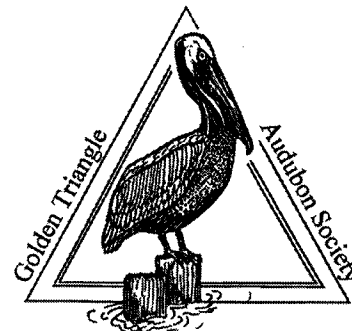


Brown Pelican

Scanned from Originals

The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 12 No. 3

March 2006

**Thursday, March 16, 2006
6:30 PM, Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont**

Birds of Peru

Speaker: John P. O'Neill

John O'Neill is one of the foremost painters of birds in the world. He is also a world renowned ornithologist, specializing in the birds of Peru, and has described thirteen species of birds new to science, more than any other living person. His book, *Great Texas Birds*, published in 2000 by the University of Texas Press, is a collection of 48 full sized paintings of birds that are identified with Texas. We expect copies of the book will be available for sale at the meeting. A fuller description of the book and a short biography of John O'Neill are on the web site at www.goldentraingleaudubon.org

If you have one or more friends you want to introduce to Audubon, this is the meeting to bring them to! As usual, the doors will open no later than 6:30 p.m., but the talk will start at 7:15 p.m. approximately.

A Chance to Find Another Lost Species!

The recent 'rediscovery' of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker has ignited new interest in another long-lost species with local connections, the Eskimo Curlew. Elsewhere in this issue is a wealth of information about this species. As noted, the historical spring migration route of this species is apparently up the Texas Coast from its wintering grounds in the northern Pampas around the Rivers Parana, Paraguay and Uruguay in the countries of Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Brazil to its presumed nesting grounds in the Mackenzie district of the Northwest Territories of Canada. (Its fall migration route is apparently, like the American Golden Plover, to the east coast and then non-stop across a slice of the Atlantic to northern South America.) All the confirmed sightings of this species in the last 100 years have been in Galveston County, with one intriguing possible sighting in eastern Jefferson county. Clearly, the species is a strong flier and not afraid to cross water. So, notwithstanding the many very old sightings in South Texas, anywhere on the coastal swath of Galveston, Chambers and Jefferson counties is a prime place to look. Identifying the species will require care. Size and bill length and shape should rule out the two other likely curlews, the Long-billed Curlew and the Whimbrel. Good luck in your search!

The Brown Pelican

Vol. 12, No.3 Mar 2006

Golden Triangle
Audubon Society

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

www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

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Calendar of Events

Saturday March 11. Marsh Madness at McFaddin NWR. Marsh Madness is the annual day of activities at McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge, sponsored by the refuge and the McFaddin and Texas Point Refuges Alliance. There will be programs and demonstrations for children of all ages. Contact the refuge (409-971-2909) or Stephanie Martinez or Michele Whitbeck in the refuge complex office in Anahuac (409-267-3337 for more details.

Thursday March 16. Membership Meeting. Speaker: John O'Neill. See page 1 for details.

Saturday March 18. Field Trip to Bolivar Flats. Meet at the vehicle barrier at 8:30 a.m. From Winnie, take TX 124 south to High Island. At the shoreline, turn right (west) on TX 87 and proceed through Gilchrist and Crystal Beach until you reach the intersection where Loop 108 turns right (north). Turn left (the opposite way to Loop 108) along Rettilon Road. At the beach, if conditions permit, turn right (west) about 1/2 mile to the vehicle barrier. It takes at least one and a half hours to drive from the Golden Triangle; more if you bird on the way! We will leave the vehicle barrier at about 8:45 a.m., although the group will be visually obvious on the flats should you be a few minutes later than that. The opportunity will exist to visit High Island on the way back. Some walking is necessary on this field trip. How much depends on how much mud flat is exposed, and this depends on both the tide and the winds that have prevailed over the previous day or so.

Thursday April 20. Membership Meeting. Speaker: Lynn Barber, Fort Worth Audubon on her "Texas Big Year" in 2005.

Saturday April 22. Field Trip Sabine Pass area. This field trip will look for migrant species in Sabine Woods and elsewhere. Minimal walking required. Full details in next issue.

Saturday May 13. North American Migration Count. Full details in future issues.

Refreshments

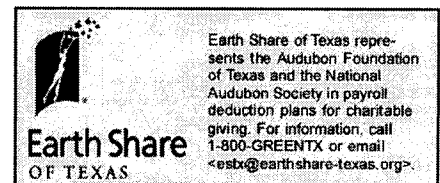
Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. We thank Pat and Don Jeane, Sherry Gibson, Linda Lang, Sherrie Roden, Christine Sliva, Gail Slocum, and Barbara Tilton for bringing refreshments in January. We thank Lu Skillern and Carol Lynn and Andy Loker for volunteering to bring the sandwiches and drinks in March, but still need volunteer(s) to bring chips and dips and desserts. We also **need volunteers to bring all items for April and later 2006 meetings.** We do not expect one person to bring everything, but please call so we can coordinate! If you can just bring drinks and cookies or something similar, please call Jana Whittle at (409) 722-4193 **as far in advance as possible.** Please help if you can!

Subscription Renewal Reminder

Please check the mailing label on this issue. If the date on your label NOT prefixed by "AU" has passed, or there is no other date, please remit your contribution of \$15 to Golden Triangle Audubon Society at P.O. Box 1292, Nederland, Texas 77627-1292. Although this contribution towards the cost of the *Brown Pelican* is voluntary for National Audubon Society members living in the official chapter territory, we will appreciate your support. Our official chapter territory is defined by zip codes, but is basically Jefferson, Hardin and Orange Counties and one or two localities close to those Counties.

Bird Alerts

No room this month for the latest Bird Alert. The most up to date alert is always available on our web site at www.goldentriangleaudubon.org



Field Trip to Cattail Marsh – 18 February 2006

In one of the mildest winters in recent memory, how is it that the Golden Triangle Audubon Society's field trip to Cattail Marsh was so cold? However it happened, on this cold, wet and windy day, six hardy birders braved the inclement weather to search for the rarities and common birds of this man-made wetland. I would like to say that these brave souls were greatly rewarded for venturing out on such a day with sightings of Bald Eagles, Long-tailed Ducks, Vermilion Flycatchers and other rare and beautiful birds. I would like to say that all those birders who stayed safe and warm in their beds really missed out. Alas ...

The group met in the parking lot of the marsh where Savannah Sparrows and Yellow-rumped Warblers provided a warm-up (not literally unfortunately) for the birding to come. After waiting to see if any other birders would arrive (but not really expecting any), the hard core group ventured into the elements and out onto the levee roads that penetrate the marsh. An expected Northern Harrier cruised low over the water while a Sharp-shinned Hawk battling the winds over the marsh was a welcome surprise. Plenty of American Coots were on hand and, in the distance, a large group of Great Egrets and (probable) White-faced Ibis foraged in the water.

Waterfowl are the primary targets of this trip and there were plenty on hand. Mallard were common and this seems to have been a particularly good winter for seeing this attractive species in Jefferson County. Northern Shoveler, Lesser Scaup and Ruddy Duck were among the more common duck species observed though Green-winged Teal and Gadwall were also found in good numbers. Canvasback were easily found both flying and on the water, this is not always the case. This diving duck can be quite scarce in this marsh in winter but the unusually deep water in the cells this winter may have persuaded them to stay in greater numbers than usual. Lesser numbers of Bufflehead, Northern Pintail, American Wigeon and Mottled Duck were seen while Ring-necked Duck were present in good numbers.

Rarer waterfowl were less cooperative. This winter has been a good one for ducks in Cattail Marsh with Cinnamon Teal, Common Goldeneye and Redhead all easily seen earlier in the year. The prize of this winter has been the Long-tailed Duck seen several times in the marsh. At least one Greater Scaup was spotted on the day but as for our other target ducks, they just could not be found. And unfortunately, the much desired Long-tailed Duck did not put in an appearance. Geese were also a no-show with not a single fly-over flock seen. Likely, this was all weather related and some of these scarce species were probably around, even if they could not be seen in the poor viewing conditions.

Smaller birds are often hard to come by on windy days. They tend to keep low and stay in sheltered areas out of the wind on days like this but a few were spotted on this day. Common Yellowthroats and Marsh Wrens were "pushed" up out of their marsh habitats. Swamp Sparrows were heard and sometimes seen while American Pipits made no effort to hide (you have to like that attitude in a bird!). A few Eastern Phoebes were still hawking for insects in the wind and misty rain while bold Orange-crowned Warblers came right up to the

group to look us over! Their scolding notes suggested that the bundled-up, wet birders were not much to their liking, certainly an unsavory looking group. The Red-winged Blackbirds and Boat-tailed Grackles seemed less picky and allowed good looks.

Vermilion Flycatchers, unusually common this winter, were nowhere to be seen. These colorful little birds had been quite cooperative of late with individuals present in the marsh and at least two more in Tyrrell Park proper but on this day, the birds must have slept in. Our hoped for Bald Eagle also decided not to give us a look. Our national symbol is always an iffy prospect at Cattail Marsh but hope springs eternal and individuals had been seen at the marsh in recent weeks.

Still, there were birds to be seen. A constant parade of Ring-billed and Laughing Gulls flew noisily overhead while Pied-billed Grebes dove silently in the water. Killdeer were the lone representative of the shorebird group as the habitat is just not available right now. Carolina Chickadees and Carolina Wrens could be heard in the nearby woods but, amazingly, not a single Northern Mockingbird or Blue Jay was found. Tricolored Herons and Little Blue Herons were seen along with several American White Pelicans. Perhaps the most unusual bird of the day was a fly-by Common Loon, not easy to see at Cattail Marsh. Tree Swallows braved the winds while searching for insects while an adult Red-shouldered Hawk was one of the last new birds to be spotted.

All in all, it was not the biggest day for birds we have had on our field trips and it was certainly not the most comfortable! Still, with beautiful Mallards exploding from the marsh, elegant Northern Pintail swimming in the water and a few hawks winging overhead, it wasn't all bad. Hopefully, for next month's trip to Bolivar Flats, the weather and the birds will be a little more cooperative and more birders can join us for a shorebird extravaganza!

The following species were recorded on the field trip:

Gadwall(50), American Wigeon(3), Mallard(15), Mottled Duck(8), Blue-winged Teal(100), Northern Shoveler(1000), Northern Pintail(8), Green-winged Teal(100), Canvasback(25), Ring-necked Duck(100), Greater Scaup(1), Lesser Scaup(100), Bufflehead(3), Ruddy Duck(500), Common Loon(1), Pied-billed Grebe(10), American White Pelican(8), Neotropic Cormorant(2), Double-crested Cormorant(1), Great Blue Heron(1), Great Egret(35), Snowy Egret(15), Little Blue Heron(1), Tricolored Heron(2), White Ibis(2), Plegadis Ibis sp.(500), Turkey Vulture(2), Northern Harrier(1), Sharp-shinned Hawk(1), Red-shouldered Hawk(1), Red-tailed Hawk(1), Sora(1), American Coot(1000), Killdeer(10), Laughing Gull(50), Bonaparte's Gull(5), Ring-billed Gull(10), Red-bellied Woodpecker(10), Northern Flicker(2), Eastern Phoebe(2), Tree Swallow(20), Carolina Chickadee(1), Carolina Wren(3), Marsh Wren(3), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher(1), American Pipit(15), Orange-crowned Warbler(7), Yellow-rumped Warbler(10), Common Yellowthroat(2), Savannah Sparrow(25), Swamp Sparrow(2), Red-winged Blackbird(20), Boat-tailed Grackle(20), American Goldfinch(10)

Steve Mayes

The Eskimo Curlew

The excitement over the Ivory-billed Woodpecker rediscovery has focused attention on another "lost" species with local connections. And this one does not require exploring bottomland cypress forest in a canoe. In fact, this one can probably be searched for in west Jefferson County in the comfort of a vehicle! The following is a compilation of several posts to Texbirds by Ted Eubanks on February 21 and 22, reproduced with Ted's permission.

Spring migration is about to sweep over us. The weekend of February 25-26 should welcome the first Pectoral Sandpipers, American Golden-Plovers, and migrant Solitary Sandpipers, and by mid-March early shorebird migration will be in full swing. This year the World Birding Center, the Houston Audubon Society, and a number of us shorebird geeks are going to begin a multi-year effort to rediscover the Eskimo Curlew.

For those of you not familiar with the bird, this curlew once migrated through the Great Plains in spring in sky-darkening hordes. In the 1800s these birds were slaughtered for the market, and by the 20th Century the curlew had slipped into obscurity and presumed extinction. However, Joe Heiser reported the species from Galveston in 1945, and Ben Feltner, Vic Emanuel, and others relocated the bird there in 1959-1962 (Ben told me that when he first discovered the bird on West Galveston Island in 1959 he actually had been looking for his lifer Whimbrel).

While writing *The Birdlife of Houston, Galveston, and the Upper Texas Coast* (being published by Texas A&M Press this fall) we (myself, Bob Behrstock, and Ron Weeks) researched the status of this bird in Texas. We looked at both specimen records as well as sighting reports. The Eskimo Curlew is an early migrant through our region, with the peak passage between 10 March and 5 April. The earliest specimen record is 8 March 1877 from Nueces County. In other words, within a couple of weeks the curlew's migration will be upon us.

Does the bird still exist? I believe so. First, this curlew migrates through Texas before the vast majority of birders arrive in late April. Second, the bird frequents habitats (over-grazed pasture, burned prairie) that are rarely inspected by those in search of migrant warblers, tanagers, and orioles. Third, with its diminished population (assuming the bird still exists) the search for this curlew makes the "needle in a haystack" seem simple.

Why look? Because our failure to document this bird in the past 50 years does not mean that it is gone, that it is extinct. A failure to be seen is not proof of a failure to exist. Therefore we will begin a concerted effort to rediscover this species and to unequivocally document its existence (please, no more blurred videos).

By the way, for those of you without hope let me note that no curlews were reported from Texas between 1894 and Joe Heiser's sighting in 1945. In other words, the Eskimo Curlew disappeared from our view and attention for 50 years. Considering the last documented sighting in Texas occurred in 1962 (yes, there have been a number of reports since then), we are still within an absence comparable to the past.

I have posted a series of photographs to the following <http://www.fermatainc.com/coppermine/thumbnails.php?album=52> I have posted three photographs of the Eskimo Curlew, including two of the only photos ever taken of the bird in life (including the only one in color). I have also included photos of Long-billed Curlew and Whimbrel for comparison. In the next couple of weeks I will post additional information about how you can help with this search. For now, simply study the photos and fine tune your shorebird identification skills!

There are several field guides that illustrate this bird well. Therefore I will try to stick to a few key points about how this bird may be identified. I am assuming that no one reading this will confuse this bird with an Upland Sandpiper or a Long-billed Curlew (I hope). Therefore the challenge is to separate this bird from Whimbrel and Little Curlew. Yes, Little Curlew is extremely rare in the U.S. and has never been seen in Texas. But then the Eskimo Curlew has not been seen here for nearly 50 years and many consider it to be extinct.

First, consider size. The Eskimo Curlew is between American Golden-Plover and Whimbrel in size. In other words, the American Golden-Plover compared to the Eskimo Curlew in size is similar to comparing the curlew to Whimbrel. Yes, Whimbrels can vary in size, particularly in fall when juvenals are migrating south. But the Eskimo Curlew is an elliptical migrant, returning to its wintering grounds in South America via the east coast. If the bird in your scope this spring is equal to or larger than a Whimbrel keep looking, because the bird you have is not an Eskimo Curlew.

Second, the Eskimo Curlew has a fine and delicate bill, exquisitely slender throughout its length. Take a look at the photos on the website, particularly the color shot. The Whimbrel has a thick, massive bill in comparison.

Third, Whimbrels have barred primaries and these feathers in the Eskimo Curlew are unbarred. This feature shows in the photos that I have posted.

Fourth, in general Whimbrels are grayish in overall tone and the Eskimo Curlew is richly brown, even buffy.

Fifth, the wing linings of the Eskimo Curlew are cinnamon, those of the Whimbrel are grayish, and in the Little Curlew the wing linings are buffy. The Eskimo Curlew often will hold its wings up over its back (think Buff-breasted Sandpiper) and this feature needs to be seen and documented.

Sixth, study the central head stripe. In the Eskimo Curlew the head stripe is absent or indistinct. The head stripe in the Whimbrel is well-defined, white, and conspicuous. In the Little Curlew the central head stripe is narrow, white or buff, and pale.

Seventh, consider the eye stripe. Both Whimbrel and Little Curlew have well-defined eye stripes, while this feature in the Eskimo Curlew is indistinct.

Eighth, the base of lower mandible of the Eskimo Curlew is flesh-colored or pink for less than half its length. In the Little Curlew, the base of the lower mandible is flesh colored or pink for more than half its length.

For those who would like to see a chart of these features, I have found the following website to be helpful: <http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/birds/curlew/identif.htm> Leg color is one of the marks often mentioned as useful in identifying the Eskimo Curlew.

The leg color of the Eskimo Curlew has been described as "dark green, dark brown, dark gray-blue," the Whimbrel as "light gray, bluish, blackish-gray," and the Little Curlew as "light gray, blue-gray." However, my review of the field notes from the 1950s and 1960s published in *The Spoonbill*, as well as my discussions with several of the observers of those birds, leads me to caution you in relying on this feature exclusively. Many of the observers from that time struggled with this feature. Therefore consider leg color to be one of the features that should be documented, but please do not rely on this aspect to the exclusion of the other diagnostic marks that are listed above.

Most of the literature speaks to this curlew's preference for grassland habitats. Grazed pasture and recently burned prairie are the most likely habitats where the bird might be seen. If you review the color photograph on the website you will learn something about this bird's preferences. The bird in the photograph is feeding in grazed prairie on West Galveston Island. Although much of this area is now in coastal bermuda, there appear to be tufts of seacoast bluestem scattered through the pasture. The bird is in front of *Baptisia*, and in the background there is a border of salt cedar. I am not sure of the yellow flower scattered in the grass, although at first I thought that it might be a *Rudbeckia*. Any suggestions would be appreciated. In one of the Bleitz black-and-white photos the bird is walking by cow pies.

This habitat still exists on West Galveston Island. If you would like gain firsthand experience with this habitat there I suggest driving west on the Island to Settegast Road (also known locally as Nottingham Ranch Road). Of course similar habitats exist all along the Texas coast. In fact, Galveston Island has very limited (and rapidly disappearing) curlew habitat compared to the central Texas coast. *[There are many potentially suitable areas in west Jefferson County. Many rice farmers do work their fields, even when not actually planted in rice – to prevent them from becoming tallow forests if for no other reason. Many times, there are relatively wide short grass levees round the edges of rice fields. I'd suggest anywhere that Upland Sandpipers have ever been seen would a good place to look. That does include turf farms and soccer fields also. – Ed.]*

The following is a table of specimen records and sightings that Behrstock, Weeks, and I felt comfortable with for Texas. Of course there are been numerous

reports lacking corroboration, and a few of these may have been valid. But for our purposes we felt confident with the following (thanks to Mark Lockwood, John Arvin, Brush Freeman, Martin Reid, Keith Arnold and their fellow TBRC members for tracking down many of these specimens): (the county of each record is shown)

8 Mar 1877 Nueces
13 Mar 1894 Cameron
17 Mar 1880 Cooke
17 Mar 1880 Kendall
19 Mar 1878 Cooke
19 Mar 1881 Nueces
22 Mar 1959 Galveston Remained until 26 Apr 1959
22 Mar 1889 Cameron Possibly 25 Mar 1889
24 Mar 1962 Galveston Remained until 15 Apr 1962
26 Mar 1889 Cameron
27 Mar 1889 Cameron
28 Mar 1889 Cameron (3 separate records)
28 Mar 1890 Cameron
29 Mar 1964 Galveston 2 individuals
31 Mar 1961 Galveston Remained until 3 Apr 1961
2 Apr 1889 Cameron
3 Apr 1960 Galveston Remained until 6 Apr 1960
17 Apr 1987 Jefferson John Arvin, flying into LA
23 Apr 1868 Washington
29 Apr 1945 Galveston 2 individuals seen by Joe Heiser

Focusing only on the specimen records, we can see that the curlew arrives in Texas as early as 8 March, lingering here until 23 April. The 29 April Heiser sighting from Galveston is the latest date that the bird has been seen in Texas. The majority of the specimen records, however, cluster in mid-March through early April. This, I believe, outlines the migratory "window" for the bird and is the time when most of the search effort should be focused.

Where does this bird occur (assuming it still exists)? The John Arvin sighting (which John does not regard as confirmed) from Jefferson County (*Pilot Station Road in Sabine Pass – Ed.*) the easternmost report of the bird, with Kendall County (Boerne) defining the western border. Most of the records are from the immediate coast, although anecdotal evidence suggests that the curlew ranged throughout the central grasslands and prairies of our state. North Texas birders should consider searching their local areas during this time period as well.

In north Texas I would inspect any locations where American Golden-Plovers and Upland Sandpipers congregate in migration. In fact, American Golden-Plover is a close associate of this curlew and carefully attention should be paid to any plover flocks this spring.

Now you get an idea of why this bird has been so difficult to rediscover. This is a small brown curlew migrating through Texas in March and preferring grasslands effectively the same color as the bird itself. Remember, a failure to see is not a failure to exist.

Ted Eubanks (eubanks@FERMATAINC.COM)
Galveston and Austin

Bird Sightings – January 2006

Coverage: Jefferson, Orange, Hardin, Tyler, Jasper, Newton, Angelina, San Augustine and Sabine counties. Send Reports to: John Whittle, 3015 Nashville Avenue, Nederland, Texas 77627-6749 by the 10th of the month after or e-mail to john.whittle@lamar.edu or call (409) 880-8276 or fax to (409) 880-7977. For "very rare" birds, please submit a brief account of your sighting, including a description of the bird (unless unmistakable), brief details of what it was doing, and where it was seen (if on publicly accessible property). Format: "Common" to "abundant" birds are shown in the fashion "JEF 4 reps(25)" which means four reports in Jefferson County totaling 25 birds. Less than "common", as JEF-SW 7/5(2) ABC", which means

seen in Jefferson County (JEF) at Sabine Woods (SW) on the 5th of July, two (2) birds, reported by observer "ABC."

Commentary: January this year includes the Sea Rim State Park Christmas Count. The Chuck-will's-Widow, female Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Indigo Bunting that eluded us on count day were all seen later in the month. In addition to the species reported on the count in the January issue, a Little Gull (details were supplied) was seen along the beach west of McFaddin NWR. The influx of Woodcock continued, and Golden-crowned Kinglets continued to linger along the immediate coast. A Long-tailed Duck was found in Cattail Marsh, and Cinnamon Teal and Redhead continued there.

WHISTLING-DUCK, Black-bell. JEF 1 rep(9)
GOOSE, White-fronted JEF 4 reps(90)
GOOSE, Snow JEF 14 reps(4123); ORA 1 rep(37)
GOOSE, Ross's JEF 1/2(4) SR04; JEF 1/2(1) SR10;
 JEF 1/7(2) JAW; JEF-TP 1/8(1) MHW
GOOSE, Canada JEF 2 reps(375)
GADWALL JEF 15 reps(1896); ORA 1 rep(83)
WIGEON, American JEF 8 reps(402)
MALLARD JEF 5 reps(148)
DUCK, Mottled JEF 15 reps(205)
TEAL, Blue-winged JEF 10 reps(597)
TEAL, Cinnamon JEF-TP 1/2(2) JM; JEF-TP 1/8(1)
 MHW; JEF-TP 1/16(1) JAW; JEF-TP 1/22(1) MW; JEF-TP
 1/24(5) AM
SHOVELER, Northern JEF 9 reps(2878); ORA 1 rep(4)
PINTAIL, Northern JEF 11 reps(2467)
TEAL, Green-winged JEF 9 reps(3757)
CANVASBACK JEF 1/2(1200) SR04; JEF-PI
 1/2(2000) SR01 ; JEF-PI 1/7(500) JAW; JEF-TP 1/8(40) MHW;
 JEF-TP 1/16(15) JAW; JEF-PI 1/22(12) AM; JEF-TP 1/22(34)
 MW; JEF-TP 1/24(4) AM
REDHEAD JEF 1/2(2) SR04; JEF-TP 1/2(10) JM;
 JEF-TP 1/8(6) MHW; JEF-PI 1/22(32) AM; JEF-TP 1/22(15)
 MW; JEF-TP 1/24(2) AM
DUCK, Ring-necked JEF 7 reps(545)
SCAUP, Greater JEF-PI 1/2(1) SR01 ; JEF-PI 1/7(1)
 JAW; JEF-TP 1/8(1) MHW; JEF-TP 1/16(3) JAW; JEF-PI
 1/22(4) AM; JEF-TP 1/22(3) MW; JEF-TP 1/24(6) AM
SCAUP, Lesser JEF 15 reps(1610); ORA 1 rep(51)
SCAUP species JEF 4 reps(449)
SCOTER, Surf JEF 1/2(1) SR10
DUCK, Long-tailed JEF-TP 1/22(1) MW; JEF-TP 1/24(1)
 AM
BUFFLEHEAD JEF 9 reps(58)
GOLDENEYE, Common JEF-TP 1/8(1) MHW; JEF-PI 1/22(1)
 AM; JEF-TP 1/24(1) MW
MERGANSER, Hooded JEF 1/2(17) SR04; JEF 1/2(1) SR07;
 JEF 1/2(5) SR5&6; JEF-TP 1/8(2) MHW; JEF-PI 1/22(68) AM
MERGANSER, Red-breasted JEF 2 reps(140)
DUCK species JEF 2 reps(62)
DUCK, Ruddy JEF 11 reps(4070)
LOON, Common JEF 2 reps(19)
GREBE, Least JEF-TP 1/24(2) AM
GREBE, Pied-billed JEF 13 reps(100); ORA 1 rep(18)
GREBE, Horned JEF-PI 1/2(2) SR01
GREBE, Eared JEF 3 reps(16)
GANNET, Northern JEF 1/2(2) SR10; JEF 1/22(2) AM
PELICAN, Amer. White JEF 14 reps(1021); ORA 2 reps(64)
PELICAN, Brown JEF 11 reps(227); ORA 1 rep(1)
CORMORANT, Neotropic JEF 17 reps(295); ORA 2 reps(121)
CORMORANT, Double-crested JEF 15 reps(159); ORA 1 rep(9)
CORMORANT, Species JEF 1 rep(19)
ANHINGA JEF 1/1(1) OCCBC ; JEF 1/2(5)
 SR04; JEF 1/2(11) SR05A; JEF 1/2(3) SR5&6; JEF 1/22(1)
 JAW; JEF-TP 1/24(1) AM; ORA-BC 1/1(2) OCCBC
BITTERN, American JEF-MCFW 1/2(12) SR11A
BITTERN, Least JEF-TXPT 1/22(1) AM
HERON, Great Blue JEF 22 reps(125); ORA 1 rep(28)
EGRET, Great JEF 22 reps(291); ORA 1 rep(114)
EGRET, Snowy JEF 17 reps(174); ORA 1 rep(49)
HERON, Little Blue JEF 9 reps(23); ORA 1 rep(6)
HERON, Tricolored JEF 13 reps(70); ORA 1 rep(3)
EGRET, Cattle JEF 3 reps(65)
HERON, Green JEF 1/2(1) SR04; JEF-TP 1/24(1) AM

NIGHT-HERON, Black-cr. JEF 4 reps(157)
NIGHT-HERON, Yellow-cr. JEF 1/2(14) SR05A; JEF 1/2(6)
 SR5&6
IBIS, White JEF 11 reps(225); ORA 1 rep(49)
IBIS, Glossy JEF-TP 1/24(1) AM
IBIS, White-faced JEF 1/2(5) SR08;
 JEF 1/2(20) SR5&6; JEF 1/22(70) AM; JEF-TP 1/22(3)
 MW; JEF-TP 1/24(67) AM
IBIS, Plegadis JEF 11 reps(238); ORA 1 rep(180)
SPOONBILL, Roseate JEF 8 reps(81); ORA 1 rep(1)
VULTURE, Black JEF 7 reps(40); ORA 1 rep(2)
VULTURE, Turkey JEF 20 reps(150); ORA 1 rep(1)
OSPREY JEF 7 reps(8); ORA 2 reps(4)
KITE, White-tailed JEF 7 reps(12)
EAGLE, Bald HAI-BTLN 1/2(1) CSL; JEF 1/29(1)
 RHJ
HARRIER, Northern JEF 17 reps(53)
HAWK, Sharp-shinned JEF-PI 1/22(1) AM
HAWK, Cooper's JEF 1/2(1) SR04; JEF 1/2(2) SR08;
 JEF 1/2(2) SR10; JEF-MCFW 1/2(1) SR11A; JEF 1/14(1)
 JAW; JEF-PI 1/22(1) AM
ACCIPITER species JEF-TP 1/8(1) MHW
HAWK, Red-shouldered JEF 16 reps(42)
HAWK, Red-tailed JEF 22 reps(121); ORA 1 rep(2)
CARACARA, Crested JEF 1/2(2) SR05A; JEF 1/2(1)
 SR08A; JEF 1/2(1) SR10; JEF-PI 1/2(1) SR01 ; JEF 1/22(2)
 AM
KESTREL, American JEF 18 reps(81); ORA 2 reps(6)
MERLIN JEF 1/2(1) SR04; JEF 1/2(1) SR05A;
 JEF 1/2(2) SR10; JEF 1/2(1) SR11; JEF
 1/2(3) SR5&6; JEF-SRSP 1/2(1) SR10A; JEF 1/7(1) JAW; JEF-
 SW 1/14(1) HM; JEF-TXPT 1/14(1) HM; JEF 1/22(3) AM
FALCON, Peregrine JEF 1/2(1) SR10; JEF 1/2(1) SR13;
 JEF 1/2(1) SR5&6; JEF 1/22(1) AM
RAIL, Yellow JEF 1/2(1) SR07
RAIL, Clapper JEF 3 reps(10); ORA 1 rep(2)
RAIL, King JEF 1/2(5) SR05A; JEF-MCFW 1/2(5)
 SR11A
RAIL, Virginia JEF 1/2(2) SR07; JEF 1/2(2) SR5&6;
 JEF-MCFW 1/2(3) SR11A
SORA JEF 1/2(2) SR04; JEF-TP 1/8(1) MHW; JEF-TP 1/16(2) JAW;
 JEF-TP 1/22(1) MW
MOORHEN, Common JEF 11 reps(102); ORA 1 rep(1)
COOT, American JEF 15 reps(5181)
CRANE, Sandhill JEF 1/2(12) SR04; JEF 1/10(130) JP;
 JEF 1/14(174) JAW
PLOVER, Black-bellied JEF 5 reps(316)
PLOVER, Snowy JEF 1/2(30) SR10; JEF 1/22(3) AM;
 JEF-SRSP 1/22(14) AM
PLOVER, Wilson's JEF 1/2(1) SR10; JEF 1/22(1) AM;
 JEF-SRSP 1/22(1) AM
PLOVER, Semipalmated JEF 4 reps(28)
PLOVER, Piping JEF 1/2(1) SR07; JEF 1/2(2) SR10;
 JEF 1/2(1) SR5&6; JEF-SRSP 1/22(4) AM
KILLDEER JEF 20 reps(708); ORA 1 rep(95)
STILT, Black-necked JEF 3 reps(101)
AVOCET, American JEF 5 reps(207)
YELLOWLEGS, Greater JEF 7 reps(25)
YELLOWLEGS, Lesser JEF 4 reps(34); ORA 1 rep(12)
WILLET JEF 3 reps(75)
SANDPIPER, Spotted JEF 4 reps(6); ORA 1 rep(1)
WHIMBREL JEF 1/2(1) SR04; JEF 1/2(7) SR07;
 JEF 1/2(3) SR5&6; JEF 1/22(13) AM
CURLEW, Long-billed JEF 3 reps(13)

TURNSTONE, Ruddy JEF 3 reps(23)
 KNOT, Red JEF 1/2(18) SR10
 SANDERLING JEF 4 reps(537)
 SANDPIPER, Western JEF 8 reps(239)
 SANDPIPER, Peep JEF 3 reps(33)
 SANDPIPER, Least JEF 9 reps(96)

DUNLIN JEF 7 reps(653)
 DOWITCHER, Short-billed JEF 5 rep(35); ORA 1 rep(20)
 DOWITCHER, Long-billed JEF 4 reps(198); ORA 1 rep(3)
 DOWITCHER species JEF 2 reps(164)
 SNIPE, Common JEF 7 reps(52)
 WOODCOCK, American JEF 1/2(3) SR05A; JEF 1/2(2) SR08;
 JEF 1/2(1) SR08A; JEF-SRSP 1/14(1) HM; JEF-SW 1/14(1)
 HM; JEF-SW 1/19(1) X

GULL, Laughing JEF 19 reps(6495); ORA 1 rep(27)
 GULL, Little JEF 1/22(1) AM
 GULL, Bonaparte's JEF 5 reps(186)
 GULL, Ring-billed JEF 19 reps(5088); ORA 1 rep(100)
 GULL, Herring JEF 10 reps(134)
 GULL, Lsr Black-backed JEF 1/22(3) AM
 TERN, Gull-billed JEF-PI 1/2(3) SR01 ; JEF-TP 1/24(1)
 AM; ORA 1/1(2) OCCBC
 TERN, Caspian JEF 6 reps(53)
 TERN, Royal JEF 9 reps(239)
 TERN, Common JEF 1/2(2) SR10; JEF 1/22(1) AM
 TERN, Forster's JEF 9 reps(269); ORA 1 rep(9)
 SKIMMER, Black JEF 1 rep(4)
 DOVE, Rock JEF 13 reps(262); ORA 2 reps(76)
 COLLARED-DOVE, Eurasian JEF 5 reps(15); ORA 1 rep(8)
 DOVE, White-winged JEF 14 reps(114); ORA 1 rep(10)
 DOVE, Mourning JEF 17 reps(495); ORA 1 rep(34)
 DOVE, Inca JEF 1 rep(2); ORA 1 rep(3)
 OWL, Barn JEF-SW 1/2(1) SR08
 OWL, Great Horned JEF 1/2(2) SR05A; JEF-SW 1/14(2)
 HM
 OWL, Burrowing JEF 1/22(1) AM
 OWL, Barred JEF-TP 1/8(1) HM
 OWL, Short-eared JEF 1/7(1) JAW
 WILL'S-WIDOW, Chuck- JEF-SW 1/5(0) SGR; JEF-SW 1/14(1)
 HM

HUMMINGBIRD, Black-chin. ORA-ORG 1/1(1) OCCBC
 HUMMINGBIRD, Broad-tailed HAI 1/16(1) JM
 HUMMINGBIRD, *Selasphorus* HAI 1/16(1) JM
 HUMMINGBIRD species JEF-SW 1/2(2) SR08; JEF-SW
 1/21(1) X; JEF-NEDR 1/31(2) JAW

KINGFISHER, Belted JEF 18 reps(44); ORA 1 rep(9)
 WOODPECKER, Red-bellied JEF 6 reps(9); ORA 1 rep(4)
 SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bellied JEF 5 reps(9); ORA 1 rep(1)
 WOODPECKER, Downy JEF 8 reps(27); ORA 1 rep(4)
 FLICKER, Northern JEF 7 reps(8); ORA 1 rep(1)
 WOODPECKER, Pileated JEF 2 reps(2)
 PHOEBE, Eastern JEF 16 reps(114); ORA 1 rep(1)
 FLYCATCHER, Vermilion JEF 1/2(2) SR5&6; JEF 1/6(1) JP;
 JEF 1/7(1) JAW; JEF-TP 1/8(1) HM; JEF-TP 1/8(1) MHW; JEF
 1/14(2) JAW; JEF-TP 1/22(1) MW; JEF-TP 1/24(3) AM

FLYCATCHER, Ash-throated JEF-TP 1/24(1) SGR
 SHRIKE, Loggerhead JEF 13 reps(93); ORA 1 rep(4)
 VIREO, White-eyed JEF 1/2(2) SR04; JEF 1/2(1) SR05A;
 JEF-SW 1/6(1) X
 VIREO, Blue-headed JEF 11 reps(25); ORA 1 rep(1)
 JAY, Blue JEF 8 reps(23); ORA 1 rep(11)
 CROW, American HAI 1 rep(3); JEF 1 rep(4); ORA 1
 rep(1)
 CROW, Fish ORA-BC 1/1(2) OCCBC
 CROW, species JEF 1 rep(1); ORA 1 rep(1)
 SWALLOW, Tree JEF 1/2(10) SR04; JEF 1/2(10)
 SR05A; JEF-SW 1/14(6) HM; ORA 1/1(2) OCCBC
 CHICKADEE, Carolina JEF 9 reps(27); ORA 1 rep(1)
 TITMOUSE, Tufted JEF 1 rep(1); ORA 1 rep(2)
 CREEPER, Brown JEF 1/2(1) SR05A; JEF 1/2(1)
 SR08A; JEF-TP 1/8(1) HM

WREN, Carolina JEF 7 reps(18); ORA 1 rep(4)
 WREN, House JEF 1/2(2) SR04; JEF 1/2(5) SR05A;
 JEF 1/2(2) SR08; JEF 1/2(4) SR08A; JEF 1/2(12) SR10; JEF
 1/2(1) SR5&6; JEF-PI 1/2(1) SR01
 WREN, Winter JEF 1/2(2) SR08
 WREN, Sedge JEF 1/2(2) SR04; JEF 1/2(22) SR07;
 JEF 1/2(2) SR08; JEF-MCFW 1/2(7) SR11A; JEF-MCFW
 1/2(3) SR12; JEF-SRSP 1/22(4) AM
 WREN, Marsh JEF 8 reps(44); ORA 1 rep(1)
 KINGLET, Golden-crowned JEF 1/2(12) SR05A; JEF 1/2(3)

SR08; JEF 1/2(2) SR10; JEF-SRSP 1/14(6) HM; JEF 1/16(1) JAW
 KINGLET, Ruby-crowned JEF 15 reps(138); ORA 1 rep(8)
 GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray JEF 11 reps(81); ORA 1 rep(2)
 BLUEBIRD, Eastern JEF 4 reps(17); ORA 1 rep(2)
 THRUSH, Hermit JEF 2 reps(3)
 ROBIN, American JEF 4 reps(7)
 CATBIRD, Gray JEF 1/2(9) SR04; JEF 1/2(4) SR05A;
 JEF 1/2(3) SR08; JEF 1/2(4) SR08A; JEF 1/2(5) SR5&6; JEF-
 PI 1/2(1) SR01 JEF-SW 1/6(1) X; JEF-SW 1/14(3) HM; JEF-
 SW 1/21(1) X; ORA 1/1(1) OCCBC

MOCKINGBIRD, Northern JEF 22 reps(115); ORA 1 rep(21)
 THRASHER, Brown JEF 6 reps(23); ORA 1 rep(2)
 STARLING, European HAI 1 rep(4); JEF 15 reps(787); ORA
 1 rep(46)
 PIPIT, American JEF 10 reps(267); ORA 1 rep(1)
 WARBLER, Orange-crowned JEF 15 reps(113); ORA 1 rep(1)
 WARBLER, Yellow-rumped JEF 19 reps(393); ORA 1 rep(24)
 WARBLER, Black-thr. Green JEF-SW 1/5(1) SGR; JEF-SW 1/14(1)
 HM; JEF-SW 1/19(1) X; JEF-SW 1/24(1) SGR
 WARBLER, Pine JEF 14 reps(67); ORA 1 rep(52)
 WARBLER, Prairie JEF-SW 1/2(1) SR08
 WARBLER, Palm JEF 1/2(3) SR05A
 WARBLER, Black-and-white JEF 1/2(1) SR08A
 WATERTHRUSH, Northern JEF 1/2(1) SR04
 YELLOWTHROAT, Common JEF 13 reps(60); ORA 1 rep(4)
 WARBLER, Wilson's JEF 1/2(2) SR05A; JEF 1/2(1)
 SR08A; JEF 1/2(1) SR10; JEF-TP 1/8(1) HM
 TOWHEE, Eastern JEF-PI 1/22(1) AM
 SPARROW, Chipping JEF 3 reps(72)
 SPARROW, Vesper JEF 1/2(1) SR10
 SPARROW, Savannah JEF 13 reps(586); ORA 1 rep(2)
 SPARROW, LeConte's JEF 1/2(5) SR07
 SPARROW, Nelson's Sharp-t JEF 3 reps(25)
 SPARROW, Seaside JEF 10 reps(50)
 SPARROW, Song JEF 9 reps(24); ORA 1 rep(1)
 SPARROW, Lincoln's JEF 2 reps(2)
 SPARROW, Swamp JEF 12 reps(174)
 SPARROW, White-throated JEF 8 reps(90); ORA 1 rep(8)
 SPARROW, White-crowned JEF 3 reps(26)
 CARDINAL, Northern JEF 13 reps(69); ORA 1 rep(6)
 GROSBEAK, Rose-breasted JEF-SW 1/23(1) GRS; JEF-SW
 1/24(1) SGR

BUNTING, Indigo JEF-SW 1/5(1) SGR; JEF-SW 1/6(1)
 X
 BLACKBIRD, Red-winged JEF 23 reps(4911); ORA 2 reps(106)
 MEADOWLARK, Eastern JEF 7 reps(103)
 MEADOWLARK species JEF 4 reps(42)
 GRACKLE, Common JEF 12 reps(542); ORA 1 rep(232)
 GRACKLE, Boat-tailed JEF 11 reps(356); ORA 1 rep(143)
 GRACKLE, Great-tailed JEF 13 reps(1310); ORA 2 reps(230)
 COWBIRD, Brown-headed JEF 6 reps(113); ORA 1 rep(3)
 BLACKBIRD species JEF 1 rep(300)
 GOLDFINCH, American JEF 21 reps(160); ORA 1 rep(15)
 SPARROW, House JEF 8 reps(42); ORA 1 rep(12)

Number of Species 195
 Number of Individuals 68635

County Abbreviations:
 HAI - Hardin; JEF - Jefferson; ORA - Orange

Location Codes:
 BC - Bridge City; BTLN - Big Thicket NP - Lower Neches River
 Corridor; MCFW - McFaddin NWR; NEDR - Nederland; ORG -
 Orange; PI - Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; SRSP - Sea Rim State
 Park; SW - Sabine Woods; TP - Tyrrell Park incl. Cattail Marsh; TX87
 - Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim SP; TXPT - Road to Pilot
 Station at Texas Point

Observer Abbreviations
 AM - Art Mackinnon; CSL - Christine Sliva; GRS - Scott Gremel and
 Bobby Schat; HM - John Haynes and Steve Mayes; JAW - John
 Whittle; JJW - John and Jana Whittle; JM - John Mariana; JP - John
 Park; MHW - Steve Mayes, John Haynes, John Whittle; MW - Steve
 Mayes and John Whittle; OCCBC - Orange County CBC; RHJ - Rose
 Ann and Harrison Jordan; SR01 - Sea Rim CBC Area 1; SR02 - Sea
 Rim CBC Area 2; SR04 - Sea Rim CBC Area 4; SR05A - Sea Rim
 CBC Area 5A; SR5&6 - Sea Rim CBC Area 5 and 6; SR07 - Sea Rim
 CBC Area 7; SR08 - Sea Rim CBC Area 8; SR08A - Sea Rim CBC
 Area 8A; SR10 - Sea Rim CBC Area 10; SR10A - Sea Rim CBC Area
 10A; SR11 - Sea Rim CBC Area 11; SR11A - Sea Rim CBC Area
 11A; SR12 - Sea Rim CBC Area 12; SR13 - Sea Rim CBC Area 13;
 SGR - Scott Gremel; X - Unknown.

NATIONAL AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Brown Pelican

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RARE BIRD ALERTS

Below is a listing of Rare Bird Alert telephone numbers for nearby areas. Transcriptions of some current tapes are available on the World Wide Web on Siler's Birding on the Net at <http://birdingonthe.net/hotmail.html> Detailed information (maps and text) on birding sites on the Upper Texas Coast is also available on the Web at <http://www.texasbirding.net>. This includes all the Jefferson County hotspots published in early issues.

Golden Triangle	(409) 728-6957
Texas (Houston)	(713) 369-9673
Abilene	Discontinued
Austin	(512) 300-2473
Ft. Worth (N. Cent)	(817) 329-1930
Lubbock	Discontinued
N. E. Texas ?	(903) 839-4804
Rio Grande Valley	(956) 584-2731
San Antonio	(210) 308-6788
Waco	Discontinued
Louisiana	Discontinued

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