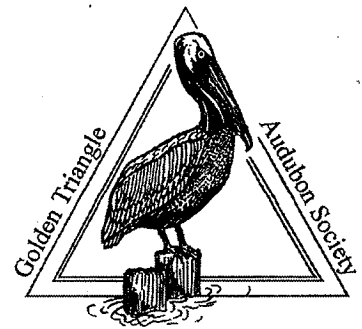


The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 25 No. 12

December 2019

Christmas Bird Counts

There are many Christmas Bird Counts in Texas and especially along the Texas Coastal plain. Most counts will welcome participation by additional birders. If you are reasonably familiar with common local birds, so much the better. Please help the compiler by contacting him or her at the very least a few days before the count. Many counts will involve significant walking or hiking for many of the participants. The counts below are ones in which Golden Triangle Audubon members are lead participants. Brief details of other area counts are on page 4.

Sea Rim State Park: Tuesday December 17, 2019

This count in Jefferson County includes Sea Rim State Park, Texas Point NWR, and parts of J.D. Murphree WMA and McFaddin NWR as well as the Sabine Pass area. Please contact us in advance, as most groups go directly to their assigned areas. Sponsored by **Golden Triangle Audubon Society**. Contact John Whittle (johnawhittle@aol.com, 409-722-4193) for details.

Bolivar Peninsula: Thursday, December 19, 2019

This count circle in Chambers and Galveston Counties includes High Island and Anahuac NWR. Newcomers are welcome to join! Compilers this year are Steve Mayes and David Sarkozi. If you are interested in participating, please contact Steve Mayes at sgmayes@hotmail.com.

Turkey Creek: Saturday, December 21, 2019

This count in Hardin and Tyler Counties includes the Turkey Creek and Hickory Creek Savannah Units of the Big Thicket National Preserve. Meet at the Big Thicket Visitor Center on US69 at FM420, about 7 miles north of Kountze at 6:30 AM. (If the Visitor Center is not open, we will meet on the roadside near the entrance road.) Sponsored by the Big Thicket National Preserve. Contact John Whittle (johnawhittle@aol.com, 409-722-4193) for more information.

Beech Creek: Saturday December 28, 2019

This count takes places in Tyler and Jasper Counties and includes Steinhagen Lake, the Beech Creek unit of Big Thicket National Preserve and Martin Dies State Park. Meet at the Corps of Engineers Picnic Area on FM92 immediately north of the intersection with FM1746 in Town Bluff at 6:30 AM. Sponsored by the Big Thicket National Preserve. Contact John Whittle (johnawhittle@aol.com, 409-722-4193) for more information.

Orange County: Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Habitat covers marsh, woodlands, and the Cow Bayou watershed. All are invited, even if you are n 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. Contact Gary Kelley (garymke@sbcglobal.net, telephone 409-679-1616), for more information.

Johnson Bayou in SW Louisiana: Saturday January 4, 2020

Johnson Bayou CBC has a rich history beginning in 1976 to present. Though the count is located just across the state line in Louisiana, most participants are from Texas and everyone is welcome. While much of the area is private, local land owners have allowed access to their property for this count, areas rarely birded and normally inaccessible From Port Arthur take Hwy 82 east for about 15 miles into Louisiana. Please contact Gary Kelley (garymke@sbcglobal.net, telephone 409-679-1616) for more information, assignments and directions.

The Brown Pelican

Vol. 25, No. 12 December 2019
Issue number 257

Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Web Site for more information
www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2019)

President

Dana Nelson

Vice President

Sheila Hebert

Treasurer

Harlan Stewart

Secretary

John Whittle

Directors-at-Large

Edra Bogucki

Michael Cooper

Gerald Duhon

Sherry Gibson

John Haynes

Gary Kelley

Randy Lewis

Steve Mayes

Christine Sliva

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program

Jana Whittle

Field Trips

Steve Mayes

Conservation

Gary Kelley

Membership, Publicity

Sheila Hebert

Education

Volunteer needed

Webmaster

Jeff Pittman (geojeff@geojeff.org)

Facebook Administrators

John Mariani

Jana Whittle

Newsletter Distribution

Mary Stafford

Newsletter Editor

John Whittle

(gtaudubon@aol.com)

The Brown Pelican is published monthly except July by the Golden Triangle Audubon Society, P. O. Box 1292, Nederland, Texas 77627-1292
email: gtaudubon@aol.com

Calendar of Events

Important Note: Field Trip notices published here should always be regarded as needing confirmation just before the date. Changes will always be posted on the web site at 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 gtaudubon@aol.com.

Thursday January 16, 2020. Membership Meeting. Program on the Blackland Prairie grasses by Bob Mione of Connemara Conservancy.

Refreshments

We thank the Beaumont Convention and Visitors Bureau for providing refreshments for this meeting.

Saturday January 18, 2020. Field Trip to Anahuac NWR. (This is tentative. Check back in early January to confirm.) We plan to meet at the Visitor Information Station just beyond the entrance at 8:30 a.m. There are clean public flushing toilets there, accessible even when the Information Station is not open. To reach Anahuac NWR from Winnie, take Highway 124 south to FM1985. (It is 11.0 miles from IH-10 and half a mile less from Highway 73.) Turn right (west) on FM1985 and proceed about **11 miles** to the **MAIN** Anahuac NWR Entrance Road on the left (south). As you drive along FM1985, check any cowbird/blackbird flocks carefully for Yellow-headed Blackbirds.

The entrance to the Main Refuge is just over 3 miles down the Entrance Road. Obey the speed limits, especially the 15 mph limit in the information station area! Watch along the entrance road for Crested Caracaras, and nearer the entrance to the refuge on the east side for White-tailed Kites.

We will probably visit both the main unit ("Old Anahuac") and the Skillern Tract, looking primarily for waterfowl and other waterbirds but also raptors and sparrows. We may also bird some

of the rice field areas in Chambers County.

There are usually geese and Bald Eagles in the refuge in winter. Earlier in the winter a Vermilion Flycatcher was on the fences near the Visitor Information Station. Say's Phoebe and Cinnamon Teal (in Shoveler Pond) are possibilities.

While it is not anticipated that this field trip will necessitate extensive walking, it is a 400 yard (1/4 mile) walk from the Skillern Tract parking area to the observation platform. All roads that we will use will be easily passable in ordinary vehicles. However, car pooling is very desirable, especially for the drive round Shoveler Pond because the road is one-car wide and there are only a few pull-offs most of which will accommodate only three or four cars. There is space to leave vehicles close to the meeting place.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Golden Triangle Audubon Society was held at Hillcrest Baptist Church, Nederland, Texas on Thursday November 21, 2019.

The following officers were elected: President Sheila Hebert, Vice-president: Christine Sliva, Treasurer: Harlan Stewart, Secretary: John Whittle. All terms of office are for calendar year 2020, except the President, which is a two-year term 2020-2021.

Elected to one-year terms as Directors-at-Large were:

Michael Cooper, Girish Doshi, Gerald Duhon, Sherry Gibson, John Haynes, Thomas Hellweg, Gary Kelley, Steve Mayes and Dana Nelson.



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

Other Christmas Bird Counts in Nearby Areas

San Bernard NWR: Friday, December 20, 2019

This unique count provides opportunities to bird areas of the refuge not normally open to the public. Also open for counters is Nannie Stringfellow WMA. Contact the co-compilers Ron Weeks (ronweeks@sbcglobal.net or phone eve. 979-299-0066) and Jennifer Wilson (jennifer_wilson@fws.gov or phone day. 979-964-4011) to sign up.

Brazos Bend Saturday: December 14, 2019

The Brazos Bend Count Circle includes Brazos Bend State Park, and a wealth of different ecosystems in adjacent lands. To sign up, go to our website at www.brazosbendcbc.com or contact compiler Justin Bower at justinbower@gmail.com.

Houston [Baytown]: Saturday: January 4, 2020

This count includes the area around Baytown. Those wishing to participate should contact David Sarkozi (david@sarkozi.net).

Freeport Sunday: December 15, 2019

Habitat includes seashore, barrier islands, prairie & woodland. The circle is divided into eight areas, each with its own leader & unique habitats. Contact compiler Mike Austin (mj_eh@comcast.net).

Central Houston: Monday, December 16, 2019

The count circle includes: Hermann Park, Memorial Park, MD Anderson Prairie, Rice University Prairie, Hogg Bird Sanctuary, Buffalo Bayou Park, West 11th Street Park, Woodland Park, Sims Nature Center. Contact Anna Vallery (avallery@houstonaudubon.org).

Galveston: Tuesday December 17, 2019

Although This count, despite a very limited land area and a particularly small amount of wooded areas, it still typically is a top 20 or near top twenty U.S. CBCs. To participate please contact Richard Mayfield (rrichardm@verizon.net).

Galveston West End, Sunday January 5, 2020 - NEW COUNT!

The West End of Galveston Island contains some wonderful birding habitat, including Houston Audubon's Dos Vacas Muertas Sanctuary. The compiler is Sally Pachulski. If you're interested in participating, please contact Sally at Pachulski@gmail.com or Cynthia Hughes at cynhuz@att.net.

Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR: Wednesday, December 18, 2019

The Attwater CBC is a wonderful opportunity to bird the Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR as well as private property in Eagle Lake, TX. If you are interested in participating, contact Sumita Prasad at sumita@utexas.edu.

Trinity River: Thursday, December 19, 2019

Areas in the circle include the Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge, Tarkington Prairie, and Gaylor Lake. Meet at 7:00 AM at the Chevron gas station at the intersection of Hwys 105 and 321, about 6 miles SE of Cleveland. Bring a sack lunch, rubber knee boots and other appropriate clothing. Contact Stuart Marcus at 936/336-9786 or stuart.marcus@gmail.com.

Old River Saturday: December 28, 2019

The count covers all points within 7.5 miles of Lake Charlotte. The count circle takes in almost all of the Wallisville Project, all the way out to the far back of Trinity Bay and north into the southern part on Liberty Co. Compiler David Hanson: DHanson139@aol.com.

Buffalo Bayou [west Houston] Saturday, December 28, 2019

Centered at the Houston Audubon's Edith L. Moore Sanctuary, the circle includes Memorial Park, Houston Arboretum, Art Storey Park, Addicks & Barker Reservoirs, Bear Creek Park and Buffalo Bayou. Contact Adam Wood, birdsondabrain@gmail.com, 73-997-9550.

Cypress Creek - Katy Prairie (TXCY): 1/1 Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Meet at John Paul Landing at 6:00 AM. It is on West Road in west Harris County. (Directions). Meet us in the western-most parking lot on West Rd. at 6:00 am. Anyone going within the North area or the Katy Prairie Conservancy MUST sign a release. Compilers Kendra Kocab at (klebwoods@pct3.com).

San Jacinto Wilderness Saturday, January 4, 2020

Juxtaposed across three counties, this unique inland circle is situated where Big Thicket meets Coastal Prairie. A huge wilderness park is its linchpin. For more information please contact David Henderson at embrenhar1@gmail.com (cell: 281-827-3729), or Bruce Bodson (bruce.bodson@yahoo.com, 832-882-1657) if you wish to canoe/kayak.

Brazoria-Columbia Bottomlands Saturday, January 4, 2020

The Brazoria CBC includes Bar-X Ranch, Columbia Lakes, Hudson Woods unit of SBNWR, Brazoria Reservoir, Harris Reservoir, and southern Nash Ranch. Contact Martin Hagne (mhagne@gcbo.org).

Field Trip to West Jefferson County – 23 November 2019

Sparrows, raptors, cranes and waterfowl are on the menu for the annual November field trip to west Jefferson County. Driving the backroads of the more rural parts of the county give a chance at birds that need open space, grasslands and wetlands. Many of these species are difficult or impossible in the urban and suburban areas of the county and even in the heavily wooded areas so this area provides a different mix than some of the more well-known birding areas and always provides the possibility of the unexpected!

The group started at the corner of FM365 and Johnson Road. When the field trip was originally founded, the surrounding wet fields were a good spot for the often elusive LeConte's Sparrow. Unfortunately, with development in recent years it is now more of just a convenient meeting spot. Still, the area provides a venue for observing birds flying overhead and there are still a few birds in the weedy margins of the fields. Snow Geese were seen flying in the distance which is good as they were the only ones seen all day. Large numbers of geese just have not arrived in the county yet. A good sign was the presence of several Sandhill Cranes flying over. From the numbers and direction, it looked like many might be on one of the nearby roads (as they have been recently). The cranes are always a main focus of this trip so it was a good sign for later! Swamp Sparrows called from the thick grasses while an American Kestrel looked out from one of the nearby powerlines. The group carpoled as much as possible and headed down Johnson Road.

The small wooded area at the end of Johnson Road is a must stop when birding the area especially if you can get there first thing in the morning. This area can provide a surprising number of woodland birds and many will not be seen elsewhere on this field trip. Pine Warblers worked the pine trees (as they should) while Blue-gray Gnatcatchers and Hermit Thrush called from nearby. Small flocks of American Robins flew overhead and a Gray Catbird was heard by all and seen by some. White-throated Sparrow was noted here and Red-bellied Woodpecker made itself obvious to the birders. Northern Cardinal was expected here but the hoped-for Eastern Screech-Owl did not oblige the group. Golden-crowned Kinglet was heard and, for the first few to pull up to the area, an adult Bald Eagle was a nice treat as it quickly passed over. Unfortunately, it was a little too quick and many in the group did not get a look at this magnificent raptor.

The group then decided to move on toward the area where Sandhill Cranes had recently been congregating and the decision was well rewarded! There were dozens of cranes scattered in the nearby fields and many more in more distant fields or flying around. The cranes were a bit skittish and did not like close approach from the line of cars containing the birders but everyone still got great looks at these wonderful birds. We are lucky enough to have hundreds of Sandhill Cranes wintering in Jefferson County every year. They roam around a bit and may sometimes be difficult to locate. They also drift into nearby Liberty and Chambers Counties on occasion but they remain in the area through late February or early March before departing for more northern latitudes. Hopefully, the increasing development in the area does not

deprive us of these birds anytime soon!

Sparrows are a main focus of the trip and we found lots of them – even if 99% of them were Savannah Sparrows! Savannah's appeared at every grassy or weedy field and perched on the nearby barbed wire fences. It became a matter of trying to pick out that one different bird from a horde of Savannah Sparrows! It did not help matters that the day was quite windy and this often keeps sparrows from wanting to come up out of their grassy hideouts. Still, the group did manage to find a few other sparrows. A couple of Chipping Sparrows appeared at a hedgerow and there were scattered White-crowned Sparrows around. One group was rewarded with a Vesper Sparrow sighting but the bird disappeared before any other birders could get a look. Another group managed Field Sparrow but, again, they were the only birders to see it. Song Sparrows were more cooperative and everyone managed to hear and most got looks at a few of these birds. A special try was made to locate some LeConte's Sparrows from some fields on Thompson Road that they are known to use but, blame the wind or just the fickleness of birds, the LeConte's refused to come out. This is a great shame as they are one of the most colorful sparrows that frequent our area. The birders will just have to try for them again on another day!

Raptors are another main focus of this trip. The wide-open areas and abundance of small prey make western Jefferson County a great place to see a variety of raptors. Red-tailed Hawks are always among the most numerous and easily seen of raptors in the area and there were plenty on this day. A hoped for rufous-morph Red-tail known to be in the area was not found but it was replaced by a nice dark-morph Red-tail seen on Lawhon Road. American Kestrels were quite common as expected and some got looks at a Merlin or two but no Peregrines were found on the day – probably because of a shortage of waterfowl prey. A beautiful, adult Red-shouldered Hawk was seen by some and there were certainly Turkey Vultures around. Northern Harriers were not hard to find as they cruised low over nearby fields. Most saw one or more Crested Caracaras on the day, certainly one of the most unique-looking raptors in North America. It was a bit disappointing that more eagles were not found early on as some missed the raptor show that ended the day (more on that later). A Great Horned Owl was a big treat as it flushed from a roadside (in broad daylight) and perched at some distance in an open field giving scope views to all who wanted a look.

Many more birds were also seen on the day and were enjoyed by the group. A Belted Kingfisher perched on a wire over a small farm pond while a Downy Woodpecker called from a small woodlot. A dapper-looking male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker gave some nice looks and a western-type Palm Warbler was appreciated just as much despite its somewhat drab plumage. A Sedge Wren perched on a fence for some nice looks while House Wrens mostly just scolded from the bushes. American Pipits called while flying overhead and Tree Swallows flew over without comment. A nice find was an adult female Vermilion Flycatcher. These brightly colored birds have regular wintering spots that are used year after year,

and our female was found at one of these. She may not be as flashy as an adult male but was still much appreciated by the assembled group.

Perhaps the best bird of the day was an Ash-throated Flycatcher located on Thompson Road. This is a western species that visits our area in small numbers in the winter. They are probably present every year but are not always easy to find and this particular bird was pretty cooperative. The Ash-throated Flycatcher is a close relative of the more familiar Great Crested Flycatcher and bears a distinct resemblance to it, with some important differences. Though they have a similar color pattern, the Ash-throated is a much paler bird than the Great Crested with more muted colors. It is also a smaller, slighter bird, with a much smaller bill. There are other, more subtle, differences between the two species that can be important in identification like the difference in the undertail pattern. The identification of the various *Myiarchus* flycatchers (the genus of this group) may not be as well known a problem as that with the *Empidonax* flycatchers but can be tricky nonetheless! Luckily, the Ash-throated Flycatcher was very cooperative and gave great looks leaving no doubt as to its identity.

Many of the birders had drifted away before the official end of the trip and a few were lucky enough to encounter White-tailed Hawk on their way out! For those who stayed to the end, there was a reward. Travelling down Lawhon Road, the group searched the flooded fields for the waterfowl that are usually present here in the winter. Alas, the ponds were largely empty with only a few ducks to show for the effort. On a tip, the birders moved further down the road and found some shallow, muddy fields filled with the shorebirds that had been missed all day. There were several hundred Long-billed Dowitchers mixed with smaller numbers of Dunlin and some Western Sandpipers to boot! In addition, several hundred dark (probably White-faced) Ibis congregated in the back of the fields. And flying around the area was a near adult Bald Eagle! Then, one of the group noticed a white spot in a distant tree that turned out to be – another adult Bald Eagle! And soon, flying in the distance was spotted an immature Bald Eagle! Not sure where these birds had been all day but at least they came together at the end for a great sendoff!

Whether it is Bald Eagles, Sandhill Cranes, elusive sparrows or unexpected flycatchers, western Jefferson County has a little something for all birders. Driving its back roads in

the winter can produce a multitude of birds of many types. Some, like the cranes and raptors, are often obvious and easy to see. Others, like the sparrows may prove difficult but are definitely worth the effort. More and more of the old rice fields and cattle pastures in this area are being subdivided into new housing developments putting the future of this birding bonanza in jeopardy. Hopefully, enough of the rural farming and ranching lifestyle can be maintained in western Jefferson County to provide habitat for our birds for generations to come and birders can still find Sandhill Cranes here for years in the future!

The following species were recorded by the field trip leaders:

Snow Goose (100); Northern Shoveler (10); Mottled Duck (6); Lesser Scaup (20); Ruddy Duck (2); Pied-billed Grebe (7); White Ibis (175); Glossy/White-faced Ibis (400); Great Blue Heron (8); Great Egret (68); Snowy Egret (10); Sandhill Crane (546); Wilson's Snipe (1); Dunlin (60); Western Sandpiper (35); Long-billed Dowitcher (400); Greater Yellowlegs (1); Lesser Yellowlegs (1); Killdeer (30); Mourning Dove (45); Anhinga (1); Turkey Vulture (9); Northern Harrier (13); Bald Eagle (4); Red-tailed Hawk (23); Red-shouldered Hawk (1); Merlin (2); American Kestrel (9); Crested Caracara (1); Great Horned Owl (1); Belted Kingfisher (1); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (1); Red-bellied Woodpecker (3); Downy Woodpecker (1); Eastern Phoebe (18); Vermilion Flycatcher (2); Ash-throated Flycatcher (1); Loggerhead Shrike (5); Blue-headed Vireo (1); White-eyed Vireo (1); Blue Jay (3); Carolina Chickadee (1); Tree Swallow (40); Golden-crowned Kinglet (1); Ruby-crowned Kinglet (12); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (6); Carolina Wren (1); House Wren (5); Sedge Wren (4); European Starling (20); Gray Catbird (1); Northern Mockingbird (6); Hermit Thrush (2); American Robin (25); American Pipit (7); Chipping Sparrow (2); Field Sparrow (1); White-crowned Sparrow (4); White-throated Sparrow (4); Vesper Sparrow (2); Savannah Sparrow (15); Song Sparrow (4); Swamp Sparrow (10); Lincoln's Sparrow (1); Eastern Meadowlark (25); Red-winged Blackbird (350); Brown-headed Cowbird (520); Brewer's Blackbird (75); Orange-crowned Warbler (3); Palm Warbler (2); Pine Warbler (2); Yellow-rumped Warbler (5); Northern Cardinal (3)

Steve Mayes

Fall Migration at Sabine Woods 2019

Each fall migration is different from the others. While it is generally agreed that the primary trigger for migration is the photo period – the length of day and night – it always seems to us that weather also plays a part. Before writing these comments, we looked at last year's fall report, still available in the December 2018 issue on the Golden Triangle Audubon website, and were struck by the similarities. A generally lackluster early migration period led into to a really good October, especially the second half, and on into November. Assessing the weather over the wide swath of migration pathways is not easy, but we would not argue with an assessment that both last year and this year, the weather was generally warmer than normal. This in turn would result in the insect population surviving longer into the fall, and to some extent, increased fruit and seed production. As we note in our brief introduction to the November sightings, it takes several years to establish a trend. We look forward to seeing what happens in the next few years.

The total numbers of most species in our analysis are lower than last year, but this seems to reflect a lower number of eBird reports submitted during the fall. Once again, there were many Yellow-billed Cuckoos well after the normal period. Late Broad-winged Hawks were near normal. Ruby-throated Hummingbird numbers seemed somewhat lower than normal, perhaps because there were no weather events to hold them in the coastal areas.

Once again, the focus on warblers was pronounced during the second half of October. Incredibly, after hosting two Cape May Warblers last year from October 16 through 21, there were two this year, from October 18 through 28 (only one for the whole period). For most of the time, they were to be found in the same pair of oak trees (known colloquially as the Tennessee tree), although this year one found some sapsucker wells in the willow trees a hundred yards away for part of the time. Bay breasted Warblers used to be rare fall migrants. There were reports of 25 in fall 2018, and 34 in 2019. Six Prairie Warblers were detected this year versus only three last year, but this year's total probably "double counts" individuals that stayed for more than one day.

We rely on eBird reports for most of our data, but try to include only corroborated reports. Determining if a report should be included can, admittedly, be a somewhat arbitrary decision. It is very rare that an unusual bird is seen by only one person. We use the highest number reported by any observer on any given day. Unusual species posted on eBird by one person or group only without any details are not included. Reports with multiple unsubstantiated questionable identifications in the same report are not used. We know that this undoubtedly results in the exclusion of a few sightings that are correctly identified and we apologize to those observers, but would encourage them in future to add brief comments to their eBird postings, especially if they know there were few other observers present on that day, and most especially if they do not regularly bird in southeast Texas. It is important that observers reporting rare species that can be easily confused with more common species indicate that they were aware of the relatively rarity of the species, and paid special attention as a result.

To keep the file size down, the pdf file may not be of as high quality as the original and some formatting is reduced. Copies of the original file, either Excel or pdf, are available upon request. This compilation would not have been possible without the efforts of many birders. First and foremost, we thank John Haynes who birded the Woods most days during the peak of migration. We used reports regularly posted by Steve Mayes, Michael Cooper, Sheila Hebert, and John Whittle. We also used reports posted on eBird by John Berner, Paul Bertrand, Gary Binderim, Jimmy Bryan, Bonnie and Casey, Robert Chadwick, Leon Dement, Tessa and Jonathan Dowell, Dave Ebbitt, Timothy Freiday, Mary Goldsby, Thomas Hellweg, Sally Ingraham, Imre Karafiath, J C Knoll, Dominic Le Croisette, Duke Liebler, Debbie MC, Lisa Madry, Todd McGrath, Glenn Olsen, Matt O'Sullivan, Albert Ribes, James Rieman, Agnieszka Skuza, John Smelser, Harlan Stewart, Don Verser, Laura Wilson, Janey Woodley, Aaron Yappart, We thank all for their efforts.

Fall 2019 Migration -- Sabine Woods

Species	AUG												JUL/AUG	SEP																SEP				
Date	7	10	19	20	22	23	24	25	28	30	31	TOTAL	1	2	4	6	7	8	11	13	14	15	16	20	21	22	23	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL	
Number of Reports	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	1		1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	5		
Groove-billed Ani												0					1																1	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	2	3	3	2	1		10	1	2	1	26		1	11	1	2	2	1		1								1	1		1	22	
Black-billed Cuckoo												0																					0	
Chuck-will's-widow				1	1			1		1		4	1	1		1	1		1		1			1		1	1	1	1	1	1	2	15	
Eastern Whip-poor-will												0																					0	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird						1		2	1	2	1	7	1		2		5	5	2	2	7	2	3	6	2	4	6	7	15	8	29	50	156	
Green Heron					1			1		2		4			1	1								1					1	1	2	2	9	
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron												0																					0	
Swallow-tailed Kite												0				1																	1	
Mississippi Kite												0					4	3	1	1	16	6									1	32		
Broad-winged Hawk			1		1					1		3	1		1	1	1	1	3	8	2	2	1	2	3	3	3		1	1	2	5	41	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker												0																					0	
Northern Flicker												0																					0	
Olive-sided Flycatcher			1	1	2					4	2	10	1		1	2					1							1	1			1	8	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1							2		1		4	1	1		2	1		1	1	1	1	4	1	4		1	1	2	1	3	26		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher					2							2									2			1		1			2		1	1	8	
Acadian Flycatcher			1		1							2											1										1	
Alder Flycatcher										1		1																					0	
Willow Flycatcher												0								1	1									1	1		4	
Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's Flycatcher)				1						1	1	3					1			1						1		1				1	5	
Least Flycatcher			1					1	1	1		4	1			1	1		1	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	2	1	14		
Empidonax sp.			1					4		2	2	9		3	1	2	3	2	1	1	4		3	4	1	3	6	2	3	2	2	2	45	
Eastern Phoebe												0																					0	
Ash-throated Flycatcher												0																					0	
Vermilion Flycatcher																																	0	
Great Crested Flycatcher	6	2	3	3	3	2		4	1	1	1	26	1	2	2	4	3	4	2	4	4	1	3	2	2		2	1	2		1		40	
Eastern Kingbird	1	1						3	3	2	2	12		1				2			7		1										11	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher				2								2																					0	
White-eyed Vireo												0									1		1		1			1	2	2	3		11	
Bell's Vireo												0																					0	
Yellow-throated Vireo												0									1				1			1			1		4	
Blue-headed Vireo												0																		2			2	
Philadelphia Vireo												0																					0	
Warbling Vireo												0								2	2												7	
Red-eyed Vireo			3	2				8				13		2	3	6	8			1	1	1	11	4		4	4		3	3		2	53	
House Wren												0																					0	
Winter Wren												0																					0	
Carolina Wren												0																					0	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		2	4	4	7	3		12	5	8	7	52	16	6	4	9	10	5	5		10	7	6	8	4	10	12	11	5	8	5	8	149	
Golden-crowned Kinglet												0																					0	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet												0			5																		5	
Gray-cheeked Warbler												0																					0	
Swainson's Thrush												0												1				1			1		5	
Hermit Thrush												0																					0	
Wood Thrush												0																					0	
Gray Catbird	1	1	4	2	3	1		1	2	3		18	1	1	2	1			1		2		1	1			1		1		1	3	16	
Brown Thrasher	2	1	2	2	1				1	2	1	12	2				2				2	2	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	25	
Yellow-breasted Chat										2		2		1	1	1				3	3	1	1	1	1	1			2			1	17	
Orchard Oriole	3		2	3				30	2	8	3	51			2	4	4	2	4		1									4	2		23	
Baltimore Oriole												0				11	12			10	11		4	3			2	2	4	2	2		63	
Clay-colored Sparrow												0																					0	
Field Sparrow												0																					0	
Field Sparrow												0																					0	
Lincoln's Sparrow												0																					0	
Swamp Sparrow												0																					0	
Ovenbird					1						1	2			1					1	1	1	1	3		4	2	1	1	1	1	1	19	
Worm-eating Warbler												0				1	1						2		1	1			1	3	2		12	
Louisiana Waterthrush												0																					0	
Northern Waterthrush							3			3	1	7	2	2	2	2	1		1				2	4	4	4	4	1	1	2	1			33

Fall 2019 Migration -- Sabine Woods

[illegible]

Fall 2019 Migration -- Sabine Woods

Species	OCT																													OCT	NOV						NOV	GRAND
Date	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL	3	4	7	9	11	13	TOTAL	TOTAL				
Number of Reports	1	1	4	2	1	4	2	1	8	7	3	2	3	3	8	6	1	3	4	2	2	10	2	1	1		4	3	1	1	1	1						
Groove-billed Ani						2	2		2																	6							0	7				
Yellow-billed Cuckoo							1		1	1	2		2	2	3	2	2	3		1		2	3			25	2						2	75				
Black-billed Cuckoo													1			1										2		(1)					0	2				
Chuck-will's-widow			1			1			2	1																5							0	24				
Eastern Whip-poor-will												1	1													2							0	2				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	8	6	19	9		16	4		6	10	4	2	25	15	6	8		7	6	4		6	1	2		164		2					2	329				
Green Heron		2	1																							3							0	16				
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron																										0							0	0				
Swallow-tailed Kite																										0							0	1				
Mississippi Kite										1																1							0	33				
Broad-winged Hawk	3	2	1			12	1		1				1					2				1				24							0	68				
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker										1					1	3			4	3	3		2	4		21	2	1		1			4	25				
Northern Flicker										1			1													2							0	2				
Olive-sided Flycatcher							(1)																			0							0	18				
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1		3			3	1		4	7	3	4	6	6	20	8	5	8	5	3	3	10	8	1		109	2	2	1	1			6	145				
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			2						1		1		1													5							0	15				
Acadian Flycatcher			1			1				1		1	1	1	1	1		2	1							11							0	14				
Alder Flycatcher																										0							0	1				
Willow Flycatcher																										0							0	4				
Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's Flycatcher)		1	1				1		1													1				5							0	13				
Least Flycatcher		1	1							1	1	1		1	1	1						1		1		10						(1)	27					
Empidonax sp.	2	2	1			2				1	1	2	1	1	2	1		1				1				18							0	72				
Eastern Phoebe									5	3	3	1	3	2	6	4	1	3	3	2		3	3	1	1	44	5	2	3		3	4	17	61				
Ash-throated Flycatcher										1	1			1	1											4	1						1	5				
Vermilion Flycatcher															1											1							0	1				
Great Crested Flycatcher											2		2													4							0	70				
Eastern Kingbird																										0							0	23				
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher						14			1	2	2		3	2	5	2			6	2			3			42	1						1	45				
White-eyed Vireo	4	3	4			12	2		9	18	5	8	22	25	23	16	3	6	6	4		8	1	2		181	2	1					3	195				
Bell's Vireo																										0							0	0				
Yellow-throated Vireo	1		1			2				3					1	1	2									11							0	15				
Blue-headed Vireo													6	2	2			2	1	3		1				17	2	2	1	1	1		7	26				
Philadelphia Vireo						9				3	5	3		4	4											28							0	28				
Warbling Vireo						4				2																6							0	13				
Red-eyed Vireo	1		3			12			3	3			2	2	2	1		1	1			3				34							0	100				
House Wren						1			3	3	1	2	2	1	4	2	2	2	2	1		7	1			34	8	2		4			14	48				
Winter Wren																										0					(1)		0	0				
Carolina Wren																		1								1							0	1				
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	7	6	10	7		9	3		23	22	9	11	5	11	8	4	5	8	5	4	2	4	4			167	9	3	3	9	8	3	35	403				
Golden-crowned Kinglet																										0	3	4		7	2	2	18	18				
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			5						3	8	4	4	8	9	10	5	3	4	4		1	5	3	1		77	25	9	4	15	11	12	76	158				
Gray-cheeked Warbler																										0							0	0				
Swainson's Thrush						1								1	4	3		3	2	1		2	1			18	2	1					3	26				
Hermit Thrush										1			2	4				1	1			2				11	15	2		1	2		20	31				
Wood Thrush										2			1	4	8	2		2	3			3				25	2						2	27				
Gray Catbird	1	2	10	4		17	2		13	21	22	13	55	30	30	20	6	14	8	5		6				279	2	1			1		4	317				
Brown Thrasher	2	1	2			2	2		5	8	3	4	5	3	5	2	2	2	4	2		2	1			57	2				1	2		5	99			
Yellow-breasted Chat			1		1	1				1																4							0	23				
Orchard Oriole						1														1		1				3							0	77				
Baltimore Oriole						2			1	1																4							0	67				
Clay-colored Sparrow															1											1							0	1				
Field Sparrow																										0							0	0				
Field Sparrow																										1							0	1				
Lincoln's Sparrow															1	1			1	2						6	1						1	7				
Swamp Sparrow										2			2					3				2											0	9				
Ovenbird	1		2	2	1	1	2		2	4	2		3	3	6	5		6	1	2	1	2	1	1		48							0	69				
Worm-eating Warbler	1																							(1)		1							0	13				
Louisiana Waterthrush																										0							0	0				
Northern Waterthrush			2	1					1	1			1	2	1	1						2				12							0	52				

Fall 2019 Migration -- Sabine Woods

Species	OCT																													OCT	NOV						NOV	GRAND
Date	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL	3	4	7	9	11	13	TOTAL	TOTAL				
Number of Reports	1	1	4	2	1	4	2	1	8	7	3	2	3	3	8	6	1	3	4	2	2	10	2	1	1		4	3	1	1	1	1						
Louisiana/N. Waterthrush																										0							0	1				
Golden-winged Warbler						1								1	1	1		1								5							0	5				
Blue-winged Warbler	1									(1)	1															2							0	14				
Black-and-white Warbler	4		5	2		3	1		4	3	2	3	9	8	8	5	3	7	3	3		5				78		1					1	148				
Prothonotary Warbler						1	1		1																	3							0	14				
Swainson's Warbler																										0							0	0				
Tennessee Warbler			2	1		1			10	11	6	6	11	10	30	28	6	25	15	11	20	15	10	3		221	7	4		3			14	238				
Orange-crowned Warbler									2	1		1	2	2	2		2					1	1			14	3	3	5	9	3	4	27	41				
Nashville Warbler			3				1		7	6	2	2	5	4	4	3		3	1							43	1	2	1				4	51				
Mourning Warbler		1									1?															1							0	17				
Kentucky Warbler																										0							0	21				
Common Yellowthroat	3	1	2	7	1	12	15	1	12	25	8	14	21	30	20	12	10	10	3	2		7	4			220			5	1			6	239				
Hooded Warbler	3	2	3	1	2	4	3		4	3	3	1	3	2	6	4	2	4	4	2	2	4			1	63	3	1		1			5	154				
American Redstart	3	4	7	2	1	11	5	1	9	22	14	7	18	14	10	10	4	10	5	4	1	6	4	1		173							0	209				
Cape May Warbler														1	2	2	2	2	2	1		2	1	1		16							0	16				
Northern Parula			6	1	1	8	6		5	10	6	5	25	20	16	20	15	12	10	5	3	6	3	2		185	2	2			1		5	203				
Magnolia Warbler	1		4			5			10	10	12	10	19	18	25	18	4	19	10	7		12	2			186							0	199				
Bay-breasted Warbler													2	2	2	4	3	8	2	2		5			2	32			2			2	34					
Blackburnian Warbler			1			1							1	2	2	1		1	1							10							0	10				
Yellow Warbler			2			2			3	1			1													9							0	79				
Chestnut-sided Warbler			1			1				1			1	3	4	2		6	4	2		3				28							0	35				
Blackpoll Warbler																										0							0	0				
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1																		1							3							0	6				
Palm Warbler		1	2	1					2	1	1	1	1													10							0	10				
Pine Warbler						2	1		3	3		1	1	1	2	1		2	2	2						21	3	1		4			8	29				
Yellow-rumped Warbler				1					1	1			2		1			1								7				4			4	11				
Yellow-throated Warbler													1		3	1						1	1			7							0	12				
Prairie Warbler									1	1	1															3							0	6				
Black-throated Gray Warbler																										0	1						1	2				
Townsend's Warbler																										0							0	0				
Black-throated Green Warbler			2			9	2		2	3	1		10	6	5	3	2	2	1			3	1			52	2	1		5	1		9	66				
Canada Warbler	5									1						1										7							0	79				
Wilson's Warbler		1	2	1					2				1	1		1										9							0	13				
Summer Tanager	1		1			4			2	4	1	2	6	3	6	4	1	3	3	1		2				44							0	52				
Scarlet Tanager						1			1			1	1	2	2	2		1	1							12							0	13				
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			1			2			6	6	2		15	5	6	2			1			2	1			49							0	49				
Blue Grosbeak	6	3	5	1		4			8	7	4	9	8	9	6	2		2				1				75							0	146				
Indigo Bunting	2		12	3		18	1		20	100	35	16	95	45	50	35	38	45	11	9	12	38	10			595	2	2	1	1			6	621				
Painted Bunting			1			1				1		1	1	1	2	5		4	1			1				19							0	38				
Dickcissel															1											1							0	3				

Comments on November Bird Sightings

For the second consecutive year, we have been overwhelmed by reports of November sightings that, based on historical norms, are rare or very rare for the month. An explanation of our *modus operandi* is in order here. From 1995 to 2014, we focused on reporting all the records in our traditional area – Jefferson, Orange, Hardin, Tyler, Newton, Jasper, Angelina, Sabine and San Augustine Counties, and presented all sightings from those counties, in abbreviated format for the common species. We always covered the lakes area counties despite the distance from the Golden Triangle because these sightings were otherwise lost to posterity as there was nowhere else they were being archived. The counties to our immediate west were being covered in Houston area publications. The advent of eBird changed the reporting picture. Obviously, it took time before a high enough number of active birders began reporting all their sightings to eBird. But in 2014, our reporting of every sighting became impractical due to the increasing numbers of them.

To replace the complete listings, In 2014, we began listing all rare and very rare species reports for our traditional area as outlines above. We used as our primary determinant of whether a species was rare or very rare the *"Birder's Checklist of the Upper Texas Coast"*, compiled by Brad Lirette, David Sarkozi and Ron Weeks, and published by the Houston Outdoor Nature Club in May 2008. In cases where we wanted more information on the occurrences, we consulted (and still do) *Birdlife of Houston, Galveston and the Upper Texas Coast* by Ted Eubanks, Robert Behrstock and Ron Weeks, Texas A&M University Press 2008. We do make some judgment calls on sightings well north of the coast to adjust to the fact that the Checklists we use do not cover those areas. We continued to cover our traditional counties and added Chambers, Galveston (east of the Houston Ship Channel only), Calcasieu Parish, and Cameron Parish (west of the Calcasieu Ship Channel and River only). We restricted our coverage of the added counties to very rare species only. This worked well enough, producing area sightings that amounted to about three quarters of a page or less each month. In 2018, we decided that not covering species that were merely rare (not very rare) in nearby (west and east) counties was distorting the picture. So we added the rest of Galveston County, Harris and Liberty Counties, and the rest of Cameron Parish. We recognized that we would likely have more sightings to report, especially from west Galveston County, but we felt that there would be only relatively few from the rest of the added coverage areas. Subsequent to our decision, there has been a very significant increase in birder activity in Cameron County along the coast just east of the Calcasieu River. There has also been a significant increase in birding of the numerous small parks in Harris County, with interesting results. Apart from these, our assumption has proved to be true, except for November sightings, which this year and last proved to involve twice as many sightings as before the changes. Even though there has likely been a significant increase in birding in November, this may be the first indication of changes.

Given the vagaries of weather, two years is nowhere near long enough to gauge long term trends. On the other hand, the occurrence "evaluations" that we note above as our guiding documents are becoming long in the tooth. Some changes, more in the nature of a rapid expansion of range rather than a slow trend of increasing or decreasing sightings, can be highlighted. Before 2013, Brown Boobies were known on the upper Gulf Coast as occasional strays, presumably from the population in the Florida Keys or the eastern Yucatan. A goodly number then found the Pontchartrain Causeway, a 24-mile bridge across the lake, and established a colony there by 2014. In Oct 2013 Brown Boobies started frequenting oil and gas platforms on Lake Calcasieu. Apart from a sighting from the Bolivar Ferry in August 2014. The first series of sightings on the Texas coast was in December 2016-January 2017 from the North Levee of Pleasure Island. Since then, they have spread and every month our Sightings column has some sightings. We will, for now, continue to record these in our Sightings columns.

The other emerging trend that you might well discern is the number of sightings of passerine migrant species, especially warblers in the November listing. Many migrant species are rare for a period, often three or four weeks after the normal migration period, and are then very rare for a period, often at least month after that. A few even continue on very rare status until the following spring as they winter on very small numbers along the Upper Texas Coast. In years when weather conditions lead to food being readily available later than usual in the fall on the way south, lingering may just be an opportunistic response. In other cases, lingering north of the normal wintering range may reflect on the physical condition of the bird. Migration takes a lot of energy, and birds not in excellent health condition may be unable or unwilling to continue south, especially if the migration path involves a long overwater crossing. Time will tell if the last two years' worth of November sightings is just a case of unusual weather, or the beginning of a longer term trend.

Among specific species, the large number of "late" Eastern Wood-Pewees deserves watching as it follows a large number last year. Late Yellow-billed Cuckoos similarly were seen in significant numbers. Common Ground Dove in only rarely recorded in our area, although they have long been recognized as a wintering species. Once settled for the winter, the species does not seem to move much, facilitating re-finding and a consequent large number of sightings of the same bird. We have tried to aggregate the multiple sightings of the same bird in the listing. The appearance of Wood Storks is noted and it will be interesting to watch for the next few years. The species winters along the Florida coast, and along the western Yucatan coast, and it will be interesting to see if the gap in the Gulf Coast "fills in." The coastal Gulf Coast areas would seem to present similar weather and therefore food conditions to the Florida Coast. To the best of our knowledge, there is no information as to whether the early fall Wood Storks that we see are actually post-breeding dispersal from the Yucatan population as is generally supposed.

Bird Sightings – November 2019

For this column, we review, looking for rare and very rare species, all credible eBird and other records reported to us from nearby Texas counties – Angelina, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, San Augustine and Tyler. We also review records for Chambers, Galveston, Harris and Liberty Counties in Texas, and Calcasieu and Cameron Parishes in Louisiana.

The format of the listing is Species – Date – County-and

brief location information if available – (number) – Observer(s). If more precise location information is needed, it can often be obtained by using the bird species map feature to find the sighting in eBird, opening the checklist, and using the map function to display the location as precisely as the observer provided.

Commentary: As noted on previous page, as noted on sightings in November.

Seen in our Core Counties (listed above)

Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Nov 3	JEF-SW (2) James Rieman, Dominic Le Croisette
Chick-will's-widow	Nov 16	JEF-Pilot Station Rd (1) SH
Chimney Swift	Nov 3	JEF-Beaumont (1) SH
Broad-bill. Humm'bird	Nov 2-24	JEF-Groves (1 imm male) Sherrie Roden, mult obs
Brown Booby	Nov 12-20	JEF-Pleasure Is N Levee (up to 6) G. Jackson, SH, JHH, SM, JAW
Red-tail. Hawk (Rufous)	Nov 24	JEF-TP (2) SH, Thomas Hellweg
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Nov 3-9	JEF-SW (2) mult obs
	Nov 4	ANG-Lufkin (1) Gary Hunter
	Nov 10	JEF-SRSP(1) SH
	Nov 13	JEF-Hwy 87 west of Sabine Pass (1) JAW
Ash-thr. Flycatcher	Nov 23	JEF-Thompson Rd (1) GTAS Field Trip
Western Kingbird	Nov 26	JEF-Thompson Rd (1) JAW
Clay-colored Sparrow	Nov 9	JEF-Pilot Station Rd (3) SH
Tennessee Warbler	Nov 2	ANG-Lufkin (1) Gary Hunter
	Nov 2,9	JEF-Pilot Station Road (2) SH
	Nov 3-9	JEF-SW (7) JAW, JHH, mult obs
	Nov 22	JEF-TP (1) Neil Diaz
Northern Parula	Nov 3	JEF-SW (2) James Rieman, Dominic Le Croisette
	Nov 11	JEF-SW Duke Liebler (1)
Bay-breasted Warbler	Nov 2	JEF-Pilot Station Road (1) SH
Yellow-thr. Warbler	Nov 7	SAB-Hemphill (1) Davis Bell
Black-thr. Gray Warbler	Nov 3-4	JEF-SW (1) James Rieman, Dominic Le Croisette, JAW, JHH
Summer Tanager	Nov 3	HAI-Kountze (1) Brandie Grass
	Nov 4	ANG-Lufkin (1) Gary Hunter

Nearby Counties

Greater Scaup	Nov 8	CAM-Willow Is (1) Eric Ripma
White-winged Scoter	Nov 2	CAM-Rockefeller SWR (1) Kyle Carlsen
Least Grebe	Nov 9	CHA-TX124 S of Stowell (1) Maria Salas
	Nov 9	CHA-just E of Shoveler Pond (1) Schi-Lee Smith
Horned Grebe	Nov 8	CAM-E of Holly Beach (1) Eric Ripma
	Nov 17	CAM-Holly Beach (2) Paul Conover

Com. Ground-Dove

Nov 1	HAI-Bear Creek Park (1)	Greg Page, Sonny Bratz
Nov 1,10	GAL-Artist Boat Preserve (2)	Greg Hall, Kris Cannon
Nov 2	HAS-Bear Creek Park (1)	Chris Hammond
Nov 3	HAS-Warren Ranch Road (1)	Janey Woodley
Nov 17-28	GAL-Galveston Is SP (1)	mult obs
Groove-billed Ani	Nov 17	HAS-EI Franco Lee Park (1)
		Daniel Kraushaar

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Nov 1	GAL-Lafitte's Cove (1) mult obs
Nov 1, 14, 15	GAL-High Is Smith Oaks (1) Ruth Stearns, Richard Gibbons, Steven Garcia
Nov 2-3	CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Heath Harlan, mult obs
Nov 2-3	CAM-Willow Is (1), Nicolas Cates, Heath Harlan, mult obs
Nov 2-3	CHA-ANWR (1) mult obs
Nov 3	CAM-LeBleu Woods (1) Gary Byerly

Nov 5	CAM-Cameron Pr NWR (1) Aaron Yappert	
Nov 6	GAL-Lafitte's Cove (1) James Rieman	
Nov 7	CHA-ANWR Skillern (1) Aaron Yappert	
Nov 9	CHA-ANWR Willows Trl (1) Farokh Jamalyaria, Gemini Twins	
Nov 9	GAL-HI Boy Scout Woods (1) Richard Gibbons	
Nov 10	GAL-Moody Gdns (1) Dennis Trujillo	
Nov 17	CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Marl Meunier, Joan Garvey	
Nov 19	CHA-J J Mayes (1) Paul Fagala, Mickey Redus	
Whooping Crane	Nov 1	CAL-Iowa (1) mult obs (flying over with Sandhills)
	Nov 18	HAS-Johnson SC (3) Steven Berenzweig (flyover)
California Gull	Nov 6, 8	GAL-East Beach (1) James Rieman, mult obs
Iceland Gull	Nov 8	CAM-E of Holly Beach (1) Eric Ripma
Chuck-will's-widow	Nov 3	CAM-Willow Is (1) mult obs
East. Whip-poor-will	Nov 3	CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Paul Conover
	Nov 26	CAM-Willow Is (1) Paul Conover
Chimney Swift	Nov 3	Broussard Beach (1) mult obs
Amer. Golden-Plover	Nov 1	CAL-Iowa (6) mult obs (flyovers)
Pectoral Sandpiper	Nov 17	GAL-Texas City (1) Greg Hall, Kyle O'Haver
Solitary Sandpiper	Nov 27	CAM-Cameron Prairie NWR (1) Staphanie Wallace
Gt. Black-backed Gull	Nov 8	GAL-SW of Jamaica Beach (1) Dennis Trujillo
Sabine's Gull	Nov 2	GAL-Bolivar-Galveston Ferry nr Galveston (1) Lucas Bobay, Michael McCloy, Sam Jolly
Franklin's Gull	Nov 19	CAL-Lake Charles Swimm Beach (12) Judson Lassiter
California Gull	Nov 26	GAL-East Beach (1) Arman Moreno
Iceland (Thayer's) Gull	Nov 12-16	GAL-Texas City Dike (Duke Liebler, mult obs)
Wood Stork		
Nov 2, 5	CAM-Cameron Pr NWR (1) D. Lane, E. Brinkley, mult obs	
Nov 4	HAS-N of Huffman (11) Bonie de Grood (high overhead)	
Nov 5, 27	HAS-Archbishop Fiorenza Park (1) Chris Bailey, G Mary Anne Weber, mult obs	
Nov 9	CAM-Sabine NWR Wetland Walkway (7) Chris Benesh, mult obs (flyover)	
Nov 13-15	CHA-J J Mayes (3) Paul Fagala, Steve Metchis	
Nov 24	HAS-Friendswood (1) Chris Bick	
Nov 27	CHA-just off FM565 1/2 mi E of FM3180	
Masked Booby	Nov 3	CAM-Peveto Woods Beach (1) mult obs
Brown Booby	Nov 9-30	HAS-Baytown NC (2) mult obs
	Nov 10-11	GAL-West Bay (3) Dean Silvers
	Nov 13-30	GAL-Texas City Dike (1) James Rieman, Brian Berry, multi obs
	Nov 22	GAL-8 mile Rd (30) Dennis Cooke
Least Bittern		
Oct 31	CAM-Illinois Plant Rd (1) Bonnie Duman, Pamela Lasley	
Nov 2, 17	CAM-Cameron Pr NWR (1) S. Thompson, Jean Viallet	
Nov 2	CAM-Price Lake Rd (1) Debbi Logan	
Nov 2	CAM-Sabine NWR Wetland Walkway (1) Daniel Lane, Edward Brinkley	
Nov 16	CAM-Price Lake Rd (1) Debbi Logan	

Golden Eagle Nov 2-3 CAM-Broussard Beach (2) Willow Is (2) mult obs
Nov 3 CAM- Willow Is (2) mult obs

Mississippi Kite Nov 11 GAL-SW of Jamaica Beach (2) Dennis Trujillo

Broad-winged Hawk Nov 17 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Joan Garvey

Swainson's Hawk Nov 29 GAL-Stewart Rd (1) Laurie Lawler

Rough-legged Hawk Nov 20 GAL-8 mile rd (1) Richard Peake

Ferruginous Hawk Nov 18 GAL-8 mile rd (1) Greg Hall

Short-eared Owl Nov 9 CHA-ANWR Froze Pt and Bay boat ramp (2) Norman Welsh

Hairy Woodpecker Nov 4 HAS-Memorial Park area (1) Stanley Almoney, mult obs

Eastern Wood Pewee
Nov 2 CHA-ANWR- VIS area (2) mult obs
Nov 3 CHA-ANWR (2 or 3) at Willows Trail, Jackson Woodlot Todd McGrath, mult obs
Nov 5 CAL-Lorraine Park (1) Aaron Yappert
Nov 6 CAM-Oak Grove Sanctuary (1) Aaron Yappert
Nov 6, 8 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Aaron Yappert, Mult obs
Nov 8 GAL-HI Smith Oaks (1) Don Verser, mult obs
Nov 9 CHA-ANWR (1) Farokh Jamalyaria, Gemini Twins
Nov 9 HAS-Houston Arboretum (1) mult obs
Nov 9-10 GAL-Moody Gdns (1) Greg Whittaker
Nov 9 GAL-HI-Hooks Woods (1) Shelia Hargis
Nov 10 CAM-Cameron (1) Paul Conover
Nov 11 GAL-Dos Vacas Muertas (1) Dean Silvers
Nov 13 JEF-Hwy 87 2 miles west of Sabine Pass (1) JAW
Nov 21 HAS-Armand Bayou NC (1) John Scaramucci, Sydney Fitzpatrick
Nov 23 GAL-Lafitte's Cove (1) James Schubert

Yellow-bell. Flycatcher Nov 6 HAS-Russ Pitman Park (1) Barbara Stern (ID by call)

Say's Phoebe
Nov 2-30 CAM-Willow Is (1) mult obs
Nov 2-26 HAS-El Franco Lee Park (1) Marie Asscherick, mult obs
Nov 10 CAM-LA284 nr Lake Charles (1) Paul Conover
Nov 25 HAS-Willow Waterhole Greenspace (1) Steve Dougill

Ash-thr. Flycatcher Nov 29 LIB-Dayton area (1) Colette and Paul Micallef

Gt Crested Flycatcher Nov 16 HAS-Baytown NC (1) mult obs

Couch's Kingbird Nov 13 CHA-J J Mayes (1) Paul Fagala

Western Kingbird
Nov 9 CAM-Holly Beach (1) Chris Benesh, mult obs
Nov 17-22 CAL-Ward Line Rd (1) Charlotte Chechotsky
Nov 25 CAM-Willow Is (1) Paul Conover, mult obs

Eastern Kingbird Nov 27 CAL-Pine Pasture Rd (1) Stephanie Wallace

Yellow-throated Vireo Nov 1-6 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Keith Watson, Simon Thompson, mult obs

Philadelphia Vireo Nov 9 CHA-ANWR Hackberry Trl (1) Farokh Jamalyaria, mult obs

Red-eyed Vireo
Nov 2-3 CAM-Peveto Woods (1), mult obs
Nov 2 CHA-ANWR Woodlot (1) mult obs
Nov 3 CAM-Sabine NWR-Blue Goose Trail (1) Linda Wygoda, Arlene Cain
Nov 3 CAM-LeBleu Woods (1) Gary Byerly
Nov 3 CHA-ANWR Jackson Woodlot (1) mult obs

Chihuahuan Raven Nov 17,28 GAL-IH-45 near FM2004 (1) Kris Cannon, Tony Frank, mult obs
Nov 18 GAL-Dickinson (1) Dennis Cooke, Duke Liebler

N. Rough-wing. Swallow Nov 23 GAL-Frenchtown Rd (6) Greg Whittaker
Nov 26 GAL-Lafitte's Cove (12) Arman Moreno

Cliff Swallow Nov 1 CAM-Rutherford Beach Rd (7) John Spahr

Cave Swallow
Oct 31 CAM-Lacassine NWR-Pool (1) Bonnie Duman
Nov 1 CAM-Rutherford Beach Rd (1) John Spahr
Nov 1 CAL-Corbina Rd (1) Nicolas Cates, Heath Harlan

Nov 2 CAM-LA82 east of Johnson Bayou (2) Daniel Lane, Edward Brinley, mult obs

Nov 2 CAM-Cameron Pr NWR (5) Daniel Lane, Edward Brinkley

Nov 3 CAM-Broussard Beach (1) mult obs

Bewick's Wren Nov 16-17 HAS-Longenbaugh (1) Stuart Nelson, Greg Page

Gray-cheeked Thrush Nov 1-2 HAS-Memorial (1) Sue Orwig
Nov 3 HAS-Edith L Moore (1) Dennis Rothacker

Swainson's Thrush
Nov 1 CAM-Holister Chenier (1) Kyle Carlsen
Nov 3-4 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Oscar Johnson, mult obs
Nov 8 HAS-Houston Botanic Gdn (1) Mary Anne Weber, Mary Goldsby, Barbara Stern
Nov 26 CAM-Willow Is (1) Paul Conover

Wood Thrush
Nov 2 CAM-Willow Is (1) Heath Harlan, Nicolas Cates
Nov 2-5 HAS-Edith L Moore (1) Aaron Hammer, Richard Gibbons
Nov 2 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Oscar Johnson
Nov 3-27 HAS-Memorial (1) Sue Orwig
Nov 21 HAS-Armand Bayou NC (1) John Scaramucci, Sydney Fitzpatrick
Nov 26 CAM-Willow Is (1) Paul Conover

American Goldfinch Nov 1 GAL-Artist Boat Preserve (1) Greg Hall
Nov 2 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Daniel Lane, Edward Brinkley, mult obs

Lark Sparrow Nov 17 CAL-E Jake Oliver Lane (1) David Booth

Clay-colored Sparrow Nov 17 HAS-Exploration Green 2 (5) Steven Berenzweig (few details)

Henslow's Sparrow Nov 27 CAM-Cameron Prairie NWR (1) Stephanie Wallace

Yellow-breasted Chat Nov 2 CAM-Willow Is (1) mult obs
Nov 16 HAS-Clear Lake (1) Janet Rathjen

Western Meadowlark Nov 6 HAS-Huffman (1) Timothy Freiday
Nov 17 LIB-CR491 (1) Colette and Paul Micallef
Nov 25 HAS-Paul Rushing Park (1) Sonny Bratz

Orchard Oriole Nov 6 HAS-Bear Creek Park (1) Donald Fullmer

Baltimore Oriole Nov 2-5 HAS-Bear Creek Park (1) Jim Hinson, mult obs.
Nov 14 LIB-FM1008 area N of Kenefick (1) Colette and Paul Micallef

Worm-eating Warbler Nov 3 CAM-Willow Is (1) mult obs

Northern Waterthrush Nov 30 HAS-Clear Lake Area (1) Danny Ltch

Blk-and-white Warbler Nov 13 CAM-SW Lake Charles (1) J. G. Miller

Golden-wing. Warbler Nov 9 ANWR-Skillern (1) Dennis Trujillo (no details)

Tennessee Warbler
Nov 1 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) mult obs
Nov 3, 23 HAS-Memorial (1) Sue Orwig
Nov 7 HAS-Houston Botanic Gdn (1) Mary Anne Weber, Mary Goldsby, Barbara Stern
Nov 16 HAS-Armand Bayou NC (1) Andrew Hamlett, mult obs
Nov 19 CAM-Lake Arthur (1) Jeff Weeks

Orchard Oriole Nov 3 CAM-Broussard Beach (1) Van Remsen, mult obs

Nashville Warbler Nov 17-24 LIB-FM1008 area N of Kenefick (1) Colette and Paul Micallef
Nov 24 HAS-El Franco Lee Park (1) Daniel Kraushaar

Hooded Warbler
Nov 2-6 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) mult obs
Nov 2 GAL-High Is Smith Oaks (1) mult obs
Nov 2 CAM-Willow Is (1) mult obs
Nov 11 GAL-Texas City (1) Lis McGonigle

American Redstart Nov 8 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Florinus Kooyman
Nov 8 HAS-Friendswood (1) Chris Bick

Nov 11 CAM-Grand Chenier (1) Robert Dobbs
 Nov 15 HAS-Armand Bayou NC (1) J & C Miles
Cape May Warbler Nov 10 HAS-Houston Arboretum (1) Zhen Li

Northern Parula
 Nov 1-3 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) mult obs
 Nov 2 HAS-Kleb Woods (1) Michael & Sarah Kuzio, mult obs
 Nov 3 CAM-Broussard Beach (1) Van Remsen, mult obs
 Nov 3 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Dave Ebbitt, Allison Barnes

Magnolia Warbler
 Nov 1 HAS-Armand Bayou NC (1) Farokh Jamalyana
 Nov 2 CAM-LA82 east of Johnson Bayou (1) mult obs
 Nov 2 CAL-Roadside (1) Edward Brinkley
 Nov 2 HAS-Kleb Woods (1) Michael and Sarah Kuzio, Karl Poetzl
 Nov 2-3 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Paul Conover, mult obs
 Nov 3 CAM-Willow Is (1) mult obs
 Nov 3 HAS-El Franco Lee Park (1) Brad Lirette
 Nov 9 HAS-San Jacinto Battleground (1) Dale Wolck

Bay-breasted Warbler
 Nov 1-3 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) mult obs
 Nov 1 HAS-Armand Bayou NC (1) Farokh Jamalyana
 Nov 3 HAS-Memorial (1) Sue Orwig
 Nov 3 GAL-League City area (1) Brian Berry
 Nov 3 CAM-Peveto Woods (2) Eamon Corbett, Matthew Janson
 Nov 4 GAL-Kempner Park (1) Kyle O'Haver
 Nov 6,9 HAS-Russ Pitman Park (1) Barbara Stern, Liston Rice
Blackpoll Warbler Nov 9 JEF-Pilot Station Road (1) SH

Blackburnian Warbler
 Nov 3 CAM-Peveto Woods (1) Paul Conover, mult obs
 Nov 3 GAL-League City area (1) Brian Berry
 Nov 7 HAS-Houston Botanic Gdn (1) Mary Anne Weber, Mary Goldsby, Barbara Stern

Yellow Warbler
 Nov 9 HAS-Houston Arboretum (1) mult obs
 Nov 9 GAL-League City Clear Creek Nature Park (1) John Faber
 Nov 9 GAL-Artist Boat Preserve (1) S. Templeton, R. Mallett
 Nov 10 CAM-Lacassine NWR Pool Unit (1) Van Remsen
 Nov 24 HAS-El Franco Lee Park (1) Daniel Kraushaar

Chestnut-sid. Warbler Nov 1-4 CAM-Peveto Woods (2) mult obs
Black-thr. Blue Warbler Nov 6 HAS-Russ Pitman Park (1) Barbara Stern

Y-r (Audubon's) Warb. Nov 23 HAS-Bear Creek Park (1) Jim Hinson, Drew Dickert
Yellow-throat. Warbler Nov 6 CAM-Willow Is (1) Aaron Yappert
Prairie Warbler Nov 17 CHA-ANWR-entrance area (1) Dominic Le Croisette
Black-thr. Grn Warbler Nov 17 HAS-Archbishop Fiorenza Park (1) Drew Dickert, John Berner
 Nov 19 HAS-Russ Pitman Park (1) Tim Perkins
 Nov 27 HAS-Rice Univ (1) Cin-Ty Lee

Scarlet Tanager
 Nov 1 CHA-ANWR (1) Hank George
 Nov 2-3 CAM-Peveto Woods (2) Daniel Lane, mult obs
 Nov 2 HAS-Bear Creek Park (1) Nicholas DeMaio
 Nov 3 CHA-ANWR Jackson Woodlot (1) Michel Robert
 Nov 3 CAM-LeBleu Woods (1) Gary Byerly
 Nov 11 GAL-Dos Vacas Muertes (1) Dennis Trujillo
 Nov 23 GAL-Galveston Is SP (1) Rpbert Becker, Kyle O'Haver

Rose-breast. Grosbeak
 Nov 2 HAS-Bay Area Park (3) Farokh Jamalyaria
 Nov 2 HAS-Bear Creek Park (1) Jim Highberger
 Nov 3 CAM-Earl Rd Cameron (1) Van Remsen, mult obs
 Nov 23 HAS-San Jacinto Battleground (1) Cin-Ty Lee, mult obs

Blue Grosbeak Nov 3 CAL-Iowa (2) mult obs
 Nov 3-12 HAS-Rice Univ (1) Cin-Ty Lee
 Nov 11 LIB-CR2095 Liberty (2) Colette & Paul Micallef

Dickcissel Nov 3 HAS-Clear Lake area (1) Liz Garney, Sandy Parker

Abbreviations used: ANG – Angelina County; ANWR – Anahuac NWR; BF – Bolivar Flats; CAL – Calcasieu Parish; CAM – Cameron Parish; CHA – Chambers County; GAL – Galveston County; HAI – Hardin County; HAS – Harris County; HI – High Island; HS – Harlan Stewart; JAS – Jasper County; JAW – John Whittle; JEF – Jefferson County; JHH – John Haynes; JJW – Jana and John Whittle; LIB – Liberty County; MC – Michael Cooper; NEW – Newton County; ORA – Orange County; PI – Pleasure Is, Port Arthur;; SAA – San Augustine Co.; SAB – Sabine County; SH – Sheila Hebert; SM – Steve Mayes, SRSP – Sea Rim State Park; SW – Sabine Woods; TP – Tyrrell Park including Cattail Marsh; TYL – Tyler County; WJC – West Jefferson County.

Golden Triangle Audubon Society
P. O. Box 1292
Nederland, Texas 77627-1292

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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, Memberships, PO Box 97194, Washington, DC 20090-7194. 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.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Gift from: _____

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Please bill me

Golden Triangle Audubon C9ZW250Z

Brown Pelican SUBSCRIPTION/ MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail to Golden Triangle Audubon Society (GTAS), P. O. Box 1292, Nederland, Texas 77627-1292 or bring to any Membership Meeting. National Audubon Society (NAS) members with addresses within our official territory are automatically GTAS members without further payment, but are asked to contribute \$20 if they are able since we only receive a very small amount from NAS after the first year.

Subscriptions from NAS Members with mailing addresses outside our official territory, and others wishing to subscribe are \$20 per year (Jan-Dec).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel No: _____

RARE BIRD ALERTS

Unfortunately, almost all the local and regional telephone Rare Bird Alerts have been discontinued in favor of various forms of 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. It is not necessary to subscribe to the listserv to view the archives, which include all recent postings.

Detailed information/maps on birding sites in Texas is available on the Web at <http://www.texasbirds.org/birdingLocations.php>. This leads you to the maps of the various eBird hotspots. You can also subscribe (free) on eBird for email alerts for all rare birds reported in a specific county.