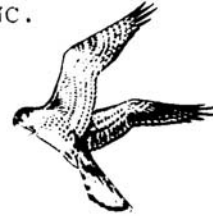


SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY, INC.



## BIRD STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume 3, Number 8  
April 1989

Bird Alert Service: Phone 226-7174, Monday, Wednesday,  
and Friday after 5:00 PM.  
Bird Feed and Feeders: On sale at the LSUS Museum of  
Life Sciences, 8015 St. Vincent Ave.

### DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

1988-89

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(All officers are members of the Board of Directors)

### NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, April 11, 7:00 PM  
at the Museum. The speaker  
will be Dr. Brad McPherson,  
who will  
present an illustrated talk  
on "Fossil Birds."

### NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Thursday, May 11, 7:00 PM at  
Steve Klotz's home, 256  
Patton Ave. All Board members  
should be present.

**BLUEBIRD HOUSES AND OTHER ITEMS ARE  
NOW IN STOCK!**

## **MINUTES OF MARCH 14th MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Klotz. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$917.74.

The next Board meeting has been postponed until March 30th, at Will Smolenski's home, 7:00 PM.

Will now has two Purple Martin houses up and open at Bickham Dickson Park. The Barnwell Center has requested that we place two there. The motion was made and approved. These houses come from the Sierra Club grant. Steve volunteered to get permanent signs for these houses, designating them as a project of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study.

Two kinds of hummingbird feeders, nectar mix, and other items are now on sale in the Gift Shop.

A report of an American Kestrel landing on a wire "live-trap" in a Broadmoor back yard was made. This bird watched two House Sparrows which had gotten in the trap, and quickly managed to grasp one through the wires for a meal.

Marilyn Kircus reported a pair of Northern Rough-winged Swallows being sighted.

The program was given by Ann Elston, who showed maps and slides of birding in the High Island and Anahuac areas. Groups going on a weekend field trip to this area were provided maps, checklists, and other materials for this May 5-7 trip.

The meeting was adjourned.

## **BIRDS BITS** (Contributed by Bill Wood)

"We're talking about 500 woodpeckers. They're ugly, they don't have a particular melodious song, and they perform no useful service to either nature or man." This statement was made by Representative Jim Chapman of East Texas in reference to the endangered Red-Cockaded Woodpecker.

### **89th Christmas Bird Count**

Unofficial reports of the 89 CBC indicate that Santa Barbara, California count took top honors by recording 218 species. Over 1500 counts were taken with more than 42,000 participants.

### **Are You Ready???**

Spring migration is underway. Be prepared by reviewing your field guides and learning the field marking of birds that you can expect to see. Also, talk with your fellow birders about local hot spots and what can be found there.

### **Can This Be True!**

Six pairs of Eskimo Curlews are reported to be nesting at a location being kept secret by Canadian authorities.

### **Good News!!!**

Reports show the number of male Kirtland Warblers increased from 167 in 1987 to 207 in 1988. Wisconsin reported five males, its largest count ever.

A case of Song Bird Fever broke out in the N.E. United States this past year. Song Bird Fever is caused by the bacterium *Salmonella typhimurium* and can be fatal to birds. The infection is spread when birds eat seeds or drink water contaminated by the droppings of other birds. To prevent the disease the following steps can be taken: (1) Feeders with trays should be replaced with cylinder type or hopper feeders, (2) don't allow seed to accumulate on the ground, (3) feeders and bird baths should be cleaned periodically, and (4) bird baths should not be placed near bird feeders.

## NATURE DAY CAMPS

The Nature Day Camps presented by the Museum of Life Sciences each summer are now receiving 1989 applications. Pre-registration is required. The fee is \$55 per child per week. Call the Museum for more information (226-7174). Applications are available from the Museum office or from Continuing Education on the LSUS campus.

## JOURNAL OF LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGY

This new ornithological journal should stimulate more interest in the study of bird biology in Louisiana. The non-member subscription rate is \$10.00 domestic, \$11.00 foreign. It is mailed free to members of the Louisiana Ornithological Society. For more information write to: Louisiana Ornithological Society, 88 Egret St., New Orleans, LA 70124.

