

Shreveport Society for Nature Study BIRD STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER

Volume 27, Number 6
February 6, 2013

Next Meeting – February 12, 2013

The Mating System of Galapagos Nazca Boobies

by
Dr. Terri Maness

FEBRUARY MEETING

When: Tuesday, February 12, 2013, 6:00 p.m.

Where: LSUS, Science Lecture Auditorium

Our speaker for the February BSG meeting is Dr. Terri Maness, an Ornithologist from LA Tech. Dr. Maness will be talking about her work with Nazca Boobies. Nazca Boobies are long-lived, socially and genetically monogamous seabirds that raise, at most, one offspring per year. Males and females share the responsibilities of raising their offspring, including incubation, brooding, and feeding the nestling until it reaches independence. The population of boobies in the Galapagos Islands has a consistently male-biased adult sex ratio, which means that one-third of the males at the site fail to find a mate per breeding season. This talk will discuss the characterization of an undescribed mating system and breeding strategy employed by female Nazca boobies.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information or directions to the party, call us at 318-797-5338.



Dr. Terri Maness and a Galapagos Nazca Boobie

Upcoming Field Trips

Sandhill Cranes – Saturday, February 16 –
Leave the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences at 7:30 a.m. Participants should be back by 2:00 -3:00 p.m.

Banding at Hubert's – Saturday, March 9 –
Meet at Hubert's (see directions on Page 3) around 8:00 a.m. Banding will last until about 1:00 p.m.

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2013 LOS Winter Meeting

A Huge Success!

By Larry Raymond

I want to thank all of the BSG members who worked together to make the 2013 LOS Winter Meeting such a great success. We had more participants than the last several winter meetings (100 +/-), and I have received rave reviews from several of the attendees. Compliments were conferred on the BSG for everything from the venue (Red River NWR Visitor Center) to the programs and hospitality, and, especially the field trips and field trip leaders. Once again, our group showed that we know how to host a great meeting!

Let me start by thanking Refuge Manager, Pat Stinson, for letting us host the meeting at the new Red River NWR Visitor Center. Refuge educator Terri Jacobson helped host the meeting and welcomed LOS members to the refuge. I also want to thank the Red River NWR volunteers who worked the Visitor Center and gift shop during the meeting. Jerry Bertrand and Ronnie Maun opened up early for us and helped greet visitors and answer questions. I know others were involved, and I thank them as well.

At the risk of leaving someone out, I want to pass out kudos to those BSG members that helped make this meeting such a success. Nancy Menasco, Mac Hardy, Jim Ingold, Hubert Hervey, and other members of the board served as the organizing committee and helped to work out many of the details of the meeting. A big thank you goes out to Nancy for her organizational skills and for writing up the logistics of the meeting for the LOS Newsletter. Nancy also arranged for the food that was catered at the Saturday night banquet and helped oversee the arranging of the room and serving tables for both Friday and Saturday nights. Nancy also made sure we got an accurate count of chairs in the meeting room – anyone remember the number – er, number of times we counted, not the number of chairs?

Thanks to Mac and Jim for helping bring tables from LSU and for helping with Thursday night's set-up and stuffing of the give-a-way bags. Kevin Flowers, Convention Sales Manager with the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau, provided the bags and some brochures to use. Phil

Bradley, Jerry Bertrand, and Martha Lennard also helped with Thursday's preparations, along with Nancy, Mac, and Jim, and Martha did a fabulous job arranging the serving tables both Friday and Saturday nights. Martha also purchased the candy and goodies for the bags. Thanks to Anne Raymond, Marilyn Hardy, Martha Lennard, Carolyn Phillips, Silviera Hunt, Shirley Huss, and Pat Lonnecker for providing food for Friday night's meeting, and to Marilyn Hardy for preparing the vegetable lasagna for Saturday night (it was a big hit and none was left over). The catered fish and fixings seemed to go over well, as did the cupcakes provided for dessert. Thanks again to Nancy for making these arrangements. Mac Hardy helped acquire ice for both nights' refreshments and meal. Anne Raymond, Jim Ingold, Phil Bradley, the BSG, and the Red River NWR provided door prizes for both Friday and Saturday nights. Based on the feedback I received, we gave away some pretty good stuff. And, let me not forget to thank Ann Jacobs for providing a beautiful flower arrangement on the serving tables.

The biggest hit of the meetings were the field trips, and I want to thank all of the field trip leaders who stepped forward and helped many LOS members get life birds. Terry Davis led a trip on Friday before the meeting started, two field trips on Saturday, including the trip to the airport, and then took people out again on Sunday. Terry was able to find three species of longspur – Lapland Longspur, Smith's Longspur, and Chestnut-collared Longspur, as well as Sprague's Pipit and other good birds. Way to go Terry, and thanks to Jim Andrews for helping arrange for Terry to get the group onto the airport grounds, and David James with airport security who escorted the group at the airport. Hubert Hervey organized the four trips on Cross Lake and led participants from the Red River NWR to the yacht club for each field trip. Dr. Charles Lyon took LOS members out on Cross Lake in his boat all four times, and, as usual, Charlie did not disappoint participants. He was able to find, on one or more trips, Bewick's Wren, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Laughing Gull, Western Grebe, and Red-breasted Merganser, as well as lots of other expected birds. Thanks to Hubert and Charlie for making this special for many of the participants.

Upcoming Field Trip Details

Sandhill Cranes – Saturday, February 16 –

Leave the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences at 7:30 a.m. Participants should be back by 2:00 -3:00 p.m. Contact Jim Ingold for more information, 797-5236.

Banding at Hubert's – Saturday, March 9 –

Meet at Hubert Hervey's house around 8:00 a.m. Banding will last until about 1:00 p.m. Contact Jim Ingold for more information, 797-5236.

Directions to Hubert's: Exit I-49 south of Shreveport at the Southern Loop Exit, go right to Linwood, left on Linwood 3 miles to Ranchette on the right, 1 mile to Missile Base, and left 0.8 mile to Hervey Dairy Road.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICE Regarding BSG Membership Dues

All memberships are for a calendar year beginning January 1. Memberships for 2013 are due now.

Benefits of Membership in the Bird Study Group

1. You are a part of one of the most active birding groups in Louisiana.
2. Memberships support conservation efforts that affect birds in Louisiana.
3. Memberships support student research and study of bird biology.
4. Memberships provide for a small honorarium for out-of-town speakers.
5. Memberships support the widely acclaimed web site of the BSG (www.birdstudygroup.org).
6. Memberships support the refreshments for the BSG meetings.
7. Members participate in the Christmas Bird Counts, the North American Migration Count, the North American Hawk Watch, the Backyard Bird Count, and the Big Sit.
8. Memberships support the bird library at the Museum of Life Sciences

Dr. Jim Ingold led a large caravan on his all-day north Caddo field trip and treated the group to the Tropical Kingbird in Mooringsport, as well as the good birds that can be found along Sentell Road. Thanks, too, to Dr. Jeff Trahan who led a group to Bickham-Dickson Park, and to John Dillon for offering a south Caddo field trip. LOS members had plenty of great trips to choose from and Saturday's checklist numbered 126 birds, with well over 130 birds seen over the three days of the winter meeting. I sincerely appreciate all of the field trip leaders that stepped up and offered their expertise to LOS.

Jacob Kraemer kicked off the meeting with a wonderful program on Paul Dickson's Pinola Aviary and discussed many of the state-of-the-art features incorporated in Paul's private one-of-a-kind collection. Everyone enjoyed Jacob's program and asked lots of questions. I want to extend a special thanks to Paul for opening up his private collection Sunday morning and providing coffee and doughnuts for all of the participants. Lots of LOS members accepted Paul's invitation to visit the aviary, and Paul and Jacob provided one-on-one commentary and answered lots of questions.

I also want to thank Dr. Mia Revels for providing Saturday night's program on American Woodcock. Again, based on the number of questions, everyone enjoyed Dr. Revels' presentation. Thanks, too, to Dr. Jim Ingold for making the arrangements to get Dr. Revels to the meeting.

Thanks also need to be extended to LOS for facilitating the meeting. President Ed Wallace, and especially, Judith O'Neale and Joelle Findley worked closely with the BSG to host the meeting and ensured that registration and other logistics were handled smoothly. Ken Harris assisted Joelle with registration.

Finally, I want to thank all of the BSG members who participated in the meetings and/or field trips and demonstrated that our group in northwestern Louisiana is alive and well. It was a great meeting and I know everyone who attended enjoyed the event. Several LOS members have already asked when we would be willing to host the winter meeting again!

Any takers?

9. Members can easily participate in the online Bird Alert email List Server (to sign up email: birdalert@birdstudygroup.org).
10. The BSG Newsletters are online and access is not restricted.

You get all of the above benefits for the modest annual membership cost of: \$15 for one membership, \$20 for a family membership, and \$35 for a sustaining membership.

BSG Board of Directors & Committee Chairpersons
BSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President – Larry Raymond (3)..... 929-3117 (H), 929-2806 (W)
Vice-president – Mac Hardy (2).....687-6738 (H), 797-5338(W)
Secretary – Silviera Hunt (3).....220-0098 (H), 676-7156(W)
Treasurer – Jim Ingold(3).....742-5067 (H), 797-5236 (W)

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Amanda Lewis (3)861-5294 (H), 797-5215 (W)
Bill Hall (1).....797-1727 (H)
Carolyn Phillips (3).....868-2605(H)
Cran Lucas (2).....797-1524 (H), 797-5086(W)
Dennis Forshee (2).....797-2473(W)
Hubert Hervey (1).....925-9249(H)
Jerry Bertrand (2).....868-3255 (H/W)
John Dillon (1).....243-2284 (H)
Nancy Menasco (1).....868-3255 (H/W)
Roy Henderson(2).....861-7449(H)
Terry Davis (1).....934-2133(H/W)

Numbers in parentheses are years remaining of a 3-year term.

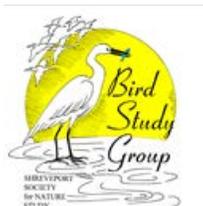
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Beginning Birders – Dennis Forshee.....797-2473 (W)
Bird Alert Service – Rosemary Seidler.....424-2972 (H)
Bird Hot Spot – Larry Raymond.....929-3117 (H) 929-2806 (W)
Bird Records – Mac Hardy.....687-6738 (H) 797-5338 (W)
 Field Trip Coordinator –open
Fund Raising – Jerry Bertrand.....868-3255 (H/W)
Hospitality – Amanda Lewis861-5294 (H) 797-5215 (W)
Library – Silviera Hunt.....220-0098 (H), 676-5457 (W)
Membership Secretary – Mac Hardy.....687-6738 (H), 797-5338 (W)
Newsletter Editor – Amanda Lewis861-5294 (H) 797-5215 (W)
Programs – Larry Raymond.....929-3117 (H) 929-2806 (W)
Website – Jerry Bertrand.....868-3255 (H/W)

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Direct inquires to the Editor, Amanda Lewis, at (318) 797-5215.



Join/Renew the BSG!

The Bird Study Group of Shreveport invites you to become a member.
Renewals, please update information below.

Name(s) _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone (Home) _____ Work _____

Yes, please add me to the email Bird Alert

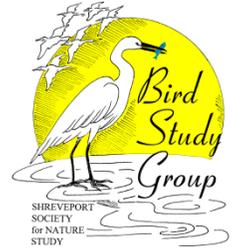
Leave me out of the BSG member directory

Membership Levels: Regular (\$15.⁰⁰) Sustaining (\$35.⁰⁰) Family, *One Newsletter/ One Address* (\$20.⁰⁰)

Names of Family Members:

Donations: Library Refuges Refreshments General

Make check payable & mail to: SSNS- Bird Study Group
Museum of Life Sciences, One University Place,
Shreveport, LA 71115-2399



BIRD STUDY GROUP PHONE NUMBERS AND MORE

Bird Study Group meets the second Tuesday of each month, September through June, 6:00 p.m. To be placed on the list to send & receive emails, email birdalert@birdstudygroup.org.

Contact the BSG by email: lhardy@lsus.edu or phone (318) 797-5338.

Visit us on the web at <http://www.birdstudygroup.org>