Summary of the 2011 LBRC Annual Meeting

by: Donna L. Dittmann, Secretary & Steven W. Cardiff, Chair

The LBRC’s Annual Meeting was held on 12 March 2011 at the LSU Museum of Natural Science. The following voting members were in attendance: Steven W. Cardiff (Chair), Paul E. Conover, Donna L. Dittmann (Secretary), Dave Patton, Curtis C. Sorrells, and Phillip A. Wallace. The following alternate members were also present: Nancy L. Newfield (First Alternate) and B. Mac Myers III (Second Alternate). James Ingold was unable to attend; Nancy L. Newfield filled in as voting member.

The purpose of the Annual Meeting is threefold. First, this is when member elections are held. Second, additional business can be conducted, including resolution of problematic “fourth circulation” records. And, finally, the meeting provides an opportunity for rapid review of many first circulation records.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM and adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Record Review

Members reviewed ninety-one first circulation records. Records included on the agenda were chosen at the discretion of the Secretary, and mainly involved well-documented, relatively non-controversial occurrences supported by photographic or specimen evidence most easily reviewed in a meeting format and with a high probability of acceptance (as outlined by the LBRC Bylaws; see Annual Report, April 22, 2011). Cave Swallow records have increased dramatically in the last few years; submitted photos from records accepted at the 2011 Annual Meeting make up this collage.

Thirteen records of Cave Swallow involving a minimum of sixty-five individuals were accepted at the annual meeting. The increase in submitted records and sheer number of individuals reported, plus the discovery of new breeding colonies, prompted the LBRC to review status and remove Cave Swallow from the LBRC Review List.

Cave Swallow records have increased dramatically in the last few years; submitted photos from records accepted at the 2011 Annual Meeting make up this collage.

Above: juvenile Cave Swallow at colony in Vermilion Parish, 4 miles south of Gueydan. photo: Paul E. Conover

Above: photo by Erik I. Johnson of a Cave Swallow pair at a nest at a new colony he discovered in 2010 at Hwy. 165 X I-10 at Iowa, Calcasieu Parish.

These images show the increase in Cave Swallow records in the last few years, with a special focus on the discovery of new breeding colonies. The LBRC has reviewed and accepted these records, leading to the removal of Cave Swallow from the Review List. This highlights the importance of rapid review and the involvement of well-documented, non-controversial occurrences in maintaining the accuracy and reliability of the bird records.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the review of many first circulation records, which is a crucial aspect of the annual meeting’s purpose. The acceptance of these records, especially those involving fast-breeding colonies and significant numbers of individuals, reflects the active participation of the LBRC members in the conservation and study of bird populations in Louisiana.
Eighty-seven first circulation records were accepted at the meeting. Four records did not receive an unanimous vote and will circulate in an e-Round.

No fourth circulation records were discussed at this meeting.

**LBRC Business**

**Expansion of the LBRC**

A Special Meeting was held on 17 April 2010. Taking advantage of a quorum of members attending the Grand Isle Migratory

The above diagram illustrates how LBRC member terms have been modified over the last several years. The traditional spring meeting date coinciding with the LOS Spring Meeting was switched to a fall meeting beginning in 1997 so that first circulation records could be reviewed during an all-day meeting. A fall date was chosen because more weekends were available and member elections were shifted to the fall meeting. Nonetheless problems arose from a set fall date (LSU football and hurricane seasons). After two meetings in three years had to be rescheduled (Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Gustav), an early spring date was chosen to minimize conflicts. Thus, the LBRC resumed an annual spring meeting in March beginning in 2009. At last year’s Special Meeting in April, the LBRC elevated alternate members to voting members increasing the LBRC to a nine member committee. To adjust to the increase in members, member terms were increased to four years so that only two member terms conclude each year. The Secretary is an annual appointment.

The LBRC tries to maintain a geographic representation to its membership with members from principal population centers or regions of Louisiana. See color coding on diagram above.
Bird Festival, the meeting was convened at 8:58 PM and adjourned at 9:59 PM. The purpose of this Special Meeting was to further debate and vote upon an unresolved motion made by the Secretary at the 2010 Annual Meeting that would increase the number of voting members to nine while at the same time eliminating the alternate members. The debate had continued by email, but a Special Meeting was necessary to hopefully resolve the issue prior to the 2011 elections. In advance of the meeting all members were able to provide input and express their opinions as well as indicate how they would potentially vote if unable to attend. At the Special Meeting, the quorum present included Donna L. Dittmann (Secretary), Steven W. Cardiff (Chair), and Voting Members: Phillip A. Wallace and Curtis C. Sorrells. After some lively discussions, the quorum unanimously approved the expansion of the Committee to nine members (eight voting members plus a voting Secretary). From prior email discussions, Dave Patton and Paul Conover indicated that they would vote in favor of the expansion; Jim Ingold was opposed.

New members would be phased-in (see figure above) following the 2011 Annual Spring Meeting.

Bylaws reviewed and amended

The increase of LBRC Voting Members to eight and the elimination of Alternate Members necessitated amendment to the LBRC Bylaws. Following last year’s Special Meeting, the committee took the opportunity to review all of its bylaws during this process. Following review and discussion the Bylaws were amended.

Updated Bylaws are posted at: http://www.losbird.org/lbrc/bylaws.htm.

The increase to eight voting members (plus annual appointment of a Secretary) necessitated that member terms be increased to four years so that only two members are up for election each year. Approved amendments to the Bylaws reflect changes in number of members and duration of terms, and address other ramifications of these changes.

The LBRC modified record voting procedures as follows:

Following a record's first circulation, a record is considered accepted if it receives nine "Accept Identification and Origin" votes (=9-0).

A record is not accepted if it receives nine “non-accept” (identification or origin) votes (=0-9). Following Second and Third Circulations, a record is considered accepted if it receives no more than one "Non-accept" vote (=8-1) or no more than one "Accept Identification, Origin-Hypothetical" vote. A record is considered not accepted if it receives any combination of five or more “non-accept votes (= 4-5, 3-6, 2-7, 1-8, or 0-9). For records decided during a Fourth Circulation “Discussion” Vote, a minimum of seven members must be in attendance to vote on the record’s outcome. The record will be discussed and following the discussion, a vote will be taken. The record is accepted if it receives no more than one "non-accept" vote. It is considered accepted, and will be designated origin hypothetical, if it receives two or more "accept identification, origin hypothetical" votes and no more than one reject vote. The record is not accepted if it receives votes in any other combination.

There remains the issue of tie votes when eight Members are present at a Meeting, but this would only affect “business” votes.

Member Elections

Terms of two voting Members concluded at the Spring Meeting.

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First records of Canada Goose accepted following the species’ addition to Review List

Photograph right: Large size of the Canada Goose (LBRC 2009-103; bird top right of image) is obvious compared to similar-sized Greater White-fronted Geese with which it was flying on 6 November 2009, near Thornwell. This individual was first heard, then seen and photographed by Donna L. Dittmann.

Photograph left: Overall body size, as well as bill shape and size is clearly visible on this Canada Goose (LBRC 2010-07) among Snow Geese. This individual was present on 6 February 2010, approximately 1.2 mi. NNE of Wright and photographed by Dave Patton. Both individuals were considered to best represent “wild” birds.
The LBRC expresses heartfelt thanks to Dave and Mac for their long service to the LBRC. Their terms concluded at this year’s annual meeting.

Dave Patton (photo top left). Dave joined the LBRC first as Second Alternate member beginning Fall 2004. In Fall 2005, he was elected as First Alternate, but then became a voting member when Bill Fontenot resigned. He completed the remainder of Bill’s term in 2006. Dave was elected as a voting member in Fall 2007 and served as such since.

B. Mac Myers III (photo left). Following his tenure as an alternate, Mac chose not to seek nomination as a voting member. Mac held his position as Second Alternate beginning Fall 2007. However, Mac has a much longer history with the LBRC. His first service began Spring 1982 as a voting member. In Spring 1992, he opted to go off the Committee. But a few years later, he was re-elected and served from Fall 1999 to Fall 2005, when he moved out of state. Following Hurricane Katrina, he relocated back to Louisiana and was elected to the Committee as a Second Alternate member in 2007.

Jim Ingold (Shreveport) was nominated and elected for another term. Dave Patton (Lafayette) did not seek re-election and Erik I. Johnson (Lafayette) was nominated and elected to replace Dave. Both of these terms are four year terms. Alternate Members were converted to voting members. These terms however will remain three year terms to synchronize with other existing terms to facilitate conversion to an eight voting member committee. Nancy L. Newfield (Metairie) was nominated and elected a voting member. B. Mac Myers III (Eunice) did not seek election as a voting member. John Dillon (Athens) was nominated and elected to replace Mac. Donna L. Dittmann (Baton Rouge) was re-elected Secretary. Steven W. Cardiff (Baton Rouge) was re-elected Chair.

Changes to the Review List

Since the 2010 Annual Meeting, there have been changes to the Review List. During the 2010 Special Meeting, two species were added: American Black Duck and Long-tailed Duck. With Long-tailed Duck reports falling below the “four or fewer records per year averaged over a ten year period” criterion in recent years, listing seemed clear-cut. American Black Duck is more problematic. Rumors suggest that hunters take small numbers annually in n. LA, but the species is seldom documented by birders, and hybridization with Mallards as well as northward expansion of the very similar Mottled Duck adds confusion.

Cave Swallow was removed from the Review List at the 2011 Annual Meeting, based on fairly dramatic recent increases in breeding activity.

Changes to LBRC Review List:

Add: Am. Black Duck
Photograph: Mark S. Szanyt (August 2009, Madison, New Haven Co., CT). This American Black Duck presents identification challenges not only due to its similarity to Mottled Duck, but because it also hybridizes with Mallard. Hybrids have been observed in Louisiana. See also p. 6.

Add: Long-tailed Duck
Photograph: Robert D. Purrington. This Long-tailed Duck was present on Lake Ponchartrain at Metairie from 23 December 2008 to 20 March 2009.

Remove: Cave Swallow
As of late March 2011, Cave Swallows have returned to colonies discovered in 2010, south of Gueydan in Vermilion Parish. Observers are encouraged to track the continued advance of this species in Louisiana by submitting 3 X 5 cards for colony sites and numbers. See http://tinyurl.com/3bl8ew3 for more information.

This Cave Swallow (LBRC 2010-31) was one of six observed by Tom Finnie on 13 May 2010 at Gum Island Road in Calcasieu Parish. This colony was first discovered in 2009 and is representative of the spread of Caves as a breeding species in Louisiana.
Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*)

One (2009-103) on 6 November 2009, *Jefferson Davis*: Thornwell, 1 mi. NW intersecting Hwys. 99 and 14; *Donna L. Dittmann* (ph on p. 3) and Steven W. Cardiff.

One (2010-07) on 6 February 2010, *Vermilion*: approximately 1.2 mi. NNE of Wright; Paul E. Conover (ph) and Dave Patton (ph only, p. 3).

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*)

As many as three (including two males, one female, 2010-61) on 20 March-3 April 2010, *Cameron*: Cameron Prairie NWR, Pintail Loop; Paul E. Conover (ph), Dave Patton (ph), and Thomas Finnie (ph on p. 7).

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*)

One male (1990-32) on 9-20 January 1990, *Lafourche*: Port Fourchon, large impoundment N of Theriot Road; *Gay Gomez*, Gwen B. Smalley (ph on p. 7) and Phillip A. Wallace. This is chronologically the third record and fourth overall accepted record.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta deglandi*)

Two (2011-02) on 29 January 2011, *Cameron*: Grand Bayou Quad, Rutherford Beach; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 7).

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*)

One adult (2010-17) on 12-14 April 2010, *Claiborne*: Lake Claiborne; Stephen Pagans (ph on p. 7) *John Dillon* and Rosemary Seidler (card only).

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)


Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*)

One immature (2010-40) on 27 October-2 November 2010, *Cameron*: vicinity of Hwy. 82 at Little Florida Beach Road; *James W. Beck* (ph on p. 7), Paul E. Conover (ph), Michael J. Musumeece (ph), Stephen Pagans (ph), Thomas Finnie (ph on 2 November, below), Devin Bosler (ph), and John P. Sevenair.

One immature (2010-42) on 27 December 2010, *Cameron*: Hwy. 82, approximately 3 mi. E of Johnsons Bayou; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 7). This record may pertain to the same individual first reported in the same general area late Oct-early Nov 2010 (2010-40), but there were no confirmed sightings during the intervening period. Different bird from 2010-43 found farther west same day.

One immature (2010-43) on 27 December 2010, *Cameron*: Johnsons Bayou at Erbelding Road; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 7). Different bird from 2010-42 found farther east same day.

White-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albigularis*)

One (2010-56) on 11 March 2010, *Calciasieu*: Fabacher Road between Gum Island Road and Hwy. 108; Thomas Finnie (ph on p. 7).

One second year (2010-39) on 10 October 2010, *Cameron*: approximately 2 mi. W of Johnsons Bayou School, near landfill on S side Hwy. 82; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 7).

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*)

One immature male (2010-65) on 30 October 2010, *Cameron*: Hwy. 82 just W of Holly Beach; *Kevin Colley* and Jennifer Alexander (ph), Donna L. Dittmann (DLD 10000, ph on p. 6). The rail was found dead on the side of the road.

One adult male in breeding condition (2010-66) on 4 July 2010, *Vermilion*: intersection Hwy. 91 and Spencer Road, approximately 4 mi. S of Gueydan; *Paul E. Conover* (LSUMZ), Donna L. Dittmann (DLD 10105, ph on p. 6). Found dead on edge of road, ant damage to head but otherwise in fresh condition.
Specimen records reviewed at the meeting (all specimens archived at LSUMNS):

Steve Cardiff (center) points to LBRC 2010-68 as he compares the specimen to a tray of Tropical and Couch’s kingbirds. Phillip Wallace at left, Curt Sorrells barely visible, Mac Myers behind at right. Below is LBRC 2010-68 and LBRC 1984-21 (Louisiana’s first record of Tropical Kingbird). Both of Louisiana’s specimen records are from May. Accepted records of Tropicals are from May and June [1], as well as include recent winter records. Records of accepted Couch’s are primarily from the fall-winter period.

Tropical, Couch’s, & Tropical-Couch’s complex kingbirds

In addition to the Tropical Kingbird specimen, a voice-confirmed Tropical, found by Glenn Ousset 20 February 2010 (2010-58; video still 28 February by Phillip A. Wallace, see far right) in Plaquemines Parish, was also accepted. A voice-confirmed Couch’s Kingbird (2011-07; see right) in Rapides Parish was also accepted (photo Steve Shively on 16 February 2010, day following his discovery). Unfortunately, the individual below (LBRC 2010-55) photographed on the Chaland Headlands 6 May 2010 by Donna L. Dittmann, would not vocalize despite an assortment of kingbird vocalizations played to it. Although structural features may suggest one species over another, or season may better predict one species, vocalizations are still the safest way to separate these species in the field. Observers should also attempt to record voice with video or audio documentation.

American Black Duck...........and hybrids...........versus Mottled Duck

The plumages of both male and female American Black Duck are very similar to Mottled Duck, and Mottled Ducks can appear quite “black.” Subtle differences include buffy tones to head of Mottled, and white borders on speculum. “Black Duck” identification should begin with elimination of Mottled Duck. Images 1-3 are all American Black Duck X Mallard hybrids. Note the similarity to American Black Duck: hybrids show Mallard characters such as green sheen on head (1), white collar (2), yellower bill (3), or white in the tail. Due to similarity of these ducks and issues of hybridization, photographs are important to help support documentation of records of American Black Duck.
It's never too late to submit old records.

Here, a male Eurasian Wigeon (LBRC 1990-032) photographed by Gwen B. Smalley on 14 January 1990, sits on a large impoundment north of Theriot Road at Port Fourchon. Chronologically, the third record for Louisiana, there are now four accepted records. Although distant and grainy, the photographs clearly show a male of this species. If you believe you have an older record that has never been submitted/reviewed, contact the LBRC Secretary.

Persistence pays off for Paul Conover who was able to obtain photographic documentation of two distant White-winged Scoters (LBRC 2011-02) offshore Rutherford Beach on 29 January 2011. These are a few of the video stills submitted for review.

The immature Ferruginous Hawk (above right, LBRC 2010-40) was discovered and photographed by James W. Beck on 27 October 2010, along Little Florida Beach Road at Johnsons Bayou. This individual was reported until 2 November. On 27 December 2010, Paul E. Conover photographed two individuals (below) in the same general area. Whether LBRC 2010-40 may be one of those, or both represent different individuals is not known.

Two subadult White-tailed Hawks represent the 9th and 10th accepted state records respectively: one (right, LBRC 2010-56) photographed by Tom Finnie on 11 March 2010 along Fabacher Road in Calcasieu Parish, and one (left, 2010-39) photographed by Paul E. Conover near Johnsons Bayou on 10 October 2010.

Photographed at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine while in his care by Dr. Javier G. Nevarez, this Golden Eagle (photo left, LBRC 2011-01) was found injured on 3 January 2011, at Morganza by LDWF personnel and delivered to LSU-SVM. The initial prognosis for recovery was good.
Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*)

One male (2010-54) on 6 May 2010, *Plaquemines*: Chaland Headlands between Bastian Island and Chaland Pass (ca 15 mi. ENE of Grand Isle); Donna L. Dittmann (ph on p. 11) and Steven W. Cardiff.

One male (2010-29) on 20 May 2010, *Terrebonne*: Isles Dernieres, Whiskey Island; Steven W. Cardiff and Dave Patton (ph on p. 11).

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)

One in definitive basic plumage (2010-91) on 20 November 2010, *Cameron*: approximately 3 mi. offshore from Calcasieu River mouth; Dave Patton (ph on p. 11).

One definitive basic (2010-89) on 1 December 2010, *Cameron*: 1 mi. SW of Calcasieu River mouth jetties, approximately 29° 44.912' N, 93° 21.933' W; Dave Patton (ph on p. 11), B. Mac Myers III, and Hans Holbrook (ph only). Plumage and molt confirm that this was a different bird from 2010-91.

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*)

One first basic (2010-08) on 19 January 2010, *Vermilion*: near end of Lurby Road off Hwy. 167, approximately 3.5 mi. N of Abbeville; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 11).

One second basic (2010-62) on 28-30 March 2010, *Jefferson*: Elmer’s Island; Jeffrey W. Harris (ph on p. 11), Duane Huval (ph only), and Michael J. Musumeche (ph). May pertain to same individual (LBRC 2009-91) found 18 October 2009 ([http://www.losbird.org/lbrc/newsletter2010b.pdf](http://www.losbird.org/lbrc/newsletter2010b.pdf)), but no confirmed reports during the intervening period.

One first basic (2010-75) on 17 April 2010, *Jefferson*: Queen Bess Island, ca 3 mi. N of E. end Grand Isle; Donna L. Dittmann (ph on p. 11) and Steven W. Cardiff.

Two first basic (2010-16) on 18 April 2010, *Cameron*: Cameron, jetties at mouth of Calcasieu River; Dave Patton (ph on p. 11).

One first basic (2010-90) on 23-24 April 2010, *Cameron*: Rutherford Beach; Donna L. Dittmann (ph on p. 11), Steven W. Cardiff, Phillip A. Wallace (ph), and Robert D. Purrington (card only).

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*)

One molting to third basic (2010-69) on 5 May 2010, *Plaquemines*: Chaland Headlands, “middle Chaland” between Pass La Mer and Chaland Pass (ENE of Grand Isle), Steven W. Cardiff and Donna L. Dittmann (ph on p. 11).

Three (two second basic, one first/second basic; 2010-64) on 25 August 2010, *Plaquemines*: East Grand Terre Island; Donna L. Dittmann (ph on p. 11) and Steven W. Cardiff (ph on p. 11).

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)

One immature (2010-51) on 19-23 December 2010, *Cameron*: Calcasieu River at Cameron ferry; Donna L. Dittmann (ph) and Steven W. Cardiff, B. Mac Myers III, Thomas Finnie (ph on p. 11), Paul E. Conover (ph), Robert C. Dobbs, and Dave Patton (ph only).

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*)

One (2010-44) on 5 November 2010, *Ouachita*: Monroe, south side of Forsythe Park along the Ouachita River; Stephen Pagans (ph, above).

Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*)

One (2010-22) on 30 October 2010, *Cameron*: Hackberry Ridge, 2 mi. WSW of Johnsons Bayou School; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 11).

Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*)


One female (2009-73) (ph), on 17 October 2009, *Cameron*: Oak Grove, Oak Grove Sanctuary; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 12) and Lainie LaHaye (ph).

One female (2010-67) on 24 April 2010, *Cameron*: approximately 5 mi. W old mouth Mermentau River (Rutherford Beach), 29.7738° N, 93.1943° W Donna L. Dittmann (DLD 9961, ph on p. 6, 12) and Steven W. Cardiff (LSUMZ).
**Lesser Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles acutipennis*-cont.)

One female (2010-70) on 24 April 2010, *Cameron*: approximately 5 1/2 mi. W old mouth Mermentau River (Rutherford Beach); Donna L. Dittmann (ph on p. 6; DLD 9962) and Steven W. Cardiff (LSUMZ).

Up to four (one male, three females, 2010-18) on 24-26 April 2010, *Cameron*: Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary; Paul E. Conover (ph), Jeffrey W. Harris (ph), Thomas Finnie (ph), and Dave Patton (ph only, on p. 12), and Jay V. Huner (card only).


One female (2010-27) on 1 May 2010, *Cameron*: Johnsons Bayou, Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary; Thomas Finnie (ph), and Thomas Maddox (ph on p. 12). This may pertain to one of females observed on 25 April.

**Broad-billed Hummingbird** (*Cynanthus latirostris*)


**Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher** (*Myiodynastes luteiventris*)

One (2010-38) 30 September, 4-10 October 2010, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, TNC Landry-LeBlanc tract; Justin Hite, John Herbert (ph only), Devin Bosler (ph, below), John P. Sevenair (ph on p. 12), Janine Robin (ph only), Tom Trenchard (ph), Mary Mehaffey (ph), Shelley Antoine (ph), Matthew Pontiff (ph only), and Phillip A. Wallace (card only). Photos and location suggest only one bird involved. About the 10th well-documented in LA.

**Great Kiskadee** (*Pitangus sulfuratus*)

One (2009-42) on 16 April 2009, *Cameron*: Oak Grove, vicinity Oak Grove Sanctuary; Jacob Saucier (ph on p. 12).

Two to three (2010-82) on 19 December 2010-3 January 2011, *Cameron*: Hackberry, in vicinity of Maggie Hebert Road; Thomas Finnie (ph), Robert C. Dobbs (ph on p. 12), Devin Bosler (ph). Reportedly found on the Sabine NWR CBC by Matthew T. Pontiff and Gary J. Pontiff.

**Brown-crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)

One adult (2010-57) on 28 February and 6 March 2010, *Plaquemines*: Caernarvon, downriver side of levee off Hwy. 39; Phillip A. Wallace (three photos, below right); and Edward J. Raynor and Hannah Tetreault (ph only, below far left on 6 March).

**Gray Kingbird** (*Tyrannus dominicensis*)

One (2009-87) on 19 April 2009, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, open area north of homes at end Landry Lane and Cemetery Road; Donna L. Dittmann (ph on p. 12) and Steven W. Cardiff.


**Couch’s Kingbird** (*Tyrannus couchii*)

One male (2011-07) on 15-22 February 2011, *Rapides*: east side of Messina Road (Forest Road 273) approximately one mile south of Hwy. 28 West; Steve Shively (ph on p. 6), Jay V. Huner, and Devin Bosler (ph).

**Couch’s/Tropical Kingbird** (*Tyrannus couchii/melancholicus*)


**Tropical Kingbird** (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)

One adult (2010-58) 20 February-6 March 2010, *Plaquemines*: Caernarvon, downriver side of levee off Hwy. 39; Phillip A. Wallace (ph on p. 6 on 28 Feb.) and Edward J. Raynor (card only); found by Glenn Ousset.

between Byler and Jenuis roads; Donna L. Dittmann (DLD 9969, ph on p. 6) and Steven W. Cardiff (LSUMZ).

**Yellow-green Vireo** (**Vireo flavoviridis**)  
One (2010-28) on 8, 17, 28-31 May 2010, Cameron: Johnsons Bayou, Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary; B. Mac Myers III, Phillip A. Wallace, Gary Broussard (ph), Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 12), and Jeffrey W. Harris. Presumably, sightings on all dates pertain to one individual found 8 May 2010.

One adult female (2010-46) banded on 29 April 2010, Cameron: Johnsons Bayou; T. J. Zenzal (ph on p. 12).

One adult female (2010-87) banded on 7 May 2010, Cameron: Johnsons Bayou; T. J. Zenzal (ph on p. 12).

**Cave Swallow** (**Petrochelidon fulva**)  
One adult (2009-102) on 19 April 2009, Jefferson: Grand Isle, vicinity of ponds behind Sureway Woods to end of Cemetery Road; Donna L. Dittmann (ph on p. 13) and Steven W. Cardiff.

Colony of up to fifteen adults with at least seven nests (2010-24) 22 April-31 May 2010, Calcasieu: Iowa, I-10 at Hwy. 165 bridge; Erik I. Johnson (ph on p. 1), Thomas Finnie (ph on p. 1), and Jeffrey W. Harris (ph on p. 13).

One adult (2010-30) on 2 May 2010, Vermilion: Maree Michel Road, 1 mi. E of Gueydan; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 13).

Approximately six (2010-31) on 13 May 2010, Calcasieu: Gum Island Road; Thomas Finnie (ph on p. 4). This is the same site where a colony was first discovered in 2009.

At least 16 (7 on 5 June includes 4 juveniles; 16 on 8 June with many juveniles; 8 on 3 August 2010-32), Vermilion: 4 mi. S of Gueydan at intersection Hwy. 91 and Spencer Road; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 1 and 13).

One juvenile male (2010-71) on 8 June 2010, Vermilion: intersection Hwy. 91 and Spencer Road, approximately 4 mi. S of Gueydan; Paul E. Conover (LSUMZ), Donna L. Dittmann (DLD 10106, ph on p. 6).

About twelve adults (2010-77) on 20 June 2010, Vermilion: intersectin Spencer and Scanlan roads, approximately 3.3 mi. SSW of Gueydan; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 13).

Three, including one juvenile (2010-79) on 20 June 2010, Vermilion: Ellis Bridge Road, about ½ way between Dolza and Scanlan roads, 3.3 mi. SSW of Gueydan; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 13).

One juvenile female (2010-72) on 4 July 2010, Vermilion: intersection Hwy. 91 and Spencer Road, approximately 4 mi. S of Gueydan; Paul E. Conover (LSUMZ), Donna L. Dittmann (DLD 10107, ph on p. 6).

Three, including two juveniles (2010-78) on 3 August 2010, Vermilion: Hwy. 3143, approximately ½ mi. W of Hwy. 711, 3.5 mi. SE of Gueydan; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 13).

One apparent adult (2010-34) on 21 August 2010, Calcasieu: near intersection of Fruge and Gragg roads, 6 mi. SW of Bell City; Paul E. Conover and Dave Patton (ph only, on p. 14).

Four (2010-35) on 28 August 2010, Jefferson Davis: approximately 1 mi. NE of Thornwell on Potter Road; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 13).

One (2010-36) on 30 August 2010, Vermilion: near intersection of Gladu and Shams Road; Michael Musumeche (ph on p. 13).

**Sage Thrasher** (**Oreoscoptes montanus**)  
One (2010-39) on 22-23 October 2010, Cameron: Sabine National Wildlife Refuge, Blue Goose Trail; Matthew T. Pontiff (ph only), Thomas Finnie (ph), Mary Mehaffey (ph, below), Thomas Maddox (ph), and Devin Bosler (ph); found by Robby Bacon.

One (2010-45) on 30 October 2010, Vermilion: Hackberry Ridge, 2 mi. WSW of Johnsons Bayou School; Paul E. Conover (ph, below right).

**Mountain Bluebird** (**Sialia currucoides**)  
One female (2010-86) on 22 December 2010-20 January 2011, Jefferson: vicinity of Cheniere Caminada Cemetery, 1 mi. W of Grand Isle; Joelle Finley (ph on p. 15), Devin Bosler (ph on p. 15), Robert C. Dobbs (ph), Glenn Ousset (ph, p. 15), and Jay V. Huner (ph).

**Yellow-rumped “Audubon’s” Warbler** (**Dendroica coronata “auduboni-group”**)  
One, probable female (2010-19) on 24-26 April 2010, Cameron: Johnsons Bayou, Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary; Paul E. Conover (ph on p. 13) Thomas Finnie (ph), and Melvin Weber (ph).
Two records of male Red-necked Phalaropes were accepted. One (2010-54) on the Chaland headlands on 6 May 2010 (top left photo: Donna L. Dittmann) and one at Whiskey Island (2010-29) on 20 May 2010 (photo on left by Dave Patton).

Two records of definitive adult Parasitic Jaegers were accepted - both photographed by Dave Patton offshore of the Calcasieu River mouth. Left two photos, LBRC 2010-91 taken 20 November 2010, and LBRC 2010-89 (below) photographed on 1 December 2010. These likely pertain to different individuals based on progression and individual timing of molt from alternate to basic plumage.

Five records involving six individual Glaucous Gulls were accepted. All but LBRC 2010-62 (photo by Jeffrey W. Harris) at Elmer’s Island on 28 March 2010, represent first year birds. LBRC 2010-62 is perhaps the same individual reported the previous fall at the same location (see account on p. 8). Other records include one (LBRC 2010-08) photographed by Paul E. Conover near Abbeville on 19 January 2010 and representing only the second record from Vermilion Parish; there are few records away from the immediate coast or New Orleans area.

Three spring records from the coast include two individuals (LBRC 2010-16) photographed by Dave Patton at the Cameron jetties on 18 April 2010, one (LBRC 2010-95) on Queen Bess Island (photo by Donna L. Dittmann) on 17 April 2010, and one (LBRC 2010-90) on Rutherford Beach (photo also by Dittmann) on 23(here)-24 April 2010.

This immature Black-legged Kittiwake (LBRC 2010-51) first discovered on 19 December 2010 at the Cameron ferry landing, proved exceedingly cooperative (here photographed on 20 December 2010 by Thomas Finnie).

Three records involving five individual Great Black-backed Gulls were accepted. Two records involve apparently summering individuals, one 5 May 2010 (LBRC 2010-69) on the Chaland Headlands and three (LBRC 2010-64) on 25 August 2010 on East Grand Terre Island (photos by Donna L. Dittmann and Steven W. Cardiff). A first basic individual (LBRC 2011-04) on Whiskey Island 3 March 2011 (photo above by Mary Chris Harrison) was likely wintering locally.

This Burrowing Owl (LBRC 2010-22) was photographed by Paul E. Conover at Hackberry Ridge near Johnsons Bayou on 30 October 2010.
Seven records of Lesser Nighthawks, all from coastal Cameron Parish, were accepted at the meeting. Two 2009 records are represented by photos by Gary Broussard on 11 April (LBRC 2009-45) at the Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary, and by Paul E. Conover on 17 October (2009-73) at the Oak Grove Sanctuary.

A mini-invasion occurred during Spring 2010 including some accepted during the meeting and shown at the left: LBRC 2010-67 photo on Rutherford Beach by D. L. Dittmann on 24 April, two individuals (LBRC 2010-18) photographed at the Peveto Beach Woods Sanctuary by Dave Patton on 25 April, one of the same lingering or another individual (LBRC 2010-27) by Thomas Maddox on 1 May; and a female (LBRC 2010-49) banded at Johnsons Bayou on 25 April (photo by T. J. Zenzal).

Definitive identification characters visible in each of these images include position of primary patch and/or size of patch on primary 10 and/or spotted inner primaries. The neat row of spots on the upperswing covert (see arrows bottom two photos) also suggests this species.

Certainly one of Fall 2010’s highlights was this Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher (LBRC 2010-38) first discovered on 30 September at Grand Isle. Presumed to be the same individual present in the general vicinity until 10 October (here photographed 5 October by John P. Sevenair). This is the first LA Sulphur-bellied to linger, allowing many observers to enjoy its presence.

Only two Gray Kingbird records were reviewed at this year’s meeting. LBRC 2009-087 from 19 April 2009 at Grand Isle photographed (lower right) by Donna L. Dittmann; and one (2010-084) present at Belle Pass 1-14 June, and photographed here the day it was found by Don Norman.

There were three records of Yellow-green Vireo during Spring 2010 and all are reported here. Two were banded at Johnsons Bayou: one (LBRC 2010-46) on 29 April and another (LBRC 2010-87) on 7 May (photos below by J. Zenzal). Another (LBRC 2010-28; below, far right) was observed at Peveto Woods Beach Sanctuary from 8-31 May, photo from 28 May by Paul E. Conover (photo at arrow, far right).

Two records of Great Kiskadee were accepted. One (inset left, LBRC 2010-42) at Oak Grove photographed by Jacob Saucier on 16 April 2009; and two to three (LBRC 2010-82) reported during early winter 2010-2011 at Hackberry, here two photographed together on 21 December 2010 by Robert C. Dobbs.

Three male Broad-billed Hummingbirds were reviewed (photos right and left), all from winter 2010-2011 season from sites across Louisiana. One (LBRC 2010-51) was photographed by Erik I. Johnson, a wintering bird at a Lafayette area residence. Another male (LBRC 2010-83) discovered and photographed by Irvin Louque Jr. at his parents home in St. James Parish; and one (LBRC 2011-05) documented by the lucky homeowner, Jeanie Pousson at her Moss Bluff residence on 23 February 2011.
The LBRC regrets that only a small percentage of photographs can be showcased in the annual newsletter. Due to space limitations, photographs appearing in LBRC newsletters are chosen by the Newsletter Editor for a variety of reasons: 1) provide an image of each record accepted at the meeting whether by the person who found the bird, a photo taken within the record’s date range of occurrence, or from the last day bird was observed; 2) illustrate the importance of photographic documentation; 3) show the range of photographic images submitted to the LBRC for documentation; 4) stress the importance and value of all photographs to the documentation process - whether blurry to tack sharp, grainy, or poorly exposed - compare grainy image of Cave Swallow (top left), which is adequate to help support identification to that of the Audubon’s Warbler (top right by Thomas Finnie), a beautifully composed and professional-appearing image showing all relevant field marks; and finally, 5) encourage observers to carry a camera because with practice most observers can produce fine images of birds. And remember, even if others are photographing the same bird, their photos may not come out, be lost, or you may capture some aspect of the bird not captured by others. All photographs are archived.

The LBRC is very appreciative to the time and effort observers have expended to submit photographic and written documentation to the Committee. Please keep up the good work!

Referring to her photograph, Jennifer says “... only pic of the MacGillivray’s that I was able to take Sunday morning - keep in mind what Rosemary said Saturday night, - A bad pic is better than no pic!!” Rosemary’s submitted photo is below.

With more records submitted than for any other species, Cave Swallow surged past all others with 13 records accepted at the meeting. The collage on this newsletter’s front page actually includes all of the photos submitted online. Photo highlights for some of the records accepted include the following:

One of the adults at a nest (LBRC 2010-24) at Iowa colony on 31 May 2010 by Jeffrey W. Harris.

At least sixteen (LBRC 2010-32) including this adult and many juveniles, 4 mi. S of Gueydan; photo by Paul E. Conover. Photo of a juvenile appears on p. 1.

Two records from 20 June in Vermilion Parish include twelve adults (LBRC 2010-77), and three individuals including this newly fledged juvenile (LBRC 2010-79) in fairly close proximity S of Gueydan. On 3 August (LBRC 2010-78) another three were discovered including this juvenile already with primary molt in the same general vicinity. Photos by Paul E. Conover. This area may support the largest concentration of LA colonies.
Yellow-rumped “Audubon’s” Warbler (Dendroica coronata
“auduboni-group”)—cont. One, adult male (2010-87) on 25-27
April 2010, Cameron: Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS
Sanctuary; Gay Gomez (ph only), Thomas Finnie (ph on
p. 13), and B. Mac Myers III and Dave Patton (ph only);
found by Robby Bacon.

One adult male (2010-73) on 30 October 2010,
Cameron: Hackberry Ridge, 2 mi. WSW of Johnsons
Bayou School; Paul E. Conover (LSUMZ) and Donna
L. Dittmann (DLD 10103, ph on p. 6).

Townsend’s Warbler (Dendroica townsendi)

One immature male (2010-37) on 20 September
2010, Cameron: Johnsons Bayou, Peveto Beach Woods,
BRAS Sanctuary; Dave Patton (ph on p. 2, 13).

Black-throated Gray Warbler (Dendroica nigrescens)

One female (2010-88) on 20 October 2010,
Jefferson: Grand Isle; Alan Kneidel and Malcolm Mark
Swan (ph only, three shown below).

MacGillivray’s Warbler (Oporornis tolmiei)

One adult female (2010-21) on 24-27 April 2010,
Cameron: Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary; Phillip
A. Wallace, Rosemary Seidler (ph on p. 13), Thomas A.
Finnie (ph), Jennifer Alexander (ph only, p. 13), Gay
Gomez (ph only), Dave Patton (ph only, p. 13), and B.
Mac Myers III.

Western Tanager (Piranga ludoviciana)

One male (2010-25) 31 March-early May 2010,
St. Landry: Washington; Cheryl Bordelon (ph on p. 15).

One adult male (2010-20) on 24 April-1 May
2010, Cameron: Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary;
Jeffrey W. Harris (ph), Danny M. Dobbs, Thomas Finnie
(ph), and Kevin Leigh (ph only, on p. 15).

One adult female (2010-23) on 26 April-2 May
2010, Cameron: Sabine NWR, Wetland Walkway; Thomas
Finnie (ph on p. 15) and Jeffrey W. Harris; found by
Robby Bacon.

Cave Swallow (LBRC 2010-34)
Photo: Dave Patton

One adult male (2011-06) on 8 January 2011,
Jefferson: Harahan, Mississippi River batture near
Normandy Street; Lizette Wroten (ph on p. 15).

Black-headed Grosbeak (Pheucticus melanocephalus)

One immature male (2009-075) on 18 December
2009-1 April 2010, St. Martin: Atchafalaya River, 2 mi.
S I-10, Jim Delahoussaye (ph only) and Dave Patton (ph
on p. 15).

One immature male (2010-60) on 17-18
February 2010, Lafourche: Thibodaux, 118 Nicholls Drive,
home of Donna and Curtis Duplechain; Nancy L.
Newfield and Joan Garvey (ph only, p. 15). Reportedly
first observed by homeowners on previous day.

One immature male (2010-81) on 29-31 October
2010, Cameron: Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary;
Michael J. Musumeci (ph on p. 15), Devin Bosler
(ph), Stephen Pagans (ph), John P. Sevenair (ph), and
Thomas Finnie (ph).

One adult male (2010-53) on 25 November 2010,
Jefferson Davis: Buller; 22511 Hwy. 383; Gene Barnett (ph
only, on p. 15).

One immature male (2010-80) 25 December
2010-1 February 2011, Jackson: Jonesboro, 109
Southeastern Drive; Jeff Webster (card only, ph on p. 15).

Lazuli Bunting (Passerina amoena)

One adult male (2010-48) banded on 26 April
2010, Cameron: Johnson’s Bayou; T. J. Zenzal (ph on p.
15).

Shiny Cowbird (Molothrus bonariensis)

One adult male (2010-15) on 2 April-13 May
2010, Cameron: Oak Grove, cemetery; Melvin Weber
(ph), Donna L. Dittmann (ph only), Thomas Finnie (ph
on p. 15), Thomas Maddox (ph), Jeffrey W. Harris (ph),
and Jay V. Huner (card only).

One adult male (2010-63) on 16-24 April 1 2010,
Jefferson: Grand Isle, Bradbury residence; Donna L.
Dittmann (ph on p. 15) and Steven W. Cardiff, Phillip
A. Wallace (ph), David P. Muth (card only), Erik I.
Johnson.

Lesser Goldfinch (Spinus psaltria)

One adult male (2011-06) on 6-8 January 2011,
Sabine: Pleasant Hill; Debbie Ponder (ph only, on p. 15),
Vicki LeFevres (ph on p. 15), and Curtis C. Sorrells.
Reportedly first seen 1 January.
Four records of **Western Tanager** were accepted at the meeting. A male (LBRC 2010-25) present at Cheryl Bordelon’s St. Landry Parish feeder.

This spectacular adult male (LBRC 2010-20) at Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary was seen by many observers 24 April-1 May, here photographed by Kevin Leigh on 24 April.

A female (LBRC 2010-23), in Cameron Parish, 26 April to 2 May at the Sabine NWR Wetland Walkway (photo on 26 April by Thomas Finnie).

Finally, although the photo is blurry identification marks of this adult male (LBRC 2011-06) in Mississippi River batture at Harahan are clearly visible. Photo by Lizette Wroten on 8 January 2011.

Five **Black-headed Grosbeak** records were accepted. All but one involved wintering or potentially locally wintering birds at feeders. One immature male (LBRC 2009-75) 18 December 2009-1 April 2010 in St. Martin Parish (photo Dave Patton on 23 February).

Another immature male (LBRC 2010-60) was photographed on 18 February by Joan Garvey in Thibodaux.

A stunning adult male (LBRC 2010-53) in Buller on 25 November 2010 (Gene Barnett) may represent a very late migrant or a wintering bird.

Another immature male (LBRC 2010-80) visited a feeder from 25 December 2010-1 February 2011 in Jonesboro (two photos at left Jeff Webster).

The only non-winter record (LBRC 2010-81), was a bird seen by many observers at Peveto Beach Woods, BRAS Sanctuary, found by and photographed here by Michael J. Muscumeche on 29 October 2010.

Only the 8th accepted state record, this adult male **Lazuli Bunting** (LBRC 2010-48) was banded on 26 April 2010 at Johnsons Bayou (photo T. J. Zenzal; below right).

This female **Mountain Bluebird** (LBRC 2010-86; a few of the photos submitted above and below) is only the 7th accepted record. Seen by many observers and photographed by Joelle Finley when discovered (two upper right photos confirmed her suspected ID); digiscoped by Devin Bosler (photo series below) on 24 December; and photographed on the speed limit sign by Glenn Ousset 5 January 2011.

Two definitive male **Shiny Cowbirds** were accepted at the meeting. The first present (LBRC 2010-15) 2 April-13 May 2010, and here photographed by Thomas Finnie on 22 April; and a second (2010-63) present at the more “traditional locality” of Grand Isle, 16-24 April 2010 (here 16 April by Donna L. Dittmann).

Only the 4th state record, this adult male **Lesser Goldfinch** (2011-06) visited a feeder in Pleasant Hill in January 2011 (photo above taken 6 January by homeowner Debbie Ponder); inset photo left showing better plumage detail, but with bill hidden by feeder by Vicki LeFevers on 8 January 2011.

Only the 4th state record, this adult male **Lesser Goldfinch** (2011-06) visited a feeder in Pleasant Hill in January 2011 (photo above taken 6 January by homeowner Debbie Ponder); inset photo left showing better plumage detail, but with bill hidden by feeder by Vicki LeFevers on 8 January 2011.

**Corrigenda: because mistakes sometimes defy detection.**

*Caption for Great Kiskadee: ‘Rockefeller Refuge’. Refuge is obviously misspelled.*
Voting Members & Officers:

Chair
Steven W. Cardiff
scardif@gmail.com
Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
225-578-9289 (work)
225-642-5763 (home)

Secretary
Donna L. Dittmann
dditma@gmail.com
correspondence to:
Museum of Natural Science
119 Foster Hall
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
225-378-2009 (work)
225-642-5763 (home)

Voting Members:

Phillip A. Wallace
pwallace@newmanschool.org
4515 S. Prier Street
New Orleans, LA 70125
504-822-0483 (home)

Curtis C. Sorrells
csorrells@bellsouth.net
112 Chateau St. Michel
Kenner, LA 70065
504-469-2225 (home)

Nancy L. Newfield
nancy@casacolibri.net
Casa Colibri
3016 45th Street
Metairie, LA 70001
504-833-3882 (home);
504-338-3882 (cell)

Paul E. Conover
zoiseaux@lusfiber.net
501 Adrienne
Lafayette, LA 70506
337-235-3594 (home)

John Dillon
kisforkryptonite@gmail.com
183 Dance Road
Athens, LA
318-243-2284 (cell)

James Ingold
James.Ingold@lsus.edu (work)
Department of BioScience
LSUS, One University Place,
Shreveport, LA 71115
318.797.3256 (work)
318.742.5067 (home)

Erik I. Johnson
ejohn33@tigers.lsu.edu
102 Goodwood Circle
Lafayette, LA
225-252-8864 (cell)

Current LBRC Members