

NEWSLETTER OF THE
LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
Annual Report 2009

April 1, 2009

Records reviewed at this meeting primarily consisted of many old specimen records and records posted at the LBRC website

see page 7



Great Kiskadee (2008-56) photo by Dave Patton

Annual Meeting 14 March 2009

by: Donna L. Dittmann, Secretary
& Steven W. Cardiff, Chair

The LBRC Annual Meeting was held on 14 March 2009. This marks the first meeting on the recently adopted spring schedule.

The meeting was called to order at 9:43 AM in the Bird Range at LSU Museum of Natural Science. The following Voting Members were in attendance: Steven W. Cardiff (Chair), Paul E. Conover, Donna L. Dittmann (Secretary), James

L. Ingold, Dave Patton, Curtis C. Sorrells, and Phillip A. Wallace. The following Alternate Members were also present: Nancy L. Newfield (First Alternate) and B. Mac Myers III (Second Alternate).

Adoption of spring meeting date: elections moved to Spring 2010

The LBRC amended the bylaws to adopt the change in annual meeting date. Because only about four months had elapsed between the 2008 and 2009 annual meetings (because of the date change) Committee Members agreed

to delay Member elections until Spring 2010 extending terms rather than shortening them. This extends current terms by five months. Terms expiring at the next meeting are one-year terms of officers, Steven W. Cardiff (Chair) and Donna L. Dittmann (Secretary); three-year terms of Voting Members, Phillip Wallace and Paul Conover; and terms of Alternates, Nancy Newfield and Mac Myers.

Record Review

Voting Members reviewed 72 first circulation records. Records included on continued p. 2

Annual Meeting Spring 2009 - cont.

the agenda were chosen at the discretion of the Secretary, and mainly involved well-documented, relatively non-controversial occurrences supported by photographic or specimen evidence. Twenty-six records were supported by photographic evidence, 21 chosen from the *Pending Records* online at the LBRC website, and five Allen's Hummingbirds additionally supported by banding data. Although the LBRC online record submittal process is not "bug-free," it provides an easy way to submit long forms of Review List species and associated photographic documentation; documentation is then visible to

the public at the *Pending Records* pages until the records are reviewed and then archived. The LBRC encourages everyone to submit their sightings whether there is already a report online or not. The remaining 46 records consisted of older specimen records never formally reviewed by the LBRC (or included in the LBRC record roster).

All of the records chosen to be reviewed at this meeting were relatively straightforward; these types of records are most easily reviewed in a meeting format and have a high probability of

continued bottom p. 3

Examining Louisiana's "Canada" goose situation: Status of Cackling and Canada geese



(left to right) Mac Myers, Jim Ingold, Curt Sorrells, & Steve Cardiff



Canada Goose numbers in Louisiana declined dramatically during the 1950-60s, apparently being short-stopped by creation of waterfowl refuges farther north in the Mississippi River Valley. These geese were primarily the large subspecies *interior*. Concerned by this potential loss of a prized game bird, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries began a program at Rockefeller Refuge to establish an introduced resident population by releasing the largest, and generally sedentary, subspecies *maxima*. In addition to the Rockefeller population, which has generally not expanded more than 30 miles beyond the epicenter at the refuge, smaller numbers of Canada Geese have been introduced to a variety of area waters such as ponds and lakes at subdivisions, parks, and golf courses. During the late 1980s, numbers of Cackling Geese began increasing in the southwestern portion of the state, a shift eastward of wintering birds mirroring that of Ross's Goose. Recent ("post-split") documentation so far only supports presence of Cackling geese, and principally Richardson's Goose *Branta h. hutchinsii* (as illustrated by specimens above and below).

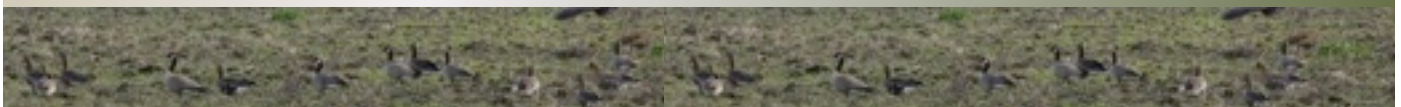
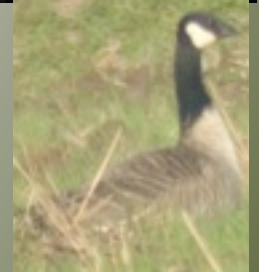
Richardson's Goose (*Branta h. hutchinsii*) specimens at LSUMNS.



Nancy Newfield, Phillip Wallace, & Dave Patton



Specimen above illustrates classic short, stubby bill shape characteristic of Cackling Goose. This is shown by all populations, even the larger-bodied "Richardson's Goose," the expected Cackling subspecies wintering in Louisiana: right and left photographs taken 1 January 2009 by Paul E. Conover in Jefferson Davis Parish. Compare photos to specimen and Canada Goose (right of specimen; introduced subspecies *maxima*) near Grand Chenier, Cameron Parish 2 May 2009 (photo by D. L. Dittmann).



LBRC adds Canada Goose to the LBRC Review List

Observers should carefully examine wintering goose flocks for Canada Goose

One of several Cackling Goose flocks in Jefferson Davis Parish scrutinized for Canada Geese in January 2009 by LBRC members Donna Dittmann (photo) and Steve Cardiff. All individuals in this flock were identified as the larger subspecies of Cackling Goose, Richardson's Goose.

Separation of Canada Goose from Cackling Goose can be difficult, especially between "large" Cackling and "small" Canada subspecies. Lesser Canada Goose (*B. canadensis parvipes*) is probably the most expected Canada subspecies to now occur naturally in the state. Although within any given flock, size of Richardson's Cackling can appear quite variable, the comparison between Richardson's and Lesser Canada should be comparable to Ross's Goose versus Lesser Snow Goose. Potential wild Canadas would only be expected to occur October to March. Feral Canadas however may occur throughout the state all year.

Observers are encouraged to consult "Distribution and Identification of Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) Subspecies" by Mlodinow et al. in *North American Birds*, volume 62 (3): 344-360. Other sources of identification include Peter Pyle's *Identification Guide to North American Birds Part II* and National Geographic's *Complete Birds of North America*.

Annual Meeting Spring 2009 - cont.

acceptance (as outlined by the LBRC Bylaws; see <http://losbird.org> for online copy).

All of the records reviewed at the 2009 Annual Meeting were accepted (see page 7).

Additional Business

At 11:30 AM, following specimen review at LSUMNS, the meeting venue was moved to 435 Pecan Drive in St. Gabriel and business resumed after lunch at 1:20 PM.

Proposed changes to the Review List: *Add Canada Goose?*

Members discussed the historical status of Canada Goose, its current status to the best of

our knowledge, and the implications of adding the species to the Review List. Because there are numerous feral-occurring individuals or populations in Louisiana, the LBRC also discussed whether or not to provide guidelines to help observers ascertain what might be a wild versus a feral Canada Goose.

Based on our current knowledge of the species' distribution and its occurrence in the state, the LBRC voted to add Canada Goose to the Review List. We also discussed the LBRC's role with regards to "countability" of feral Canada Geese. By adding the species to the Review List, "countability" of feral birds is effectively eliminated because the species is not additionally accepted as an Introduced Species.

continued bottom p. 4

LBRC reviews status of Allen's Hummingbird on the LBRC Review List



This adult male (2009-05) was present from 19 January - 23 February 2009, Iberville: 435 Pecan Drive, 4 mi. N St. Gabriel. Above photograph was taken 20 January 2009 by Donna L. Dittmann.

This bird was banded by Dave Patton (band no. C05739) on 22 February 2009 - photographs by Dave Patton on right.

Only a small percentage of birds banded have been submitted to the LBRC - until many of these outstanding records are submitted, the species will be retained on the Review List.



Canada Goose - cont.

During discussions, it was also decided that the cutoff for "countable" Canada Goose without supporting documentation should be 1970 because, by this time, few Canadas were wintering as far south as Louisiana, introduced populations originating from Rockefeller Refuge were thriving, and satellite populations were being established elsewhere (Lowery 1974). The LBRC encourages observers to look closely at wintering Canada-type geese and to submit long forms/photographic documentation *for birds thought to be wild, winter season* Canadas. For non-winter season Canadas or birds presumed to be feral or released, observers are requested to

submit 3 X 5 cards to help ascertain the distribution of feral individuals/populations in Louisiana. See also: http://losbird.org/lbrc/instruct_lbrc.html.

Remove Allen's Hummingbird from the Review List?

Although the increasing frequency of "reports" by Louisiana's hummingbird banders Nancy L. Newfield, Dave Patton, and Linda Beall qualifies this species for removal, the actual number of officially submitted and accepted records is still well below the average of 4/year averaged over the past 10 years. Taking that into consideration, all Members were in favor of delaying

continued top next page

Allen's Hummingbird status cont.

removal pending accumulation of more records in the LBRC files.

Status of Trumpeter Swan

Although Trumpeter Swan was reported by Oberholser (1938) as “perhaps a fairly common winter resident,” at the time he wrote this species account, Trumpeter Swan no longer occurred in the state. In fact, Oberholser lists only three “tangible” records. Two of these are attributed to Stanley C. Arthur: one photographed by him on 7 January 1915, and one shot by a hunter in November 1914 and confirmed by him as that species. In his book, Lowery (1974) states that Trumpeter Swan’s place on the state list is “rather insubstantial,” and he also casts doubt about Arthur’s documentation, noting in particular inconsistency of the photograph’s date. During the LBRC’s “Lowery Review,” the species was nonetheless “grandfathered” onto the state list and, apparently, no further attempts were made to locate and review Arthur’s photo. At this meeting, Members agreed that the status of Trumpeter Swan needs to be resolved and some recalled seeing a published photograph. Following the meeting, Paul Conover located the Arthur photo in the Bent’s Life Histories series (see below). The LBRC will review the photo record in the near future.



Photograph reportedly taken by Stanley C. Arthur on 7 January 1915 at Avery Island. His published account says that he first saw the bird winter 1914-15, but did not obtain a photograph until the following winter.



Monk Parakeet in Canary Island date palm photographed on 9 November 2008 by John P. Sevenair on Lakeshore Drive in New Orleans’ Lake Terrace subdivision.

Add Monk Parakeet to State List

Members and Alternates engaged in a lengthy discussion of whether to add Monk Parakeet to the state list as an introduced species. John P. Sevenair and Bruce Baird provided survey data, including estimations and extrapolations of population size and numbers of nests, to support the addition of this species. The discussion also focused on Monk Parakeet population expansion trends because, in the New Orleans area, this species does not appear to be exhibiting a pattern of exponential growth as have feral populations in some other areas (e.g., Florida, where estimates range from tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands *and spreading*). Some members expressed concerns that population numbers based on extrapolations were too high because parrots are conspicuous and may be “over-estimated.” This was discounted by Sevenair in his report stating that, to the contrary, Monks can be rather inconspicuous. With regard to numbers, Curt Sorrells reported seeing a flock of 63 – but members wondered whether this represented a seasonal aggregation. Members generally focused on actual numbers counted versus extrapolations (based on potential parakeet habitat), and speculated what the parakeet population might be 100 years from now based on their 40 year history so far. Whereas some members noted that the parakeets had passed the “Katrina test,” others were not impressed that Hurricane Katrina was a satisfactory litmus test for species’ resiliency, noting that Katrina’s greater impact was flooding. It was suggested that some future cold weather event may have a more profound impact (by killing food and nest-supporting plants).

Also discussed, was whether the feral population was continuously being augmented by recruitment of new escapes/releases, and whether such recruitment was important. In his write-up, Sevenair pointed out that if the Monk population was simply the result of recent escapes, then there should be populations in all major metropolitan areas, as well as sightings of captive bred color morphs (which there are not).

continued page 6



Monk Parakeet nest on Entergy tower photographed on 11 January 2009 by John P. Sevenair off Fleur De Lis Ave. in the Lakeview area of New Orleans.

Population estimates

87 nests and 349 Monk Parakeets were located in the 19.5 sq. mi. target area which results in 4.011 Monk Parakeets/nest, 17.90 birds/sq. mi. and 4.46 nests/sq. mi. Extrapolating these numbers to the full 199.44 habitat area results in 890 nests and 3,570 Monk Parakeets. Correcting these numbers for the reduced effective habitat results in 562 nests and 2,253 Monk Parakeets, which is the best estimate for the Greater New Orleans area.

Bruce Baird

What is the population estimate and trend?

The population has expanded substantially. The first record for the state was in March 1972 (Lowery 1974). My own surveys of metropolitan New Orleans before Katrina found substantial numbers of nests, and I counted from 122 to 227 Monk Parakeets associated with them, but these efforts were not exhaustive, and I only counted birds that were flying near or standing on actual nests. My current survey found 186 nests (276 parakeets). If I found half the nests in the area and there is an average of six parakeets per nest, then the population ($186 \times 2 \times 6$) = 2232 parakeets, but there's a very large uncertainty here.

John P. Sevenair

Monk Parakeet - cont.

Members also expressed concerns that, because Monk Parakeets are potential crop pests and their nests impact utility towers, the USDA or other agencies could initiate eradication or "containment" programs. Some Members found it difficult to believe that control methods could be initiated in urban settings where people "like the parakeets." Additionally, it was unclear how, upon acceptance of such a restricted population, to delineate an area of establishment, deal with Monks found elsewhere, and monitor their status. There was also a certain amount of uneasiness that acceptance would lead to "observer apathy" and a decrease, rather than an increase, in monitoring efforts.



Monk Parakeet photographed on 30 January 2009 by John P. Sevenair on Fleur De Lis Ave in the Lakeview area, not far from nest photo at top of page.

All Members agreed that both John Sevenair and Bruce Baird were to be commended for their contributions and hard work towards establishing baseline data, and that these data should be published. Members also agreed that additional Christmas Bird Count-style censuses, such as one done years ago and posted on Labird (but never published elsewhere or submitted to the LBRC), would provide equally important real-time snapshots of actual numbers, and perhaps one could be coordinated with the Louisiana Bird Atlas project.

Following the discussion, it was obvious that Member opinions were mixed as to whether or not they believed that the species was numerous enough to warrant addition to the State list, but all decided that we should take a vote to add Monk Parakeet as an Introduced Species. Because it was obvious that it would not be a unanimous vote, and because the Bylaws did not specifically address this type of vote at a meeting, and with no clear resolution, we decided to delay action and resolve the bylaws issue first.

Status of Monk Parakeet - to be continued

First circulation records accepted at the Annual Meeting 2009

Compiled by Donna L. Dittmann, LBRC Secretary (format follows that of LBRC reports published in the Journal of Louisiana Ornithology)

* for specimens, the asterisk indicates the specimen preparator, if different than the collector.

Brant (*Branta bernicla*)

One female (1974-05) on 17 January 1974, *Cameron*: Grand Chenier; A. W. Palmisano (LSUMZ 75523) and P. Bruner (*). First observed 15 January at Rockefeller Refuge and collected near the refuge headquarters 17 January (Lowery 1974); this represents the first state specimen (photo p. 12).

One sex unknown (1976-08) on 22 December 1976, *Cameron*: just S Mobil Road at Holly Beach; Abner W. Cook (LSUMZ 86990; head/chest and wings, partial skeleton) and J. C. Smith (*).



Brant (1976-08)

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*)

One male (2007-100) shot on 29 November 2007, *Vermilion*: marsh just N eastern shore White Lake at end of "Phillips' Canal;" Patrick Damas Moresi (photo p. 10).

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*)

Two (immature male and female, 2008-43) on 4 May 2008, *Cameron*: Gulf off Hwy. 27/82 approx. 3 mi. W Calcasieu Pass; Justin Bosler (photo p. 10).

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*)

One female (2009-30) on 10 February 2009, *Terrebonne*: Cocodrie, from docks at LUMCON; Russell Martin, Jr. and John Conover (photo only; p. 10).

Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus*)

One in basic plumage (1947-01) 14 December 1947, *East Baton Rouge*: Baton Rouge, Capitol Lake; George H. Lowery, Jr. (LSUMZ 20327). A photo of this first and only record for the state (Lowery 1974) is on p. 12.

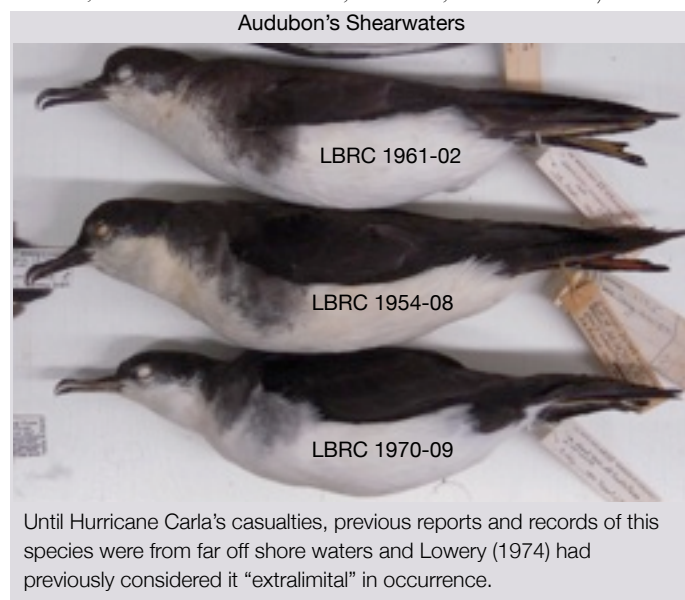
Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*)

One in basic plumage (1937-01) on 2 December 1937, *LaSalle*: Catahoula Lake; Winston Nolan (LSUMZ 73005, mount). A photo of this first state record (Lowery 1974) is on p. 12.

Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*)

One male (1954-08) on 26 August 1954, *Gulf of Mexico*: 94 mi. E Southeast Pass Mississippi River, 28° 54' N, 88° 00' W; Stewart Springer (LSUMZ 20345; photo below).

Three (1961-02) on 15 September 1961, *Cameron*: 1 mi. E Holly Beach; found dead on beach following Hurricane Carla by Laurence C. Binford (LSUMZ 25129, male/skin, D. G. Berrett; LSUMZ 27853 photo below; male, skeleton, K. A. Arnold; LSUMZ 27856 female, skeleton, K. A. Arnold).



Until Hurricane Carla's casualties, previous reports and records of this species were from far off shore waters and Lowery (1974) had previously considered it "extralimital" in occurrence.

One male (1961-09) on 16 September 1961, *Cameron*: 1 mi. E Holly Beach; found dead on beach following Hurricane Carla by Laurence C. Binford (LSUMZ 27854 male, skeleton, K. A. Arnold).

One female (1961-06) on 16 September 1961, *Cameron*: Johnsons Bayou; found dead on beach following Hurricane Carla by Laurence C. Binford (LSUMZ 27855 female, skeleton, K. A. Arnold; photo on p. 12).

One female (1961-07) on 16 September 1961, *Cameron*: Holly Beach; found dead on beach following Hurricane Carla by Laurence C. Binford (LSUMZ 27857 female, skeleton, photo on p. 12). Specimen without label.

One sex unknown (1961-08) on 16 September 1961, *Cameron*: 2 mi. W Holly Beach; found dead on beach following Hurricane Carla by Laurence C. Binford (LSUMZ 27858 sex unknown, skeleton, K. A. Arnold; photo on p. 12). Previous six (eight specimens) records included in Lowery (1974) were among 13 specimens preserved of 17 of this species apparently picked up following Hurricane Carla.

One sex unknown (1962-03) on 28 April 1962, *Cameron*: 2 mi. SE Cameron (LSUMZ 27860; skeleton, specimen without label).

One male (1970-09) on 9 July 1970, *Gulf of Mexico*: 40 mi. S South Pass on course of 140°; Robert J. Newman (LSUMZ 69133, photo above; Lowery 1974).

continued next page

Masked Booby (*Sula dactylatra*)

One subadult female (?) (1953-02) on 1 May 1953, *Vermilion*: Gueydan; R. A. Leblanc (LSUMZ 19252).

One adult female (1961-10) on 13 September 1961, *East Feliciana*: Jackson; R. Morgan (LSUMZ 25127). This specimen was picked up following Hurricane Carla (Lowery 1974).

One subadult sex unknown (1967-03) on 4 July 1967, *Terrebonne*: Caillou Bay near outlet of Bayou Grand Caillou; R. L. Ferren (LSUMZ 63564).

One (1968-03) on 15 May 1968, *Cameron*: Rockefeller Refuge; R. L. Ferren (LSUMZ 63563).

One female in juvenal plumage (1969-04) on 16 August 1969, *Cameron*: Rockefeller Refuge, 2 mi. S Joseph Harbor; Rockefeller Refuge personnel (LSUMZ 60752). Banded (807-52463) by D. W. Woodard on 11 May 1968, Corpus Christi Bay, approx. 9 mi. SE of Corpus Christi, Texas 27.75° N, 97.25° W.

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*)

One male (1954-02) on 12 June 1954, *Gulf of Mexico*: 27° N, 92° 40' W [=177 mi. S Rockefeller Refuge]; Harvey R. Bullis (LSUMZ 20190, photo below).



Brown Booby
LBRC 1954-02
(close-up of head)

One in juvenal plumage (2008-50) on 4 July & 18 July 2008, *Terrebonne*: Isles Dernieres, Wine Island, 29.0955° N, 90.6108° W; Justin Bosler (photo on p. 10).

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*)

One adult female (1972-02) on 30 November 1972, *Tangipahoa*: Amite; Cecil Koepp (LSUMZ 73360, photo below); banded 30 September 1972 by Dave Evans (band number 617-02754) at Duluth, Minnesota.



LBRC 1972-02

Lowery (1974) reports that this was one of two Northern Goshawks apparently present at the site - this one attempted to attack chickens and was shot.

close-up of head

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*)

One female (1963-01) on 6 December 1963, *Jefferson Davis*: 2 mi. SE Fenton; Laurence C. Binford (LSUMZ 32159). This represents the first specimen for the state and one of only three records at the time (Lowery 1974).

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

Two adults (1951-02) on 14 February 1951, *Calcasieu*: DeQuincy; LDWF personnel (LSUMZ 16693-16694).

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*)

One wing (1942-01) found in a freshly mowed hayfield on 5 November 1942, *East Baton Rouge*: 5 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; A. W. Burdick & G. H. Lowery, Jr. (LSUMZ 7031; photo below).



The published year of this first state record is 1943 (Lowery 1974), but the specimen label says 1942, which is also consistent with George Lowery's personal catalog.

One male (1943-10) on 13 December 1943, *East Baton Rouge*: 5 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; Thomas R. Howell (LSUMZ 67961).

One female (1943-05) on 18 December 1943, *East Baton Rouge*: 3 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; George H. Lowery, Jr. (LSUMZ 9111).

One (1943-06) on 20 December 1943, *East Baton Rouge*: 5 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; Thomas R. Howell (LSUMZ 9108).

Two, male and female (1943-07) on 21 December 1943, *East Baton Rouge*: 5 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; A. W. Burdick (LSUMZ 9109-9110).

One male (1944-01) on 21 October 1944, *East Baton Rouge*: 2 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; George H. Lowery, Jr. (LSUMZ 9905).

One male (1944-02) on 24 October 1944, *East Baton Rouge*: 5 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; R. E. Tucker (LSUMZ 9876).

One female (1952-15) on 23 October 1952, *East Baton Rouge*: 3 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; Marcella Newman (LSUMZ 19180).

One female (1966-04) on 20 October 1966, *Iberville*: Sunshine, approximately 15 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; J. W. Boettcher, J. P. O'Neill, Robert J. Newman (LSUMZ 69136; died after 5 years in captivity).

One sex unknown (1972-12) on 22 January 1972, *Beauregard*: DeRidder; C. E. Cleaveland (LSUMZ 75525) and P. Bruner (*) (Lowery 1974).



Yellow Rails flushed by tractors mowing hay in 1943 - a few birds found injured were collected (Lowery 1974).



LBRC 1943-06

LBRC 1943-05

LBRC 1943-07: male above, female below

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*)

One (1937-02) about 4 April 1937, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle; Fredericks Bradberry (LSUMZ 1377).

One sex unknown (1966-05) on 28 March 1966, *Cameron*: Grand Chenier, Rockefeller Refuge; A. W. Palmisano (LSUMZ 51244).



One (1969-05) on 20 April 1969, *Cameron*: near S line Sabine NWR on Magnolia Road; Marshall Eyster (LSUMZ 60774, partial skeleton and wing).

Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*)

One adult in basic plumage (2008-51) on 5 January 2008, *Cameron*: Calcasieu ship channel; Matthew Pontiff (photo p. 10).

One adult in basic plumage (2009-01) from 24-31 January 2009, *Jackson*: Womack, Cane Creek Reservoir, approximately 5.5 mi. SSW Chatham, 32.2257°N, 92.4904°W; Justin Bosler (ph), John Sevenair (photo on p. 10), B. Mac Myers III, Phillip Wallace (ph), Michael Musumecche, and Devin Bosler (ph only).

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

One in definitive basic plumage (2008-52) on 1 November 2008, *Cameron*: Broussard Beach; Devin Bosler (photo on p. 10).

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)

One subadult (1962-05) on 14 January 1962, *Cameron*: approximately 1 mi. S Calcasieu Pass, 29° 44.6' N, 93° 20.5' W; Lovett E. Williams (LSUMZ 27660).

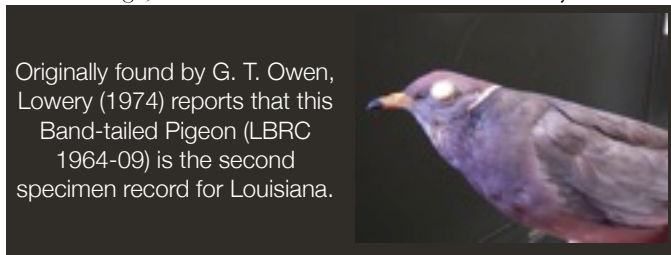
One subadult (2008-54) on 5 August 2008, *Cameron*: Holly Beach; Matthew Pontiff (photo on p. 10).

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*)

One female (1965-03) on 24 April 1965, *Cameron*: West Jetty Calcasieu Pass; S. A. Gauthreaux and Angelo W. Palmisano (LSUMZ 35513). Photo of this first record for Louisiana (Lowery 1974) on p. 12.

Band-tailed Pigeon (*Patagioenas fasciatus*)

One male (1964-09) on 7 May 1964, *East Baton Rouge*: Baton Rouge, ½ mi. E <Louisiana State> University on South



Originally found by G. T. Owen, Lowery (1974) reports that this Band-tailed Pigeon (LBRC 1964-09) is the second specimen record for Louisiana.

Flammulated Owl (*Otus flammeolus*)

One male (1949-01) on 2 January 1949, *West Baton Rouge*: 8 mi. S Baton Rouge on Sardine Point; L. L. Glasgow, S. Hall, and H. Greshan (LSUMZ 13221, photo on p. 12). This is

the first record for Louisiana (Lowery 1974; Glasgow et al. 1950).

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*)

One (1961-05) on 12 March 1961, *Caddo*: Shreveport, Myers Lake; W. Fullilove (LSUMZ 27663) and Alan Feduccia (*).

One (1984-62) on 11 February 1984, *Cameron*: ¼ mi. S end Joe Dugas Road, 1 mi. SE Hackberry; Larry Gargas (LSUMZ 113471) and Gary H. Rosenberg (*) (AB38:3:327).

**Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*)**

One (2008-55) on 19 November 2008, *Gulf of Mexico*: oil platform Cajun Express Walker Ridge #29 at 26° 55' 37" N, 90° 31' 24" W; submitted by Edward S. (Ned) Brinkley who said that this was one of three present on that date (photo by Nathan Webster on p. 10).

Allen's Hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*)

One adult female (2008-59) on 15 January 2008, *Lafayette*: Lafayette, residence of Paul Fontenot; Dave Patton (ph, banded C05617).

One first year male (2008-60) on 28 February 2008, *Lafayette*: Lafayette, residence of Paul Fontenot; Dave Patton (banded C05677, photo on p. 10).

One adult female (2009-04) on 5 February 2009, *Lafayette*: Milton, residence of Elaine Bourque; Dave Patton (ph; banded C05734).

One adult male (2009-05) from 19 January-23 February 2009, *Iberville*: 435 Pecan Drive, 4 mi. N St. Gabriel; Donna L. Dittmann (ph) & Steven W. Cardiff, banded by Dave Patton (banded C05739, photos on p. 4) on 22 February.

One immature male (2009-06) from 25 January-6 March 2009, *Iberville*: 435 Pecan Drive, 4 mi. N St. Gabriel; Donna L. Dittmann (photo on p. 10) & Steven W. Cardiff, banded by Dave Patton (ph; banded C05737) on 22 February.

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*)

Three, including two singing males (2008-72) on 12-13 May 2008, *Bossier*: Bossier City, Cane's Landing at end of Colquitt Lane; Devin Bosler (photo on p. 11) and B. Mac Myers III.

Two, presumed pair (2008-35) on 17 May 2008, *Bossier*: Bossier City, Viking Drive, James Beck (photo on p. 11).

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)

One (2008-56) from 4 November 2008 to 17 January 2009, *Cameron*: South Talen's Road near intersection of PR-109 in extreme NE corner of parish; R. Martin Guidry (ph), Donna L. Dittmann (ph) and Steven W. Cardiff, Paul E. Conover (ph only), and Dave Patton (photo on p. 1). First reported by James W. Beck.

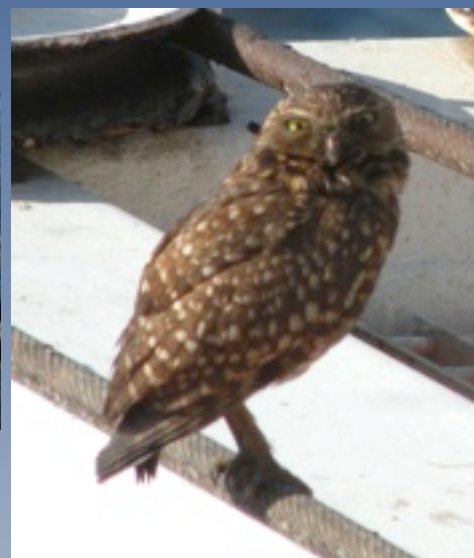
Records supported by photographic evidence (pages 10 & 11)



Brown Booby (2008-50) in juvenal plumage photographed by Justin Bosler. This individual was observed on Wine Island, Isles Dernieres on 4 July & 18 July 2008.



California Gull (2008-52) photographed by Devin Bosler on Broussard Beach, Cameron Par. on 1 November 2008. The definitive basic-plumaged individual is the gull yawning in the center.



Burrowing Owl (2008-55) on oil platform Cajun Express Walker Ridge #29 located at 26° 55' 37" N, 90° 31' 24" W photographed by Nathan Webster on 19 November 2008.



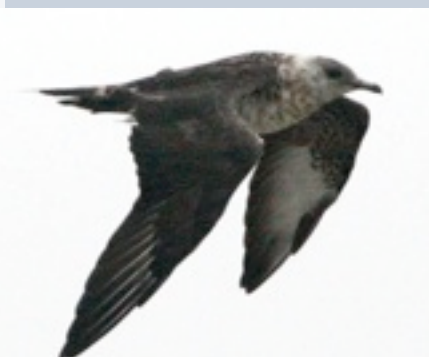
This female **Common Merganser** (2009-30) was photographed by John Conover at the LUMCON docks at Cocodrie on 10 February 2009.



Two basic-plumaged adult **Little Gulls** were reviewed: 2009-01 (above) present at Caney Creek Reservoir, about 5.5 mi. SSW Chatham, 24-31 January 2009, photographed here on 31 January by John Sevenair; and 2008-51 (below) photographed by Matt Pontiff on the Calcasieu River ship channel at Cameron on 5 January 2008.



One of two **White-winged Scoters** (2008-43) present off Hwy. 27/82 approx. 3 mi. W Calcasieu Pass on 4 May 2008; immature male photographed by Justin Bosler.



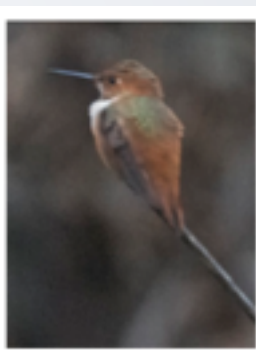
This subadult **Parasitic Jaeger** (2008-54) was photographed by Matthew Pontiff on 5 August 2008 on Holly Beach. It is finishing primary molt and probably summered locally.



Band # C05677



This male **Cinnamon Teal** (2007-100) was shot on 29 November 2007 on the eastern shore of White Lake in Vermilion Par. during hunting season by Patrick Damas Moresi (and later photographed).

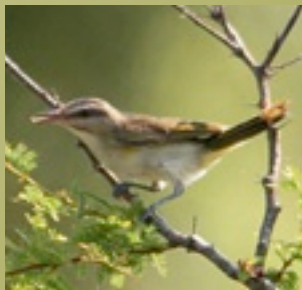


Two of five **Allen's Hummingbird** records reviewed at the meeting. Left photo is immature male (2009-06) photographed by Donna Dittmann the day it arrived on 25 January 2009 at a hummingbird haven near St. Gabriel; it was banded by Dave Patton on 22 February, and remained until 6 March 2009. First year male in above photo set, (2008-60) banded and photographed on 28 February 2008 by Dave Patton at Paul Fontenot's winter hummer haven in Lafayette.

Records supported by photographic evidence -cont.



First found 30 December 2008, this **Brown-crested Flycatcher** (2008-68) was photographed on 19 February 2009 at Diamond by Justin Bosler.



Two **Black-whiskered Vireos** were photographed by Erik I. Johnson, on right (2006-71) on 16 April 2006 at Grand Isle; and on left (2007-43) on 13 May 2007 at Peveto Beach Woods Sanctuary.



One of three **Willow Flycatchers** (2008-62), this individual (left) was photographed by Devin Bosler on 12 May 2008, at Cane's Landing at Bossier City. Also in the Bossier City area, another individual was photographed by James Beck (right), one of two, a presumed pair (2008-35) on 17 May 2008.



Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*)

One (2006-70) on 8 November 2006, *Iberville*: Sherburne WMA; South Farm Unit, Erik I. Johnson. →

← One (2008-57) on 27 December 2008, *Cameron*: Talen's Landing Road at Cameron Parish Solid Waste Treatment Plant near Cory Road (extreme NE corner of parish); Paul E. Conover.



This **Gray Kingbird** (2006-72) was photographed by Erik I. Johnson on 23 April 2006 at the east of Grand Isle State Park; This may represent the same individual already reviewed (10th Report; 2006-11). →



This male **Western Tanager** (2009-03) was photographed by Dave Patton on 24 January 2009 in Lafayette.



"**Audubon's**" **Warbler** (2008-58) photographed on 22 December 2008, by Erik I. Johnson at Grand Isle.



Adult male **Shiny Cowbird** (2008-33) photographed by Devin Bosler on 20 April 2008 at Grand Isle.

Specimen records evaluated at the meeting representing first state records. These specimen records were never previously reviewed (photographs by D. L. Dittmann).



Brant: female (1974-05) on 17 January 1974, *Cameron:* Grand Chenier; A. W. Palmisano (LSUMZ 75523) and P. Bruner (*).



Least Grebe: male in basic plumage (1947-01) 14 December 1947, *East Baton Rouge:* Baton Rouge, Capitol Lake; George H. Lowery, Jr. (LSUMZ 20327).



Red-necked Grebe: in basic plumage (1937-01) on 2 December 1937, *LaSalle:* Catahoula Lake; Winston Nolan (LSUMZ 73005, mount).



MacGillivray's Warbler: first basic male (by plumage; 1959-04) on 15 November 1959, *Plaquemines:* ½ mi. SE Buras; S. A. Gauthreaux (LSUMZ 23158) and Burt Monroe, Jr. (*). Photo below.

Lucy's Warbler: male (by plumage; 1959-03) on 30 December 1959, *Plaquemines:* 3 mi. E Triumph; S. A. Gauthreaux (LSUMZ 23218) and Laurence C. Binford (*). Photo above.



Flammulated Owl: male (1949-01) on 2 January 1949, *West Baton Rouge:* 8 mi. S Baton Rouge on Sardine Point; L. L. Glasgow, S. Hall, and H. Greshan (LSUMZ 13221).



Chestnut-collared Longspur: <female> (1952-02) on 23 March 1952, *Caddo:* Gilliam, NE outskirts, airfield off Adger Road on Logan Plantation, SE ¼, Sec. 5, T21N, R14W; Horace Jeter (LSUMZ 18550).



Long-tailed Jaeger: female (1965-03) on 24 April 1965, *Cameron:* West Jetty Calcasieu Pass; S. A. Gauthreaux and Angelo W. Palmisano (LSUMZ 35513).



Swainson's Hawk: female (1963-01) on 6 December 1963, *Jefferson Davis:* 2 mi. SE Fenton; Laurence C. Binford (LSUMZ 32159).

References cited in this Newsletter:

Bent, A. C. (1923) Life Histories of North American Wild fowl, order Anseres (part), Bull 126, USNM; Glasgow et al. (1950) The Flammulated Screech Owl in Louisiana, Auk 67: 386; Lowery, Jr. G. H. (1974) Louisiana Birds. 3rd edition, LSU Press; Mlodinow et al (2008) Distribution and Identification of Cackling Goose Subspecies. North American Birds 62:344-360; National Geographic Complete Birds of North America (2005), National Geographic; Oberholser, H. D. (1938) The Bird Life of Louisiana, LA Dept. Conservation Bull. 28: 1-824; Pyle, P. (2008) Identification Guide to North American Birds, Part II. Slate Creek Press.

Skeletal preparations



LBRC 1961-07



LBRC 1961-08



LBRC 1961-06

The LBRC looked at seven skeletal specimens involving six records - all were identified as Audubon's Shearwater, including three shown above. Photograph of LBRC 1961-07 also includes the head of an Audubon's Shearwater study skin to provide bill size and shape comparison with the skeleton.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*)

One (2006-70) on 8 November 2006, *Iberville*: Sherburne WMA; South Farm Unit; Erik I. Johnson (photo on p. 11). First reported by Sue Broussard.

One (2008-57) on 27 December 2008, *Cameron*: Talen's Landing Road at Cameron Parish Solid Waste Treatment Plant near Cory Road (extreme NE corner of parish); Paul E. Conover (photo on p. 11). First reported by Matt Pontiff.

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*)

One male (1943-01) on 20 March 1943, *East Baton Rouge*: 5 mi. S <Louisiana State> University; Thomas R. Howell (LSUMZ 7870).

One (1945-02) on 23 December 1945, *Pointe Coupee*: east shore False River, near middle; G. H. Lowery, Jr. (LSUMZ

**Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)**

One sex unknown (1961-06) on 24 November 1961, *Plaquemines*: Venice; Brian Donlan (LSUMZ 27031) and Alan Feduccia (*) (Lowery 1974).

One male (1961-07) on 4 December 1961, *Plaquemines*: 2 mi. NW Venice; Brian Donlan (LSUMZ 27032) and S. A. Gauthreaux (*) (Lowery 1974).

One (2008-68) 30 December 2008 – 25 February 2009, *Plaquemines*: Diamond, vicinity of Diamond River and Fosters roads, Phillip Wallace (ph) and Justin Bosler (photo on p. 11).

Gray Kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*)

One (2006-72) on 23 April 2006, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, end of road E of Grand Isle State Park; Erik I. Johnson (photo on p. 11). This may represent the same individual already reviewed (10th Report; 2006-11).

Black-whiskered Vireo (*Vireo altiloquus*)

One (2006-71) on 16 April 2006, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, entrance to Sureway Woods, Erik I. Johnson (photo on p. 11).

One (2007-43) on 13 May 2007, *Cameron*: Peveto Beach Woods [Sanctuary]; Erik I. Johnson (photo on p. 11).

Lucy's Warbler (*Vermivora luciae*)

One male (by plumage; 1959-03) on 30 December 1959, *Plaquemines*: 3 mi. E Triumph; S. A. Gauthreaux (LSUMZ 23218) and Laurence C. Binford (*). Photo of this the first state record on p. 12.

MacGillivray's Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*)

One first basic male (by plumage; 1959-04) on 15 November 1959, *Plaquemines*: 1/2 mi. SE Buras; S. A. Gauthreaux (LSUMZ 23158) and Burt Monroe, Jr. (*). Photo of this first state record on p. 12.

Yellow-rumped "Audubon's" Warbler (*Dendroica coronata auduboni*-group)

One (2008-58) on 7 and 22 December 2008, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, TNC Grillea Tract; Phillip Wallace (ph) and Erik I. Johnson (photo on p. 11).

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

One male (2009-03) on 24 January 2009, *Lafayette*: Lafayette, Hwy. 342 near intersection Hwy. 719; Paul E. Conover, Dave Patton (photo on p. 11).

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*)

One male (1952-13) on 4 September 1952, *Jefferson*: 5 mi. NW Grand Isle <possibly = Lafourche Parish>; George H. Lowery, Jr. (LSUMZ 18551). This is the first state record (Lowery 1974).

One female (1973-01) on 23 December 1973, *Plaquemines*: between Triumph and Fort Jackson; Robert J. Newman, S. A. Gauthreaux (LSUMZ 75532) and P. Bruner (*). This is the second state record (Lowery 1974).

**Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*)**

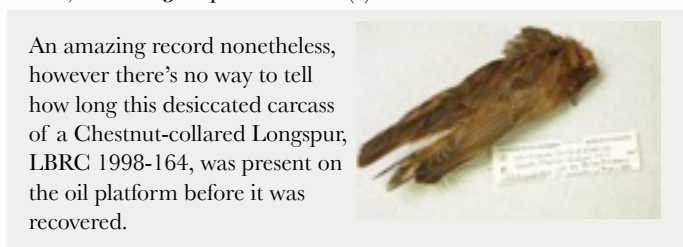
One female (1952-03) on 21 December 1952, *Bossier*: old Shreveport Municipal Airport, sec. 18, T18N, R13W; H. H. Jeter and George H. Lowery, Jr. (LSUMZ 19234). This is the first specimen for Louisiana.

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*)

One <female> (1952-02) on 23 March 1952, *Caddo*: Gilliam, NE outskirts, airfield off Adger Road on Logan Plantation, SE 1/4, Sec. 5, T21N, R14W; Horace Jeter (LSUMZ 18550). Photo of this first state record is on p. 12.

One (1966-06) on 20 November 1966, *Cameron*: 4 mi. W Cameron; G. H. Lowery, Jr. (LSUMZ 52579).

One sex unknown, oiled and desiccated (1998-164) found on 25 August 1998, *Gulf of Mexico*: platform at South Marsh Island 147, 93 mi. S western tip Marsh Island, 28° 13' 40"N, 92° 00' 00"W; Brian P. Gibbons (LSUMZ 176059, photo below) and M. Josephine Babin (*).

**Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*)**

One adult male (2008-33) on 19-29 April 2008, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, vicinity of Landry and Cemetery lanes; Devin Bosler (photo on p. 12).

Additional documentation /or additional information or corrections for any of these accepted records is solicited. Records in this report will appear in the LBRC's Eleventh Report.

The Louisiana Bird Records Committee

LBRC Newsletter



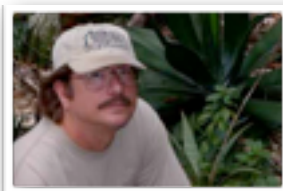
design & editor:
Donna L. Dittmann

Chair

Steven W. Cardiff

scardiff@gmail.com

Museum of Natural Science
119 Foster Hall
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
225-578-9289 (work)
225-642-5763 (home)



First Alternate

Nancy Newfield

nancy@casacolibri.net

Casa Colibri
3016 45th Street
Metairie, LA 70001
504-835-3882(home);
504-338-3882 (cell)



Secretary

Donna L. Dittmann

ddittma@gmail.com

correspondence to:

**Museum of Natural Science
119 Foster Hall
Baton Rouge, LA 70803**
225-578-2009 (work)
225-642-2009 (home)



Second Alternate

B. Mac Myers III

bmyers990@earthlink.net



Voting Members

Phillip Wallace

PWallace@newmanschool.org

4515 S. Prieur Street
New Orleans, LA 70125
504-822-0483 (home)



Curt Sorrells

csorrells@bellsouth.net

112 Chateau St. Michell
Kenner, LA 70065
504-469-2225 (home)



James Ingold

James.Ingold@lsus.edu (work)

Department of BioScience
LSUS, One University Place,
Shreveport, LA 71115
318.797.5256 (work)
318.742.5067 (home)
los-jlo@lsus.edu
(Journal of Louisiana
Ornithology)



Dave Patton

wdpatton@cox.net

122 Memory Lane
Lafayette, LA 70505
337-232-8410 (home)



LBRC website: **Paul Conover**

zoiscaux@cox.net

501 Adrienne
Lafayette, LA 70506
337-235-3594 (home)



Current
LBRC
Members

April 1, 2009