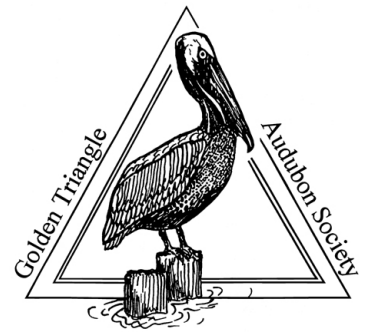


The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 17 No. 12

December 2011

**Sea Rim State Park Christmas Bird Count
Tuesday January 3, 2012
Meet in Sabine Pass at 7:00 a.m.**

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

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

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

**Orange County Christmas Bird Count
Sunday January 1, 2012
Meet in Orange at 7:00 a.m.**

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

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

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

Other local counts which will welcome your participation include the **Turkey Creek** Count (in the Big Thicket north of Kountze) on Saturday, December 17 (contact Brian Lockwood, Big Thicket NP at Brian_Lockwood@nps.gov or 409-951-6821 or John Whittle at johnawhittle@aol.com), the **Bolivar Peninsula** Count on Wednesday December 21 (contact Bill Graber 409-866-5452), the **Beech Creek** Count (in the Steinhagen Lake area) on Wednesday December 28 (contacts as for Turkey Creek), and the **Johnson Bayou** count on Friday December 30 (contact Ken Sztraky, 409-385-2835, berrysheepfarm@att.net).

The Brown Pelican

Vol. 17, No.12 December 2011
Issue number 180

Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Web Site for more information
www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Jim Armacost (409-790-6908)

Vice-President

Gerald Duhon (409-899-3368)

Treasurer

Christine Sliva (409-243-2446)

Secretary

John Whittle (409-722-4193)

Directors-at-Large

Edra Bogucki (409-835-7245)

Sherry Gibson (409-385-6302)

John Haynes (409-724-6842)

Gary Kelley (409-697-2346)

Steve Mayes (409-722-5807)

Sherrie Roden (409-962-7911)

Paula Shaw (409-866-0989)

Jana Whittle (409-722-4193)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program

Jana Whittle (409-722-4193)

Field Trips

Steve Mayes (409-722-5807)

Conservation

Volunteer opportunity!

Membership, Publicity

Paula Shaw (409-866-0989)

Education

Volunteer needed

Webmaster

Jeff Pittman (geojeff@geojeff.org)

Newsletter Distribution

Mary Stafford (409-962-8070)

Newsletter Editor

John Whittle (722-4193)

3015 Nashville Ave.

Nederland, TX 77627-6749

The Brown Pelican is

published monthly except July by
the Golden Triangle Audubon
Society, P. O. Box 1292,
Nederland, Texas 77627-1292

Calendar of Events

Saturday December 17. Turkey Creek Christmas Count. Contact Brian Lockwood, Big Thicket NP at Brian_Lockwood@nps.gov or 409-951-6821.

Wednesday December 21. Bolivar Peninsula Christmas Count. Contact Bill Graber (409) 866-5452 for more details.

Wednesday December 28. Beech Creek Christmas Count. Contact Brian Lockwood, Big Thicket NP at Brian_Lockwood@nps.gov or 409-951-6821.

Friday December 30. Johnson Bayou Christmas Count. Contact Ken Sztraky (berryssheepfarm@att.net or 409-385-2835) for more information.

Sunday January 1, 2012. Orange County Christmas Bird Count. Our traditional way to celebrate the New Year. See the full details on page 3 or

Tuesday January 3, 2012. Sea Rim State Park Christmas Bird Count. Contact John Whittle (409 -722-4193 or johnawhittle@aol.com). This count includes Sabine Pass, Sea Rim State Park, Sabine Woods, Texas Point NWR and parts of Murphree WMA and McFaddin NWR. This count is sponsored by Golden Triangle Audubon and typically records over 150 species.

Thursday January 19, 2012. Membership Meeting. Details in next month's issue.

Saturday January 21, 2011. Field Trip. See next month's issue for details. At press time, we have not decided on a location for this field trip. Although the trip to Anahuac NWR in January 2011 was spectacularly successful, there are access problems and a lack of water this year. As an alternative, we could go to the nearby areas of Calcasieu and Cameron parishes in Louisiana, but we have no recent reports of birding in this area. If you have any suggestions for other locations, please let us know.

Thursday February 16, 2011. Membership Meeting. Details in future issues.

Saturday February 18, 2011. Field Trip. Details in future issues.

Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. **We need volunteers to bring items for all the spring 2012 meetings.** Please do not wait until the last minute to volunteer! We do not expect one person to bring everything, but please call so we can coordinate! Even if you would like to bring drinks and cookies or something similar, please call Jennifer Armacost at (409) 790-7222 (or email her at armacostj@yahoo.com) **as far in advance as possible.** Please help if you can!

Subscription Renewal Reminder

Please check the mailing label on this issue. If the date on your label NOT prefixed by "AU" has passed, or there is no 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.



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.

November Hummingbird Program

Over fifty people attended the last meeting for 2011. The pot luck dinner was great as usual and the program was about winter hummingbirds in our area. The idea of us doing this program all started at our January 2011 meeting. Some of us started sharing that we each had a winter "hummer" coming to our plants and feeders. We then did an impromptu mini-field trip the following morning to each of our homes. It was interesting because we had different species of winter hummers but had many of the same plants.

Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan live in north Beaumont. They have fed winter hummers for 29 years. They consistently have Rufous, Buff-bellied, Broad-tailed, Ruby-throated, and this year they already have had a Calliope Hummingbird. One year they had a Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird. John Mariani and his wife have lived in Lumberton for seven years. They have had seven species of hummers during the winters there. Steve Kuritz lives in south Beaumont, and he has had at least three species of winter hummers. Harlan Stewart who lives in Nederland has hosted five species of hummers at his home in winter. John and I also live in Nederland and have had at least five species at our home during the winter in the last 17 years.

We all plant many types of flowering plants in order to provide nectar and shelter for wintering hummers. We also all maintain hummingbird feeders all winter too. All of us use sugar water instead of store bought nectar which is much more expensive anyway. We use the recipe either one part sugar to four parts water or one part sugar to three parts of water. Some of the plants in our yards are on a list that we passed out at the meeting. One thing we all realized is that the winter hummers all had found a place for cover and to be protected from predators. Harlan's birds used his Chaste Tree for cover. John Mariani's winter hummers used his azaleas. In case you were unable to attend the meeting, we have put the list of plants, books, and DVD's about hummingbirds on our website at www.goldentriangleaudubon.org.

Rose Ann wanted to let people know that if we get a hard freeze and you do have wintering hummers, they will be dependent on you for nectar and possibly insects (banana, etc.). During one really bad freeze in 1989, Rose Ann and Harrison had to rotate the feeders every hour to let them warm up in the house. When they got up at 6:00 a.m., the hummers were flying around where the feeder was supposed to be and it was still dark! Thankfully that doesn't happen often. One year a friend of mine in Groves, had planted shrimp plant near her dryer vent. That year the temp dropped to 17 degrees. She was concerned about the Rufous hummingbird that was coming to her feeders. She woke up several times during the night that night to turn the dryer vent on because the hummingbird would roost in the shrimp plant and that way it could have a little warmth.

Hummingbirds are known to return to the same house year after year if they survive the first year. One hummer that was banded has returned for 12 years. That is a rarity, but they can live to be at least 12 years old.

The maps of the 1983 (and previous years) bird books show that Ruby-throated Hummingbirds are all over the eastern part of the U.S. The maps in the bird field guides did

not show that many western hummers winter in our area and Louisiana. Most of us agree that Ruby-throated Hummingbirds are here from March until October. But now we know that some western hummers either move into our area or pass through our area from August until March. We know this because there are many hummingbird banders in Louisiana and they have had returnees during the winter. So, some of these hummers that are normally in California, Arizona, Colorado seem to leave their breeding grounds and head east for the winter. One lady in Covington, Louisiana has had eight species of hummers in her yard in the winter. Sometimes a western hummer will be seen one day and not the next, but there are a few that stick around for a few months. That is when we get the most excited, because we have a long time feeder visitor during long cold winter months.

We all realized also that most of our best hummingbird-attracting plants froze back last year. One of the few that did not freeze was our shrimp plants. Most years our shrimp plants bloom 365 days out of the year. Steve Kuritz realized last year that his winter honeysuckle plant started blooming in January and was hardy even in freezing temperatures and often when all the other flowers have been killed by the cold.

Arrival dates at our houses varied quite a bit. Steve's Rufous Hummingbird came in August of 2010 and stayed until March of 2012. Harlan's Anna's Hummingbird came on December 28th, 2010 and left on February 14, 2011. We had a Buff-bellied Hummingbird that came on December 25, 2010, and left in March of 2011.

If you have never had a winter hummer, it is worth trying. Have some kind of blooming plants even if you have to put them into pots and roll them in and out of your garage or house. Most important is to keep a few feeders out. Please make sure you keep your feeders clean. We recommend you clean them at least every three days. It does help if you have hummingbird feeders with perches so that you can study the bird while it is drinking. You can take pictures, or jot down some physical attributes. Also, jot down the type of behavior. Some twitch their tails; others make loud noises, etc. The larger hummers seem to make the loudest sounds. Rufous hummers make a tick-tick sound often. John and I heard one in our backyard today (November 18th).

We hope you see a winter hummingbird at your feeder this winter. Please let us know if you do by sending me an email to janafw@aol.com or calling 409-722-4193 and leaving a message.

Jana Whittle

(Some of the pictures in some of the slides at the meeting did not transfer properly to the computer we use to interface with the projection system in the Garden Center. With help from our Webmaster, Jeff Pittman, we have put a link to the whole pdf file of the presentation on the website. Either go to the News Item in the right hand panel, click on the Hummingbird Program item and then click on the link, or else click on the Reports tab along the top menu bar and then on the Hummingbird Program link. The handout about plants, books and DVDs is also on the website and is in the same folder as the link to the pdf.)

Reading the Keystone XL Pipeline Environmental Impact Statement

In what appears to be a major victory for the environment, a decision to build the Keystone XL Pipeline has been delayed until after the 2012 U.S. elections. This major synthetic crude oil pipeline from Canada would terminate in Nederland and Harris Co. Port Arthur was the location for a State Department public hearing on the project on September 26, 2011, that the author attended. Since it is highly unusual for a nation to deny itself access to a significant source of a critical fuel and raw material, and since Canada is now shopping its tar-sands oil to potential Asian customers, it seems worthwhile to understand the environmental risks of this project. A starting point is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), which is favorable to the project and was accepted by the U.S. State Department in August. The State Department then proceeded with public hearings and a project approval phase called the Determination of National Interest. Subsequently, the go/no go decision for the project was put off until the end of 2012.

At the hearing in Port Arthur, public officials had priority to make brief statements to the State Department officials. Of the more than 100 speakers, Jeff Branick, the current Jefferson County Judge, gave one of the most factually informed, and informative, remarks, touching on the percentage of U.S. refining capacity in the Golden Triangle and the large percent of U.S. military fuel made in local refineries. He was also one of the first officials that did not refer to Canadian oil as “ours”, as if Canada is not a “foreign” supplier of oil and natural gas.

One might be tempted to start reading the FEIS with the Executive Summary, which is only 27 pages long. It is unfortunately a high-level overview, written in a very general style. The Introduction to the FEIS and the Introduction to the Draft Supplemental EIS are more factual and substantive, though still in a readable style. The latter runs 320 pages. All these are posted on a State Department website for the Keystone XL project. The Gray Library at Lamar University in Beaumont should also have at least the FEIS in their Government Documents section.

When the project was postponed, the alleged showstopper was opposition in Nebraska to the possibility of pollution of the of the Ogallala Aquifer in the Sandhills region of Nebraska by a pipeline leak. The federal government agency responsible for pipeline safety is the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Agency (PHMSA). Following public comments and concern, the PMHSA added a Supplement and 57 Special Conditions to the FEIS (Appendix U). The first nine Special Conditions pertain to the specification, fabrication and testing of the pipe itself.

Related to the concern about a leak in the Sandhills region is a public perception that the tar sand crude oil is highly abrasive and corrosive. Special Conditions 24 thru 49 relate to surveillance technology such as automated electronic surveillance for malfunctions including leaks, and the high-tech internal inspections of the pipe by robotic “smart pigs.” A senior officer of Keystone will be required to personally sign off on compliance with the Special

Conditions. No criminal liability is mentioned for this requirement.

The FEIS does discuss the economic benefits of the project and especially the current bottleneck in the nation’s pipeline infrastructure at Cushing, OK, which would be alleviated by the Keystone XL project. It also covers the impact of the project on the crude markets and supply in the U.S. Gulf Coast, the Midwest, and globally, and on international relations, energy security, and relations with the supplier nations. The decreasing supply of foreign crude oil to the 58 U.S. Gulf Coast refineries is a principal concern.

The FEIS process also involves federal agencies with environmental responsibilities including EPA, FWS, BLM, NPS, Corps of Engineers, as mandated by the Presidential Permit process. All must sign off for a project to proceed under the Presidential Permit process.

The Introduction section of the FEIS asserts that the 57 Special Conditions added by PHMSA raise the level of safety along the entire pipeline to the level usually required in a “high consequence” area (HCA). In reading the 57 Special Conditions, they specify in detail that the latest current practices be followed for manufacture and quality control of the pipe itself, for use of technology to monitor operations and facility integrity, reporting requirements to PHMSA, personnel training and other normal pipeline operating practices. The Special Conditions require more frequent inspections and faster repairs than current regulation. PHMSA would enforce compliance with the current and enhanced regulations.

The allegedly corrosive nature of tar-sands crude oil is not directly addressed. The FEIS states only that the diluted bitumen synthetic crude oil is chemically similar to the heavy foreign crudes that currently are processed in Gulf Coast heavy oil refineries.

A standard measurement of impurities in crude oil is Basic Sediment and Water (BS&W). This includes the abrasive component of crude oils. BS&W is limited to 0.5% in the Keystone XL plans. 0.5% is a relatively tight standard for BS&W in crude oil, and is the level used by Canadian pipelines. U.S. standards are often less stringent, up to 3 %.

The 36-in. pipe itself is specified as API 5L PSL2 X70 grade. Suffice it to say that is one of the toughest grades of petroleum line pipe available, according to a U.S. Steel website. Specifications call for five different thicknesses of pipe to be used in different sections, ranging from 0.465 inches to 0.748 inches, depending on factors including the pressures in a given section, proximity to railways, or in sections installed by drilling as opposed to trenching.

The pipe specifications do not call for “sour service” grade of line pipe, which would be appropriate for crude oil containing hydrogen sulfide gas. The author was unable to find a discussion in the FEIS of the type of sulphur, if any, that would be a contaminant of the synthetic crude oil. But the FEIS and all its appendices make up a very thick document, and it could be in there somewhere.

Gary Kelley

Field Trip to West Jefferson County – 19 November 2011

The November field trip to western Jefferson County has become one of the most popular trips for the Golden Triangle Audubon Society in recent years. Maybe it is because it is close to home or because there is no difficult hiking or long walks. Maybe it is because it is the last regular field trip of the season (before Christmas Bird Counts start). But, most likely, it is because there are lots of cool birds to see! Whatever the reason, a spectacular turnout of birders came out for the 2011 version of the field trip and they were well rewarded!

Perhaps the main target bird of this field trip is the Sandhill Crane. This stately bird can stand four feet tall and, with its odd bugling call, is easily recognized as it spends the winter foraging in open grasslands and agricultural fields. Sandhill Cranes winter in western Jefferson County every year in varying numbers but finding their roosting/foraging spot on any given day is not always easy. Luckily, that was not the case on field trip day! The cranes showed up right away and were seen on and off throughout the day. Whether flying overhead or standing in one of the many pastures or rice fields, the cranes put in a great showing and everyone got good looks. Because of the movements of the birds, exact numbers were hard to guess but it seems certain that at least five hundred cranes were seen on the trip.

Waterfowl are another main target of this trip. With the continuing drought plaguing the region, water is something of a scarce commodity and many in the group wondered if waterfowl would return to the area in anything approaching normal numbers. As it turned out, the drought seemed to have little effect on the total waterfowl numbers though the birds may be more concentrated into fewer areas than in the past. Geese were the most obvious birds of this group to be found on the day as expected. And, again as expected, Snow Geese were by far the most numerous. Large flocks were seen both in flight and on the ground. While several thousand Snow Geese were seen only a small number of the similar Ross's Geese could be located. This is likely due not only to the difficulty in separating them from their larger cousins but also to the fact that there are just not as many around! Although the numbers of Ross's Geese has significantly increased in the last decade or so, they are still vastly outnumbered by Snow Geese. Smaller numbers of Greater White-fronted Geese were also seen on the day. As for ducks, the vast majority were found on one set of flooded fields. A collection of more than two thousand Northern Pintail made up most of the flock but there were also Green-winged Teal, Mallard, Gadwall and a few decoys thrown in for good measure! A nice treat was seeing a flock of approximately one hundred huge American White Pelicans circle and come into to land in these flooded fields as the group looked on. Truly a spectacular sight!

Sparrows and raptors are also readily found in western Jefferson County. Red-tailed Hawks, Northern Harriers and American Kestrels were the most common raptors on the day but not the only ones. A Crested Caracara was found early on and several Merlins made good appearances. Red-shouldered Hawks were located along with both of our common Accipiters (Cooper's and Sharpies). Five Merlins was a very good showing. A White-tailed Kite was a nice bonus but the group was disappointed not to locate any Bald Eagles on the

day. Not strictly a raptor, but a smaller bird with equally aggressive capabilities, is the Loggerhead Shrike, and the group was pleased to find that a good number of them on this day. For whatever reason, few shrikes were to be found in the area in the winter following Hurricane Rita, and Hurricane Ike only exacerbated the situation.

Sparrows included common Savannah Sparrows and good numbers of Vesper and Chipping Sparrows. White-throated and White-crowned Sparrows were located along with a single Grasshopper and a few Field Sparrows.

Blackbirds, unfortunately primarily Brown-headed Cowbirds, but including good numbers of Red-winged and even some Brewer's Blackbirds, are increasing in number again after virtually deserting the area following the hurricanes. Meadowlark numbers were also healthy.

Toss in some shorebirds like Long-billed Curlew and Stilt Sandpiper, a pair of Vermilion Flycatchers, and a nice flock of five Common Ground-Doves and you have the makings of a great November field trip! What is even better is that so many local birders were able to get out and enjoy it. Join us for the trip next year and maybe we can find all of these birds again and some eagles, too!

The following species were recorded by the trip leaders:

Greater White-fronted Goose (100); Snow Goose (2630); White Goose (2500); Ross's Goose (20); Gadwall (200); Mallard (4); Mottled Duck (19); Northern Shoveler (20); Northern Pintail (2015); Green-winged Teal (200); Duck Species (30); Ruddy Duck (1); Pied-billed Grebe (1); American White Pelican (100); Great Blue Heron (6); Great Egret (11); Snowy Egret (4); White Ibis (136); Plegadis species Ibis (2538); Roseate Spoonbill (3); Turkey Vulture (4); White-tailed Kite (1); Northern Harrier (22); Sharp-shinned Hawk (1); Cooper's Hawk (2); Red-shouldered Hawk (3); Red-tailed Hawk (22); Crested Caracara (1); American Kestrel (13); Merlin (5); American Coot (51); Sandhill Crane (516); Killdeer (17); Greater Yellowlegs (1); Lesser Yellowlegs (1); Yellowlegs species (1); Long-billed Curlew (8); Western Sandpiper (30); Least Sandpiper (50); Dunlin (13); Stilt Sandpiper (10); Dowitcher species (20); Wilson's Snipe (7); Eurasian Collared-Dove (5); Mourning Dove (57); Common Ground-Dove (5); Belted Kingfisher (1); Red-bellied Woodpecker (2); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (2); Eastern Phoebe (21); Vermilion Flycatcher (2); Loggerhead Shrike (12); Blue-headed Vireo (1); American Crow (4); Tree Swallow (200); Carolina Chickadee (2); Brown Creeper (1); Carolina Wren (1); House Wren (3); Sedge Wren (2); Golden-crowned Kinglet (2); Ruby-crowned Kinglet (3); Eastern Bluebird (2); Northern Mockingbird (10); American Pipit (2); European Starling (10); Orange-crowned Warbler (1); Yellow-rumped Warbler (14); Wilson's Warbler (1); Chipping Sparrow (20); Field Sparrow (3); Vesper Sparrow (22); Savannah Sparrow (100); Grasshopper Sparrow (1); White-throated Sparrow (2); White-crowned Sparrow (12); Northern Cardinal (2); Red-winged Blackbird (338); Eastern Meadowlark (3); Meadowlark species (50); Brewer's Blackbird (550); Great-tailed Grackle (2); Brown-headed Cowbird (7500); American Goldfinch (3); House Sparrow (1); 81 species.

Steve Mayes

FLYCATCHER, Scissor-tailed (1-30) JEF 27 reps(390)
SHRIKE, Loggerhead (2-30) HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 23
reps(72)
VIREO, White-eyed (1-29) HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 19
reps(64)
VIREO, Yellow-throated (1-1) JEF-SW 10/1(1) HM
VIREO, Blue-headed (5-30) JEF 8 reps(16)
VIREO, Warbling (1-10) JEF-SW 10/1(2) SWWD;
JEF-SW 10/10(1) JHW
VIREO, Philadelphia (1-15) JEF-SW 10/1(4) SWWD;
JEF-SW 10/2(2) AHMW; JEF-SW 10/15(2) JHW
VIREO, Red-eyed (1-15) JEF 5 reps(10)
JAY, Blue (1-30) HAI 2 reps(12); JEF 15
reps(22)
SWALLOW, Tree (2-30) JEF 12 reps(432)
SWALLOW, N Rough-winged (2-22) JEF 5 reps(238)
SWALLOW, Bank (8-8) JEF-SW 10/8(2) JAW
SWALLOW, Barn (2-29) JEF 11 reps(80)
SWALLOW species (10-18) JEF 2 reps(4)
CHICKADEE, Carolina (1-29) HAI 4 reps(10); JEF 11
reps(23)
TITMOUSE, Tufted (12-12) JEF-BMT 10/12(2) JWW
CREEPER, Brown (19-19) JEF-SW 10/19(1) JHW
WREN, Carolina (1-30) HAI 4 reps(7); JEF 12
reps(17)
WREN, House (2-30) HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 14
reps(36)
WREN, Sedge (20-20) JEF-TXPT 10/20(1) JAW
WREN, Marsh (20-26) JEF-SW 10/20(1) JHW;
JEF-TXPT 10/20(1) JAW; JEF-TP 10/26(1) JAW
GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray (1-30) JEF 17 reps(98)
KINGLET, Golden-crowned (29-29) JEF-SRSP 10/29(1) TF;
JEF-SW 10/29(1) AHW
KINGLET, Ruby-crowned (1-30) JEF 23 reps(164)
BLUEBIRD, Eastern (2-24) HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 5 reps(16)
THRUSH, Gray-cheeked (1-1) JEF-SW 10/1(1) SWWD
THRUSH, Swainson's (1-14) JEF 4 reps(8)
THRUSH, Hermit (19-30) JEF 6 reps(34)
THRUSH, Wood (1-22) JEF 6 reps(6)
ROBIN, American (1-30) JEF 8 reps(30)
CATBIRD, Gray (1-30) JEF 18 reps(80)
MOCKINGBIRD, Northern (1-30) HAI 1 rep(3); JEF 35
reps(109)
THRASHER, Brown (1-30) HAI 5 reps(5); JEF 26
reps(146)
STARLING, European (2-30) JEF 15 reps(2185)
OVENBIRD (2-14) JEF-SW 10/2(1) GD; JEF-
SW 10/3(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/4(1) JHH; JEF 10/7(1) JHH; JEF-
SW 10/8(1) JM; JEF-SW 10/9(1) X; JEF-SW 10/10(2) JHW;
JEF-SW 10/14(1) JHW
WARBLER, Worm-eating (10-10) JEF-SW 10/10(1) JHW
WARBLER, Blue-winged (13-13) JEF-SW 10/13(1) JHH
WARBLER, Black-and-wh. (1-22) JEF 18 reps(87)
WARBLER, Tennessee (1-15) JEF 9 reps(15)
WARBLER, Orange-crowned (7-30) JEF 14 reps(60)
WARBLER, Nashville (1-30) JEF 23 reps(82)
WARBLER, Mourning (1-9) JEF-SW 10/1(2) SWWD;
JEF-SW 10/2(1) HM; JEF-SW 10/4(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/5(1)
JHH; JEF-SW 10/6(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW
10/9(1) X
YELLOWTHROAT, Common (3-30) JEF 20 reps(42)
WARBLER, Hooded (1-18) JEF 12 reps(19)
REDSTART, American (1-30) JEF 21 reps(94)
PARULA, Northern (1-28) JEF 19 reps(58)
WARBLER, Magnolia (1-22) JEF 15 reps(43)
WARBLER, Bay-breasted (2-2) JEF-SW 10/2(1) AHMW
WARBLER, Yellow (5-8) JEF 3 reps(4)
WARBLER, Chestnut-sided (2-14) JEF 8 reps(9)
WARBLER, Palm (7-29) JEF 6 reps(6)
WARBLER, Pine (28-30) JEF-SW 10/28(1) JHW;
JEF-SW 10/30(1) MW
WARBLER, Yellow-rumped (13-31) HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 9 reps(31)
WARBLER, Yellow-throated (6-22) JEF 5 reps(5)
WARBLER, Prairie (7-10) JEF 10/7(1) JHH; JEF-SW
10/8(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/8(1) JM; JEF-SW 10/9(1) SM; JEF-
SW 10/10(1) JHH

WARBLER, Black-thr. Green (1-30) JEF 9 reps(19)
WARBLER, Canada (3-6) JEF-TX87 10/3(1) JAW;
JEF-SW 10/4(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/6(1) JAW
WARBLER, Wilson's (2-30) JEF 22 reps(97)
CHAT, Yellow-breasted (1-15) JEF-SW 10/1(1) SWWD;
JEF-SW 10/2(1) HM; JEF 10/7(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHW
TOWHEE, Green-tailed (21-29) JEF-SW 10/21(1) FC; JEF-
SW 10/29(2) AHW
SPARROW, Chipping (20-29) JEF 3 reps(6)
SPARROW, Clay-colored (13-22) JEF-SW 10/13(2) JHH; JEF-
SW 10/14(3) JHW; JEF-SW 10/15(4) JHW; JEF-SW 10/21(1)
FC; JEF-SW 10/22(1) FTSW
SPARROW, Field (4-29) JEF 2 reps(9)
SPARROW, Lark (2-16) JEF 2 reps(2)
SPARROW, Savannah (24-29) JEF 6 reps(123)
SPARROW, Grasshopper (29-29) JEF-TXPT 10/29(1) JAW
SPARROW, Nelson's (29-29) JEF-TXPT 10/29(2) JAW
SPARROW, Seaside (29-29) JEF-SRSP 10/29(1) TF
SPARROW, Song (26-26) JEF-TP 10/26(1) JAW
SPARROW, Lincoln's (14-30) JEF 10 reps(29)
SPARROW, Swamp (14-30) JEF 10 reps(40)
SPARROW, White-throated (29-30) JEF 4 reps(8)
SPARROW, White-crowned (22-30) JEF 4 reps(16)
JUNCO, Dark-eyed (20-29) JEF-SW 10/20(2) JHW;
JEF-SRSP 10/29(1) TF
TANAGER, Summer (1-14) JEF 6 reps(6)
TANAGER, Scarlet (9-9) JEF-SW 10/9(1) SM
CARDINAL, Northern (2-30) HAI 4 reps(270); JEF 8
reps(14)
GROSBEAK, Rose-breasted (9-29) JEF-SW 10/9(1) SM; JEF-
SW 10/10(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/13(2) JHH; JEF-SW 10/14(3)
JHW; JEF-SW 10/15(1) JHW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) JHW; JEF-SW
10/29(1) AHW
GROSBEAK, Blue (7-13) JEF 10/7(3) JHH; JEF-SW
10/10(3) JHW; JEF-SW 10/13(1) JHH
BUNTING, Indigo (1-30) HAI 6 reps(10); JEF 20
reps(196)
BUNTING, Painted (1-30) JEF 12 reps(22)
DICKCISSEL (10-10) JEF-SW 10/10(1) JHW
BLACKBIRD, Red-winged (2-30) JEF 12 reps(114)
MEADOWLARK, Eastern (20-24) JEF 3 reps(16)
MEADOWLARK species (23-24) JEF 2 reps(35)
GRACKLE, Common (22-30) JEF 6 reps(79)
GRACKLE, Boat-tailed (2-30) JEF 14 reps(136)
GRACKLE, Great-tailed (2-30) JEF 15 reps(714)
GRACKLE, Gt./Boat-tailed (2-30) JEF 10 reps(92)
COWBIRD, Brown-headed (24-30) JEF 4 reps(200)
BLACKBIRD species (8-18) JEF 2 reps(80)
ORIOLE, Baltimore (1-6) JEF 4 reps(16)
FINCH, House (13-17) JEF 3 reps(3)
SPARROW, House (2-24) HAI 1 rep(20); JEF 5
reps(44)

Number of Species 184
Number of Individuals 27070

County Abbreviations:
HAI — Hardin; JEF — Jefferson; ORA — Orange.

Location Codes; BMT — Beaumont; MCFW — McFaddin NWR;
NEDR — Nederland; SILS — Silsbee; SRSP — Sea Rim State Park;
SW — Sabine Woods; TP — Tyrrell Park incl. Cattail Marsh; TX87 —
Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim SP; TXPT — Road to Pilot
Station at Texas Point.

Observer Abbreviations; AHMW — R. Atkins, J. Haynes, S. Mayes,
John Whittle; AHW — Richard Atkins, John Haynes, John Whittle; CSL
— Christine Sliva; FC — Fred Collins group; FTSW — Field Trip to
Sabine Woods; GD — Gerald Duhon; HLD — Howard and Linda
Davis; HM — John Haynes and Steve Mayes; JAW — John Whittle;
JFW — Jana Whittle; JHH — John H. Haynes; JHW — John Haynes
and John Whittle; JJW — John and Jana Whittle; JM — John Mariani;
JWW — Rose Ann Jordan, Jana and John Whittle; MG — Melanie
Goetsell; MW — Steve Mayes and John Whittle; RA — Richard Atkins;
RHJ — Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan; SM — Steve Mayes; SWWD
— Sabine Woods Work Day participants; TF — Terry Ferguson; X —
Unknown.

NATIONAL AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Form

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Gift from:

Check enclosed Please bill me

Golden Triangle Audubon C1ZW250Z

Brown Pelican

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To subscribe to the Brown Pelican, please complete this form or include the information on or with your check. Mail to Golden Triangle Audubon Society, P. O. Box 1292, Nederland, Texas 77627-1292 or bring to any Membership Meeting. Subscriptions from National Audubon members with mailing addresses outside our official territory, and others wishing to subscribe are \$15 per year. Members with addresses within our official territory are asked to contribute \$15 also if they are able.

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 Internet based means of distribution.

The Texas-wide Rare Bird Alert, maintained by Houston Audubon Society, is available on their web-site at <http://www.houstonaudubon.org/> Email alerts are also available for a fee. Most rare bird sightings in Texas are posted on the TEXBIRDS listserv. Archives of the listserv are at <http://lists.texbirds.org/texbirds.html> It is not necessary to subscribe to the listserv to view the archives, which include postings up to the most recent.

Transcriptions of many current and recent email alerts are available on the Siler's Birding on the Net at <http://birdingonthe.net/hotmail.html> Detailed information (maps and text) on birding sites on the Upper Texas Coast is also available on the Web at <http://www.texasbirding.net>.

-8-

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 12
Groves, Texas