

"THAYER'S GULL"

Larus argentatus thayeri, a subspecies of the Herring Gull, is probably an uncommon to rare migrant through the Amarillo area. This Herring Gull, once considered a separate species, is readily identifiable in the field. Whereas the common Herring Gull has a light eye, the Thayer's has a dark eye. The Thayer's also has much more white in the window of the wing; in fact, this bird is conspicuous for its overall white appearance. If the bird can be observed with other Herring Gulls, it can be seen that the Thayer's is the smaller subspecies.

I observed several of these birds last spring in company with Herring Gulls and Ring-billed Gulls. On February 26 of this year, Ruth and I watched one for nearly two hours as it rested and fed with other Herring Gulls and with Ring-billed Gulls at Tradewinds Playa.

This bird is conspicuous enough that specific records should be kept to determine its frequency in migration through our area.

--Leo A. Galloway

MOSAIC ROBIN

On Thursday, March 9, Peggy Acord observed an example of genetic mosaicism in a robin. The left half of the tail was white, while the other half was normal color. The face and wings also had white blotches on the left side. There were a few white spots on the right side of the body, but there the spotting was very limited. The condition was no doubt brought about by a mutation of a gene in one body cell, with this cell producing other cells in the embryo stage.

BOOK ON TEXAS FLOWERS AVAILABLE

The Dallas County Audubon Society is sponsoring the publication of the third edition of Texas Flowers in Natural Colors by Eula Whitehouse. It may be ordered from Mrs. George S. McGhee, 5421 Drano Drive, Dallas, Texas 75209, for \$5.00.

Dr. Whitehouse, who is known to several TPAS'ers, was present at the fall meeting of the Texas Ornithological Society in Ceta Canyon.

ARE THEY "IN" OR WAY OUT???

Woolworth's store has had a run lately on their "Warbling WOO-EE Bird Flutes," as several of the more devoted birders in the Society have perfected the art of "toodling" a call similar to that of the Screech Owl on the colorful flute. Some success at arousing the interest of small birds with the sound has been reported.

Thanks for the idea is due to the Henry Hoffmans, Houstonites who visited and birded in this area last month.

MARCH MEETING

Program chairman Kenneth Seyffert has arranged for Gordon Hanson, Manager at Buffalo Lake Wildlife Refuge, to speak at the March 20 meeting, 7:30 at the Garden Center.

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday morning, April 9, meet on the east side of Ellwood Park for a bird walk led by Peggy Acord.

Saturday, April 15, Leo Galloway will lead a field trip in Palo Duro Canyon. Meet at the entrance at 8:00.

NEW MEMBER

Welcome to Miss Peggy Stack, who has recently joined the National Audubon Society and the Texas Panhandle Audubon Society.

BIRDS OF THE MONTH

February 12, Red-headed Woodpecker, seen at Palo Duro Canyon by Kenneth Seyffert. The 14th, Northern Shrike, west of town, by Peggy Acord, Thelma Fox, and Esther Waddill. Feb. 17, Winter Wren, Palo Duro Club, Rena Ross and Peggy Acord. On the 26th, Cinnamon Teal, Tradewinds Playa, by Peggy Acord and the Galloways; Blue-winged Teal seen there by the Galloways. March 3, Sandhill Cranes at Buffalo Lake, Peggy Acord et al.

March 10, Black Phoebe, Memorial Park Cemetery, Kathryn Whipple and Peggy Acord; also seen later in the day by Thelma Fox and the Galloways. The morning of March 11, 14 Evening Grosbeaks in Vera Deason's yard.

Shore birds are beginning to arrive. On March 11, Kenneth Seyffert and Leo Galloway recorded Baird's Sandpiper and Long-billed Dowitcher at Buffalo Lake and Greater Yellowlegs at Tradewinds Playa.

A day of birding with Carroll Littlefield, March 4, yielded Leo and Ruth Galloway 12 Sage Grouse near Walden, Colorado. This was a "lifer" for them.

Seven birders were out for the field trip to Buffalo Lake March 5. Much of the birding was done from the cars this cold day, and at one stop three Western Bluebirds frolicked near the parked automobiles, to the delight of the spectators.

T. O. S. SPRING MEETING

The Texas Ornithological Society spring meeting is scheduled for March 17-19 at Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. Registration, \$2.00 per person, Memorial Student Center, Texas A&M.

CALENDAR

Mar. 20 - Monthly Society Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Apr. 9 - Field trip, Ellwood Park, 6:30 a.m.
Apr. 15 - Field trip, Palo Duro Canyon, 8:00
Apr. 17 - Monthly Society Meeting, 7:30 p.m.