

The **BARRED OWL**

Newsletter of the Baton Rouge Audubon Society

Volume XXXVIII, Number 2

2nd Quarter, 2011

BIRDING IN A POST-9/11 WORLD

We have changed the way we do many things since the September 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center Towers and the Pentagon. We are conscious of this each time we go through airport security or when we pass through metal detectors to enter important governmental buildings. Some of us must even wear special identification badges while at work.

Most strategic facilities and infrastructure have heightened security in place. And in many cases, federal law now requires that these facilities have certain procedures that must be followed.

With migratory bird season approaching, many of us are anticipat-

ing trips to the countryside in hopes of finding that special bird. Armed with binoculars, spotting scopes and telescopic lenses on our cameras, we will be venturing along levees and waterways where birds are plentiful. Often, we find ourselves birding near petrochemical plants, ports and bridges and other structures that are deemed sensitive or critical.

While our actions are innocent, with our myriad of technical instruments, we can unintentionally raise suspicions of those charged with protecting strategic areas. Someone training a scope or a camera on one of these structures is sure to be noticed and will likely be approached and questioned by private security guards or local law enforcement.

It is normal that we as Americans used to freedom of movement will take offense if we are stopped and asked for identification when we aren't trespassing. In some circumstances security officials are required by law to do just that. For instance, a petrochemical plant may produce products that are vital to national security. Chlorine is critical for safe drinking water, for the manufacture of most medicines and for the components that go into computers and telephone facilities and instruments. Fuel from our refineries is necessary for interstate commerce and for travel. Bridges and causeways are needed for interstate commerce and as evacuation routes in case of hurricanes or other emergencies. Radio

and telephone towers are equally important. The security of these structures is relevant to our national security and our safety and security personnel are required by law to investigate anything that to them appears suspicious.

In most cases, a simple explanation is enough to satisfy security officials. Recently, a friend and I were birding on a road near the Morganza Spillway when a deputy drove up and questioned why we were there. We explained we were watching the geese. He simply explained that he had to find out what we were doing there. In some cases, however, we may have to produce ID in addition to an explanation. If we are taking photographs, they may ask to check our camera and review the photos. Unless there are suspicious photos of a facility or some other "critical infrastructure", there is likely to be no problem. By being cooperative, we save time for ourselves and make sure that our right to pursue our hobby is balanced with vital security concerns. No matter how we feel about our civil liberties, these security officers' activities not only protect the structures, they protect employees, nearby neighbors and our national interests. Hopefully all of us birders out there will be thoughtful and courteous to those working to keep us safe.

**Beverly Smiley,
Membership Chair**



Winter Baby -- Great Horned Owllet just out of the nest. Photo taken near Capitol Lakes in downtown Baton Rouge by Jane Patterson Feb 23, 2011.

A Message From Our President...

BRAS Annual Meeting and Peter Pyle talk
on "Transpacific Migration" to be held on April 15th

Greetings BRAS Members,

We hope that you'll make every effort to join us for our annual meeting/elections on Friday, April 15th. We'll be convening at 6:00 pm at the Bluebonnet Nature Center and will have snacks and beverages (non-alcoholic) aplenty. Directly following the meeting we will be treated to what I'm sure will be a wonderful talk by a fascinating speaker. For those of you who are not familiar with Mr. Pyle's work, he has authored or co-authored over 100 peer-reviewed papers and three books. His books have become the de facto reference for those identifying birds in-hand. For a very interesting article read; "A Birding Interview with Peter Pyle" which is available online. Below is a brief synopsis of Mr. Pyle's planned talk:

"Discover the amazing movement patterns of the Albatross and other open ocean creatures as Peter Pyle, Institute for Bird Populations wildlife biologist, presents his research on Transpacific Migration. Find out how Pacific Ocean migrants overcome the hardships and risks of long distance travel through and over inhospitable and food-deprived ocean. The great flights of the Albatross, which come 4000 miles to California to get food for their chicks, will be a primary focus. In addition, Mr. Pyle will discuss the fasting of whales, tuna, Great White Sharks and other marine animals, as well as the surprising over-water journeys of various shorebirds, land birds, insects, and bats.

Peter Pyle worked as a Farallon Island Biologist for the Point Reyes Bird Observatory for 24 years, studying bird, bat, and butterfly migration as well as the habits of the Great White Shark. Mr. Pyle currently works for the Institute for Bird Populations where he conducts research on changes in the abundance, distribution, and ecology of, primarily, North American bird populations. In addition, he is a Research Associate for the California Academy of Sciences."



First Saturday Bird Walk at Bluebonnet Swamp

In addition we will briefly recognize some individuals that have greatly contributed their time and talents to BRAS and conservation efforts more generally. As this will be the last meeting I will preside over I would like to express how much I've enjoyed the experience of "leading" the BRAS board. It has been extremely rewarding to be surrounded by such friendly, hard-working, intelligent, generous people committed to birds and conservation in general. I can assure you that each on our current slate of officers are exceedingly capable. I have the utmost confidence that those at the BRAS helm will continue and augment the vital work we have done in the past.

Eric Liffmann,
President BRAS

BRAS EMAIL LIST

If you would like to be informed of upcoming Baton Rouge Audubon events via email, send a request to Jane Patterson at Education@braudubon.org and you'll be added to the BRAS email list.

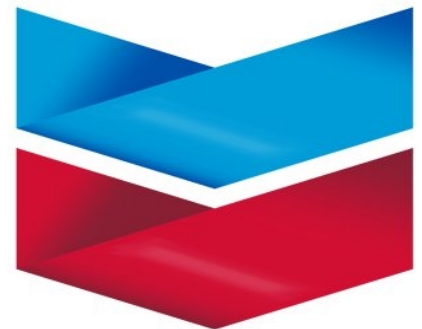
BRAS wishes to acknowledge
Downtown Kiwanis Club
of Baton Rouge
for their support of our
Education Programs



Thank you so much!

Baton Rouge Audubon thanks

Chevron



for their sponsorship of
our education programs!

**FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:
BRAS ELECTIONS
SLATE**

Baton Rouge Audubon Society presents the following slate of officers for your consideration. Elections will be held during the April meeting. If you would like to serve on the board or a committee or would like to nominate someone for any of these positions, please contact us or join us at the meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor as well. There is plenty of rewarding work for all.

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Field Trips / Activities

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Membership

Beverly Smiley

Sanctuaries

Dave Patton

Newsletter

Steve Mumford

Programs

Jared Wolf

Bayou Birding Bon Temps

**Good People, Good Birds, Good Times!
April 1-30, 2011**

Peak spring migration will be here soon and that means it's time for the third annual Bayou Birding Bon Temps. If you haven't joined our efforts before, here's the pitch. Louisiana has a network of birding locations that span the state. Many locations have few birding reports and therefore birders have little information to help them decide where to go. We want to help build checklists for these birding trail sites, national wildlife refuges, state parks and wildlife management areas, and important bird areas.

This year we want to emphasize the Gulf Coast and gather data for Important Bird Areas. It has been nearly a year since the Gulf oil spill and data from the coast are especially valuable as we attempt measure the impacts from the oil spill. We strongly encourage participants to adopt an interior site and get to the coast as well.

The second initiative for 2011 is the Priority Bird Count. No doubt about it, Louisiana is an important place for birds. We want to help put some numbers behind it. Important Bird Areas (IBA's) are evaluated with data of bird species. Unfortunately data are lacking for many IBA's and their full importance is not yet understood. Consider this; you could help elevate a state-level IBA to a global IBA.

For more details, please visit
<http://www.lsu.edu/departments/labird/index.html>

We hope to see you in the field soon!



Baton Rouge Audubon

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Past President

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newsletter@braudubon.org

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LSU Bird Resource

Richard Gibbons 225/578-6901

The Barred Owl

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Baton Rouge chapter of the NAS.
Submissions should be emailed to
newsletter@braudubon.org

Changes of address and other official correspondence should be sent to:

**Baton Rouge
Audubon Society
P.O. Box 67016
Baton Rouge, LA 70896**

CALLING ALL GOSIERS!

April 20, 2011 marks the one year anniversary of the beginning of the tragic BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Citizen scientists responded by conducting regular bird surveys of the coast across the northern Gulf of Mexico providing a valuable dataset that is currently undergoing analysis to understand the wide-spread impact of the oil spill on coastal waterbirds.

Our coastal waterbirds are experiencing a variety of other threats, including sudden changes in habitat availability when hurricanes pummel the shoreline, but also the slower, but steady pace of wetland loss as a result of humans modifying the hydrology throughout the landscape for nearly 100 years.

These coastal waterbirds need our help and Baton Rouge Audubon is calling for all birders to help us survey the coast for waterbird populations on this 1st anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. We hope to continue this survey on an annual basis, providing a valuable dataset for wildlife managers to use for managing coastal ecosystems to benefit coastal waterbirds. We are calling this annual survey the **GOSIER** (Gulf Ornithological Survey Initiative for Ecosystem Recovery), which an old Cajun word for our beloved state bird: the Brown Pelican.

Although the oil spill anniversary date is April 20, the survey window will include the weekends on either side of this date (April 16th through April 24th). If you would like to help, please contact Erik Johnson (ejohn33@lsu.edu) for details.

**Erik Johnson
BRAS Board Member at Large**

Upcoming Birding Events

Grand Isle Migratory Bird Celebration

Festival Dates: April 15-17, 2011

Location: Grand Isle, Louisiana

Enjoy spring migration on Louisiana's only inhabited barrier island. See songbirds in oak-hackberry woods, shorebirds and waders on beaches and marshes. Birdwatching tours, local seafood, displays & crafts. Free videos and birding trail maps. Fun for families, new and experienced birders. Hosted by the Grand Isle Sanctuary Group.

For more information visit:

<http://grandisle.btneq.org> or call
Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program
(800) 259-0869

Peveto Woods Sanctuary Report

I visited Peveto Woods Sanctuary recently to do a few light chores and enjoy the spring day. I was given a Purple Martin house and decided to set it up at the old home site in the sanctuary. I remember one from years ago that was taken away by Hurricane Rita. We will see if we get any residents. I also wanted to water a couple of Turks Cap bushes I transplanted during the winter. They were one large bush that I split and moved to the sanctuary from my Grandmother's old yard. We sold the house recently and the new owners dug it up

to throw it away. It grew every summer into a huge bush that took up a large corner of the yard. During the winter it died back and was not appealing to the new home owners. The bush came out with a huge root balls so I was hopeful it would survive the move. I have watered them on several visits and they now have lots of green leaves sprouted from the base.



by Jane Patterson

IT'S TWINS! The Bald Eagles that nested successfully last year near Ramah Maringouin have done it again. Last year they raised a single chick; this year they've fledged two! The chicks appear to have been born almost a full month before the single chick last year. Best guess is that they hatched in mid to early December as they were first visible in the nest in early January. The single chick fledged last year on Easter Sunday, April 4. This year, the chicks were testing their wings by the first week of March -- almost a month earlier. The family is still hanging out in the area. The adults are still feeding the "babies" who are just as big as their parents! It's quite a sight when food is brought in and the chicks get excited!

Directions to the nest: take exit 135 from I-10. Go north on hwy 3000. Take the first left and then the first right to cross over the bayou and get to the road next to the levee (do not drive on the levee crown). Go north 1.5 miles on the gravel levee side road. Look for the South Farm sign on the left. When you see the sign, look to your right, across the little bayou at the large trees in the farmer's field. The nest is on the southeast side of one of the large water oaks.

I took a lunch break at the water hole and was entertained by a group of Yellow-rumped warblers that were starting to change into their spring colors. A few early spring migrants also dropped in for some water. A Black-and-white Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrush moved through the dried stalks of last year's rag weed, drank, and moved on through the fresh green sprouts emerging in the sanctuary.

Dave Patton,
Sanctuary Chairman



Two Giant Turks Cap bushes transplanted to the old home site in Peveto Woods Sanctuary.

BRAS PROGRAMS -

Recent Accomplishments and Future Prospects

BRAS programs are focused on providing our community with unparalleled access to world-renowned speakers, pertinent movie premieres and environmental outreach. In addition to entertaining and informative venues, BRAS continues to work with our partners to monitor Louisiana's bird communities. Below is a brief outline of recent BRAS endeavors and exciting future programs we hope our community will enjoy.



Erik Johnson uses a captive female Northern Cardinal to explain the importance of bird monitoring and conservation to a rapt audience of youngsters at Bluebonnet Swamp

Over the past few months BRAS hosted the Baton Rouge premiere of 'Ghost Bird', the critically acclaimed documentary about the search for Ivory-Billed Woodpeckers. In addition to movie premieres, BRAS hosted several speakers: in January, Erik Johnson offered an in-depth and exciting presentation on Amazon forest conservation. In February, world-renowned plumage-coloration expert, Geoff Hill, outlined ornithology's current understanding of feather coloration followed by a signing of his latest National Geographic book. BRAS continued bird monitoring activities throughout Louisiana. For example, BRAS's Oiled-bird Monitoring Program was the recent focus of a feature article in "Birding Magazine" which detailed our initiative and provided example field reports. Preliminary results from the Oiled-Bird Monitoring Program were presented at several professional conferences, in-

cluding a recent symposium titled "Deepwater Horizon oil spill – lessons learned" at the annual Waterbird Society meeting in Grand Island, Nebraska. BRAS's bird banding activities at BREC's Bluebonnet Swamp continued to provide our community with unparalleled environmental outreach opportunities in association with professional bird monitoring practices in order to inform BREC management activities, identify sensitive species and study the demographics of local avian communities.

Over the next few months, we will continue to invite renowned bird experts to inform and entertain our community. For example, on March 30th Phil Stouffer will be presenting a detailed synopsis of Louisiana's Grassland Birds, detailing their natural history and future prospects – a rare opportunity for Louisiana bird advocates to learn about our State's unique ecosystems in peril. On April 15th world-renowned ornithologist Peter Pyle will be visiting us from California to present on Transpacific Migrations, a talk focused on the vast movements of oceanic creatures including:



Using BRAS protocols, volunteers survey for oiled birds along the Gulf Coast. - photo by Bart Siegel

Albatross, Great-white Sharks and Tuna. During his stay in Baton Rouge, Peter Pyle has agreed to teach a BRAS-sponsored 4-day workshop (15-18 April) covering advanced bird banding



(Continued on page 7)

- BRAS PROGRAMS

(Continued from page 6)



Giving a Hoot! Eric Liffmann teaches kids how to make a Screech Owl call at Bluebonnet Swamp

techniques. The workshop will take place at Bluebonnet Swamp and will involve several afternoons of presentations and several mornings of banding with Peter. This workshop sold-out within a few weeks; participants represent a diversity of backgrounds from government biologists (USFWS and LDWF), free-lance biologists, professors, students, and graduate students (Southern Mississippi University, Tulane, LSU-Shreveport and LSU-Baton Rouge). Given the professional breadth of attendees, we believe the workshop will ultimately serve as a de facto bird monitoring meeting for the Southeastern United States. Importantly, BRAS offered a single scholarship for the workshop based on three criteria: (1) attendee must be a graduate student, (2) does not have university funding to pay for the workshop, and (3) was using bird banding techniques for their research. BRAS awarded the scholarship to Lindsay Wieland from LSU-Baton Rouge. Below is a brief summary of her work:

"I use banding techniques as part of my thesis research on seed dispersal in the Neotropics; however I feel that I still have a lot to learn. The opportunity to participate in the bird banding workshop will be an invaluable experience for

me. I am particularly excited for the sessions on advanced aging using molt limits and other techniques. Individual identification of birds enables researchers to study dispersal, migration, behavior, survival rate, reproductive success and population growth. As I finish my graduate research, I am applying for jobs in which competence in banding protocols may be essential. This workshop will give me the skills necessary to participate in such projects" - Lindsay Wieland

Congratulations Lindsay! Thanks to all BRAS membership for making our program activities a success; please visit www.braudubon.org regularly for updates and announcements.

**Jared Wolfe,
BRAS Programs Chair**



**Lindsay Wieland, recipient of the
BRAS Advanced Bird Banding
Workshop Scholarship**

Thanks to our Members!

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. We can't do it without you!

CERULEAN WARBLER

(\$1000 & up)

John C. Stovall, Baton Rouge, LA

PAINTED BUNTING

(\$500)

John Turner & Jerry Fischer,
Baton Rouge, LA

Lisa Head, St. Gabriel, LA

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH

(\$250)

Lionel Head,, River Ridge, LA
Kevin Benson, Baton Rouge, LA

ROSEBREASTED GROSBEAK

(\$100- & up)

Dr. Jay Guillory, Baton Rouge, LA
Charles Wilcox, Baton Rouge, LA

Madeline Sorrells, Kenner, LA
Sara Simmonds, Alexandria, LA

Fred Sheldon, Baton Rouge, LA
Lawrence Rozas, Sunset, LA

Robert Morris, Sulphur, LA
Raymond & Sandra Miller,
Baton Rouge, LA

Barry & Gail Kohl, New Orleans, LA

G. Paul Kemp, Baton Rouge, LA
Steven Hightower, Folsom, LA

Jay Huner, Boyce, LA

Nell Hennessy, Washington, DC
Lisa Hartgerink, Baton Rouge, LA

Alex Gauthans, Baton Rouge, LA
Keith Gibson, Baton Rouge, LA

Lawrence Gauthier, Sunset, LA
Sheldon Frederick & John Kennard,
Baton Rouge, LA

Margaret Fontaine, Shreveport, LA
Doris Falkenheimer, Baton Rouge, LA
Doris Craig, Blanchester, OH

Cathy Coates, Baton Rouge, LA

Beverly Coates, Baton Rouge, LA
Chrystal & Michael Chatelain,
Baton Rouge, LA

Joan Brown, Monroe, LA

Frederick Billings III, Baton Rouge, LA
Dave & Tracy Banowitz,
Weyanoke, LA

Mary Baldrige, Prairieville, LA

WOOD THRUSH

(\$50 & up)

John Collins, Amite, LA

William Vermillion, Lafayette, LA
A. Varnes, Baton Rouge, LA

Erick Szabados, Barrington, IL
Harold Rosco, Baton Rouge, LA

James & Anita Roche,
Baton Rouge, LA

Krista Roche, Baton Rouge, LA
Chandler Robbins, Laurel, MD

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Barbara Gaiennie, Lafayette, LA

Anne Faulk, Lake Charles, LA
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Murrell Butler, St. Francisville, LA
Suzanne & Barbara Broussard,
Gonzales, LA

Kevin Breedlove, Alexandria, LA
Kevin Bland, Baton Rouge, LA

Russ & Patsy Allor, Baton Rouge, LA

Upcoming Birding Events

The Great Louisiana BirdFest

Festival Dates: April 15-17, 2011

**Location: Mandeville/Northshore
Lake Pontchartrain Northlake
Nature Center
Mandeville, LA 70470**

Website: www.northlakenature.org/

Main Contact Phone:
985.626.1238

The Great Louisiana BirdFest is an annual event of the Northlake Nature Center. It is held each year in the spring when many species are migrating north through Louisiana from Mexico and South America. BirdFest trips will visit varied habitat including swamps, wetlands, pine savanna, and hardwoods of south-east Louisiana. Among the many excellent birding locations scheduled for this year's BirdFest is Pine Island, a rookery located in a private preserve. The event includes birding trips, some Southern food and hospitality, and a few workshops.



Baton Rouge Audubon Society

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The Baton Rouge Audubon website has had a facelift!
Visit today to see what's new! www.braudubon.org



Upcoming Birding Events

Louisiana Ornithological Society Spring Meeting 2011

open to members and non members
Website: www.losbird.org

Friday and Saturday, April 29-30
Cameron/Creole

Please join us in the birding paradise of Cameron Parish for our spring meeting. We will search the cheniers, the beaches and the marshes for everything that flies!

Friday Evening: First Baptist Church in Cameron on Marshall Street

6:30 P.M.-7 P.M. Registration: Light snacks will be provided by the Cameron Parish Tourist Commission.

7 P.M.-8 P.M. Meeting and Evening Program: *"The Birds of Western Cuba: A Study of Endemic and Non Endemic Species"*. Bob Loudon will talk about his recent trip to Cuba along with many other LOS members. Bob is retired from a career of industrial automation and instrumentation. His retirement vocation is photography - getting challenging photographs of wildlife and birds. Bob is a Ham Radio operator, a computer guy and a piddle in his shop fixing things guy, but none preempt photography. Bob has said "Some folks have bass boats to go out and catch that trophy fish, or hunting camps and fine rifles to bag that big buck. I have chosen to let my subjects live on so I can capture them again and again in the wonderment of life's action play."

Saturday Morning: 7:00 A.M. Field Trip Meet in the parking lot of the Cameron Motel. Ed Wallace will lead a field trip to the Cameron Parish hot spots.

Saturday Evening: Creole Community Center (see directions below)

6:30 P.M.-7 P.M. Registration

7 P.M. Meal: Brisket dinner prepared by the Cameron Catering Ladies

7:30 P.M. Meeting and Evening Program: *"Window on Bluebonnet Swamp: What Birds and Birders Find"* by John and Cindy Hartgerink

Often advertised as a small piece of a swamp in the city, BREC's Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center provides one's mind with a bit of peace. Birds and birders have nearby access to a welcome change from urban living. A PowerPoint presentation of photos will show some of the birds that can be found there and what some of the birds can find there. John & Cindy Hartgerink live 5 minutes away and have been visiting and photographing flora and fauna since 2001. John grew up in Zeeland, MI and graduated as a Chemical Engineer from the University of Michigan. Cindy grew up in the area around Opelousas and graduated as a math major from USL. They met at work at ExxonMobil in Baton Rouge and are both retired after more than 35 years. John does the photography. Cindy helps with the spotting of subjects and maintains the computer systems and files to store and juggle more than 200,000 photos of Bluebonnet Swamp.

Directions to the Creole Community Center: The Creole Community Center/Fire Station is approximately 15-20 minutes from the Cameron Motel. It is on Hwy 1143, ¼ mile east of the only traffic light in Creole (at the corner of hwy 82/27 and hwy 1143). It is on the right hand side of the road with a big fenced parking lot.

Neotropical Songbird Tour

Event Date: May 14, 2011

Location: Atchafalaya NWR/ Sherburne WMA. Whiskey Bay Road (hwy 975) exit # 127 --head north

Main Contact: Jay Huner

Main Contact Phone: 318.793.5529

Come to the Atchafalaya Basin's Sherburne Complex and experience one of the nation's greatest concentrations of nesting Neotropical Songbirds. Warblers, thrushes, flycatchers, cuckoos, buntings, vireos, and towhees fill the morning air with a song from early morning until mid-day along Louisiana Highway 975 for 17 miles between I-10 and US 190. Watch for Swallow-tailed and

Mississippi Kites as you drive between the two way stations located along the road with facilitators who will point out the various songs that visitors will hear. Anhingas, herons, egrets, and ibises, perhaps even a Roseate Spoonbill or two, are sure to be seen flying to and from their nesting areas and feeding areas in the vast wooded wetland expanse.

Start Time: Arrive at Start between 6:45 and 7:15 AM. **End Time:** 10:00-10:45 AM

Two Stations: Station One - Participants will travel north on LA 975 approximately 5 miles to its intersection with Happy Town Road, turn right, travel about a mile and a half to the US Fish and Wildlife Service Big Alabama Bayou kiosk. Tentative facilitators - Jane Paterson and Mike Musumeche.

Station Two - Return to LA 975 and travel another 10 miles to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Primitive Camp Ground site on the inside of the Atchafalaya Basin Levee. Tentative facilitator - Michael Seymour of LDWF. This stop will feature bird banding and offer an opportunity to see birds up close and in hand.

Purpose:

The route is one of the leading Breeding Bird Survey routes in North America. Thousands of vireos, warblers, flycatchers, cuckoos, tanagers, buntings, grosbeaks, etc. nest along the route. Emphasis will be made on assisting participants in identifying birds by their songs.

A large Cliff Swallow colony is located under the US 190 bridge at Krotz Springs. Participants should look for these birds and their unique clay nests at this location.

Sponsors: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Basin Ranger District [Bayou DesOurses Unit], U. S. Fish Army Corps of Engineers [Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge], and Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries [Sherburne Wildlife Management Area] as well as the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Atchafalaya Basin Program.

see www.birdlouisiana.com for complete list of bird-related events in Louisiana



Baton Rouge Chapter of the National Audubon Society

Baton Rouge Audubon Society

P.O. Box 67016

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70896

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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. The month and year in which your membership expires are indicated after your membership organization (e.g., BRAS DEC 09 for BRAS-only members and NAS DEC 10 for NAS members).

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:

- \$25 Individual Membership
- \$30 Family Membership
- \$50 Wood Thrush Membership
- \$100 Rose-breasted Grosbeak Membership
- \$250 Louisiana Waterthrush Membership
- \$500 Painted Bunting Membership
- \$1000 Cerulean Warbler Membership
- \$ _____ 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.)

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, BR LA 70896.

Name: _____ Ph: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

MAIL COMPLETE FORM TO:
Baton Rouge Audubon Society; PO Box 67016; Baton Rouge, LA