Birder's Journal:
TREK TO LAKE SYLVIA FOR SUMMER BIRDING

Location: From the intersection of 1-430 and Hwy 10 in Little Rock, drive west on Hwy 10 for 27 miles to Hwy 324. Turn left and drive 3.7 miles to the entrance of Lake Sylvia.

Lake Sylvia is a recreation area at the eastern edge of the huge (1.5 million acre) Ouachita National Forest. Here the woods are fairly high and dry, much pine is mixed with oak and hickory. Instead of Prothonotary Warblers and Summer Tanagers, you're more likely to find Oberhoffers and Scarlet Tanagers. Lake Sylvia itself seldom has interesting birds. Drive past the lake 0.3 mile to a parking lot on the left. Here you'll see a self-guided "Trees of the Forest" nature trail wind through a pretty woodland and bridges a rocky creek; signs along the way identify common trees. Across the road, a 0.6 mile spur trail traces the Ouachita National Recreation Trail which, for the extremely adventurous, runs all the way to Oklahoma—more than 100 miles west.

FOR A SOOTHING, SILENT SUMMER WALK IN THE WOODS, TRY THE NEWLY-OPENED Arboretum Trail at Pinewood Mountain State Park.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!
ALEXANDER, Melva Weddell
BENTON, O. Gilbert
BRYANT, Jerry Sanders
CAROB, James H Garnett, Ill., Setonel, Idaho
ENGEL, James H. Ssuflos
HENSLEY, Bernech Brightman
JACKSONVILLE, Carolyn Monroe, Patrye Spencer, Lillian Stovall
MADISON, Gladys Hurdle, Lillian Judam
MAUMELLE, Doni D. Dorrell, FULLY LITTLE ROCK, Jim Bryant, Norma Childers, Dick Goldhardt, Mifie Gofin, Jonathan Goldin, David Greene, Diane Hall, Mary Harris, Linda Hule, Christy Jenkins, James Reynolds, P. Thomas Jann, June Warren, WOOD, Dale slowdowns
COOK, Karen Furl, Diana McKenzie
NEARLY, R. R. 
SHERWOOD, John Koehler, Jim Maisel, G. Williams
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Audubon Society of Central Arkansas
THE SNIP

Vol. XXVII, No. 3
A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

ARKANSAS BIRDS INVADE TEXAS

Sixteen birds left Arkansas in the chilly pre-dawn darkness of April 16th headed for the Texas coast to view shorebirds, migrating warblers and Gulf Coast salt water. Seven hours later we reached the coast near Port Aransas and spied our first cotton-candy white Roseate Spoonbill. Sigh. Space doesn’t permit a full accounting of "swallow snapshots" that will suffice:
On to Sabine Woods for a Black-shingled Fritile. Up close and personal with a Cerulean Warbler, a shape-stuck fried-fish Warbler, hummers, groks, beasties, singing tanagers and orioles.
A scurry of shorebirds at San Raim and Galveston Island: graceful storks, flamed-billed rootpipers, and spunky, pink-legged Long necked Stilts.
Finding the one Caregull SWallow amongst the look alike Cliff Swallows. Shaking out an orange-colored worm chomping a tropic leg.
At marshy Aftonaua: a curious alligator with 11 young's, iridescent Purple Gallinules high-stepping with red faced Common Moorhens, both whistling ducks, scar, many munching nuters.
"No Pissing Allowed" at High Island where exhausted warblers alight for the first time after crossing the Gulf. Society guides dunes and pony-tailed hikers shoulder to shoulder ocksåing and asking at an off-course Townend’s Warbler.
Watching the cobalt and violet Little Blue Heron methodically strolling its prey with the Reddish Egret careening drunkenly about.

Above: Reddish Egret. Lower Left: Laughing Gulls. (Photos by Hollis Felts.)

JUNE POTLUCK KICKS OFF ARKANSAS SUMMER PROGRAMS; FLOWERS, BATS FOLLOW

Get out of the house this June 18th and come to Maumelle Park for some good food, good conversation and (hopefully) good birding. It’s time for ASCA’s annual June Potluck and we’ve reserved Pavilion #3 starting at 4:00 pm. The plan is to do a little bird-watching in the late afternoon before we cut at 6:00 pm.
Just bring your favorite summertime dish to share—entree, salad or dessert—and ASCA will provide the drinks, plates, utensils, napkins, etc. The June Potluck is an excellent opportunity to meet fellow birding enthusiasts, swap sightings stories, or show off your newest binoculars and/or child. Please plan to join us.
Maumelle Park Pavilion #3
Directions: Maumelle Park is west of Little Rock on the Arkansas River. From the I-430 bridge, take Hwy 10 west 2.6 miles. Turn north (right) on Panama Road, Go 1.5 miles and turn left shortly after crossing the Little Maumelle River. You’ll see the sign for Maumelle Park. Turn to the right after the entrance and look for Pavilion #3. It’s near the sign for the "Natural" Trail.

JUNE & JULY PROGRAMS

ASCAS has planned two additional enjoyable, informative programs for the summer months.
On July 14, Wendy Welch will speak on wildflowers in Arkansas and the Highway Departure’s wildflower walk will follow. Thursday night meeting. Wendy Welch is the environmental enhancement coordinator for the Highway Department. David Saugery will be our guest speaker August 11 and bats will be his topic. A wildlife Augusta event on the Arkansas National Forest, Saugery will bring slides, radio telemetry equipment and live bats.
ASC will hold the second Thursday of every month (except June and December) at 7:00 pm at the Game and Fish Commission Building.

--- Rob Daxer

WANTED: Editor for the Snipe
The Editor assigns the stories that appear in this newsletter, so the stories nobody else will, and lays out the Snipe. Experience with desktop publishing is helpful but not essential. I learned on the job.
If you don’t have a computer, ASC (and Barry Haas) will loan you a Macintosh SE/30 and the computer program to produce the Snipe.
Please call me for more information. Nancy King 372-4437.
Problems of Rob Dobson:
Ecology Camp Sharpen Focus for ASCA’s Vice President

Ron Dobson took up birding 14 years ago after attending the very first Audubon Ecology Camp (now the Hollis-Evans Ecology Camp) in 1980. He’s a walking advertisement for environmental education programs.

I was in the seventh grade and had always been interested in science but I had no focus, he said over lunch recently. After camp I went home, bought a pair of binoculars and was hooked.

Profile of Rob Dobson:
Ecology Camp Sharpen Focus for ASCA’s Vice President

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
Indicate the Membership You Prefer (includes Audubon Magazine)
Make check payable to NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

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SNIPES
Local Chapter: Audubon Society of Central Arkansas, NAS #2-50

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BIRD NOTES & NEWS...NOTES & NEWS...

Sterling Lacy saw a Black-headed Grosbeak at the feeder of Dr. Robert Campbell in Magnolia. On 4/22 Mike Rollins found a Ruff at the Central Arkansas River. Upland Sandpipers were reported by Ric Ackerman at the Scott's Mill Farm on 4/22. Richard Taller Read and Marshall Read reported a Snowy Owl at the disc golf course near the Central Arkansas River on 4/22. We also had a clip of Cinnamon Teal and a Tricolored Heron at Lake Fayetteville on 4/22. On 4/15 David Arthur found a male Cinnamon Teal on a pond south pond north of Wilson and a male White-throated Blackbird in southern Little Rock County.

Leif Anderson saw a male Vermilion Flycatcher near Odion on 4/22 and the Central Arkansas River. Bob Chamberlain reported a singing male Rufous-crowned Sparrow.


Robert Crabtree, Rare Bird Alert

Thank you!

Our Spring Crunch Bird Course was a small success. Thanks to all the organizers, who worked tirelessly, the speakers, who talked informatively, and the participants, who enjoyed the event.


Thank you.

J. Lyndal York

Join the Audubon Society of Central Arkansas (ASCA) and you automatically become a member of the National Audubon Society (NAS). You will receive the bimonthly NAS Audubon magazine and the monthly ASCA newsletter. Membership is important for new members to become active in ASCA, so a portion of your dues supports local ASCA activities.

To join, complete the application and mail with check made out to NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, c/o Barry Harris, Audubon Society of Central Arkansas, P.O. Box 5001, Boulder, CO 80302-1001, and to Barry Harris, so you will not miss either Audubon or the Snipe.