

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY, INC.

BIRD STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Number 2
October 1989



Bird Alert Hotline: Phone 226-7174, Mon., Wed., & Fri. after 5:00 PM
Bird Feed and Feeders: On sale at the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1989-90

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GIFT SHOP -- Teresa Thrash
MEMBERSHIP -- Shirley Huss
NEWSLETTER -- Mac Hardy
OUTINGS -- Steve Klotz
PROGRAMS -- Will Smolenski

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, 10 October 1989, 7:00 PM, at the Museum of Life Sciences. Mac Hardy will present a program on birds in the diet of the Barn Owl. Pat Lonacker will continue her popular series on bird identification. *Zentner ✓*

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Thursday, 12 October 1989, 7:00 PM. This will be the first meeting for the new year. This meeting will be at the Museum. Refreshments will be available.

CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL. The expiration date for your membership in the Bird Study Group is now printed on your mailing label. Be sure to renew your membership before the expiration date so you will not miss a newsletter.

YARD BIRDS!!

Anyone who sees any unusual birds, rare sightings, uncommon migrants, or birds not commonly seen in residential areas should report the sightings to either Vera Lee Grubbs (635-4852) or Connie Connors (865-6422). If it is a bird that others would probably want to see and it is likely to remain in the area for a few hours, also report it to the Rare Bird Hotline (226-7174).

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING...

The regular meeting of the Bird Study Group was called to order by President Bill Wood at 7:05 P.M. on September 12, 1989, in the LSUS Museum of Life Sciences. Everyone in attendance introduced himself or herself to help us get better acquainted. Several new visitors were in attendance.

Bill then thanked those officers who served last year, especially Steve Klotz for leading us through another very

successful year.

The various committees were then discussed. Vice-president, program chairman, and publicity contact, Will Smolenski (allegedly retired), requested ideas from the membership on types of programs and/or speakers to present programs. Teresa Thrash, giftshop chairman, should be contacted about special items people may want. Mac Hardy, newsletter editor, posted several lists of the membership. He indicated that one of the lists was of members whose memberships would expire in the next month. These individuals need to be sure and renew their membership before the next newsletter. Betty Mason suggested that everyone keep their membership receipts until they verify that their membership is recorded correctly on the computer labels. Shirley Huss, membership chairperson, was also recognized.

At this time, Pat Lonacker made a motion from the floor, based on a recommendation from the board, to raise annual dues from \$5.00 to \$10.00 a year, effective October 1, 1989. Patron members would still pay \$25.00 annually. Margaret Fontaine seconded the motion. After some discussion, it was agreed that dues paid before October 1 would be at the old rate of \$5.00 and be good for one year from the time of renewal. The motion passed unanimously.

Will reported that the Telephone Pioneer Club voted to spend \$1,000 to purchase materials to build a raptor rehabilitation cage at the Walter Jacobs Nature Park. The building of this flight cage was adopted as our major project this year at the last board meeting. The Pioneer Club also volunteered their time and talents to construct the cage. Larry Raymond explained the purpose of the cage to the members present. Bill instructed the secretary to send a formal thank you from the bird group at the appropriate time.

Will reported that he plans to make more bird houses to sell and welcomed any volunteers who want to help. The houses he had in stock at the Museum sold out

before the meeting began.

Larry provided an update on the Clyde Fant Parkway development plans. He repeated the information given at the board meeting of 10 August 1989 reported in the September newsletter.

Bill reminded everyone of the hawk watch scheduled to begin at 8 A.M. on September 23rd and 24th at the Wallace Lake dam site. Those wanting to participate were advised to bring lunch, drinks, insect repellent, binoculars, field guides and a lounge chair. Bill informed us that as many as 250,000 raptors pass through our area every year.

Betty presented the treasurer's report under other business. She reported a balance last meeting of \$1,433.90. Since then we have had income of \$208.05, and expenses of \$283.56, leaving a balance of \$1,358.39 this month.

Bill Hall discussed his latest efforts in the war against squirrels that get in his hanging bird feeders. He knows someone who will make a 21 inch acrylic disc to place above the feeders which he guarantees will keep the squirrels out of the bird seed. Bill will take orders for these discs which sell for \$15.00 each. Will reported that a 12 inch disc he made out of thick plastic keeps squirrels from getting to his pole feeder.

Pat reviewed her slides of birds found in wet areas presented at the last meeting, and then introduced us to sandpipers we might see in our area, especially during migration. She showed and described Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, and Spotted Sandpiper.

John McBride presented a very informative program on hawk identification to prepare us for the hawk watch later in the month. He showed slides and discussed diagnostic characteristics of the vultures, kites, falcons, accipiters, and buteos we might see in our area. He concluded the program with a quick quiz and review of

what we had learned.

Bill asked if anyone from our group would like to represent us at Family Hunting and Fishing Day at Bodcau WMA on September 23rd. If so, they can ride with Mac Hardy who is going to represent the LSUS Biology Club.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Larry R. Raymond, Secretary

REMINDER

If your membership expires this month be sure to pay your dues at the next meeting or earlier. The BIRD STUDY GROUP depends upon your support for much of the good work that the organization accomplishes. Check your membership and bring a friend to the next meeting.
GOOD BIRDING!

BIRD WATCHING ON PBS

The Public Broadcasting System (PBS) is now airing a weekly program produced by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries called the *Louisiana Conservationist TV Magazine*. The program on 12 October, 7:30 PM, will feature bird-watching.

Also, on October 26 the topic of the *Louisiana Conservationist TV Magazine* will be returning Wild Turkeys back to the wild.

NEW DUES PASSED

Beginning on 1 October 1989 the annual dues for membership in the ArkLa-Tex Bird Study Group of the Shreveport Society for Nature Study, Inc. will be \$10.00 per year. This is still a small amount to pay for eleven programs, eleven Newsletters, eleven social gatherings with other birders, two major all-day bird outings, numerous half-day outings, and other opportunities for birding trips to other areas. All subscription payments are for one year and may be accumulated.

We would like to continue to build the membership in the Bird Study Group in order to reach more birders and to better assure our continuity and stability. If you know anyone interested in birds encourage them to join the Bird Study Group. When your membership runs out be sure to rejoin and continue the support that you have provided in the past.

HAWK WATCH ***

The Hawk Watch held on September 23rd reported 60+ Black Vultures, 40+ Turkey Vultures, 2 Sharp-shinned Hawks, and one hawk that was unidentified.

BIRD NOTES -- SEPTEMBER

Compiled
September 28, 1989

Report bird records for the Newsletter to Vera Lee Grubbs (635-4852) or to Connie Conners (865-6422) by the 25th of each month. Only records not printed since the last Newsletter are published.

The Bird Notes report is being offered in a different form. Following each species is a line of data in the following format: date (initials of observer, number of birds observed; initials of another observer, number of birds observed; etc.). For example: 15(PD,3; BW,1,2) means that on the fifteenth PD saw 3 birds, BW saw 1 at one locality and 5 at another. See the next paragraph for specific observers and places. For the number of birds observed, a one is used both for one specimen or for numbers not reported by the observer.

Dates and reporters are as follows: AB -- Alice Babers, Sep. 23 (residence); PD -- Paul Dickson, Aug. 27-Sep. 27, Sep. 2, 3, 12 (Loggy Bayou Plantation); WE -- Williard Elston, Sep. 22 (residence); GF -- Gloria Frantom, Sep. 9 (residence); MH -- Mac Hardy, Sep. 23 (near Bodcau); HH -- Helen Hood, Sep. 17 (I-49 near Powhatan); SH -- Shirley Huss, Sep. 6, 7 (residence), Sep. 9 (Red River), Sep. 16 (Bickham-Dickson Park), Sep. 17 (Hamel's Park); SH & PL -- Shirley Huss & Pat Lonnecker, September 29 (C. M. Hamel Memorial Park); SK -- Steve Klotz, Sep. 13 (jct. 70th St. & Youree Dr.); PL -- Pat Lonnecker, Sep. 22 (residence); JM -- James McCain, Sep. 24 (residence); VN -- Velda Neilson, Sep. 7 (residence, Mansfield), Sep. 10 (Toledo Bend), Sep. 22 (residence), Sep. 25 (residence); HWP -- Hawk Watch Party, Sep. 23 (Wallace Lake); BBW -- Bob and Bobbe Wonnack, Sep. 18 (Bickham-Dickson Park), Sep. 20 (near Stonewall), Sep. 23 (I-49 near Powhatan; Loggy Bayou area near U.S. 71; Bickham-Dickson Park), BW -- Bill Wood, Sep. 21 (Bickham-Dickson Park).

COMMON NAME	DATA
Double-crested Cormorant	Sep. 21 (BW 1); 23 (HWP 6)
Anhinga	Sep. 23 (HWP 1)
Great Blue Heron	Sep. 10 (VN 1); 17 (HH 2); 22 (VN 2); 23 (HWP 2)
Great Egret	Sep. 10 (VN 2); 11 (SH 2); 16 (SH 33); 21 (BW 38); 22 (VN 3)
Snowy Egret	Sep. 2 (PD 1); 17 (HH 25); 21 (BW 4)
Little Blue Heron	Sep. 16 (SH 5); 17 (HH 2)
Tricolored Heron	Sep. 2 (PD 1); 23 (BBW 1)
Cattle Egret	Sep. 23 (MH 40); 17 (HH 48)
Green-backed Heron	Sep. 10 (VN 1); 21 (BW 1)
Wood Stork	Sep. 3 (PD 40); 17 (HH 1)
Wood Duck	Sep. 23 (BBW 6)
Green-winged Teal	Sep. 12 (PD 6)
Blue-winged Teal	Aug. 27-Sep. 27 (PD 12-150); 23 (BBW 15)
Red-shouldered Hawk	Sep. 10 (VN 1); 22 (VN 1)
American Coot	Sep. 17 (HH 60); 23 (HWP 1)
Killdeer	Sep. 10 (VN 1); 16 (SH 4); 22 (VN 1)
American Avocet	Sep. 23 (BBW 2)
Greater Yellowlegs	Sep. 23 (BBW 1)
Lesser Yellowlegs	Sep. 17 (SH 1)
Spotted Sandpiper	Sep. 9 (SH 3)
Least Sandpiper	Sep. 18 (BBW 8); 23 (BBW 10)
Long-billed Dowitcher	Sep. 23 (BBW 6)
Mourning Dove	Sep. 24 (JM 5)
Barred Owl	Sep. 24 (JM 1)
Common Nighthawk	Sep. 6 (SH 3); Sep. 7 (SH 2)
Whip-poor-will	Sep. 12 (PD 1)
Chimney Swift	Sep. 13 (SK 1000); 22 (SH 1000)
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Sep. 22 (PL 1); 23 (AB 2)
Belted Kingfisher	Sep. 22 (VN 2)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Sep. 23 (AB 1); 24 (JM 1); 25 (VN 1)
Downy Woodpecker	Sep. 23 (HWP 1)
Northern Flicker	Sep. 20 (BBW 1)
Pileated Woodpecker	Sep. 25 (VN 1)
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Sep. 10 (VN 1)
Acadian Flycatcher	Sep. 24 (JM 1)
Eastern Phoebe	Sep. 22 (VN 2)
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Sep. 17 (SH 50); 22 (VN 2); 23 (BBW 15); 29 (SH & PL 10)
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Sep. 16 (SH 6)
Barn Swallow	Sep. 16 (SH 1)
Blue Jay	Sep. 24 (JM 4)
Carolina Chickadee	Sep. 23 (HWP 1); 25 (VN 4)
Tufted Titmouse	Sep. 25 (VN 4)
White-breasted Nuthatch	Sep. 24 (JM 1)
Brown-headed Nuthatch	Sep. 22 (WE 2); 25 (VN 4)
Carolina Wren	Sep. 22 (VN 1)
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Sep. 7 (VN 2); 20 (BBW 1); 23 (HWP 1)
Eastern Bluebird	Sep. 10 (VN 3); 20 (BBW 6); 24 (JM 1)
Gray Catbird	Sep. 24 (JM 1)
Northern Mockingbird	Sep. 24 (JM 1)
Brown Thrasher	Sep. 24 (JM 1)

Red-eyed Vireo
Pine Warbler
American Redstart
✓ Common Yellowthroat
Summer Tanager
Eastern Meadowlark

Sep. 7 (VN 1)
Sep. 20 (BBW 1); 25 (VN 3)
Sep. 9 (GF 1 male)
Sep. 23 (HWP 2)
Sep. 10 (VN 1); 22 (VN 3); 25 (VN 1)
Sep. 17 (SH 3)

Total = 56 species

SHREVEPORT SOCIETY FOR NATURE STUDY, INC.

BIRD STUDY GROUP

Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Phone (Home) _____, (work) _____

Membership Category: Regular ____(\$10.00) Sustaining ____(\$25.00)

Make Check Payable to: **SSNS BIRD STUDY GROUP**
Museum of Life Sciences
8015 St. Vincent Ave.
Shreveport, LA 71106-5445