

Black River Audubon Society

WINGTIPS

Special Summer Online Edition

June 2008



John Koscinski

Editors: Jack Smith/Harry Spencer

Photographer: John Koscinski

Webmistress: Arlene Lengyel

Field Trip: Magee Marsh

By Harry Spencer

Our field trip to Magee Marsh on May 3 was a success on several levels. The weather cooperated to keep the birders few in number, in spite of the date which fell at the peak of the migration season. Rain threatened and a gentle version arrived midway in the morning. The number of migrating birds was modest relative to that often found during the first week of May, but I found it relatively easy to study the behavior of the birds present without the distraction of more individuals. Perhaps I have a personal weakness to be diverted by too many birds and too many birdwatchers.

Besides members of Black River Audubon Society, we were privileged to have in our group four other birders, two boys and their mother from our Young Birders club, Wyatt, Elliot, and Debbie Miller, and a visitor from London, England, Jonathan Lethbridge.



J. Lethbridge, E. Miller, D. Lee, M. Ackerman. Photo by H. S.



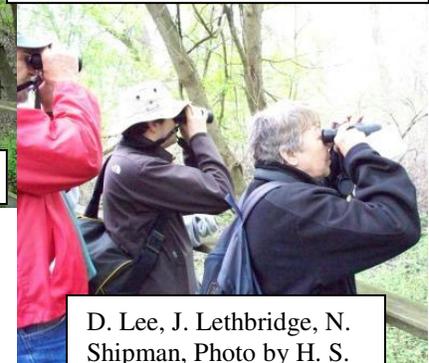
E. Miller, D. Miller, W. Miller, D. Lee, J. Lethbridge. Photo by H. S.



N. Miller. Photo by H. S.



W. Shipman. Photo by H. S.



D. Lee, J. Lethbridge, N. Shipman, Photo by H. S.

Although unfamiliar with many of our birds,

Jonathan excelled at spotting birds and describing their locations. He is also a talented photographer.

Nancy Miller (unrelated to Debbie, Wyatt, and Elliot) and Martin Ackermann kept separate lists of species identified during the day, both at Magee Marsh and on the way home. Their lists totaled 64 species.

Nan summarized her impression of that number as not bad, considering the morning rain.



Ovenbird, Photo by J. L.



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Photo by J. L.

Our list of warblers included Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Palm Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, and Yellow-breasted Chat.

Among the likely kinglets, gnatcatcher, and thrushes were Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Veery, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, and American Robin.



Swainson's Thrush
Photo by J. L.

Summary: Minutes of May 27 Board Meeting

By Arlene Ryan, Secretary

❖ Election of Officers

President: Harriet Alger

First Vice President: Jack Smith

Second Vice President: Wayne Shipman

Treasurer: Joe Strong

Secretary: Arlene Ryan

- ❖ Eighteen bluebird chicks have been banded by Keith Tarvin.
- ❖ The *Healthy Yard Campaign* has been very successful with many Power Point CDs given to interested groups.
- ❖ Marnie Urso sent Harriet information on legislation to fight global warming. BRAS members were given a sample letter that could be sent to their representatives and urged to do so. A meeting will be held at Representative Betty Sutton's office on May 29 to address this subject.
- ❖ Dick Lee distributed and explained an education report summarizing the past year's events.
- ❖ There will be a Young Birders hike at Sandy Ridge on June 14.
- ❖ The 50th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Black River Audubon Society will be held October 23. Jack Smith will have a committee of 5 people to make arrangements for this event.