

The **BARRED OWL**

Newsletter of the Baton Rouge Audubon Society

Volume XXXIII, Number 4

4th Quarter, 2006

President's Report

by Chris Carlton

Many exciting things are happening now and in coming months in the Louisiana birding community. I thought it would be a good time to summarize what those things are and describe BRAS' involvement in them. The American Birding Association (ABA) will hold its annual meeting in Lafayette this coming 23-28 April. ABA provides grants totaling \$10,000 to organizations in states where their meetings are held, and BRAS has partnered with Orleans Audubon in submitting a proposal that would help support the Important Bird Area (IBA) program in Louisiana. The IBA is arguably the most important new initiative that has come along in recent history insofar as promoting Louisiana as an internationally significant site in terms of breeding (red-cockaded woodpecker, piping plover, interior least tern) and winter waterbird numbers and habitats. The Louisiana Bird Resource Center, headquartered at the LSU Museum of Natural Science, is also a new program that will serve as an information clearinghouse for bird related issues throughout Louisiana. The Center is kicking off an epic

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GIVE THE GIFT OF AUDUBON

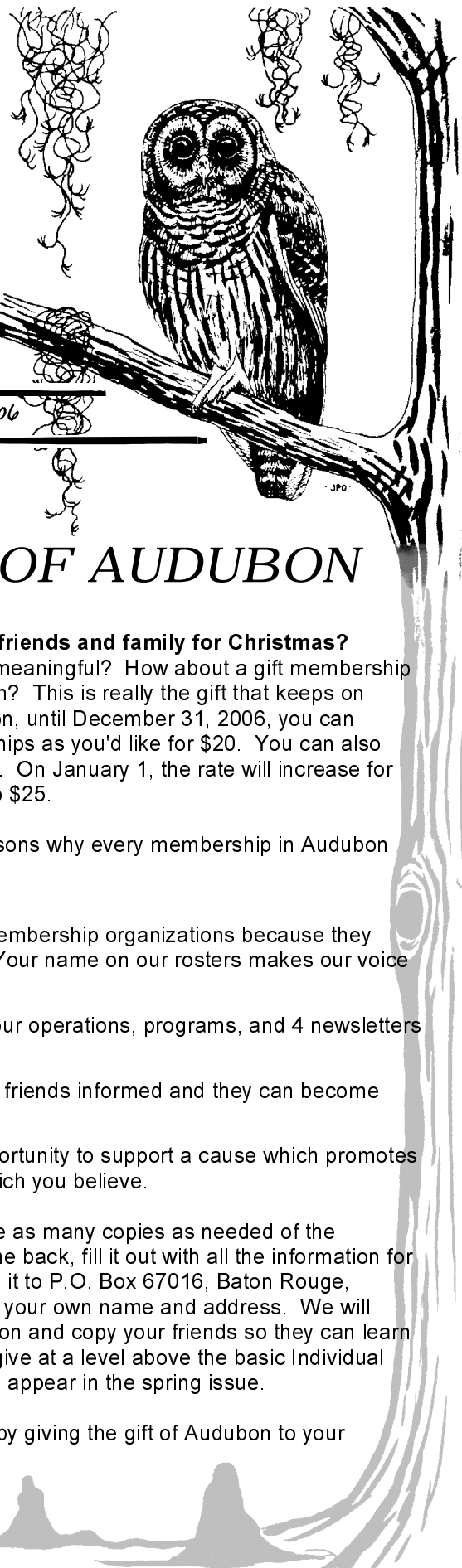
Wondering what to give friends and family for Christmas? Looking for something meaningful? How about a gift membership in Baton Rouge Audubon? This is really the gift that keeps on giving! For the holiday season, until December 31, 2006, you can purchase as many memberships as you'd like for \$20. You can also renew your own membership. On January 1, the rate will increase for the first time in many years to \$25.

Here's a quick list of the reasons why every membership in Audubon counts:

- Elected officials listen to membership organizations because they represent groups of voters. Your name on our rosters makes our voice stronger.
- Membership dues pay for our operations, programs, and 4 newsletters per year.
- Our mailings will keep your friends informed and they can become more active as desired.
- Membership offers the opportunity to support a cause which promotes the conservation ideals in which you believe.

To offer this gift, please make as many copies as needed of the membership application on the back, fill it out with all the information for your gift's recipient, and send it to P.O. Box 67016, Baton Rouge, LA 70896. Be sure to include your own name and address. We will send you a note of appreciation and copy your friends so they can learn of your gift. If you decide to give at a level above the basic Individual Membership, their names will appear in the spring issue.

Help Baton Rouge Audubon by giving the gift of Audubon to your family members and friends!



Louisiana Audubon Council Active on Many Fronts

By Barry Kohl

Delegates from all four Audubon Chapters serve on the Audubon Council. At the latest September meeting of the Council hosted by Charlie and Joann Fryling in Baton Rouge, we elected new officers for the fiscal year: Barry Kohl, President; Rick Bryan, Vice President; Jay Guillory, Secretary; and Clyde Mattison, Treasurer.

All Audubon members are invited to attend Council meetings. We spend about two-thirds of the meeting discussing environmental issues from around the state. Our meetings are usually held at state parks or refuges with plenty of time for outdoor activities. There are standing committees on Wetlands, Forest and Water Quality, Endangered Species/Wildlife, and the Atchafalaya Basin. Committee chairs coordinate with the chapter delegates.

Forest Issues: A major priority for the Council is protection of vanishing habitats in Louisiana such as bottomland hardwood, longleaf pine and cypress forests. Rick Bryan from Alexandria focuses on the Kisatchie Nat'l Forest and is on the Coastal Forest Advisory Committee representing the Council. We have spent considerable effort on the cypress campaign and continue to coordinate with BRAS Conservation Chair, Cathy Coates, who has helped spearhead the cypress mulch issue and its ties to the destruction of coastal cypress forests. As we all know this is a major concern for all state environmental groups.

MRGO: We have taken a public position supporting the closure of the Mississippi Gulf Outlet (MRGO), considered to be a major factor in the flooding of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish during Katrina. Salt water intrusion along the MRGO has killed thousands of acres of cypress swamp. The Council has been present at most of the stakeholders meetings held by the Corps.

Mercury: The Council has been involved in mercury-in-the-environment issues for the past 10 years. In part because of our work, there are now 43 mercury-in-fish health advisories statewide. The state legislature has passed a mercury reduction bill (Act 126) this spring, mandating the reduc-

tion or elimination of mercury products in Louisiana. A recent study by the National Wildlife Federation has documented that high levels of mercury may affect reproduction in song and fish-eating birds.

Atchafalaya: Charlie Fryling continues to be our eyes and ears in the Atchafalaya Basin and gives us a report at each meeting. He is currently reviewing the Corps' Henderson Lake Water Management Unit plan. A study should be available to the public next year.

Endangered species: Protection of threatened and endangered species is another high priority for the Council. At our last meeting we invited Gary Lester of Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to update us on the state's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. The Council has been a strong supporter of the non-game program in Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries- a program which is 22 years old. Council members have been active in protection of the Pearl Shell Mussel, Louisiana Black Bear, Gulf Sturgeon, and the Red Cockaded Woodpecker.

IBA: Through habitat protection, we hope to preserve some critical areas for neotropical migrants and water birds. To this end, we invited Melanie Driscoll, coordinator of the Louisiana Important Bird Area (IBA) program, to address the Council and discuss the program. The Council is supportive of NAS's national and international program to protect important bird areas. It is a good fit with the Council's goals.

Lafitte Park: The Council was instrumental in brokering compromise legislation between landowners, Jefferson Parish Council and Congressman Bobby Jindal. The Congressman's bill (HR 1515) had languished in subcommittee for over a year. With changes in wording agreed upon by conservation groups and landowners, the Bill passed the House of Representatives in late September. If the bill becomes law, it would add 3,000 acres of federal land to the Barataria Preserve of the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park - expanding the Preserve to 23, 000 acres. The senate version has to be reconciled with the house bill and could be signed before this session ends.

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BRAS Directory

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The Barred Owl

is published quarterly by the Baton Rouge chapter of the NAS. Submissions should be made to Cathy Coates by email at ccbr32@yahoo.com. Changes of address and other official correspondence should be sent to:

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SANCTUARY REPORT: Peveto Woods Update

by Victoria Bayless

It is hard to believe that it has been over a year since Hurricane Rita did so much damage to our beloved Peveto Woods. Things have moved slowly towards restoration. We owe many thanks to Cecilia Richmond of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry/Office of Soil and Water Conservation. She has cheerfully instructed me on the ins and outs of coastal use permits and helped me make the contacts needed.

Landscape Management of Lake Charles was contracted to install sand fences along the beachfront of the Sanctuary as well as the beach in front of Little Florida subdivision, the small development of around 10 homes that adjoins our property. Well, there used to be 10 homes.

Sand fences have been used in coastal areas successfully to rebuild the dune structure that protects inland ar-

reas from storm surge. Coastal dunes are formed as waves bring sand to shore and the sand is blown landward by onshore winds. Normally vegetation and other obstacles such as driftwood reduce wind speed, causing sand to accumulate. Because the normal system has been severely altered by the hurricane, reducing the dunes to flat beach, the addition of sand fences will enhance sand accumulation. The addition of plantings of bitter panicum, *Panicum amarum*, will stabilize the surface and promote further dune formation. Some grass has already been planted and more will be planted when the fencing is installed. Without these fences and vegetation, blowing sand will continue to migrate inland altering the coastal chenier habitat. The fence should be finished by the first of the year.

The other project that BRAS has been working on, the

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BRAS Trip Reports / BRAS Trip Reports / BRAS Trip Reports / BRAS Trip Reports / BRAS Trip Reports

Autumn Butterflies

by Donna LaFleur

Timing was perfect for our butterfly field trip to Oak Hills, a 350 acre estate north of St. Francisville on September 23. Our host, Murrell Butler reported two light sprinkles that morning, but the rain had dissipated before our hike started around 10 AM. Our first sightings were the Giant Swallowtails and long-tailed skippers nectaring along the back porch - along with the dozen or so hummingbirds that steadily visited the feeders. Murrell led the 10 of us along areas that bloomed with ironweed, joe-pye weed and bitterweed, and we were busy for nearly 2 hours identifying various butterfly species. Rosemary Seidler, an avid butterfly enthusiast who has helped establish an annual Butterfly Count in Shreveport, kept a tally of our sightings. She brought along a digital camera with an impressive zoom function that captured close-up shots of tiny skippers - allowing accurate identification without having to handle the delicate creatures. Skippers included the Tropical Checkered, Clouded, Fiery, Southern Broken-Dash, Dun, Ocola, Hoary Edge, Sachem and Long-tailed.

A cool breeze kept us comfortable as we traversed the area. I netted some of the larger species to point out identification marks and released them after we'd had a closer look. Swallowtails included the iridescent Pipevine, Black, Giant, and Eastern Tiger. Other butterflies we spotted were the Monarch, Viceroy, Gulf Fritillary, Question Mark, Orange Sulphur, Little Yellow, Phaon Crescent, Pearl Crescent, Carolina Satyr and Common Buckeye. We also enjoyed seeing some dragonflies, including a Roseate Skimmer, whose neon pink body was truly remarkable. Dark clouds began to appear on the horizon just as we found a "honey hole" full of joe-pye weed that was attracting lots of thirsty butterflies. So we reluctantly pulled ourselves away and headed back to our cars just as the rain began to come down again. Butterfly species count for the morning - 23. We all enjoyed a pleasant outing as we dodged the rain (just as the butterflies were doing), with a mix of participants, some experienced with butterflies, and some complete novices; some familiar faces, and some new.

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Barataria Preserve

by Robert McLaughlin

On October 14th Charlie Fryling led a group that included his wife, JoAnn, Jane Patterson, Christine Koi, Sybil McDonald, Patrick Bergeron, Julie Leiby and the writer. Charlie took us to the Barataria Preserve at the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park near Marrero. On a beautiful, sunny and breezy day we saw the following birds: American White Pelican, Anhinga, Great Egret, Little Blue Heron, White Ibis, Black and Turkey Vultures, Wood Duck, Northern Harrier, Broad-Winged Hawk, American Kestrel, Belted Kingfisher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, White-eyed Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Magnolia Warbler, Black and White Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle and Boat-tailed Grackle.



Baton Rouge Audubon Society

The Louisiana Winter Bird Atlas:

Come on out, the weather's great!

Who: YOU and all your birding buddies!

What: The Louisiana Winter Bird Atlas: a four-year project to document the winter birdlife of Louisiana.

Where: Anywhere in Louisiana. US Geological Survey quadrangle maps (quads) are the birding units.

When: The Louisiana Winter Bird Atlas kicks off January 10th and ends the first year of data collecting on February 20th.



Louisiana Audubon Council Active on Many Fronts

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Field trip to Rainey Refuge: The weekend of October 14 the Council sponsored a field trip to the Rainey Refuge in Vermilion Parish to assess the impacts of Hurricane Rita. The 27,000 acre refuge is owned by the National Audubon Society. We were accompanied by regionally elected NAS board member, John Whittle. Though there was much destruction of refuge buildings, the main house is being restored. The marsh looks good but Chinese tallow seems to be the most abundant tree on the levees and high ground. Good news is that the coastal chenier actually grew in height with buildup of sand from the storm.

Other news: Richard Gibbons of the Louisiana Bird Resource Center, part of the Museum of Natural Science at LSU, was also a guest at our last meeting and discussed the completion of the Winter Bird Atlas and other research work that is ongoing at the Bird Resource Center.

Through our associate member program, members of Audubon can work on Council committees, participate on field trips and contribute to conservation of our critical bird habitat.

How:

1. Visit www.lsu.edu/birdcenter and check out the Louisiana Winter Bird Atlas pages (December 15th).
2. Use the quad-finding tool provided by the Louisiana Geological Survey to see where you want to bird.
3. Go birding in the quad or quads of your choice on any day within the January 10-February 20 date range.
4. Enter the birds you detected and how many of each through the intuitive data entry eBird page linked to the website.
5. Explore the project database through the Explore Data function of eBird.

We hope you will schedule a few days for this exciting and innovative project to put Louisiana at the cutting edge of citizen science.

For questions or more information contact Richard Gibbons at (225) 578-6901.

*Thanks to our
Members and Donors!*

Baton Rouge Audubon is appreciative of one and all who make it possible for us to send you this publication, maintain our sanctuaries, and the other projects we undertake on behalf of conservation and birds. The many generous donors who responded to our recent appeal letter will be recognized in the next Barred Owl. We couldn't do it without all of you!

July 1 - September 30

Painted Bunting (\$500)

John Stovall

Louisiana Waterthrush (\$250)

Wayne Watkins

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (\$100)

Res and Miriam Davey

Wood Thrush (\$50)

Irving Mendelssohn

Important Bird Areas Report

By Melanie Driscoll

The first Technical Advisory

Committee (TAC) meeting for the site designation process of the IBA Program was held at the Faculty Club at LSU on September 22, 2006. Every organization invited to participate on the TAC had a representative at this inaugural meeting. This includes but is not limited to BRAS, Orleans Audubon Society, Louisiana Bird Resource Center, The Nature Conservancy of Louisiana, National Wetlands Research Center, the Gulf Coast Joint Venture, Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, LSU Museum of Natural Science, LOS, and Ducks Unlimited. A complete listing can be found at [http://app1003.lsu.edu/natsci/labirdweb.nsf/\\$Content/Important+Bird+Areas?OpenDocument](http://app1003.lsu.edu/natsci/labirdweb.nsf/$Content/Important+Bird+Areas?OpenDocument)

Melanie Driscoll, the IBA program coordinator, began the meeting by clarifying the roles and responsibilities of the TAC, and detailing the site designation process. She presented and explained the site nomination form. Committee members suggested ways to make the form more useful and better integrated with conservation initiatives already underway in Louisiana, such as the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife Action Plan and The Nature Conservancy of Louisiana's statewide conservation planning initiative.

Members of the TAC reviewed the global and continental site designation criteria created by the National Audubon Society. An understanding of the criteria and how they apply to populations of birds in Louisiana is crucial to the functioning of the committee. Melanie was charged with asking IBA program coordinators from other

states about how they make decisions on issues such as defining site boundaries, dealing with adjacent sites of different habitat types, and handling ephemeral sites, such as wading bird rookeries. As the site designation process continues, bird count data from birders and citizen scientists throughout Louisiana will be considered to help with IBA identification. The committee also worked to compile a list of specific sites that should be first priority in the review process and looks forward to naming its first considerations as soon as possible.

The meeting was productive, with all committee members giving the benefit of their expertise for several hours. Much will be expected of these members throughout the site nomination and designation process, and their knowledge, experience, and hard work will benefit birds and habitat conservation in Louisiana for the future.

Hilltop is For the Birds!

The first BRAS program held at Hilltop on Sept. 20 was a huge success. Jon Andrew, of the US Fish & Wildlife System and the Recovery Team for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, drew a crowd of approximately 90 enthusiastic birders. Hilltop Arboretum's open air pavilion was a beautiful venue.

On another Hilltop note, the Arboretum is expecting a new arrival in December... expecting a new and improved shop that will focus on the best in gardening, birding, and nature items. Welcome to the Hilltop Garden Gift and Nature Shop! It will offer books, feeders, bird houses, and quality gardening tools and hardware products. They will also have an array of gift merchandise and things for children. A consultant from Wild Birds is providing advice, but Hilltop would love to hear from anyone who is looking for a particular product. Please let them know your requests and they will do their best to bring in whatever your heart desires. Email hilltop@lsu.edu or call Paula at 767 6916. The Hilltop Garden Book and Nature Shop will be open Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 to 4:30.

Upcoming Hilltop events:

Saturday, November 11, 9a-3p, Tree planting with noted landscape Architects and forestry professionals such as Jon Emerson, Wayne Womack, Jimmy Culpepper and others.

Saturday, December 9, 10a-2p, Holiday Open House.

See lsu.edu/hilltop for more information.

2007 BRAS Patch



Get yours now! Or give one as a gift. The 2007 patch is in. This year's bird is a Painted Bunting. Order on-line or using the form on the back.

Credit where credit is due!



Baton Rouge Audubon would like to thank the able gentlemen who work with our boardmembers to bring you this newsletter and the BRAS website.

Working on the Barred Owl is Steve Mumford, dtp2web@yahoo.com, a life-long nature lover; birder and Miami native, who is currently residing in North Carolina. He has 10 plus years environmental newsletter editing experience. The BRAS BO is composed entirely electronically via email. Says Steve, "The internet is a terrible thing to waste :)"

Handling the braudubon.org website is Harry Smith of Secure Information Solutions who does Information Technology Services and Consulting. His contact information is:
3256 Riverbrook Ct., Baton Rouge, LA 70820,
(225) 278.9798, harry@secsol.us



SANCTUARY REPORT

(Continued from page 3)

building of a small fresh water feature to replace the small pond that was covered in a layer of sand, has stalled. Unfortunately, the company that we had contracted has discontinued services. If any of you know someone in the pond landscaping business that is willing to travel to Cameron Parish, please send me contact information. We really need to finish this project before spring.

In other exciting news, the LSU bird club has offered to help with debris removal and trail clearing. They are planning to make two work weekends this fall/winter to get the trail system back in order for spring. Services are still limited in the area. We are very excited that this group, headed by president Justin Bosler, has offered to help. Dates and times will be posted on the website.

Also, for any of you wishing to visit Peveto Woods, we have contracted a Port-o-let until mid December. Thanks to everyone for their support and the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory for securing funding to help with our restoration projects.

President's Report

(Continued from page 1)

project in January, the Louisiana Winter Bird Atlas. BRAS has been an important player in the planning and implementation of both of these endeavors, but we are not working in isolation. The importance of supporting and promoting these programs has made it clear that BRAS and Orleans Audubon, as the two major Audubon chapters in the state, must work together to coordinate projects and fundraising campaigns that will benefit statewide and nationally important programs and initiatives rather than focusing exclusive on colloquial projects close to home. Finally, National Audubon soon will be hiring an individual at the level of Vice-President who will have oversight responsibilities for coastal issues in Louisiana as they relate to National Audubon's mission. This is a great indication that Louisiana is finally achieving the recognition it deserves as a key state for birds and their habitats.

Your BRAS Board has been hard at work on other fronts as well. We have

submitted a proposal to National Audubon's Chapter Services to support a work weekend in December for a much needed cleanup of Peveto Woods Sanctuary. Members of the LSU Bird Club have generously donated their time and energy to spend the weekend of 2 Dec. picking up hurricane debris, reestablishing the trail system and assessing the post-hurricane status of the plant cover. Richard Gibbons, coordinator of the Louisiana Bird Resource Center, is overseeing this effort, which likely will involve camping, since overnight lodging in the area is still unavailable.

On the conservation front, environmentally irresponsible logging of non-regenerating cypress has finally made it into the mainstream press (e.g., New York Times, 12 Oct., article available from any Board member). Baton Rouge Audubon has been one of many organizational voices calling attention to this insult to our remaining forested wetlands, and Conservation Chair Cathy Coates has been a

persistent and articulate voice for BRAS on that front. On a related conservation note, the 3rd National Conference and Expo on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration is meeting in New Orleans in December. BRAS has officially endorsed the conference and will have a representative from our Board, Dave Cagnolatti, in attendance along with 1500 participants from all sectors of the restoration movement.

In summary, these are exciting times for birders in our state. Louisiana is finally getting the national recognition that its extensive and critical bird habitats need and deserve. BRAS is working closely with its companion organizations to support initiatives to identify, restore, and conserve those habitats throughout Louisiana. BRAS Board members are acting as advocates of environmental policies that will provide better stewardship of bird habitats. BRAS is a powerful organization doing good work for birds!

ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, November 15, 7pm

Melanie Driscoll, Important Bird Area Coordinator for Louisiana will present the history, process, and examples of conservation actions for the Important Bird Areas Program. She will then place the Louisiana IBA program into a global context and discuss program goals and progress to date. Melanie will also discuss her work with interested audiences outside of Baton Rouge as follows. Please contact her for more information. (Hilltop Arboretum)

New Orleans, Orleans Audubon Society, Nov. 28, 7pm
Hattiesburg, MS, Pine Woods Audubon Society: Dec. 7
Jan 9, 2007, 7pm Shreveport, LA Bird Study Group

Saturday, December 2

Join Karen Fay as she leads a group through the ricefields of Lacassine. We will meet at Coffee Call at 6:15 am for a prompt 6:30am departure. We plan to drive to Rayne and head south on LA 35 and work our way through the ricefields towards Lacassine. Target birds include Snow, Greater White-fronted and Ross' Geese, Crested Caracara, Vermillion Flycatcher, Fulvous and possibly Black-bellied Whistling Ducks, Canvasbacks, Pintails and American Bittern. There have been sightings of Golden Eagles in the area at this time of the year. Please pre-register by calling Robert McLaughlin during business hours at 926.2223 or by e-mail at rmclaughlin@sterneagee.com

Saturday, December 9

Join Dr. Van Remsen, renowned LSU ornithologist, for a tour of the LSU Museum of Natural History. He will give us a behind the scenes tour of LSU's extensive collection of birds. LSU's collection is the fourth largest university based collection in the world behind Harvard, Berkeley and Michigan. Before the museum tour, we'll head to the LSU lakes to see wintering ducks. Some species we may see include Ruddy Duck, Greater Scaup, Ring-necked Duck and Hooded Merganser. We will meet at 12:30 at the LSU

Museum of Natural History and then carpool to the lakes. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. The tour of the museum will start at 2pm. Please pre-register by e-mailing Harriett Pooler at hapooler@bellsouth.net.

December 9-13

The 3rd National Conference and Expo on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration - "Forging the National Imperative for Restoration". The Conference will bring timely national attention to the challenges and opportunities to comprehensive coastal ecosystem restoration throughout the U.S., and especially in Coastal Louisiana and the northern Gulf Coast. There will be 1,500 participants from all sectors of the restoration movement: community organizations; businesses and consultants; local, state and federal agencies; scientists and researchers; educators; and students and volunteers. National Audubon is a sponsor of this event which is open to anyone interested in coastal restoration. See www.estuaries.org/?id=4 for more information. (Hilton Riverside, New Orleans)

Saturday, December 30

Christmas Bird Count

Join the Bird Count! Kevin Morgan is heading this year's efforts and hopes that all who participated last year will once again contribute their time and energy. Every year since 1900 teams of interested birders have joined together across the country to count the number of individual birds within each species occurring on the same date in the same place. This huge task is coordinated by the National Audubon Society. The consistency of the count creates a viable set of statistics that can be compared and used to measure the effects that changes in the environment have had on the bird population. These measurements act as important warnings of environmental deterioration that should be heeded. In addition to the serious consequences of the bird counts, they are a fun way to spend a day with fellow birding enthusiasts.

Contact Kevin at BRCBC2006@lanews bureau.com to volunteer and confirm team assignments.

January 13, 2007

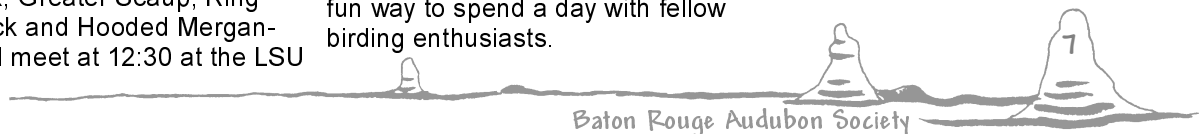
Join Dennis Demchek for a leisurely half-day outing to 3 or 4 Baton Rouge homes to observe wintering hummingbirds. The trip will be shortly after the Baton Rouge Christmas Birdcount, so we should have a reasonably good idea where the best birds are. We expect to see 3 to 5 species, such as Rufous, Calliope and Buff-bellied. The trip will focus on homes with hummingbirds that have a high probability of being easily seen. We will meet at Coffee Call at 8am and the trip will around noon. Please pre-register by calling Robert McLaughlin during business hours at 926.2223 or by e-mail at rmclaughlin@sterneagee.com.

January 23, 2007, 7 p.m.

Join Orleans Audubon and David Telesco of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for a presentation on Louisiana Black Bear Restoration. See jjaudubon.net for location. (New Orleans)

April 23-28, 2007

The 2007 American Birding Association Convention will be held in Lafayette in April next year. There will be noted speakers and birders from around the country, with field trips and programs for all birding interests. Audubon's Louisiana IBA program and LSU's Bird Resource Center will have booths. Find more information at americanbirding.org under Upcoming Events. And mark your calendar now!



Baton Rouge Chapter of the National Audubon Society

Baton Rouge Audubon Society

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Keep Your Membership Current!

If your membership expires, you will no longer receive *The Barred Owl!* Well, eventually we take your name off the list. It is expensive to produce and membership dues help to cover that cost. Please see the expiration code on the first line of the label above your name. BRAS-only subscriptions will identify the month and year in which your membership expires (e.g. BRAS Dec. 2006). We are working on updating NAS memberships to show the same (e.g. NAS Dec. 2006).

Keeping your membership current is important!

BRAS and National Audubon Membership

You may join NAS by going to their website (audubon.org) and you automatically become a member of both NAS and BRAS. You will receive the quarterly award-winning Audubon Magazine as well as the quarterly BRAS newsletter, *The Barred Owl*.

Patches

Extra sanctuary patches or patches for NAS members are \$10 each and can be ordered by mailing the form below. If you are joining BRAS and want a free patch, you must put "1" in the blank.

Baton Rouge Audubon Society (BRAS)

Please enroll me as a member of BRAS! Enclosed is my check for:

- \$20 Individual Membership
- \$25 Individual Membership (effective January 1, 2007)
- \$30 Family Membership
- \$50 Wood Thrush Donation
- \$100 Rose-breasted Grosbeak Donation
- \$250 Louisiana Waterthrush Donation
- \$500 Painted Bunting Donation
- \$1000 Cerulean Warbler Donation
- \$ _____ Additional Contribution
- # _____ of patches (indicate 1 which is free with BRAS membership; additional patches \$10 each; NAS member patches @ \$10 each; no patch will be sent if there is no indication.)

Name: _____ Ph: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

BRAS Only Membership

If you want all of your dues to support local conservation and education, join BRAS only. You will not receive the Audubon Magazine. You will receive *The Barred Owl* and a free sanctuary patch. You may join on-line at any level by visiting our website www.braudubon.org, or send this form with your check to: BRAS, P.O. Box 67016, BRLA 70896.