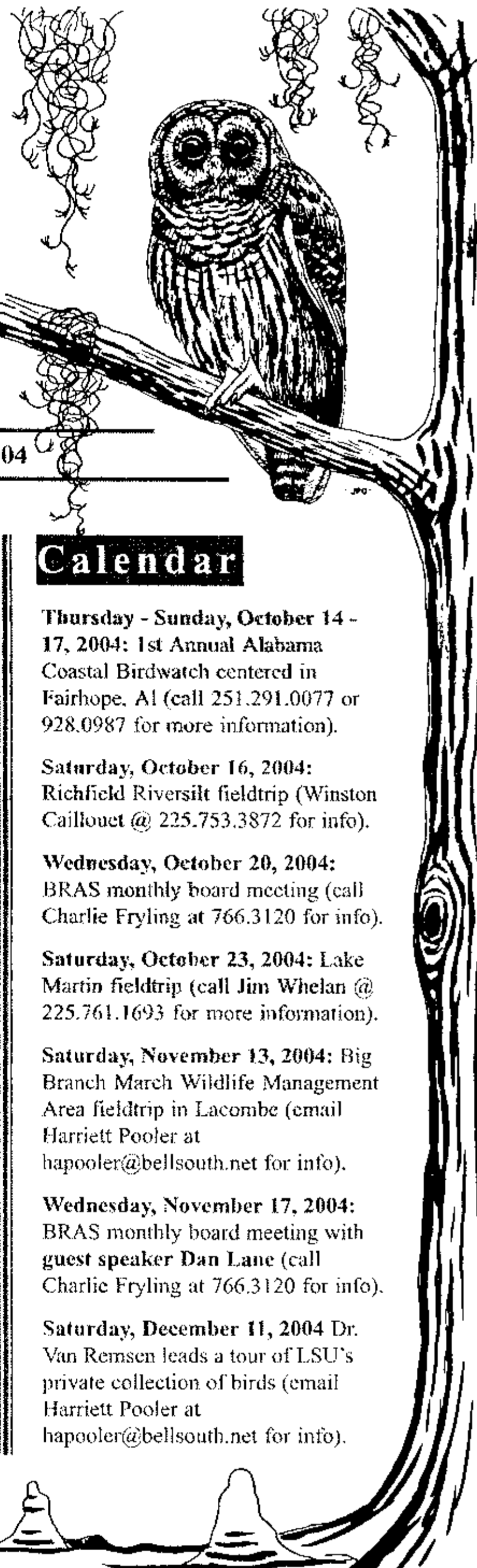


# The **BARRED OWL**

Newsletter of the Baton Rouge Audubon Society

Volume XXXI, Number 4

October / November 2004



## President's Message by Dan Hendricks

The first thing I want to do upon assuming the presidency of the Baton Rouge Audubon Society is to thank Dorothy Prowell for her outstanding leadership of the board over the last two years. Dorothy brought several of us together and by her energetic competency accomplished an amazing amount of work in her short tenure as president. She was always ahead of the game and wonderfully gracious even when urging us to action. Dorothy, thanks again for everything.



I returned last week from a three day lobbying trip on behalf of Audubon in Washington DC. Together with over two dozen Auduboners from across the country, we spent two days learning the fundamentals of lobbying in our nation's Capitol. We studied several pieces of legislation impacting birds and the environment. Finally, we spent a full day in the offices of Representative Baker and Senators Breaux & Landrieu. We urged support for the *Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act* that funds set aside strategies for critical habitat support for migrating bird species; for the *North American Wetlands Conservation Fund* that supports conservation projects benefiting bird populations in the US, Mexico and Canada; for the *State Wildlife Grants Program*, a popular bill with politicians on both sides of the aisle, that provides funding for state wildlife plans under which Important Bird Areas Coordinators are financed — a program for which the New Orleans and Baton Rouge Chapters of Audubon have a grant proposal pending at the state. The three day lobby excursion was exhilarating! It restored my confidence in citizen democracy in America and was a lot of fun to boot.

Finally, I wanted to report that our grant proposal to the LA Wildlife

See **President's Message** on page 2

## Calendar

**Thursday - Sunday, October 14 - 17, 2004:** 1st Annual Alabama Coastal Birdwatch centered in Fairhope, Al (call 251.291.0077 or 928.0987 for more information).

**Saturday, October 16, 2004:** Richfield Riversilt fieldtrip (Winston Cailloet @ 225.753.3872 for info).

**Wednesday, October 20, 2004:** BRAS monthly board meeting (call Charlie Fryling at 766.3120 for info).

**Saturday, October 23, 2004:** Lake Martin fieldtrip (call Jim Whelan @ 225.761.1693 for more information).

**Saturday, November 13, 2004:** Big Branch March Wildlife Management Area fieldtrip in Lacombe (email Harriett Pooler at hapooler@bellsouth.net for info).

**Wednesday, November 17, 2004:** BRAS monthly board meeting with guest speaker Dan Lane (call Charlie Fryling at 766.3120 for info).

**Saturday, December 11, 2004:** Dr. Van Remsen leads a tour of LSU's private collection of birds (email Harriett Pooler at hapooler@bellsouth.net for info).



## Sanctuary Report by Victoria Bayless

Well, it has been a hot and dry summer at Peveto Woods. The deer flies were enjoying themselves and the birders were few and far between. However, as fall has arrived so have the migrants working their way down to the coast. Don't forget about the LOS (Louisiana Ornithological Society) meeting that is scheduled for October 29-31st in Cameron. See their website for more details <http://www.losbird.org/>

LOS weekend is a good time to visit Peveto Woods because you will often encounter some of the best birders in the state. They can then share with you what good birds they have seen and where they are located. It is always fun to see all your birding friends as well.

On another note, Ron and I will be representing Baton Rouge Audubon and Peveto Woods Sanctuary at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory (GCBO) Site Partner Technical Workshop in Port Aransas, Texas on October 7th. For those of you who do not know, the GCBO is an organization whose mission is the study and conservation of birds and their habitat in and around the Gulf of Mexico. Their purpose is to be a catalyst for bird conservation through individual and community partnerships and the sharing of expertise and knowledge. You can go to their website if you would like to read more about their organization. <http://www.gcbo.org/> I will be writing a report on the workshop for the next Barred Owl to let you know what good things we learned. We are looking forward to learning new information and sharing what we know.

So that is the Sanctuary Report. Until next time, Happy Birding.

## President's Message continued from page 1

and Fisheries to fund an important bird area coordinator is still being reviewed at the state office. Word from LAWF officials is that the proposal has significant merit. We may have word on the status of our grant by publication of this newsletter. Keep your fingers crossed. Happy birding and please be in touch.

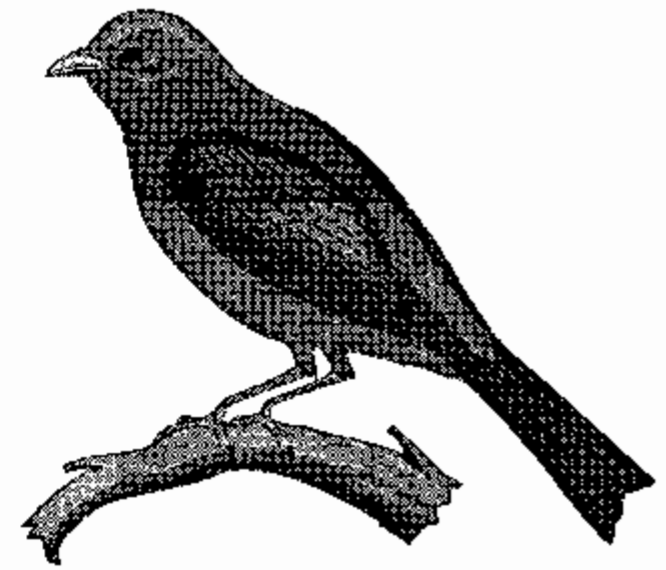
## BRAS New Secretary



Hello, my name is John MacKenzie and am pleased to announce that I will be serving you as a board member of the Baton Rouge Audubon Society. I come to you from Nova Scotia, Canada home of the Acadian Reunion in August 2004. We are avid birders and while in Canada had the opportunity to be involved in catch, tag and release programs with different types of waterfowl. We made the move to

Louisiana in 2002 as my wife was accepted as a surgical veterinary resident at LSU.

Since arriving in Louisiana, my wife and I have established the Baton Rouge Turtle Rescue Unit. As we walk around the LSU lakes, we place those turtles that have placed themselves precariously on the roads back into the lakes. We invite all of those that feel comfortable handling these reptiles to join our team. If you would like to volunteer some of your time to the Audubon Society we would love to hear from you [jmackenzie@lsufoundation.org](mailto:jmackenzie@lsufoundation.org).



## November 17 BRAS Board Meeting Features Guest Speaker Dan Lane

Join us at Bluebonnet Swamp to hear Dan Lane discuss his birding experiences in Peru and elsewhere in the Neotropics. His accomplishments are many and include the discovery of a previously unknown specimen in Peru. Dan has published numerous articles and illustrations and he leads birding tours in the Neotropics.

Our meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. and will conclude at 9:30 p.m. Please call Charlie Fryling at 766-3120 for additional information.

**FIELD TRIPS** by Harriett Pooler

**Saturday, October 23, 2004.** Join Jim Whelan for a look at the other side of Lake Martin. There is more to this beautiful place than the rookery. Meet at 7 am at Coffee Call on College and I-10 - we should finish by noon. Bring water, bug spray and hat, be prepared for some forest walking. Call Jim at 761-1693 or [carolw1@cox.net](mailto:carolw1@cox.net) with any questions.



**Saturday, November 13, 2004.** Join Harriett Pooler on a trip to Big Branch March Wildlife Management Area in Lacombe. We'll also go to Lake Pontchartrain along Lakeshore Drive in Mandeville to look for any early wintering ducks. Meet at 6:30 am. at Wal-Mart on O'Neal and I-12 near the plant/nursery section of the store. You will need an updated WMA stamp or fishing license. We will stop at a fast food place for lunch and finish early afternoon. Email Harriett at [hapooler@bellsouth.net](mailto:hapooler@bellsouth.net) for pre-registration or questions. **Pre-registration is necessary.**

**Saturday, December 11, 2004.** Join Dr. Van Remsen, renowned LSU ornithologist, for a tour of LSU Museum's private collection of birds. LSU has the fourth-largest university-based collection in the world (behind Harvard, Berkeley and Michigan). After the tour, we'll head to the LSU lakes to see wintering ducks. Meet at the LSU Museum of Natural History on Dalrymple Drive at 1pm. Bring a spotting scope if you have one.

**BRAS Directory**

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**Field Trips / Activities**

Harriett Pooler . . . . . 291-0077

**Legal**

Doris Falkenheiner . . . . . 346-8761

**Membership**

Dorothy Prowell . . . . . 923-1070

**Newsletter**

Ron Bayless . . . . . 757-1769

**Programs**

Charles Fryling . . . . . 766-3120

**Sanctuaries**

Victoria M. Bayless . . . . . 757-1769

**Board Members at Large**

Jay Guillory . . . . . 927-2794

Mark Skinner . . . . . 201-0078

*The Barred Owl*

is published bi-monthly by the Baton Rouge chapter of the NAS. Submissions should be received by:  
January 15 for the Feb/March issue  
March 15 for the April/May issue  
May 15 for the June/July issue  
July 15 for the August/September issue  
September 15 for the Oct/Nov issue  
November 15 for the Dec/Jan issue.  
Submissions may be sent via e-mail to [vbayless2@cox.net](mailto:vbayless2@cox.net) or mailed to:

Editor, *Barred Owl*

Baton Rouge Audubon Society

P.O. Box 82525

Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2525

Changes of address and other official correspondence should be sent to the mailing address shown above.

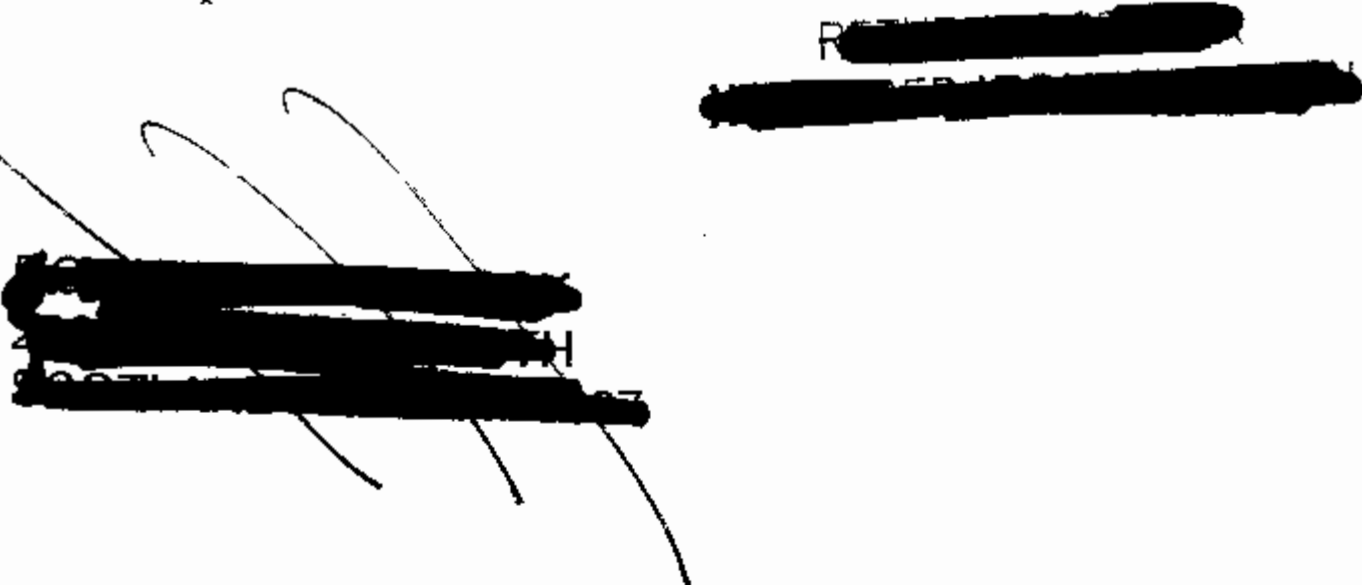


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### Chapter (BRAS) and National Audubon Membership

Join NAS by going to their website (www.audubon.org) and you automatically become a member of both NAS and BRAS. You will receive the quarterly award-winning Audubon Magazine as well as the bi-monthly BRAS newsletter, The Barred Owl. Sanctuary patches are \$10 extra and can be received by mailing in this form and indicating the number of patches you want and that you are a NAS member.

### BRAS Only Membership

Join BRAS if you want all of your dues to support local conservation and education. You will receive The Barred Owl newsletter every other month, first priority for field trips and educational programs, and a sanctuary patch if desired (check off options on form). To join BRAS, make checks payable to Baton Rouge Audubon Society and send this form along with your check to:  
**BRAS, P.O. Box 82525, Baton Rouge, LA 70884.**

### Baton Rouge Audubon Society (BRAS)

Please enroll me as a member of BRAS. Enclosed is my check for:

- \$20 Individual Membership
- \$30 Family Membership
- \$100 Rose-breasted Grosbeak Membership
- \$250 Louisiana Waterthrush Membership
- \$500 Painted Bunting Membership
- \$1000 Cerulean Warbler Membership
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Additional Contribution
- \_\_\_\_\_ # of patches (1 free with BRAS membership, additional patches @ \$10 each, NAS member patches @ \$10 each)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Chapter Code: 7XCII8 K01