocularly say that the first Eastern Phoebe push the last Eastern Wood-Pewees out, but this year, both species were present for most of the month of October. Other species that seemed to linger longer this year included Yellow-billed Cuckoos.

On the negative side, this was a very poor fall migration season for Swainson's, Gray-cheeked and Wood Thrushes, and also for Red-eyed Vireos. Red-eyed Vireos are one of the most numerous birds in the eastern United States, yet we have reports of only 16 in September and only 10 in October.

The Golden-fronted Woodpecker family seems to still be around Sabine Woods, but we have not seen the Tropical Mockingbird or any of the hybrid offspring since August.

Out of range birds this month, although none without precedent included a Cassin's Vireo – the two reports are of the same bird – a Bell's Vireo and a Townsend's Warbler.

<b>WHISTLING-DUCK, Black-bell.</b>	(2-16)	JEF 4 reps(56)		<b>HARRIER, Northern</b>	(2-28)	JEF 7 reps(25)
<b>GOOSE, White-fronted</b>	(19-28)	JEF-SW 10/19(750) JAW; JEF-SW 10/27(35) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(100) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(30) JAW		<b>HAWK, Sharp-shinned</b>	(2-28)	JEF-SW 10/2(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/27(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(3) JAW
<b>GOOSE, Snow</b>	(19-28)	JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/27(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(30) JAW		<b>HAWK, Cooper's</b>	(2-28)	JEF 7 reps(12)
<b>DUCK, Mottled</b>	(19-19)	JEF-MCFW 10/19(4) JAW		<b>ACCIPITER species</b>	(9-9)	JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW
<b>SHOVELER, Northern</b>	(28-28)	JEF-TXPT 10/28(15) JAW		<b>HAWK, Red-shouldered</b>	(28-30)	JEF 2 reps(3)
<b>GREBE, Pied-billed</b>	(28-28)	JEF 10/28(1) JAW		<b>HAWK, Broad-winged</b>	(2-28)	JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW; JEF-TX87 10/19(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/27(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW
<b>CORMORANT, Neotropic</b>	(9-28)	JEF 11 reps(72)		<b>HAWK, Red-tailed</b>	(3-30)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 8 reps(23)
<b>CORMORANT, Double-crest.</b>	(24-24)	JEF-TX87 10/24(1) JAW		<b>CARACARA, Crested</b>	(19-19)	JEF-TX87 10/19(1) JAW
<b>ANHINGA</b>	(8-16)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW; JEF-TX87 10/15(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 10/16(2) JAW		<b>KESTREL, American</b>	(1-28)	JEF 8 reps(27)
<b>PELICAN, Amer. White</b>	(2-28)	JEF 6 reps(136)		<b>MERLIN</b>	(8-28)	JEF 8 reps(8)
<b>PELICAN, Brown</b>	(11-28)	JEF 5 reps(34)		<b>FALCON, Peregrine</b>	(19-28)	JEF-TX87 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW
<b>HERON, Great Blue</b>	(2-28)	JEF 8 reps(23)		<b>SORA</b>	(2-2)	JEF-MURW 10/2(2) JA
<b>EGRET, Great</b>	(1-28)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 18 reps(93)		<b>PLOVER, Black-bellied</b>	(8-20)	JEF-TX87 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-PI 10/20(1) JAW
<b>EGRET, Snowy</b>	(1-28)	JEF 14 reps(119)		<b>PLOVER, Snowy</b>	(8-8)	JEF-TX87 10/8(1) JAW
<b>HERON, Little Blue</b>	(1-2)	JEF 2 reps(2)		<b>KILLDEER</b>	(2-28)	JEF 6 reps(21)
<b>HERON, Tricolored</b>	(2-20)	JEF 6 reps(6)		<b>STILT, Black-necked</b>	(2-2)	JEF-MURW 10/2(15) JA
<b>EGRET, Reddish</b>	(2-2)	JEF-MURW 10/2(1) JA		<b>SANDPIPER, Spotted</b>	(9-9)	JEF-MURW 10/9(1) JA
<b>EGRET, Cattle</b>	(1-26)	JEF 8 reps(104)		<b>YELLOWLEGS, Greater</b>	(2-9)	JEF-MURW 10/2(1) JA; JEF-MURW 10/9(6) JA
<b>HERON, Green</b>	(15-20)	JEF-SW 10/15(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(1) FTSW		<b>WILLET</b>	(8-28)	JEF 5 reps(23)
<b>NIGHT-HERON, Black-cr.</b>	(2-28)	JEF 4 reps(4)		<b>YELLOWLEGS species</b>	(8-8)	JEF 1 rep(10)
<b>NIGHT-HERON, Yellow-cr.</b>	(9-20)	JEF-MURW 10/9(1) JA; JEF 10/20(1) JAW		<b>CURLEW, Long-billed</b>	(28-28)	JEF-TXPT 10/28(1) JAW
<b>IBIS, White</b>	(2-28)	JEF 11 reps(134)		<b>SANDPIPER, Least</b>	(8-8)	JEF-TX87 10/8(1) JAW
<b>IBIS, Plegadis</b>	(2-28)	JEF 3 reps(85)		<b>SANDPIPER, Peep</b>	(2-2)	JEF-MURW 10/2(30) JA
<b>SPOONBILL, Roseate</b>	(27-28)	JEF-TX87 10/27(3) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(4) JAW		<b>DOWITCHER, Short-billed</b>	(2-2)	JEF-MURW 10/2(1) JA
<b>VULTURE, Black</b>	(8-28)	JEF 9 reps(33)		<b>GULL, Laughing</b>	(2-28)	JEF 10 reps(355)
<b>VULTURE, Turkey</b>	(2-28)	HAI 2 reps(7); JEF 9 reps(36)		<b>TERN, Forster's</b>	(9-28)	JEF 5 reps(50)
<b>OSPREY</b>	(11-15)	JEF-SW 10/11(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JAW		<b>PIGEON, Rock</b>	(2-28)	HAI 2 reps(160); JEF 12 reps(147)
<b>KITE, White-tailed</b>	(20-28)	JEF-SW 10/20(3) FTSW; JEF-SW 10/27(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(2) JAW		<b>COLLARED-DOVE, Eurasian</b>	(5-26)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 3 reps(23)
				<b>DOVE, White-winged</b>	(1-28)	HAI 1 rep(23); JEF 16 reps(174)

<b>DOVE, Mourning</b>	(1-28)	HAI 2 reps(10); JEF 16 reps(176)
<b>DOVE, Inca</b>	(11-11)	JEF-NEDR 10/11(1) JAW
<b>CUCKOO, Yellow-billed</b>	(5-16)	JEF-SW 10/5(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/7(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/13(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/15(2) JHH; JEF-SW 10/16(1) JHH
<b>OWL, Barn</b>	(2-28)	JEF 9 reps(46)
<b>OWL, Great Horned</b>	(4-28)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 7 reps(7)
<b>WILL'S-WIDOW, Chuck-</b>	(8-27)	JEF 8 reps(8)
<b>HUMMINGBIRD, Buff-bellied</b>	(20-21)	JEF-NEDR 10/20(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 10/21(1) JAW
<b>HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr.</b>	(1-28)	HAI 16 reps(25); JEF 69 reps(796)
<b>HUMMINGBIRD, Black-chin.</b>	(4-31)	JEF-NEDR 10/4(1) HS; JEF-NEDR 10/5(1) HS; JEF-NEDR 10/6(1) HS; JEF-NEDR 10/13(1) HS; JEF-NEDR 10/26(1) HS; JEF-NEDR 10/27(1) HS; JEF-NEDR 10/30(2) HS; JEF-NEDR 10/31(2) HS
<b>HUMMINGBIRD, Archilochus</b>	(28-31)	JEF-NEDR 10/28(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 10/31(1) JAW
<b>HUMMINGBIRD, Calliope</b>	(21-21)	JEF 10/21(1) CSL
<b>HUMMINGBIRD, Broad-tailed</b>	(24-24)	JEF-BMT 10/24(1) RHJ
<b>HUMMINGBIRD, Rufous</b>	(1-30)	JEF-BMT 10/1 thru 10/30(1) RHJ; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JAW
<b>HUMMINGBIRD species</b>	(20-27)	JEF 7 reps(7)
<b>KINGFISHER, Belted</b>	(1-28)	JEF 17 reps(33)
<b>WOODPECKER, Red-headed</b>	(29-31)	JEF-BMT 10/29(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 10/30(2) RHJ; JEF-BMT 10/31(1) RHJ
<b>WOODPECKER, Golden-fr.</b>	(2-20)	JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(2) JHW; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/10(1) HD; JEF-SW 10/11(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/16(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(2) FTSW
<b>WOODPECKER, Red-bellied</b>	(6-28)	HAI 7 reps(9); JEF 6 reps(6)
<b>SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bellied</b>	(12-28)	JEF 7 reps(8)
<b>WOODPECKER, Downy</b>	(2-28)	JEF 14 reps(36)
<b>FLICKER, Northern</b>	(2-28)	JEF-MURW 10/2(1) JA; JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/15(2) JHH; JEF-SW 10/16(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/16(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(1) FTSW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW
<b>WOODPECKER, Pileated</b>	(3-30)	HAI 6 reps(6); JEF 7 reps(7)
<b>FLYCATCHER, Olive-sided</b>	(5-8)	JEF-SW 10/5(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(3) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(3) JHW
<b>WOOD-PEWEE, Eastern</b>	(5-20)	JEF-SW 10/5(2) JHH; JEF-SW 10/7(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/13(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/15(2) JHH; JEF-SW 10/16(3) JAW; JEF-SW 10/16(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/19(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(3) FTSW
<b>FLYCATCHER, Yellow-bellied</b>	(20-20)	JEF-SW 10/20(1) FTSW
<b>FLYCATCHER, Acadian</b>	(9-9)	JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW
<b>FLYCATCHER, Traill's</b>	(8-8)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW
<b>FLYCATCHER, Least</b>	(5-20)	JEF 9 reps(9)
<b>EMPIDONAX species</b>	(5-13)	JEF 4 reps(5)
<b>PHOEBE, Eastern</b>	(2-28)	JEF 12 reps(48)
<b>FLYCATCHER, Vermilion</b>	(20-27)	JEF 10/20(1) JAW; JEF 10/27(1) JAW
<b>FLYCATCHER, Gt. Crested</b>	(5-9)	JEF 5 reps(9)
<b>FLYCATCHER, Scissor-tailed</b>	(2-26)	JEF 17 reps(219)
<b>SHRIKE, Loggerhead</b>	(1-28)	JEF 15 reps(42)
<b>VIREO, White-eyed</b>	(2-28)	JEF 19 reps(129)
<b>VIREO, Bell's</b>	(2-8)	JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW
<b>VIREO, Yellow-throated</b>	(16-16)	JEF-SW 10/16(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/16(2) JHH
<b>VIREO, Cassin's</b>	(8-8)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW
<b>VIREO, Blue-headed</b>	(8-28)	JEF 11 reps(25)
<b>VIREO, Warbling</b>	(8-10)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/10(1) HD
<b>VIREO, Philadelphia</b>	(8-20)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(1) FTSW
<b>VIREO, Red-eyed</b>	(5-8)	JEF 5 reps(10)
<b>JAY, Blue</b>	(2-28)	HAI 6 reps(29); JEF 12 reps(56)
<b>CROW, species</b>	(11-11)	JEF-TX87 10/11(2) JAW
<b>SWALLOW, Tree</b>	(2-28)	JEF 7 reps(190)
<b>SWALLOW, N. Rough-winged</b>	(11-20)	JEF-SW 10/11(20) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(50) FTSW
<b>SWALLOW, Cave</b>	(3-3)	JEF 10/3(2) JAW
<b>SWALLOW, Barn</b>	(3-20)	JEF 3 reps(21)
<b>SWALLOW species</b>	(3-3)	JEF 1 rep(1)
<b>CHICKADEE, Carolina</b>	(6-28)	HAI 5 reps(12); JEF 7 reps(10)
<b>TITMOUSE, Tufted</b>	(1-26)	HAI 7 reps(14)
<b>NUTHATCH, Red-breasted</b>	(7-28)	JEF-SW 10/7(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(4) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(4) JHW; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/15(8) JAW; JEF-SW 10/15(5) JHH; JEF-SW 10/16(8) JAW; JEF-SW 10/16(7) JHH; JEF-SW 10/19(8) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(8) FTSW; JEF-BMT 10/26(1) RHJ; JEF-SW 10/27(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(2) JAW
<b>CREEPER, Brown</b>	(19-28)	JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(7) JAW
<b>WREN, Carolina</b>	(1-20)	HAI 3 reps(5); JEF 2 reps(3)
<b>WREN, House</b>	(8-27)	JEF 7 reps(15)
<b>WREN, Winter</b>	(28-28)	JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW
<b>WREN, Sedge</b>	(20-20)	JEF-SW 10/20(11) FTSW
<b>WREN, Marsh</b>	(9-9)	JEF-MURW 10/9(3) JA
<b>GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray</b>	(2-28)	JEF 16 reps(114)
<b>KINGLET, Golden-crowned</b>	(15-28)	JEF-SW 10/15(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/16(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(2) FTSW; JEF-SW 10/28(3) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(1) JAW
<b>KINGLET, Ruby-crowned</b>	(2-28)	JEF 19 reps(220)
<b>BLUEBIRD, Eastern</b>	(4-4)	JEF-BMT 10/4(2) RHJ
<b>THRUSH, Swainson's</b>	(8-8)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW
<b>THRUSH, Hermit</b>	(15-28)	JEF-SW 10/15(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/27(25) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(25) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(5) JAW
<b>THRUSH, Wood</b>	(8-20)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(1) FTSW
<b>ROBIN, American</b>	(8-11)	JEF-NEDR 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 10/11(2) JAW
<b>CATBIRD, Gray</b>	(2-28)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 19 reps(224)
<b>MOCKINGBIRD, Northern</b>	(1-26)	HAI 9 reps(36); JEF 16 reps(55)
<b>THRASHER, Brown</b>	(2-28)	HAI 4 reps(6); JEF 22 reps(309)
<b>STARLING, European</b>	(1-28)	JEF 10 reps(1126)
<b>OVENBIRD</b>	(8-20)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/20(1) FTSW
<b>WATERTHRUSH, Northern</b>	(2-7)	JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/5(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/7(1) JHH
<b>WARBLER, Golden-wing</b>	(8-8)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW
<b>WARBLER, Blue-winged</b>	(8-8)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW
<b>WARBLER, Black-and-white</b>	(2-28)	JEF 18 reps(67)
<b>WARBLER, Tennessee</b>	(7-28)	JEF 12 reps(22)
<b>WARBLER, Orange-crowned</b>	(8-28)	JEF 10 reps(61)
<b>WARBLER, Nashville</b>	(2-28)	JEF 15 reps(75)
<b>WARBLER, Mourning</b>	(6-6)	JEF-SW 10/6(1) SM
<b>YELLOWTHROAT, Common</b>	(2-28)	JEF 16 reps(41)
<b>WARBLER, Hooded</b>	(8-27)	JEF 10 reps(19)
<b>REDSTART, American</b>	(2-27)	JEF 17 reps(170)
<b>PARULA, Northern</b>	(2-27)	JEF 16 reps(50)
<b>WARBLER, Magnolia</b>	(5-27)	JEF 13 reps(65)
<b>WARBLER, Yellow</b>	(9-9)	JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW
<b>WARBLER, Chestnut-sided</b>	(8-9)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW
<b>WARBLER, Palm</b>	(28-28)	JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(1) JAW
<b>WARBLER, Pine</b>	(2-28)	HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 2 reps(2)
<b>WARBLER, Yellow-rumped</b>	(7-28)	JEF 9 reps(22)

<b>WARBLER, Yellow-throated</b>	(5-15)	JEF-SW 10/5(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/6(1) HD; JEF-SW 10/7(2) JHH; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/15(2) JHH
<b>WARBLER, Townsend's</b>	(5-5)	JEF-SW 10/5(1) JHH
<b>WARBLER, Black-thr. Green</b>	(8-27)	JEF 13 reps(50)
<b>WARBLER, Wilson's</b>	(2-28)	JEF 15 reps(40)
<b>CHAT, Yellow-breasted</b>	(7-10)	JEF-SW 10/7(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/10(1) HD
<b>TOWHEE, Eastern</b>	(20-20)	JEF-SW 10/20(1) FTSW
<b>SPARROW, Chipping</b>	(15-31)	HAI-SILS 10/22(1) MG; HAI-SILS 10/31(3) MG; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(1) FTSW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(1) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Field</b>	(28-28)	JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(1) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Vesper</b>	(19-19)	JEF-MCFW 10/19(1) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Lark</b>	(15-15)	JEF-SW 10/15(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHH
<b>SPARROW, Savannah</b>	(9-28)	JEF 5 reps(43)
<b>SPARROW, Grasshopper</b>	(15-15)	JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHH
<b>SPARROW, Henslow's</b>	(24-28)	Unconfirmed: JEF-SW 10/24(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/27(4) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Seaside</b>	(2-28)	JEF-MURW 10/2(3) JA; JEF 10/28(2) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Song</b>	(28-28)	JEF-SW 10/28(3) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(3) JAW
<b>SPARROW, Lincoln's</b>	(15-28)	JEF 5 reps(14)
<b>SPARROW, Swamp</b>	(19-28)	JEF 4 reps(38)
<b>SPARROW, White-throated</b>	(27-30)	HAI-SILS 10/30(2) MG; JEF-SW 10/27(3) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(2) JAW
<b>SPARROW, White-crowned</b>	(27-28)	JEF-SW 10/27(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(2) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/28(8) JAW
<b>TANAGER, Summer</b>	(8-19)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/13(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW
<b>CARDINAL, Northern</b>	(1-28)	HAI 14 reps(770); JEF 9 reps(26)
<b>GROSBEAK, Rose-breasted</b>	(8-20)	JEF-SW 10/8(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/9(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/16(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/16(3) JHH; JEF-SW 10/20(3) FTSW
<b>GROSBEAK, Blue</b>	(7-19)	JEF 10 reps(16)
<b>BUNTING, Indigo</b>	(2-28)	JEF 18 reps(352)
<b>BUNTING, Painted</b>	(2-27)	JEF 8 reps(9)
<b>BLACKBIRD, Red-winged</b>	(1-28)	HAI 1 rep(9); JEF 7 reps(67)
<b>GRACKLE, Common</b>	(2-27)	JEF 6 reps(57)
<b>GRACKLE, Boat-tailed</b>	(2-28)	JEF 10 reps(230)
<b>GRACKLE, Great-tailed</b>	(2-26)	JEF 10 reps(222)
<b>GRACKLE, Gt./Boat-tailed</b>	(2-28)	JEF 7 reps(81)
<b>COWBIRD, Brown-headed</b>	(9-9)	JEF-MURW 10/9(4) JA
<b>BLACKBIRD species</b>	(11-11)	JEF-TX87 10/11(10) JAW
<b>ORIOLE, Baltimore</b>	(2-20)	JEF-SW 10/2(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/7(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(2) JHH; JEF-SW 10/8(2) JHW; JEF-SW 10/19(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/20(1) FTSW
<b>FINCH, House</b>	(1-27)	HAI 10 reps(20); JEF 8 reps(14)
<b>SPARROW, House</b>	(3-21)	JEF 8 reps(73)

**Number of Species** 172  
**Number of Individuals** 20840

**County Abbreviations:**

HAI — Hardin; JEF — Jefferson

**Location Codes:**

BMT — Beaumont; MCFW — McFaddin NWR; MURW — J. D. Murphree WMA, west of Taylor Bayou; NEDR — Nederland; PI — Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; SILS — Silsbee; SRSP — Sea Rim State Park; SW — Sabine Woods; TX87 — Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim SP; TXPT — Road to Pilot Station at Texas Point; Observer Abbreviations; CSL — Christine Sliva; FTSW — Field Trip to Sabine Woods; HD — Howard Davis; HS — Harlan Stewart; JA — Jim Armacost; JAW — John Whittle; JHH — John H. Haynes; JHW — John Haynes and John Whittle; MG — Melanie Goetsell; RHJ — Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan; SM — Steve Mayes

## New Executive Director for Audubon Texas

Audubon Texas is pleased to announce that Brian Trusty will soon be helming the statewide conservation organization as the new Executive Director. Brian comes with a diverse and successful track record of innovative management in conservation lands and programs over the last 20 years, and is a familiar friend to many public agency partners of Audubon Texas, having worked in parks management and consulting throughout his career.

"It is tremendously exciting to have Brian take the reins of Audubon Texas," said George Bristol, the organization's State Advisory Board Chair. "With his passion for conservation, his dedication, and his genuine approach to building relationships across the State of Texas, I can think of no person better suited to lead this outstanding organization." Born and raised in Texas, Brian grew up in the Texas Hill Country hamlet of Wimberley, his childhood experiences conditioned him for a lifetime of commitment to Texas landscapes and wildlife.

"Texas is one of the most ecologically important states in the country, particularly to bird life and continental flyways, and it is critical that the work of Audubon Texas continue with our partners and stakeholders to protect the integrity of our diverse and fragile ecology," commented Trusty. "It is a great honor and a huge responsibility to lead this organization into the future."

As Executive Director, Brian will lead the Texas team in implementing an integrated conservation program including the Audubon Centers at Dogwood Canyon, Trinity River and Mitchell Lake; the Texas Coastal Stewardship Program; and the growing Important Bird Areas Program. Additionally, Trusty will work with Audubon Texas staff to support and enrich the efforts of the 20 local Audubon chapters in Texas, and the multiple public agency partners that are a major part of the organization's success in conservation. "Brian has a tremendous talent for connecting with Texans from all walks of life, and for translating their love of our state's natural treasures into support for conserving them," observed Andy Sansom, Vice Chair of the Audubon Texas State Advisory Board. "Brian's ability to build on the shared values of Texans and to integrate those into the regional priorities of the Central Flyway will serve Texas well in the years to come."

Trusty remarked, "I hope I can continue to be a part of the great tradition of Texans pitching in to get the job done. We are an essential piece of a larger conservation puzzle and we couldn't do it without the invaluable support we receive from our staff, stakeholders, partners and donors."

Brian has developed and managed successful conservation and land management programs for numerous public parks and private lands in multiple states and in diverse ecosystems, and overseen conservation easements involving public and private funding and lands. His successful integration of public and private resources to create a pioneering approach in his work earned him an "Innovator of the Year" award in Maryland in 2007 given by the Daily Record, Maryland's leading legal and business journal. Brian will be based in the Dallas office.

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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 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 [www.freelists.org/archive/texbirds](http://www.freelists.org/archive/texbirds). It is not necessary to subscribe to the listserv to view the archives, which include all recent postings. Postings for the last two weeks are also available at <http://birding.aba.org/maillist/TX>.

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>.