

THE SNIPE

*The Newsletter of the
Audubon Society of Central Arkansas*



Charles Mills

What's Inside?

President's Column	Page 2	Upcoming Programs	Page 5
Arkansas State List	Page 3	Upcoming Field Trips	Page 6
Remembering Fellow Birders	Page 4	Field Trip Reports	Page 7

Volume 47 Issue 2

www.ascabird.org

March – May 2013

White River Recognized as National Blueway

*Zoie Clift
Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism*

Great news for Arkansas, on January 9, 2013, the Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Hayes announced the White River was named the nation's second National Blueway. National Blueway's are nationally significant rivers (and their watersheds) that are highly valued for the recreational, cultural, and ecological assets for the communities that depend on them.

As part of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative, the designation recognized the innovative partnerships that are working to conserve the White River across its watershed from the Ozarks to the Mississippi. Federal leaders also announced a series of new initiatives aimed at supporting the new National Blueway.

The White River hosts some impressive numbers. It flows for 772 miles from its headwaters in the Ozarks to its mouth at the Mississippi River and drains a watershed spanning 17.8 million acres across 60 counties in two states. It is a vital part of the wildlife-related economies of both Arkansas and Missouri. And in short, healthy rivers and watersheds are vital-providing not only outdoor recreation, but also clean water and flood and drought protection.

In a press conference held at the Peabody in Little Rock, representatives from various federal, state, local, and conservation agencies met to hear the announcement and learn more about the initiatives that are being created to support this important river. Present at the

designation were federal partners from the Department of the Interior, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Senator Mark Pryor, Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism Executive Director Richard Davies, who made a speech on behalf of Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe, the mayor of Clarendon, and leaders from the National Wildlife Refuge Association, The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, Arkansas Canoe Club, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, and more. All together 26 groups came together in a partnership to make the designation a reality.

Along with this announcement, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service also said they have approved a 101,110-acre expansion to the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge – one of the White River's main tributaries – that will protect floodplain habitat.

Another announcement was from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who said they are moving forward with the Lower Cache River Basin Restoration Project, which will increase fish and wildlife habitat.

The National Blueways System was created in 2012 by Ken Salazar of the Department of the Interior. The goal of the system is to advance a watershed-wide approach to conservation, outdoor recreation, and other economic opportunities that rivers provide. The Connecticut River and its watershed in New England was designated the first National Blueway.

President's Column

Taking Care of Feathered Friends

I hope everyone made it through the ice and snowstorm that left many of us without electricity. It was a terrible sight to witness all the tree and shrub damage in our yards. I know most of us were concerned about our "feathered friends" and where they would go to get cover, food, and water. I have tried to plant locally native plants in my yard in order to make it more diverse and bird friendly. I was unpleasantly surprised to see our native Yaupon hollies were some of the plants most damaged by the ice and snow. It was especially sad to see one of the Yaupons bent almost to the ground and the Northern Mockingbird that claims it as his personal tiptop perch in which to view the neighborhood, flying back and forth surveying the damage.

According to Google, the Yaupon fruit is an important food source for many birds, including: American Black Duck, Mourning Dove, Ruffed Grouse, Northern Bobwhite, Wild Turkey, Northern Flicker, Cedar Waxwing, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, and White-throated Sparrow. Native Americans used the leaves and stems to brew a tea for male-only purification and unity rituals. The ceremony included vomiting, and that is how the Yaupon Holly got its Latin name, *Ilex vomitoria*. Only the female plants have the gorgeous red berries that both birds and people find desirable.

One good thing resulting from the storm was the number of rare birds reported in the state that normally we would not have the opportunity to see. The last few years have been exciting for "stray" birds. If you would

like to know more about the unusual sightings you can visit the Audubon Society of Central Arkansas's (ASCA) website at www.ascabird.org. Click on "Birding" in the left hand column and then click on "Rare Bird Reports." If you want another option you can call ASCA's Rare Bird Alert hotline at 501-753-5853 for the latest sightings. You can also check out our monthly field trips and see where the group is going next and what birds are likely to be seen. It makes for a wonderful family outing and you are most welcome to join the group – no experience needed!

By the time you have the opportunity to read this, February will be over and Arkansas weather will be changing. Actually Arkansas's weather is always changing, but by early March spring will be lurking just around the corner. I hope my plants are standing up after being weighted down by the snow and ice, and the broken branches I pruned have started to sprout new growth. I bet by then my beautiful, sometimes aggressive, always vocal, mockingbird will have adjusted to the change in his territory.

I hope you will join us on a field trip or a monthly meeting. For information about the where and when of meetings, click "Meetings" in the left-hand column when you visit the website. For field trip information click on "Birding," then click on "Field Trips," to see a list of proposed trips. You can choose what looks interesting to you and plan to attend. And you might have an opportunity to see one of those "stray" birds visiting Arkansas.

Jane Gulley
ASCA President

ASCA Membership Renewal

Just a reminder, ASCA membership renewals were due January 1, 2013. It's not too late to renew. Pay on-line via PayPal or Google Wallet through the Membership page of www.ascabird.org or checks can be mailed to Jim Dixon, Treasurer, 11805 Birchwood Drive, Little Rock, AR 72211.

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Arkansas State List

Charles Mills

According to my records, the Arkansas state list currently totals 413 species. In *Arkansas Birds-Their Distribution and Abundance*, James and Neal, 1986, UA Press, treated 366 species. Subsequently, 47 species have been added to the Arkansas state list. Of those, one species (Royal Tern) was inadvertently omitted from *Arkansas Birds* and 3 species (Cackling Goose, Spotted Towhee and Bullock's Oriole) were restored as the result of "splits" by the AOU.

The remaining 43 new species for Arkansas include: Brant, Barnacle Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, Mottled Duck, Tufted Duck, Barrow's Goldeneye, Pacific Loon, Yellow-billed Loon, Least Grebe, Brown Booby, Northern Gannet, Neotropic Cormorant, Wilson's Plover, Curlew Sandpiper, Black-headed Gull, Thayer's Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, California Gull, Gull-billed Tern, Eurasian Collared-Dove, White-winged Dove, Magnificent Hummingbird, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Anna's Hummingbird, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Calliope Hummingbird, Broad-billed Hummingbird, Buff-bellied Hummingbird, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Couch's Kingbird, Gray Kingbird, Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Northern Shrike, Cave Swallow, Northern Wheatear, Varied Thrush, McCown's Longspur, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Cassin's Sparrow, Brewer's Sparrow, Lark Bunting, Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch, and Scott's Oriole.



Scott's Oriole, spotted in Story, Arkansas in 2005
Photo by Charles Mills

Since 1986 (and excluding Cackling Goose and Spotted Towhee), at least 1 new species has been added to the Arkansas list each year except for 1992, 1998, 2000 and 2006. The busiest year for new species was 2005 when 5 (Northern Gannet, Broad-billed Hummingbird, Cave Swallow, Black-throated Gray Warbler, and Scott's Oriole) were added. The busiest months for new additions have been December (8), May (7), January (6), October (5), August (4), and November (4). The months of February, March, April, June, July and September added 0 to 2 species each. None of this bears any great significance, but it was interesting to see the distribution of new state birds by months and years.

Little Rock and Lonoke Christmas Bird Count Results

Dan Scheiman, Compiler

For the Little Rock CBC held Saturday, December 15, 2012, 40 birders plus 8 feeder-watchers tallied 161,741 birds of 99 species during a collective 78 hours and 392 miles. This is the highest participant count on record! Rare birds on this count were a male Spotted Towhee (4th occurrence), a Black-crowned Night-Heron (3rd occurrence), and the Ruby-throated/Black-chinned Hummingbird at Cindy Franklin and Bill Burnham's house (2nd occurrence). High counts were obtained for Mallard, Great Egret, and American Woodcock (13). Virginia Rail, Horned Lark, Chipping Sparrow, and Lincoln's Sparrow were notable misses.

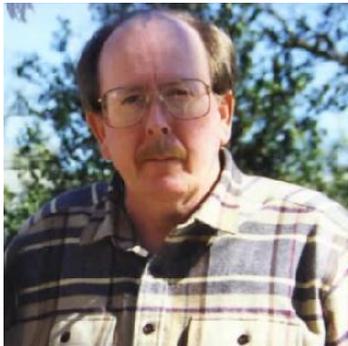
Due to a recent snowstorm, the Lonoke CBC was delayed a day to Sunday, December 30. Yet when count day came, 18 birders tallied 125,642 birds of 99 species during a collective 57.5 hours and 319.5 miles. Notable

birds were a Harris's Sparrow (20th occurrence), an American Woodcock (11th occurrence), and a flock of 13 Tree Swallows (photographed by Dale Provost). This was just the third time that Tree Swallows had been found on this CBC and seemingly the only half-hardy lingerer on the count. The snowstorm might have kept away other half-hardy species, but it also may have led to a high count of high counts - 8 species: Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, Lesser Scaup, Ruddy Duck, Great Egret, Cooper's Hawk (tied for high), Sedge Wren, and American Pipit (854); the latter blew away the previous high count of 274! Great Horned Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, Brown Thrasher, and Vesper Sparrow were notable misses.

Thanks to all volunteers for your help in this season's counts! Join us again next season.

Remembering Fellow Birders

Dottie Boyles



Dennis Martin Eagle, 64, of Beebe, died December 23, 2012. He was born February 16, 1948 in Little Rock, Arkansas, to the late Douglas and Mildred Eagle.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Janet; two sons, James Austin Eagle (Carol), of Redfield, Michael Todd Jackson (Gina), of Vilonia; one daughter, Courtney Dawn Eagle of Beebe; six grandchildren, Sara Elizabeth Eagle, Ryan Austin Eagle and James Andrew Shannon of Redfield, Thomas Justin Jackson and Gina Shay Jackson of Little Rock, Jordan Breann Shook of Beebe; two sisters, Susan Johnston (John), of Maumelle, Tracy Eagle of Denver, CO; one brother, Haydon Eagle of Belleville.

Dennis graduated from the University of Arkansas at Monticello in 1970 with a degree in Forestry. He retired after 36 years in the forestry business. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, trapping, and bird watching, and shared his knowledge in these areas by writing articles for various outdoor magazines.

Dennis enjoyed being outdoors and fell in love with nature at an early age. His grandmother and mine were sisters and lived “next door” to each other, as farms go, on top of Wye Mountain. During weekend and summer visits to his grandparents, Dennis spent much of his time walking the hills, pastures, and woodlands of both properties. We teamed up during the last four Little Rock Christmas Bird Counts. He had a keen eye for spotting birds, especially ducks. He was a great team member and will be missed.

Terry Butler remembered, “I first met Dennis a few years back at the ASCA field trip to Bald Knob NWR. We were the first two to arrive and we talked and birded together until the others arrived. I enjoyed getting to know him. He loved birding and people and it is sad to all for this loss. Dennis was a member of AAS joining in 2001.” Gail Northcutt stated, “During my brief encounters with Dennis, it was obvious he was a true gentleman...who deeply cared for feathered creatures.”

“Dennis joined me on several Christmas Bird Counts and we always had a great time. Dennis was one of the best at anticipating certain species based on the terrain and being able to identify species based on behavior. And it wasn’t just birds. His years of time in the field gave him an understanding of nature few people possess. I learned a lot from Dennis and I’m sure others did as well,” Ed Laster said.

Jeff R. (Ol’ Coot) Wilson



The birding community was shocked to hear of the death of Jeff R. Wilson (Ol’ Coot), 74, of Memphis, TN, who passed away unexpectedly at his home on February 11, 2013. A celebration of his life and love of nature was held February 15th, at the Lichterman Nature Center.

Born in Canton, MS, Jeff was preceded in death by his parents Robert Connor and Ruth Wilson, his brother John Wilson, and sisters Ruth Wilson, Mary Jane Wilson and Martha Baker. He is survived by his son, Scott Wilson (Phyllis); daughter, Holly Thompson (Mark); brother, Robert C. Wilson, Jr. (Bobbylee); and sisters, Dorothy Schrader, Elizabeth Carter, and Kay Grisanti (Ronnie). He also leaves behind his grandchildren Brad and Ryne Wilson, Kelly Jones (Dustin), Austin and Cameron Graeter; two great-grandchildren Chloe and Olivia Jones, and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Known to many in the birding community as Ol’ Coot, Jeff spent much of his time outdoors searching for rare birds, conducting Christmas Bird Counts or leading groups on birding expeditions all over the world. He was a member of the Audubon Society and American Ornithological Society. Jeff was also a member of the Tennessee Watercolor Society. His artwork has been shown at the Brooks Museum of Art and featured in *The Commercial Appeal*.

Jeff attributed his interest for birding began when a male Blackburnian Warbler landed in his boat while fishing one day. He was so intrigued with the beauty of the bird that he put down his rod and picked up a pair of binoculars. After that Jeff spent endless hours watching and studying birds. His attention to detail was incredible. It would be hard to add up the number of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd state records Jeff found, not only in TN, but surrounding states as well. He was always willing to share his knowledge to help others. Mike Todd of McKenzie, TN said it best, “Time spent with Jeff was always a lot of fun, whether birding, or just swapping stories.”

Jeff posted many of his photos online at: http://www.pbase.com/ol_coot/. There are 88 galleries and 2,787 images. At the time of his death, these pages had been viewed a total of 1,024,226 times.

Upcoming Programs

ASCA meets at 7:00 PM, the second Thursday of each month at the John Gould Fletcher Library (except where noted), located at 823 Buchanan Street, on the corner of Buchanan and H Streets, just off North University Ave. The programs are free and open to the public.

March 14, 2013 – Beating the Heat With Cool Birds During the Month of June in Southeastern Arizona

Speakers: Edie Calaway and Kelly Chitwood

Arkansas birders/photographers Edie Calaway and Kelly Chitwood visited birding hotspots in southeastern Arizona during June 2012. From Madera Canyon to Mount Lemmon they saw specialties such as Red-faced Warbler, Elegant Trogon, and Broad-billed Hummingbird. Attend this program and be inspired to plan your own birding trip to Arizona.

Edie Calaway lives in Little Rock with her husband, and two rescue dogs. Her son currently attends the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Edie is a part-time physical therapist at Arkansas Specialty Orthopedics clinics. She also serves on the board of ASCA.

Kelly Chitwood lives in El Dorado with her husband, daughter, and four rescued pets. She serves as editor of *Arkansas Birds* for the Arkansas Audubon Society. She is employed by MultiMedia Graphics, Inc. as a senior graphic artist and IT. Her photographs have been nationally publicized by Audubon, Cornell, Birds and Blooms, as well as Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, and Arkansas State Parks.

April 11, 2013 – Woolsey Wet Prairie

Speaker: Bruce Shackelford

Woolsey Wet Prairie is an excellent birding site for numerous wetland and open country birds. Its growing list includes: Least Bittern, Short-eared Owl, Sedge Wren, Spotted Towhee, Nelson's Sparrow, and even extreme rarities - Cassin's Sparrow, Brewer's Sparrow, and Northern Shrike. It began as a wetland mitigation site constructed to offset wetlands lost from construction of the City of Fayetteville's West Side Wastewater Treatment Facility. Bruce Shackelford, co-designer of the restoration, will describe how he turned a fescue pasture into a tallgrass prairie and a birding hotspot.

Bruce Shackelford is president and principal project director of Environmental Consulting Operations, Inc., of Benton, Arkansas. He has over 30 years of experience as an environmental professional with expertise in NPDES and Section 404 permitting, endangered species, wetland delineations and mitigation, ecological restoration, bioassay/toxicity reduction evaluation consulting, storm water Best Management Practices, environmental site assessments, NEPA regulations, and aquatic biological assessments. He has served as the environmental consultant for the City of Fayetteville's Wastewater System Improvements Project, and developed environmental regulatory compliance programs for multiple construction contracts.

May 2012 – No Regular Meeting

Please note: ASCA does not hold a meeting in May.

Audubon Photo Awards

On January 4, 2013, Gail Miller received a message from *Audubon* magazine that every nature photographer loves to hear: "Congratulations! One of the photos you entered made it into the *Audubon* Magazine Photo Awards Top 100."

"These photos are pretty darn amazing, so I feel more than honored!" stated Gail, who lives in Conway. The photo she submitted was of a Ruby-throated Hummingbird.



Gail has taken some amazing photos over the years of the hummingbirds that visit her yard. Congratulations again to Gail Miller on an award winning photo!

Early Black-crowned Night-Heron



Gail Miller snapped a photo of a juvenile Black-crowned Night-Heron while visiting Lake Overcup on Feb. 8, 2013. According to Charles Mills the bird is rare for the season. "There are only about a dozen records for Arkansas in the Arkansas Audubon Society Online Database (1985 forward) for the winter months (January and February) and most of these were reported from locations well in the southern half of the state."

Rare Birds Visit State

While Rufous Hummingbirds have become quite common during winter months in Arkansas, an unusual number of other species have been turning up in yards, country clubs, state parks and various other locations around The Natural State, causing birders to pack up their binoculars and get on the move. Here are just a few of the species reported this winter.

A Lesser Goldfinch and an apparent Black-chinned Hummingbird took up residence at a yard in Mabelvale. A Neotropical Cormorant has been enjoying the sun at Lake Conway. Four Townsend's Solitaires were enjoying cedar berries at Mount Magazine State Park. A Common Redpoll is bullying House Finches at a feeder in Little Rock. Lesser Black-backed and Glaucous Gulls are savoring handouts from a fisherman on Lake Dardanelle. Prairie Falcons and Say's Phoebe's have been spotted from one end of the state to the other. And a Vermillion Flycatcher prefers the country club way of life in DeWitt as does a large flock of Red Crossbills in Fayetteville.



Common Redpoll
Photographed by Lyndal York
in his backyard in Little Rock.



Red Crossbill
Photographed by Jim Dixon at the
Fayetteville Country Club.

ASCA Field Trip Schedule

ASCA sponsors numerous field trips throughout the year. The trips are open to all and carpooling is available for trips outside of Little Rock. This is a great opportunity for novice birders to meet and learn more about birds from experienced birders, or perhaps a chance to see a lifebird for those who list. For more information visit www.ascabird.org or contact Karen Holliday, ASCA Field Trip Coordinator, at ladyhawk1@att.net or 501-920-3246. Always bring plenty of water with you.

March 16, 2013

Lake Maumelle and WinRock Grass Farm

Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the Jolly Rogers Marina on Lake Maumelle. We'll check various points on Lake Maumelle to look for loons and other waterfowl, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and woodpeckers. From there we'll caravan to the WinRock Grass Farm on Higginbotham Rd. The grass farm is a mix of sod grass fields, old fields, woodlands, and riparian areas. Sturdy shoes or boots are recommended. This will be a morning trip.

Directions to Jolly Rogers Marina—the marina is approximately 10 miles west of Little Rock on Hwy. 10. Turn right at the white and black Jolly Rogers Marina entrance sign and drive down to the boat launch area. The marina address is 11800 Maumelle Harbour Rd., Roland. The GPS coordinates for the Grass Farm are 34.875172, -92.716715.

April 27, 2013

Wapanocca National Wildlife Refuge

Meet at 6:30 a.m. at the Prothro Junction commuter lot off I-40 East, at Exit 157, on the southeast side of the interstate. Bring, water, snacks, and lunch. This will be an all-day trip. Located 20 miles northwest of Memphis, TN., Wapanocca NWR literally stands as a wildlife oasis in an agricultural sea. An excellent diversity of habitat comprised of agricultural land, bottomland hardwood forest, open water and flooded cypress/willow swamp. Located along the Mississippi Flyway, the refuge is a major stopping place for migrating warblers. Bald Eagles and Anhingas nest on the refuge. Visit www.fws.gov/wapanocca/ for more information.

Directions—GPS: 35.345833, -90.216667. From I-55, take Exit 23 (Turrell), travel southeast on Hwy. 77 two miles, turn east on Hwy. 42, go under the railroad overpass and turn right at the top of the hill (refuge entrance). From I-55 heading north, take Exit 21 (Hwy. 42), travel east 1 ½ miles on Hwy. 42, cross Hwy. 77, go under the railroad overpass and turn right at the top of the hill (refuge entrance).

May 11, 2013

Holland Bottoms Wildlife Management Area-AGFC

Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the boat launch and fishing pier area of Lake Pickthorne at Holland Bottoms WMA. May 11 is International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD). Our group will serve as citizen scientists and record and submit the number of birds and species seen while there. This will be a joint endeavor with ASCA, Audubon Arkansas, and the AR Game & Fish Commission. About 87% of the WMA is bottomland hardwoods. Our target birds will be spring migrants. Bring boots it may be muddy in places. This will be a morning trip.

Directions—GPS: 34.9127, -92.075. Take Exit 11 east off Hwy. 67/167 between Jacksonville and Cabot. Go north on the frontage road approximately 2.5 miles. Turn right onto E. Coffelt Rd. at the brown Holland Bottoms sign. Go 1/3 mile and turn right on to Holland Bottoms Rd. At the fork just before the lake, turn left and go to the boat ramp.



Field Trip Reports

Lake Dardanelle and Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge

January 26, 2013

Forty-two birders, including several ornithology students from the University of Central Arkansas, met at Lake Dardanelle. Our first stop was the inlet at James Creek where Kenny Nichols had reported the Barrow's Goldeneye. We easily found the male Barrow's mixed in with several Common Goldeneyes.

The next stop was the boat launch at Delaware Recreation Area where approximately 75 Ring-billed Gulls were sitting on the water or soaring overhead. Included in the flock were one Glaucous Gull and one Lesser Black-backed Gull. Other species seen on the lake included: American White Pelican, Horned and Pied-billed Grebes, Common Loon, Bufflehead, American Coot and a Belted Kingfisher. The UCA students were astounded at the sight of over 1,200 Snow Geese resting on the water. Several of the experienced birders shared scopes, bird books, and bird knowledge with the students as they worked diligently, recording all of the species being spotted; getting the correct spelling of the bird names, and looking at field guides to get a better understanding of the differences in the plumages of the gulls, as well as differences in the male and female Buffleheads, scaup, and goldeneyes.

From there we caravanned to Holla Bend NWR. At the headquarters we spotted Red-headed, Red-bellied, and Downy Woodpeckers, Northern Flicker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and heard Pileated Woodpeckers. We walked

the Lodge Lake loop trail hoping for the Golden Eagle that had been seen recently. No luck with the eagle, but several Yellow-rumped Warblers were spotted. We continued to bird our way around the rest of the refuge. At the observation deck we found Ring-necked Ducks, Northern Shovelers, Gadwalls, and Mallards, but no Trumpeter Swans. In the field across from the observation deck, the group spread out in a line. Within minutes several LeConte's Sparrows flushed in all directions! Some birds were very cooperative and ran out into open spaces and paused, giving everyone great looks. Also seen on the refuge were numerous Northern Harriers, American Kestrels, Red-tailed Hawks, and a pair of Bald Eagles on a nest.

After we finished at the refuge, we drove to Country Loop Road to look for Harris's Sparrows. We found a mixed flock of Dark-eyed Juncos, White-crowned and Harris's Sparrows at their favorite hangout. Also moving around in the cedars were a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and Carolina Wren. The Bewick's Wren responded to play-back, but never came out in the open. In a nearby field was a small group of Rusty Blackbirds. At the end of the trip, all the students remarked how astonished they were by number of species observed in one day. Our total count for the trip was 63. --Karen Holliday

Halowell Reservoir and the Wrape Plantation, Bayou Meto Wildlife Management Area

February 23, 2013

Twenty-four birders, including several ornithology students from the University of Central Arkansas, met Karen Rowe with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC), at Bayou Meto WMA. Karen explained how water flowing through the WMA is controlled to provide resting areas for wintering waterfowl, and favorable conditions for Red Oaks to produce acorns, which birds and other animals use as a food source. We scanned the Halowell holding ponds and found American Coots, Northern Shovelers, Gadwalls, Ruddy Ducks, and a gorgeous male Northern Pintail. We also had three Buffleheads, a new sighting for the reservoir. In the muddy, plowed field next to the headquarters building, we found a large flock of Greater White-fronted Geese and Green-winged Teal.

We caravanned 25 miles south to the Wrape WMA. This large, former plantation was also acquired by AGFC to provide sanctuary for wintering birds. The flooded soil units were full of ducks, plus a large flock of 3,000+ Snow Geese, with about 10 Ross's Geese mixed in. Five adult and juvenile Bald Eagles soared overhead. Also sighted were two FOS Tree Swallows. On the drive back to Halowell, we spotted a large group of Lesser Yellowlegs, with five Greater Yellowlegs, and 60+ Wilson's Snipe mixed in. In another field, we saw American Pipits and Brewer's Blackbirds. Back at the reservoir, we found an American Wigeon, several Redheads, eight American White Pelicans, and another huge flock of Snow Geese. Driving back to Little Rock, we stopped to see the Say's Phoebe that was recently found flycatching in a dirt pit. We ended the day with a total of 56 species. --Karen Holliday

Audubon Society of Central Arkansas

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A Lesser Goldfinch has been visiting the feeders of Lenore Gifford's home in Mabelvale since late December.

photo by Michael Linz

Audubon Society of Central Arkansas

Chapter Only Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

ASCA Dues Proration for New Members

	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec*
<u>Membership Level</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>75%</u>	<u>50%</u>	<u>100%</u>
__Student/Senior	\$10	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$10
__Regular	\$15	\$11.25	\$7.50	\$15
__Family	\$25	\$18.75	\$12.5	\$25
__Supporting	\$35			
__Patron	\$50			

*New Memberships paid in the last quarter (Oct-Dec), will include full membership for the following calendar year.

All Membership renewals are due January 1 of each calendar year.

Make check payable to ASCA and mail to:

Jim Dixon, Treasurer, 11805 Birchwood Drive, Little Rock, AR 72211. Please note that "Chapter Only Members" will not receive *Audubon* magazine. To receive *Audubon* magazine, you need to join the National Audubon Society (NAS).

Address changes should be sent to the following: If Chapter Only Member, notify Leon Brockinton, c/o Brockinton Company, LLC at P. O. Box 6213, Sherwood, AR 72124. If NAS member, notify both Brockinton Company and NAS at P. O. Box 51001, Boulder, CO 80322-1001.

The Snipe is published quarterly by the Audubon Society of Central Arkansas. Our mission is to encourage programs and activities supporting all things natural, wild, and free, especially birds, bird habitat stability and improvement, as well as to promote fellowship among members, educate and inspire the public, and champion the highest standards of ethical outdoor conduct.

Arkansas Rare Bird Alert (RBA)

The RBA lists rare and unusual birds found throughout the state and if possible directions to these birds. **To report or hear the latest sightings**, call 501-753-5853. The number is listed as J.J. Audubon in the phone book. It is the only white page listing with the last name Audubon.

Find an Injured Bird?

For a listing of an Arkansas Game and Fish Commission authorized Migratory Bird Rehabilitator in your area, you can visit their website at:

http://www.agfc.com/species/Documents/migratorybird_rehablist.pdf

Reporting a Banded Bird

To report a bird with a Federal Band or Color Marker you can visit the U.S. Geological Survey website at:

<http://www.reportband.gov/>