



## HIGH ISLAND BIRDING

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The following list was published in *American Birds*, vol. 42, no. 3, p. 457 for the vicinity of the High Island field trip.

Selected migrants\* along Highway 87, High Island to Sabine Pass, Texas, in two major fallouts (TE, JM).

Species	May 7, 1987	April 30, 1988
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	70	83
Ruby-throated Hummer	175	140
Eastern Wood-Pewee	90	55
Acadian Flycatcher	225	32
"Traill's" Flycatcher	5	30
Eastern Kingbird	125	20
Veery	905	135
Gray-cheeked Thrush	33	31
Swainson's Thrush	410	325
Wood Thrush	10	35
Gray Catbird	295	340
White-eyed Vireo	84	27
Yellow-throated Vireo	41	21
Philadelphia Vireo	113	21
Red-eyed Vireo	654	285
Blue-winged Warbler	2	30
Tennessee Warbler	444	390
Yellow Warbler	227	445
Chestnut-sided Warbler	141	58
Magnolia Warbler	465	180
Black-throated Green W.	95	55
Blackburnian Warbler	68	70
Bay-breasted Warbler	626	130
Black-and-White Warbler	166	275
American Redstart	292	225
Ovenbird	131	280
Northern Waterthrush	22	40
Kentucky Warbler	28	33
Common Yellowthroat	14	70
Hooded Warbler	80	260
Summer Tanager	30	115
Scarlet Tanager	240	210
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	100	240
Blue Grosbeak	25	100
Indigo Bunting	125	2000
Painted Bunting	0	95
Orchard Oriole	50	170
Northern Oriole	20	430

\* 25 or more individuals on one or both dates.

## FUTURE PROGRAMS

**February** -- Brad McPherson will present a program on *Flightless Birds*. The evolutionary history, biology, and geographical distribution will be discussed along with the presentation of a video tape concerning the biology of these interesting birds.

**March** -- In preparation for the High Island trip, Ann Elston will present a slide show on the birds to be expected in that area.

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

December 13, 1988

Meeting called to order by Steve Klotz. The reading of the minutes was dispensed with, due to their publication in the previous Newsletter. The Treasurer reported a current balance of \$1,931.54. Bills paid for this month included \$580.50 for 12 Martin houses and \$88.69 for six add-on-floor units for the Martin houses.

Everyone signed slips of paper for door prize drawings of packages of Sunflower chips, Finch Mix, or Finch blend, donated by Hearth and Home, located next to Sam's in Shreve City.

**Announcements:** Will Smolenski said suet cakes should be in stock before Christmas, and Martin houses were on sale.

Paul Dickson explained the form to be used if an unusual bird is sighted on the Shreveport Christmas Bird Count (CBC), or on the Bossier-Caddo-Bienville CBC. Horace Jeter and Steve Klotz will compile the SCBC, December 26th, and Paul Dickson is the BCBCBC (December 31) compiler. If you need to sign up for a Christmas count, call Horace (861-4302) or Steve (221-8411 or 865-5367) for the Shreveport CBC, or Paul (797-7900) for the BCBCBC.

A sign-up sheet was sent around the group for all intending to go on our first weekend field trip to High Island, Texas, May 5-7. There are enough interested people to make this a sure trip! Do call the Gulfway Motel, (409)286-5217 and make reservations now! Some birders may go down on Thursday, just to make full use of the many wonderful birding sites in this area.

**Program:** Brad McPherson showed 60 slides of birds that could possibly be seen during our local Christmas counts. Extra fun was added because of a few "ringers"; Carolina Parakeet, Ivory-

billed Woodpecker, and a fossil!!  
The meeting was adjourned.

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**MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD MEETING:  
November 17, 1988**

Meeting called to order by Steve Klotz. Minutes of the previous board meeting were read.

Old Business: The By-Laws still need to be read and revised to meet the current status of the Bird Study Group of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study (SSNS). Pat Lonnecker and Ann Elston will review the By-Laws.

The weekend of May 7th, 1989, was set for the group's first birding trip. Ann will have details for the December Newsletter.

Handling of the Newsletters mailing, according to zip codes, was discussed.

New Business: Steve Klotz suggested that we study past action defining the use of the Sierra Club grant to the Group. A budget committee to denote special projects with funds allotted will work on this for the next board meeting.

Larry Raymond, Vera Lee Grubbs, and Mac Hardy will work as a committee for providing lists of bird books needed for the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences library.

Mac Hardy presented a list of current paid members, and Betty Mason said that \$545 in dues had been collected for the year, September 1988-August 1989.

Mac will insert special birding information in the Newsletters for paid members, with a memo about what is missing for those still unpaid.

The need for an article on bird-watching ethics was discussed.

A birding trip for beginners was discussed.

Announcement of a super LOS winter meeting in Lafayette the latter part of January was made.

Next Board meeting will be January 19th, at Pat Lonnecker's home.

Meeting adjourned.

**CROSS LAKE FIELD TRIP--**

This is planned for Saturday, January 21, 1989. We will meet at M&M Marina at

8:00 AM. The cost is \$3.00 per person for the boat rental. Call Steve Klotz (221-8411 ext. 1042 or 865-5367) to reserve a seat by January 12.

**BIRD-WATCHING  
ETIQUETTE**

The following are three behavioral traits that can improve your individual success of finding and observing birds in the field and that will increase the enjoyment of everyone in your group.

1. Do not talk. If you must talk, keep your voice low and keep the topic confined to relevant items. Talking distracts other birders, disturbs shy birds, and prevents others in your group from hearing the birds' songs or calls. If you must talk, do so in whispers and limit it to relevant questions about the bird being observed. Let the leader do the talking.

2. When the group is stopped to observe a bird or to squeek up some birds, do not move. Do not walk around, shuffle your feet, stretch, rummage in your pack, pocket, or purse, or make any other movement. MOVEMENT is very distracting to birds. Keep completely still. Walk only when the leader walks, move only when he moves. If the leader is motionless, you become like a rock -- totally still and listening to every faint sound.

3. Stay together. Do not wander off by yourself and do not fall behind. Stay with the group and stay close enough to the leader so you can hear whispered instructions or comments on the birds.

## BIRD NOTES -- DECEMBER

Compiled  
January 3, 1989

Report bird sightings for the Newsletter to Vera Lee Grubbs (635-4852) or to Shirley Huss (865-5959) by the 25th of each month.

In the following table an asterisk (\*) denotes a species sighted but numbers of individuals seen are unknown. Reporters and dates are as follows: December -- Helen Hood (date unknown); December 6 -- Kate Michaels and Vera Lee Grubbs (Cross Lake and vicinity), *John McBride (Haygood Road at Cottonwood Bayou, 9:10 PM)*; December 8 -- Shirley Huss and Vera Lee Grubbs (Cross Lake); December 10 -- Steve Klotz (Cross Lake); December 11 -- Larry Raymond, Horace Jeter, and Steve Klotz; December 14-15 (approx.) -- John McBride; December 15-30 (approx.) -- Willard Elston; December 18 -- Bill Wood (Bickam-Dickson Park); December 19 -- Bill Wood (Hamel's Park); December 23 -- John McBride (Cross Lake); December 25 -- Bill Wood (Cross Lake), *John McBride (Haygood Road, 5:40 PM)*; December 26 -- Shreveport Christmas Bird Count; December 31 -- Bossier-Caddo-Bienville Christmas Bird Count, *Vera Lee Grubbs, January 1 -- Helen Hood (Cross Lake); January 2 -- Bill Wood (Yearwood Road)*. *Italics identify second group reports on the same day.*

COMMON NAME	DATE OF OBSERVATION													
	December											January		
	6	8	10	11	18	19	23	25	26	31	14-15	24-31	1	2
Pied-billed Grebe								2	*	*				
Horned Grebe									*	*				
American White Pelican	25	24	1	10			1	3	*					
Double-crested Cormorant							10		*	*				
Great Blue Heron						2			*	*				
Great Egret									*	*				12
Snow Goose									*	*				
Canada Goose									*	*				
Wood Duck									*	*				
Green-winged Teal									*	*				
Mallard									*	*				
Blue-winged Teal									*	*				
Northern Shoveler									*	*			1	
Gadwall				10			2		*	*				
American Wigeon									*	*			1	
Canvasback							120	1	*	*				
Ring-necked Duck								1	*	*				
Lesser Scaup									*	*				
Common Goldeneye									*	*				
Bufflehead	3			3			1		*	*				
Hooded Merganser									*	*				
Ruddy Duck	5			10				6	*	*				
Black Vulture									*	*				
Turkey Vulture									*	*				
Bald Eagle		3		2			2	1	*	*				
Northern Harrier					1	1			*	*				
Sharp-shinned Hawk									*	*				
Cooper's Hawk									*	*			1	
Red-shouldered Hawk									*	*				
Red-tailed Hawk					5	1			*	*				
American Kestrel					1				*	*				
Northern Bobwhite									*	*				
American Coot									*	*				
Killdeer									*	*				
Common Snipe					1				*	*				
American Woodcock				1					*	*				
Bonaparte's Gull				1			20		*	*				
Ring-billed Gull				10	75		150		*	*				
Herring Gull				1					*	*				
Forster's Tern			1	4					*	*				
Rock Dove									*	*				
Mourning Dove									*	*				
Common Barn-Owl									*	*				
Eastern Screech-Owl									*	*				

Great Horned Owl				*	*
Barred Owl				*	*
Short-eared Owl			1		
Chuck-will's-widow	1				
Belted Kingfisher				*	*
Red-headed Woodpecker				*	*
Red-bellied Woodpecker				*	*
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				*	*
Downy Woodpecker				*	*
Hairy Woodpecker				*	*
Northern Flicker				*	*
Pileated Woodpecker	2			*	*
Eastern Phoebe		1	1	*	*
Vermillion Flycatcher				*	*
Horned Lark				*	*
Tree Swallow				*	*
Blue Jay				*	*
American Crow				*	*
Fish Crow				*	*
Carolina Chickadee				*	*
Tufted Titmouse				*	*
White-breasted Nuthatch	4			*	*
Brown-headed Nuthatch	5			*	*
Brown Creeper				*	*
Carolina Wren				*	*
Bewick's Wren				*	*
House Wren	1			*	*
Winter Wren				*	*
Sedge Wren				*	*
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3			*	*
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2			*	*
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				*	*
Eastern Bluebird	15	6		*	*
Hermit Thrush				*	*
American Robin				*	*
Northern Mockingbird			2	*	*
Brown Thrasher				*	*
Water Pipit				*	*
Cedar Waxwing				*	*
Loggerhead Shrike			2	*	*
European Starling				*	*
Solitary Vireo				*	*
Orange-crowned Warbler	1			*	*
Magnolia Warbler (1 date unknown)				*	*
Yellow-rumped Warbler (1 date unknown) 8		25		*	*
Pine Warbler	12		1	*	*
Northern Cardinal			6	*	*
Rufous-sided Towhee		1		*	*
Chipping Sparrow				*	*
Field Sparrow			4	1	*
Vesper Sparrow				*	*
Savannah Sparrow				*	*
LeConte's Sparrow				*	*
Fox Sparrow				*	*
Song Sparrow	1		6	*	*
Lincoln's Sparrow				*	*
Swamp Sparrow				*	*
White-throated Sparrow	4			*	*
White-crowned Sparrow				*	*
Harris' Sparrow				*	*
Dark-eyed Junco	15	12		*	*
Lapland Longspur				*	*
Smith's Longspur				*	*
Red-winged Blackbird				*	*
Eastern Meadowlark				*	*
Western Meadowlark				*	*
Rusty Blackbird				*	*
Brewer's Blackbird				*	*
Common Grackle				*	*
Brown-headed Cowbird				*	*
Purple Finch				*	*
American Goldfinch	15	75		*	*
House Sparrow				*	*