

Flicker Flashes

Published by
The Birmingham Audubon Society

For conservation and greater knowledge of
all wildlife, wilderness and natural resources

President's Message *Louise Ayer Tommie*

This is the start of a new year for Birmingham Audubon, and what wonderful plans we have for you! Please use the information in this issue of *Flicker Flashes* to mark your calendar so that you can join us. All of our activities are based on four premises: we love birds and spend time identifying them; we enjoy teaching the children and adults who join us; we support the study of nature in our programs; and we see it as our duty to conserve the environment in which we live. You can easily take part in our scheduled plans.

Exciting things are happening for Birmingham Audubon! We have moved into a new office given to us by McWane Science Center and we will be included in their upcoming display featuring Alabama wildlife. Further, we have been fortunate to be able to hire Bianca J. Allen as an Administrative Director. She will add greatly in our efforts to serve the public. The new office phone is (205) 714-8BAS (or 714-8227).

You can plan to join us for any number of carefully planned events. At least two weekends a month we will offer exciting field trips - all day, half day and camping. You can count on being exposed to knowledgeable birders. Join us. All ages and stages are welcome.

At monthly meetings we present interesting programs. These meetings will continue to be held on the third Thursday of the month at the Birmingham Zoo at 7:00 p.m. Attend and learn all about the events and upcoming birding plans for each month.

Birmingham Audubon has many volunteer committees which work diligently to provide you with a fulfilling year of activities. Some of the committee work entails keeping abreast of conservation issues. We pride ourselves in working to conserve our natural resources and maintain the health of our planet. Other committees donate time to education and we enjoy presenting

Audubon Adventures and On the Wing, which work directly with schools. Audubon Teaches Nature held on Sunday afternoons at the Alabama Wildlife Center is well-attended and fun for adults and children.

Special events include our Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 4, which will feature widely known environmental author, Scott Weidensaul as speaker. In April, the Spring Bus Tour will offer four wonderful fun-filled days in Mississippi, sightseeing, birding, eating, and socializing. Then in May, we excitedly anticipate our famous family-oriented Audubon Mountain Workshop at Camp Alpine.

Now about your new president, I was born Louise Ayer Stabler and was raised in Greenville, Alabama. After leaving the University of Alabama I taught elementary school in Birmingham, married Joe Tommie and raised a son and a daughter and now have four precious grandchildren. I joined Audubon in 1981 when my children left home for college. My goal was to learn the bird species, and although I can name a list of wonderful birders who taught me, Tom Imhof was my major mentor in Audubon. I formerly served you as hospitality chairman, Secretary, and Vice President – Programs. It is my great pleasure to be your President.

My dreams for Birmingham Audubon's future include a melding of the old and the new. Long-time members absolutely must continue the good ole' birding fun. We treasure those among us who can teach us with such time earned skill. Many young people are yearning to receive our understanding of this world. Through our great fortune in partnering with McWane Science Center we can reach out to this younger generation. Our new office presents opportunities to move into the computer age of communication. We can promote our program of activities and make important contributions to many more people of all ages.

SoSo for the Record

Sightings April 15, 2007 through July 19, 2007

Several noteworthy birds have occurred during the summer.

On 25 May an **American Oystercatcher** was spotted on a rock pile in the river near the Colbert/ Lauderdale county line. This was reported by Damien Simbeck from Steve Hacker, who is a birder and a fishing guide.

An **American Kestrel** was reported nesting in Montgomery by Eric Soehren. Even though he was able to photograph the pair and band the chicks, he was unable to capture the adults. This would have enabled Eric to determine if this pair could be the rare **Souththeastern American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius sparverius*)** instead of the more widespread **American Kestrel (F, s.s.)**. **House Sparrows** were the primary prey. "More about this later"

A **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** was seen 2 June near Gadsden/ Coosa River by Esther ? (sorry, do not know full name) . It did not stay long enough to be seen by other birders. Origin unknown.

Greg Harber had an impressive day 15 July while exploring Perry and Hale counties. He recorded **975 Wood Storks** (farm ponds), second highest number recorded for Alabama. Also, **Blue-winged Teal (80)**, **American White Pelican (24)**, and a pair of nesting **Scissor-tailed Flycatchers** (reported earlier by Stan and Dana Hamilton).

Other sightings were:

4/15 **Anhinga (2)**; Hwy 87 Shelby Co. (HW).

4/17 **Blue Grosbeak (feeder)**; Mountain Brook (RB,MB).

4/29 **Bobolink (35+)**; Saginaw (PF,EF).
American Bittern; Brook Highland Racquet Club (PR).

4/30 **Mississippi Kite**; Montevallo. Later, 7/10, 6 birds were seen, raising the question of a possibility of more than one nesting pair (MB).

5/9 **Blue-winged Warbler (nesting?)**; Lake Purdy (HW,AC).

5/20 **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**; Near Decatur, also **Tree Swallows** in two locations. (PF,EF).

5/25 **Cerulean Warbler (nest)**; Bankhead National Forest. "Records of nests scant in Alabama." (ES,JT).

6/25 **Eurasian Collared-Dove (2)**; Hayden (TE).

7/4 **Cattle Egret (small flock)**; Shelby Co, **Lesser Yellowlegs and Least Sandpi per**;
Lake Purdy, **Lark Sparrow (imm.)**; Tanyard Road, Shelby Co (AC,HW).

Contributors:

Alice Christenson
Mac Braid
Rob and Mary Brewer
Thomas Eubank

Paul and Eva Franklin
Stan and Dana Hamilton
Greg Harber
Pelham Rowan

Damien Simbeck
Eric Soehren
John Trent
Harriett Wright



Please submit sightings for October FF at least five days before the September 1 deadline to Ann Miller, 520 Yorkshire Drive, Birmingham, Al. 35209.

September Monthly Meeting

Global Climate Change

Joyce Lanning, Ph.D.

Thursday, September 20, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Birmingham Zoo Auditorium

Joyce A. Lanning, Ph.D., will speak on "Global Climate Change." The overheating of the planet due in large part to increased CO₂ concentrations in the atmosphere is much in the news. Joyce will discuss some of the current scientific reports on climate change, some of the myths and questions, and then what is being done about it - with some information about positive actions by other nations, states, cities and individuals.

Joyce is a native of Birmingham and a volunteer environmental educator and supporter. After seeing the film, *An Inconvenient Truth*, she applied to be one of the 1000 people trained by The Climate Project staff, including a science advisor, environmental educators and Al Gore, to give presentations based on the slides in the movie. Her Ph.D. is not in climate science, but in Administration/Health Services, and she is a former Assistant Professor in the



Graduate School of Public Health at UAB. It's been said that you should learn a new language as you grow older to keep up your mental skills, and she reports that she is enjoying learning and speaking about our natural carbon cycle, ways that human activities have altered it, and what we can do about it. Part of her motivation comes from concern about the kind of legacy we are leaving for the children who follow us, including her own two grandchildren.

Attend and enjoy this program.

Please come early at 6:45 to socialize and enjoy some refreshments. Guests are welcome.

Hans Paul, VP Programs

On the Wing

A Birmingham Audubon Society educational program for select schools in 2007-2008

Audubon volunteers needed!

Enthusiasm - babies are born with it, children gleam with it, adults have nurtured it, and we all wish to keep it. It is with that purpose in mind that BAS has revitalized "On the Wing."

On the Wing is an educational program that brings birds, birding and conservation to the classroom with several objectives in sight: raising the students' awareness of the living creatures in their school yard and neighborhood, fostering an appreciation of birds beyond "How pretty they are!" "What does a bird do?" "How does it live?" "What is its name?," and building community interest in conservation and environmental issues.

Well, how do we do this? The OTW committee has developed a curriculum and lesson plans, assembled teaching aides-field guides, binoculars etc. Next, we need volunteers - people willing to spend some time with excited children to share their knowledge and love of the outdoors for an hour once or twice a month. I know from personal experience how heartwarming it is to watch a child absorb the beauty of our feathered friends and realize that I had a little bit to do with it. Please consider helping another child do the same.

For more information and to volunteer, please call Dianne Clark at 477-5676 or Maureen Shaffer at 822-8728.

Maureen Shaffer—Chairman, On the Wing

■ The Birmingham Audubon Society gratefully acknowledges a generous bequest from the estate of Robert R. Reid to BAS. Bob was truly devoted to BAS and worked diligently on so many causes on our behalf. RRR - we remember you fondly and miss you dearly. Thanks for remembering us.

■ We would also like to acknowledge a memorial gift for Russell Bailey from Robert Reid Bailey

September Field Trips

Memorial Russell Bailey Labor Day Field Trip Monday, September 3, 2007, 8:00 a.m. Lake Purdy

The end of summer is soon upon us, and that means it is time once again for our annual Labor Day field trip to Lake Purdy. Russell Bailey led this trip for many years and we continue this fine tradition in his memory. Please plan to join us at 8:00 a.m. at the Coxe Creek bridge on AL 119, approximately 2.25 miles east of the US 280 intersection. After birding the Lake

Purdy vicinity the group will continue looking for migrating shorebirds – weather and drought permitting – at nearby birding destinations to be selected. No water = no mud flats = no shorebirds = no fun!

Trip Leader: Frank Farrell, 815-3554.

Ebenezer Swamp, Shelby County Saturday, September 8, 2007, 7:00 a.m.

The Birmingham Audubon Society's 1/2-day field trip in September will be to Ebenezer Swamp in Shelby County. This swamp is a favorite birding destination for many BAS members, as it has attracted a number of interesting birds in recent years. An array of unusual late summer migrants have been seen there so one never knows what might be there on the day of the trip. A boardwalk into the heart of the swamp will add to your enjoyment. Ebenezer Swamp has also been the focus of conservation efforts to protect it from proposed nearby developments that would severely impact the swamp if these developments

were allowed to proceed. One trip into the swamp and you too will agree that it is an ecological treasure worth protecting. Come see for yourself.

Travel plans: We will depart at 7:00 a.m. from the McDonalds located on US 31 in Hoover across the street from the Galleria. Bring drinks, insect repellent, sunscreen, a pair of sturdy walking shoes, and your binoculars.

Trip Leader: Ty Keith, 853-0537.

Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge, West Blocton Saturday, September 22, 2007, 7:00 a.m.

The Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge will be the locale of the all-day September field. This is one of the newest of the refuges, established in 2002 to protect a 3.5 mile stretch of the Cahaba River, the land adjacent to it and the rare and imperiled plants and animals that make it their home. Among them may be found the largest known stand of the imperiled shoals lily, known locally as the Cahaba Lily. Rolling uplands surrounding the river are forested with mountain longleaf pine and introduced loblolly pine, with mixed hardwoods lining ravines and the river's edge. Restoration of the native longleaf communities and the concomitant removal of the loblolly is a main focus of the refuge management plan. It is in the forests that we hope to observe migrating songbirds and raptors on their way south. A picnic lunch is planned at midday at Bibb Co. Public Lake/Walter Owens Park, south of the refuge. Birding around the lake and its environs will follow lunch.

Our departure plans: Meet at the super popular McDonald's on US 31 in Hoover (across from the

Galleria). We will leave at 7:00a.m. and caravan to Cahaba River Road at the entrance to the refuge. Those who wish may meet the group there at approximately 8:00a.m.. At that point, further details will be announced.

Directions: Take I-459 west to I-59/20W, then left at Exit 97 (Woodstock) to US 11/AL 5. Proceed south on AL Hwy 5 to West Blocton. Turn left at the Blocton by-pass to Cahaba River Road/CR 24 and follow it to the Refuge. Mileage is approximately 45 miles.

As this will be an all day trip, please bring a picnic, plenty of water, drinks and snacks. And equally important don't forget a full tank of gas, binoculars and scopes, sunscreen and insect repellent.

For further information, please contact trip leaders Maureen Shaffer at 822-8728, Frank Farrell at 815-3554 or Ty Keith at 853-0537.

43rd Annual BAS Fall Bird Count Saturday, September 29, 2007

Saturday, September 29th will be the date for our 43rd annual BAS Fall Bird Count. We will cover as much of Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair and southern Blount counties as possible, with as many count parties as we can place in the field. This summer's extreme drought is sure to have lasting effects that will bring many migrating songbirds to your garden's water features. Therefore, if you are not able to assist us in the field, please count the birds at your feeders and water features and report them to us after the count.

If you have participated in a count previously or know the name of the party leader for the area where you would like to help, contact them to be sure that you are included! If you are interested in joining a count party but don't know any leaders, please call me at 251-2133 and I will put you in touch with a party leader. Or you may consult the spring count report in this issue and check with a party leader listed there. Be sure to pack a lunch, your binoculars and field guides and plenty of water. These counts can be quite fun but do remember that spending an entire day in the field can be demanding.

At the end of the day we will gather to compile our results, swap stories and share our adventures of the day. Real rarities will need a good story and appropriate documentation. Sharon Hudgins will serve as the count compiler and Elberta Reid will host the compilation at her home at 2616 Mountain Brook Parkway, located just east of Colonial Brookwood Village. Be sure to grab a bite to eat before we get started around 7:00 PM. If you need detailed directions call Elberta at 879-1935. See accompanying map.



Information on other Counts

72nd Birmingham Christmas Bird Count

Date: Saturday, December 22, 2007

Host: Pelham Rowan

Compiler: TBA

43rd Spring Bird Count

Host: Maureen Shaffer

Saturday, April 26, 2008

Compiler: TBA

Make plans now to attend any or all of these counts. All BAS members and friends, whether beginning or experienced birders, are encouraged to join us!

Greg Harber~ for the Bird Counts Committee

Hawk Watching at Oak Mountain State Park Sunday, September 30, 2007, 2:00 p.m. Oak Mountain S. P. Headquarters

The Friends of Oak Mountain (FOM) invites everyone to enjoy an afternoon of hawk watching atop the ridge near Peavine Falls Road at Oak Mountain State Park. Plan to meet at the Park Office at 2:00 p.m. and the group will caravan from there to the ridge near the Peavine Falls parking lot. Late September and early October are a prime time in Alabama to watch for migrating hawks, especially Broad-winged Hawks, and other raptors as they make their way south. With any luck a cool front will move through that weekend and give the birds the little extra nudge they need to cruise past our vantage point atop the mountain.

Bring your binoculars, a spotting scope if you have one, a lawn chair and your favorite beverage as we sit and

wait for the birds to come to us! This may just be the laziest stretch of birding you'll ever do so plan now to make an afternoon of it.

To reach the park office, enter the park at its main entrance and travel 3 miles on John Findlay III Drive past the golf course, which will be on your left. Turn right on to Terrace Drive and follow this to the park office, located on the right beyond the boat marina on the right. Remember that park admission is \$3.00/person on weekends.

Greg Harber, BAS Representative to FOM

BIRMINGHAM AUDUBON SOCIETY
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
2007-2008

	September 2007		December 2007	29	BAS Field Trip, Bankhead National Forest
1	<i>Flicker Flashes</i> articles due, October issue	1	<i>Flicker Flashes</i> articles due, January 2008 issue		
3	Russell Bailey, Jr. Memorial Bird Walk, Lake Purdy		BAS Sanctuary workday (1/2 day)	1	April 2008 <i>Flicker Flashes</i> articles due, May/June issue
6	Conservation Committee meeting 7:00 p.m.	4	Christmas Banquet – Vestavia Country Club, Scott Weidensaul, speaker	5	Family Bird Walk - Birmingham Zoo 7:30 a.m.
8	BAS 1/2 day field trip, Ebenezer Swamp, Shelby County	15	Christmas Bird Count – Wheeler NWR	11-15	Spring Tour trip #1
15	Watercress Darter NWR workday and trip (1/2 day)	22	Christmas Bird Count - Birmingham (72 nd)	16-20	Spring Tour trip #2
20	Board Meeting, Birmingham Zoo Auditorium (BZA) 5:45 p.m.	26	Christmas Bird Count – Guntersville	18-20	AOS Spring meeting - Dauphin Island, AL
	General Meeting, (BZA) 7:00 p.m.	29	Christmas Bird Count - Gulf Shores	20	Earth Day at the Gardens, 1:00 – 5:00 P.M.
	Joyce Lanning, Global Climate Change		January 2008	24	Board Meeting, (BZA) 5:45 p.m.
22	BAS Field Trip, Cahaba River NWR, West Blocton	5	<i>Flicker Flashes</i> articles due, February issue		General Meeting, BZA 7:00 p. m.
29	43 rd Annual BAS Fall Bird Count		BAS 1/2 day Field Trip, Shades Creek/Hwy 150 Land Trust	26	“Members Favorite Slides” 43 rd Annual BAS Spring Bird Count
30	Hawk watching, Friends of Oak Mountain, 2:00 P.M.	17	Board Meeting, (BZA) 5:45 p.m.		May 2008
	October 2007		General Meeting, BZA 7:00 p.m.	3	BAS Spring Campout
1	<i>Flicker Flashes</i> articles due, November/December issue	19	BAS Field Trip, Lake Guntersville SP	10	BAS Field Trip, Noxubee N.W.R., Mississippi
6	Family Bird Walk - Birmingham Zoo, 7:30 a.m.	25-27	Alabama Ornithological Society meeting, location TBA	15-18	31 st Annual Audubon Mountain Workshop – Mentone, AL
12-14	Alabama Ornithological Society meeting, Dauphin Island, AL		February 2008	21	June 2008 Location TBA
18	Board Meeting, (BZA) 5:45p.m.	1	<i>Flicker Flashes</i> articles due, March issue		July 2008 BAS Field Trip, Black Belt Birding Location: TBA
	General Meeting, BZA 7:00 p.m.	2	BAS 1/2 day Field Trip, Downtown/McWane Center	26	
18-21	Alabama Coastal Birdfest, Fairhope, AL	21	Board Meeting, (BZA) 5:45 p.m.		August 2008 BAS Field Trip, Black Belt Birding Location: TBA
20	BAS Field Trip, Chief Ladiga Trail		General Meeting, BZA 7:00 p.m.	2	
27	BAS Fall Campout, Tuskegee National Forest, Bartram Trail	23	BAS Field Trip, Talladega National Forest		
	November 2007		March 2008		
3	BAS 1/2 day Field Trip, Ruffner Mountain Nature Center	1	<i>Flicker Flashes</i> articles due, April issue		
15	Board Meeting, (BZA) 5:45 p.m.	15	BAS 1/2 day Field Trip, East Lake & Roebuck Springs		
	General Meeting, BZA 7:00 p.m.	20	BAS Sanctuary workday (1/2 day)		
17	BAS Field Trip, Wheeler NWR, Decatur, AL		Board Meeting, (BZA) 5:45 p.m.		
			General Meeting, BZA 7:00 p.m.		



Birmingham Audubon in Education 2007-2008

Please share this article with teachers you know who have a particular interest in conservation and nature.

The financial support for all of these programs comes from the Diana Stobert Sessions and Paul Trammell Sessions, Jr. Foundation that was established by the late Tram Sessions to assist BAS in fulfilling its education and conservation mis-

Mini-grant Program for Local Teachers

Application deadline: September 29, 2007

The Birmingham Audubon Society offers mini-grants of up to \$250 to teachers in Jefferson and Shelby counties to help fund field trips, classroom speakers, and projects such as school gardens, bird feeding stations, outdoor classrooms, ponds, nature trails, or other types of natural habitats. On the BAS website at www.birminghamaudubon.org (click on Grants and Scholarships), you will find the brief application form along with contact information and descriptions of the outstanding education programs at the following places that we recommend for field trips and speakers: the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, the Birmingham Zoo, the Cahaba River Society, Camp McDowell Environmental Center, the McWane Science Center, Ruffner Mountain Nature Center, the Southern Environmental Center at Birmingham Southern College, and the Alabama Wildlife Center at Oak Mountain State Park. Grant money may be used for transportation costs, program fees, or books and other educational materi-

als that would enhance these programs.

For teachers who would like to use the mini-grant money to create gardens or wildlife habitats at their schools, but need guidelines and assistance, BAS recommends the Alabama Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitat Certification Program. For \$50, the AWF provides guidebooks and consultants who come to the school to give guidance to teachers and their classrooms in designing and organizing outdoor habitats. Past Birmingham Audubon Society president, Shirley Farrell, enrolled in this program and is glad to discuss it with interested teachers. In addition to covering the Alabama Wildlife Federation program costs, the BAS mini-grant funds can be used to buy bird feeders, garden tools, plants, benches and other materials needed to create outdoor classrooms, gardens, and wildlife habitats.

Teachers may also use mini-grant money to participate in the Classroom Feeder Watch Program sponsored by

"Audubon Adventures"

Nature Program for Local Classrooms

Notification deadline: September 15, 2007

This environmental education program designed for grades 3-6, but mostly used by grades 4 and 5, is provided **FREE** by BAS to classrooms in Jefferson and Shelby counties. Developed for the National Audubon Society by professional environmental educators, "Audubon Adventures" consists primarily of a student newspaper that contains well written articles, excellent nature photography, and interesting activities about birds, other wildlife, their habitats and the ecosystems upon which they depend. It is easily implemented and can be integrated into the Alabama Reading Initiative program.

"Audubon Adventures" arrives at the schools packaged as a classroom kit containing a teacher guide and 32 copies of 4 issues of this award winning newspaper. Every

child receives a copy of each issue! Since the inception of "Audubon Adventures" in 1984, over 7 million school children nationwide and thousands in the Birmingham area have enjoyed and benefited from this program.

To learn more about "Audubon Adventures", see www.audubon.org/edu/aa

For a classroom to receive "Audubon Adventures", the teacher should email the BAS "Audubon Adventures" Chairman, Jean Folsom, at folsomjk@vestavia.k12.al.us requesting that enrollment in the program. The teacher's name, email address, phone number, school's name, school address, and student grade level taught must be included. The notification deadline is September 15.

Scholarships to Teacher Workshops in Maine and Mentone

Application deadlines in March and April of 2008

See the BAS website at www.birminghamaudubon.org for scholarship application forms for the following workshops: the nationally renowned Maine Audubon Workshop for Educators that takes place in July at Hog Island, Maine, and Birmingham Audubon's popular and highly acclaimed Mountain Workshop held in May at Mentone, Alabama. The Maine Workshop is for teachers who would like to incorporate more environmental education into their lessons. Included in the program are field trips, boat cruises, discussions, workshops, special presentations, and numerous hands-on experiential activities intended for direct application in a classroom. The two scholarships Birmingham Audubon offers to this workshop cover tuition and transpor-

tation costs. For more information, check www.maineaudubon.org, click on Adult Residential Camps, then on Workshop for Educators. The BAS Mountain Workshop in Mentone is not exclusively for teachers as it is designed for the general population. Among the session topics are bird identification, wildflowers, stream and forest ecology, animal ecology, mammals, butterflies, reptiles, geology and fossils, canoeing, and mountain crafts. Most classes are taught by college professors and are conducted in the field. The five scholarships BAS offers to this workshop cover tuition, which includes lodging and all meals.

Ann A. Sweeney- Vice-President, Education

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2007-2008

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The Board of Directors includes all Officers, the two immediate Past Presidents, Directors-At-Large, Assistant Editor of *Flicker Flashes*, Chair or Co-Chairs of the following committees: Campouts, Conservation, Education, Field Trips, Membership, Programs and Speaker's Bureau, and those whose names are designated by an (*). Board meetings are held at 5:45 p.m. at the Birmingham Zoo Auditorium before each membership meeting.

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Directors-at-Large, not less than two nor more than five, are elected by the membership at the Annual Membership Meeting.

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Please consider volunteering your time and talents on any of these committees. Ours is an all-volunteer chapter and we rely on our members to accomplish our chapter's goals. You may call the individual committee chairman or John Swan (933-6469) for further information.

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2007 BAS Spring Count Report Saturday, April 28, 2007

Participants in the BAS Spring Count recorded 137 species in Jefferson, St. Clair and Shelby Counties. Thirty observers in 11 parties traveled 576.5 miles while spending 101.5 hours in the field. The weather was mild and sunny with a temperature range of 51 to 83 degrees. **Snow Goose** was recorded for the 1st time on the Count. Anhinga, Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon were count week birds. Thanks to our compilation host, **Maureen Shaffer**. Compiler: **David George**.

Observers (party leaders in boldface): **Louise Tommie**, Jean Folsom, **Sharon Hudgins**, David George, **Shirley Garland**, **Ann Miller**, Alice Christenson, **Pelham Rowan**, **Helen Kittinger**, Ty Keith, Rick Kittinger, Ron Kittinger, Jo Kittinger, Susan Hutchison, **Edith Hunt**, Lee Brewer, Maureen Shaffer, Ben Garmon, B. J. Allen, **Cheryl Horncastle**, Sallie Brice, **Harriett Wright**, John Imhof, Andrew Haffenden, Frank Farrell, **Mary Lou Miller**, Cindy Pinger, Jeff Pribble, Atherine Hodges, **Jim Sherrill**.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Total</u>				
		Belted Kingfisher	14	Northern Parula	9
Snow Goose	1	Red-headed Woodpecker	14	Yellow Warbler	9
Canada Goose	167	Red-bellied Woodpecker	63	Chestnut-sided Warbler	5
Wood Duck	19	Downy Woodpecker	41	Magnolia Warbler	1
Mallard	49	Hairy Woodpecker	3	Cape May Warbler	1
Blue-winged Teal	18	Northern Flicker	4	Yellow-rumped Warbler	53
Hooded Merganser	1	Pileated Woodpecker	15	Black-throated Green Warbler	10
Wild Turkey	11	Eastern Wood-Pewee	6	Blackburnian Warbler	1
Northern Bobwhite	2	Acadian Flycatcher	6	Yellow-throated Warbler	18
Pied-billed Grebe	2	Empidonax Species	1	Pine Warbler	42
Double-crested Cormorant	12	Eastern Phoebe	88	Prairie Warbler	26
American Bittern	1	Great Crested Flycatcher	66	Palm Warbler	31
Great Blue Heron	64	Eastern Kingbird	65	Bay-breasted Warbler	2
Great Egret	29	Loggerhead Shrike	9	Blackpoll Warbler	5
Little Blue Heron	1	White-eyed Vireo	70	Black-and-white Warbler	4
Cattle Egret	1	Yellow-throated Vireo	18	Prothonotary Warbler	7
Green Heron	9	Red-eyed Vireo	62	Worm-eating Warbler	4
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	11	Blue Jay	92	Ovenbird	1
Black Vulture	4	American Crow	269	Louisiana Waterthrush	18
Turkey Vulture	60	Fish Crow	3	Kentucky Warbler	19
Osprey	2	Purple Martin	131	Common Yellowthroat	29
Northern Harrier	1	Tree Swallow	7	Hooded Warbler	35
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	286	Yellow-breasted Chat	37
Cooper's Hawk	5	Bank Swallow	3	Summer Tanager	39
Red-shouldered Hawk	21	Cliff Swallow	104	Scarlet Tanager	17
Broad-winged Hawk	7	Barn Swallow	194	Eastern Towhee	107
Red-tailed Hawk	23	Carolina Chickadee	143	Chipping Sparrow	72
Sora	12	Tufted Titmouse	131	Field Sparrow	2
American Coot	2	White-breasted Nuthatch	20	Savannah Sparrow	16
Killdeer	40	Brown-headed Nuthatch	53	Swamp Sparrow	9
Greater Yellowlegs	14	Carolina Wren	97	White-throated Sparrow	27
Lesser Yellowlegs	2	House Wren	1	Northern Cardinal	424
Solitary Sandpiper	11	Sedge Wren	1	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	50
Spotted Sandpiper	11	Marsh Wren	1	Blue Grosbeak	18
Least Sandpiper	12	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	Indigo Bunting	92
Wilson's Snipe	4	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	79	Bobolink	79
Rock Pigeon	90	Eastern Bluebird	161	Red-winged Blackbird	260
Eurasian Collared-Dove	6	Swainson's Thrush	1	Eastern Meadowlark	42
Mourning Dove	264	Wood Thrush	32	Common Grackle	107
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	6	American Robin	126	Brown-headed Cowbird	87
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	Gray Catbird	29	Orchard Oriole	23
Great Horned Owl	2	Northern Mockingbird	206	Baltimore Oriole	15
Barred Owl	3	Brown Thrasher	85	House Finch	77
Chuck-will's-widow	10	European Starling	121	American Goldfinch	147
Whip-poor-will	3	Cedar Waxwing	59	<u>House Sparrow</u>	<u>43</u>
Chimney Swift	99	Blue-winged Warbler	6	Total Species	138
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	19	Tennessee Warbler	6		

Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge

Workday and Field Trip

Saturday, September 15, 2007, 8:00 a.m.

The BAS Watercress Darter NWR committee invites all of our members to come to the refuge on Saturday, September 15, for a morning of birding and botanizing, with a small serving of trash clean-up work on the side to help beautify the refuge. It has been a few years since BAS members have been to the refuge for a workday and this field trip opportunity will be a great chance to see the work that has been done at the refuge (new boardwalk has been constructed) and begin the foundation for creating a bird, plant and animal list for the refuge. And, just to prove that this is indeed a bona fide BAS outing, we'll plan to have lunch together at the Bright Star Caf  in Bessemer after our morning's work! Hope to see you there!

Dick Mills, Chairman
Audubon Refuge Keepers Committee

Directions: The refuge is on Eastern Valley Road just west of Bessemer.

From I-459 West (headed toward Tuscaloosa): Get off at Exit 10, go north on AL Hwy 150 toward Bessemer approximately 7 miles. Pass under an old concrete bridge and turn left on either side of the B.P. Gas Station to Fairfax Ave. Follow Fairfax to its intersection into Eastern Valley Road and continue left. One block away, on the right, is the parking lot for the refuge. You may also park in front of the McAdory House. Alternate route: Lakeshore Drive from Birmingham dead ends on AL 150. After turning right, the concrete bridge is less than a mile, then follow the directions above.

From I-59 / I 20: Go west toward Bessemer. At exit 110 (Alabama Adventure Parkway) and turn left to dead end at 9th Ave. Turn right and immediately transfer to the left turn lane. Turn left onto Parker Rd. (see Westhills Schools sign) and go .4 mile and turn left on Alice Street. Dead end on 4th Ave. and turn left, go one block to light and turn right on Division Street. At .5 mile, Division St. will parallel the refuge and will dead end on Eastern Valley Rd. Turn left on Eastern Valley Rd. and park at the McAdory House (.1 mile) or the refuge parking lot on the left.

To the Bright Star Restaurant: Go beside the refuge on Division St. to dead end on 4th Ave. Turn right and follow 4th into Bessemer. The parking lot for Bright star is on right between 18th and 19th Streets. The restaurant is between 3rd and 4th Avenue on 19th Street (which is a one way going north).

.....
Clip along dotted line

~ Membership Application ~

Birmingham Audubon Society/ National Audubon Society

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: () _____

Introductory membership ~ \$20.00
Includes quarterly subscription to **Audubon** magazine and 8 issues of *Flicker Flashes*, the chapter newsletter.

Senior (62 & older) and student (full-time) memberships available for \$15.00.

(Preferred method of payment for all new members is through the chapter, using this form).

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Please make check payable to: National Audubon Society

Mail this form and check to: Birmingham Audubon Society
P.O. Box 314
Birmingham, AL 35201

Regular membership/Renewals ~ \$20.00
The National Audubon Society handles membership renewals through their Membership Data Center. Contact them at 1-800-274-4201 or write them at: P.O. Box 52529, Boulder, CO 80322-2529. Submit renewals directly to NAS.

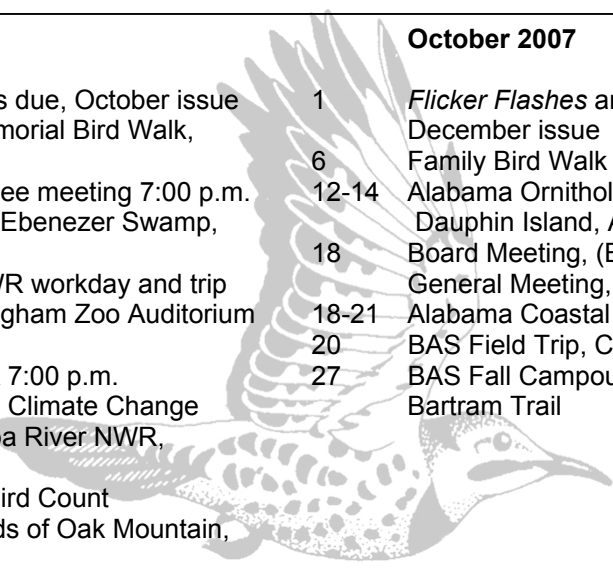
Birmingham Audubon Society *AOO7XCH8

September 2007

- 1 *Flicker Flashes* articles due, October issue
- 3 Russell Bailey, Jr. Memorial Bird Walk,
Lake Purdy
- 6 Conservation Committee meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 8 BAS 1/2 day field trip, Ebenezer Swamp,
Shelby County
- 15 Watercress Darter NWR workday and trip
- 20 Board Meeting, Birmingham Zoo Auditorium
(BZA) 5:45 p.m.
General Meeting, BZA 7:00 p.m.
Joyce Lanning, Global Climate Change
- 22 BAS Field Trip, Cahaba River NWR,
West Blocton
- 29 43rd Annual BAS Fall Bird Count
- 30 Hawk watching, Friends of Oak Mountain,
2:00 P.M.

October 2007

- 1 *Flicker Flashes* articles due, November/
December issue
- 6 Family Bird Walk - Birmingham Zoo, 7:30 a.m.
- 12-14 Alabama Ornithological Society meeting,
Dauphin Island, AL
- 18 Board Meeting, (BZA) 5:45 p.m.
General Meeting, BZA 7:00 p.m.
- 18-21 Alabama Coastal Birdfest, Fairhope, AL
- 20 BAS Field Trip, Chief Ladiga Trail
- 27 BAS Fall Campout, Tuskegee National Forest,
Bartram Trail



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Birmingham Audubon Society
www.birminghamaudubon.org
 (205)879-7709

Flicker  Flashes
Published by The Birmingham Audubon Society For conservation and greater knowledge of all wildlife, wilderness and natural resources

Flicker Flashes is published eight times a year by
 the Birmingham Audubon Society.
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