

AUDUBON PARK – JULY 2015

The fall is upon us species such as the Purple Martin have left and the kites are on their way. It was also the month when most species stop singing and this made it much harder to locate the various species each day.

The Yellow-crowned Night-Herons and their single offspring were around all month; the frog population must have fallen at the marsh. One morning as I approached the boardwalk I saw one of the night-herons, an adult Little Blue Heron and a Barred Owl all perched on the railings. A picture of this unusual grouping is in the newsletter.

Now to the less common species there was a Brown Pelican flying to the east on the 3rd. There were single Green Herons on a number of dates with three on the 9th. The light morph Short-tailed Hawk was seen on the 17th and 22nd. Two Least Sandpipers flew to the south on the 15th. There was a new species for the park bringing the total up to 203 as on the 3rd a Least Tern flew to the north over the ponds. A White-winged Dove flew to the west on the 5th (that may be the last for the year) and there was an adult Red-headed Woodpecker on the 25th this flew to the north. For the hirundines there was a Northern Rough-winged Swallow on the 3rd with a Bank Swallow on the 3rd; Barn Swallows were only seen in low numbers with seven on the 31st as the highest count for the month.

There was a Brown-headed Nuthatch on the 28th. For the warblers there were two Yellow Warblers on the 31st (a high count), single Yellow-throated Warblers were seen on the 25th and 31st with a Louisiana Waterthrush on the 19th. An adult male Orchard Oriole was by the ponds on the 28th.

Now to the new high counts: there were 151 Cattle Egrets on the 15th and this total included at least one juvenile (black beak). Mourning Doves had a new high count of 20 on the 17th. European Starlings had a new high of four on the 1st with one on the 10th; these are only the 2nd and 3rd records for this species. Finally there were four House Finches on the 11th.

The White-tailed Deer are getting tamer, they may still run across in front of me but they then stop just a few yards away and start grazing. That is special.

Harry Robinson