

Chaetura

SPRING 2006

Driftwood Wildlife Association

Volume 11



A FOND FAREWELL TO Dr. Richard B. Fischer

January 19, 1919 - August 7, 2005

Richard B. Fischer was dedicated to the environment. His fourteen summers spent in research of the biology and breeding behavior of Chimney Swifts was the focus of his ornithological research. This work led to his Ph.D. at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. His 1958 doctoral dissertation, *The Breeding Biology of the Chimney*

Swift, remains one of the most comprehensive published studies of the species. In the 1970s and 1980s he advocated for legislation of the first returnable beverage container policy in New York. He also built hundreds of nest boxes for bluebirds and maintained an extensive bluebird nest box trail. Richard was one of the creators and the first science editor of *Ranger Rick* magazine and the science editor of the World Book Encyclopedia's "Our Living World of Nature" series.



"Dick" Fischer, Chimney Swift researcher (right) with David Lack, Common Swift researcher. (~1950)
(Photo courtesy of Richard B Fischer)

After teaching environmental education for 32 years, he retired from Cornell University but continued to lead nature tours. In the past two years, Richard again focused on Chimney Swifts and became involved in advocating construction of nesting and roosting towers. A tower is now scheduled to be built in Ithaca in his memory. The Richard B. Fischer Environmental Conservation Recognition Award was established by the town of Ithaca, NY to honor his commitment to conservation and education. In addition, a 34-acre sanctuary near Newfield, NY was established to acknowledge his work. Named the *Richard B. Fischer Old-Growth Forest*, the sanctuary commemorates Richard with an inscription on a boulder: "Through his teachings we saw and explored the world of living things and were changed forever".

IN THIS ISSUE:

<i>Chaetura Canyon</i>	2
<i>Here and There</i>	3
<i>Creating Habitat</i>	8
<i>Conserving and Building</i>	9
<i>Spring Sightings</i>	10
<i>Web Cam</i>	10
<i>A Swift Night Out</i>	11
<i>Hurricane Aftermath</i>	12
<i>Questions and Answers</i>	14
<i>Observations</i>	15
<i>Time Sharing</i>	16
<i>Chimney Sweeps Corner</i>	18
<i>Roost Tales</i>	19
<i>DWA Annual Report</i>	20
<i>Contributors and Associates</i>	22
<i>Memorials</i>	23



Report From Chaetura Canyon

Chimney Swift research began at Chaetura Canyon in 1989 with the construction of two large wooden towers. To date, fifteen structures are available for swift habitation. Seven towers are constructed of wood; the other eight are constructed from cinderblock. Three of the structures are monitored with miniature video cameras. In 2005, nine of the fifteen were utilized by swifts, five of the wooden and four of the cinderblock.

The first swift arrived at Chaetura Canyon on March 24 and roosted in the cinderblock "Castle". By mid-April, the roost had grown to 102 and by mid-May to 210 individuals. For the first time since its construction in 1994, no nesting activity occurred in this structure. Non-breeding birds continued to roost until the end of August.

The wooden tower attached to the north side of the house hosted a breeding pair and one helper swift. Six eggs were laid, two fell from the nest, the remaining four hatched and fledged. A second clutch of four eggs was in the nest by July 21. A nightly roost began to form, growing to 56 birds on August 5 when the first egg hatched. Only one additional egg hatched, both nestlings survived to fledge. The nightly roost fluctuated from a low of 116 to a high count of 305. The last swifts were observed on October 20.

The southern tower swift pair produced six eggs which all hatched. An additional adult assisted in feeding the young. Three nestlings expired from unknown causes fourteen days after hatching. The surviving three fledged.

Two clutches of eggs totaling eight eggs produced seven new fledglings in the wooden tower dubbed "The Prism". A fall roost consisting of 53 swifts chose this eight foot tall tower for nightly accommodations.

The eight nesting pairs produced 56 eggs, 46 hatched and 36 fledged. Swifts resided at Chaetura Canyon for 213 days. Climatic conditions consisted of above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall. This area typically receives 32 inches of rain for a year, only 20.07 inches fell in 2005.

CHIMNEY SWIFT PRODUCTIVITY AT CHAETURA CANYON – 2005

Tower	# Eggs Laid	# Eggs Hatch	# Young Fledged
North Observation (brood 1)	6	4	4
(brood 2)	4	2	2
South Observation	6	6	3
Prism (brood 1)	5	4	4
(brood 2)	3	3	3
West Field	7	6	6
12' Demonstration	4	2	2
South Pool (brood 1)	6	4	4
(brood 2)	3	3	0
Fence Tower #4 (brood 1)	4	4	0
(brood 2)	3	3	3
Fence Tower #6	5	5	5
Totals	56	46	36

Here and there



Photo by Mark Wetmore

Vermillion, SD

In 1998 Mark Wetmore constructed a 12 foot tall tower at his home. After six years of vacancy, he donated the structure to the Adam's Nature Preserve. Mark was happy to report that swifts successfully nested in his tower in 2005.

Staunton, VA

Bill and Mary's report: "Unfortunately, here at Chaetura Knoll our Chimney Swifts are once again NOT using the tower. We have always experienced "build it and they will come". I guess the swifts are a bit more picky! Next year we are going to change the bottom."

Marshfield, MA

David Clapp "Director of the Mass Audubon properties along the South Shore (Quincy to the Cape Cod Canal) has a Chimney Swift tower at the Daniel Webster Wildlife sanctuary. It was built by Clyde Gurney and has been used annually since it was erected".



Photo courtesy of Linda Zemple

Memphis, TN

Linda Zemple was "...happy to report that a 12 foot kiosk Chimney Swift tower has been completed at the Lichterman Nature Center in Memphis by the Memphis chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society. I am working on a plaque to attach to it, dedicating it to Ben and Lula Coffey, who banded 113,000 swifts in this area between 1932 and 1959. I am also going to have available at the nature center, a handout with a biography of the Coffeys on one side, and a biography of Chimney Swifts on the other."

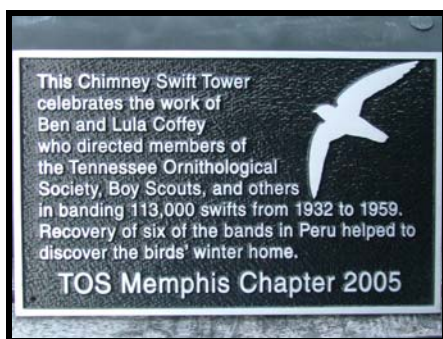


Photo courtesy of Linda Zemple



Photo by Fred Kazula

Warren, MI

Fred Kaluza reported: "...my Chimney Swift tower is complete! The total length (including the legs) is 16 feet. Twelve feet are sheathed for the nesting space. I put some fine plastic screen material over the top and bottom ventilation area between the inner and outer walls to keep hornets out. The actual square "hole" on top is reduced down to about 12" by 14". Now we wait and see if tenants arrival!"



Photo courtesy of Fred Kazula

Scituate, MA

Clyde Gurney constructed a tower and attached it to the side of an old barn. "Since its installation in 2002 we have had a pair of swifts there and raised young every year."

Here and there 1.1



Photo courtesy of Carol Cassetti

Columbia, SC

Gregory Morrison will be receiving his Eagle Scout Badge for a Swift Tower Project and his article for the South Carolina Wildlife Federation News. Honeywell (now Shaw Industries) provided the materials. The location is a 500 acre wildlife habitat area along the Saluda River.



Photo by Jim deVries

Austin, TX

Jim deVries sent this photo of their modified chimney rain cover. They “had swifts this year but they did not stay long.”



Photo by Mary Curry

Decatur, TX

Mary Curry was “happy to report our tower building was pretty successful this past spring. Our club, Tallgrass Prairie Audubon was going to build towers. Well, we built 5 concrete block towers. I have checked 4 of the 5 towers and all 4 had nests. Three towers had nests and egg shells on the floor. In the fourth tower the nest was still attached to the wall and had 3 eggs in it with a small hole in each egg. There were also 6 to 8 pieces of whole eggs on the floor, so I’m guessing they tried to lay eggs twice.

At my home, we built two 16 foot block towers as well. One tower had a nest that was started, but not finished.”

Lake Jackson, TX

The kiosk tower at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory was again unoccupied but Cecilia Riley states “we keep our fingers crossed for next year!”



Photo by John Weikel

Beaumont, TX

John Weikel “built this combo Chimney Swift/Barn Swallow tower. The 12 foot chimney is T1-11 inside with an inch and a half air passage from top to bottom between the T1-11 and the vinyl siding. The brick is masonite siding. The top rain guard has an inch and a half hard foam insulation. The fiberglass upside down satellite dish has a ten inch skirt and four sections with two ledges in each for Barn Swallows I hope!”



Photo by John Weikel

Houston, TX

Thea Troetscher has a tower in her backyard in the Spring Branch Oaks subdivision. It was home to a nesting pair of swifts that produced four nestlings.

Here and there 1.2



Kiosk Tower at Dripping Springs Elementary School

Photo by Paul Kyle

Dripping Springs, TX

Jamie Honeycutt was instrumental in organizing the effort to construct a kiosk tower at the Dripping Springs Elementary School as part of their growing number of wildlife and nature awareness programs.

The tower was built by participants of the Travis Audubon Society's first Chimney Swift Tower construction workshop.

When the construction was completed, second graders gathered for the dedication of the tower and provided interesting Chimney Swift facts for their fellow classmates.

The tower attracted a nesting pair that built a nest, unfortunately, no eggs were produced.

Efforts are now underway to install a miniature camera that will broadcast a live video feed on a television located at the entrance to the school.

Johnson City, TX

Lydia Middendorf and Nate McVaugh reported successful nesting in both of their towers. The cinderblock tower swifts produced seven eggs. Six hatched and fledged. The tower also hosted a fall roost. The eight foot tall wooden tower produced four fledglings.

Liberty, TX

Laurie Lomas reported a nest with eggs in the wooden tower located at Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge.

Dallas, TX

Phil Huey "still has swifts calling his tower "home"."

Cedar Creek, TX

Jim Roecker "had another successful year for the swift family. The nest location moved slightly to the east. I had feeding chatter from the young, with the birds fledging and out of the tower on June 13."

San Marcos, TX

Francie McNair's "...son is building a Chimney Swift tower. It is under construction and will be brought here to my small acreage home site. I can't wait to have swifts again. We had them for many years in our chimney in our previous home."

Mason, TX

Two wooden towers attached to the cabin at Calcite Ranch were both occupied by nest building swifts.

Johnson City, TX

The kiosk tower built at the education center at the Bamberger Ranch remains unused. However, a nesting pair of swifts and a small fall roost utilized a chimney on one of the homes at the ranch.

Austin, TX

The Ridgelea neighborhood Kiosk Tower had seven eggs. Six of these hatched, but two dead nestlings were found in the detritus on the floor of the tower. The other four young survived and fledged.

Here and there 1.3

Austin, TX

Last fall Anne and John Donovan “walked up to Casis Elementary school several evenings to see if any swifts were entering the tower at dusk. Each night we saw as many as five circling overhead, but never more than two entering for the night. Thus we concluded that they were probably a nesting pair, but that the tower was not used for other swifts roosting.”

Austin, TX

From Walter Laich, Executive Director of Wild Basin Wilderness preserve: “Thank you [*Driftwood Wildlife Association*] for building a Chimney Swift Tower at Wild Basin. This is going to be a great education tool for school children and adults to enjoy and learn from for years to come.”



Photo by Jeffrey Hitchings

Double Oak, TX

Jeffrey Hitchings’ 16 foot tall 23 inch inside diameter was active its first year.

Abita Springs, LA

Olga Clifton sent a message in early April “that it appears that our lowly tower has become a migration stop over for the Chimney Swifts!! What an awesome sight to see so many swifts descending into the tower on a beautiful spring evening.”

Cleveland, OH

Carl and Joey “added a Swift tower to the Nature Center in Garfield Park Reservation of Cleveland Metroparks this year. We hope the swifts will find it next year and utilize it.”

The Cleveland Metroparks is planning three more towers for the future.

Greensboro, NC

Danny Royster “built a swift tower back in the late 1990’s and had a pair nest in it for the past 6 to 7 years. Then around August it begins to be a communal roost for between 75 to 100 swifts. I built and put up a second one in June 2005. Both are 16 feet tall and 20 to 21 inches inside diameter and are attached to small outbuildings.”

Matthews, NC

Dan Howie “did a little renovation on my tower. I made my tower out of concrete blocks, and at the top, built a peak that

made the entrance about 7 1/2” x 7 1/2” using terracotta pipe. I did not have any luck in attracting swifts the last couple of years or so, so this year I removed the top portion and it is now open about 16” x 16”. What really gets me is that my next door neighbor had them in his fireplace chimney, and his wife was scared of them and he covered the top with a cap. I try like everything to get them in my tower, and NO LUCK! Oh well, I am giving it a try.”

Holt, MO

Joyce and Bill Rosson’s two wooden swift towers were again occupied in 2005. The tower attached to the north side of their barn produced five fledglings and hosted a roost of 25 birds. The west tower birds exhibited unusual behavior. “A nest was constructed, four eggs were laid, and then the nest was abandoned. The eggs were rolled out of the nest and a new nest was constructed directly under the first nest. Four more eggs were laid...” Surveillance cameras installed in both towers allowed for close observation of swift activities. Antagonistic behavior between the second pair of swifts nesting involved one bird chasing two birds out of the tower...twice. This tower hosted a roosting flock of 300 birds. “The 50 foot tall old school chimney in Kearney was torn down so we had more swifts roosting for a longer period of time than in 2004.”

Here and there 1.4

...and more from Missouri:

As reported in Chaetura 2004, a summit focused on Chimney Swift conservation was held in Kansas City. A second summit was held in early March, 2005. Participants at this meeting returned to their communities and began to implement projects to benefit the swifts. Following are a few notable efforts:

Roscoe Righter of The Blue Springs Parks and Recreation Department has scheduled the construction of 10 towers. Two are now being built.

The Discovery Center had a tower building session. Four towers were constructed in one day.

Jim Persson (Head of Fish and Game) and Russell Mende attempted to intercede for swifts at

a church in Oak Grove slated for demolition.

The Audubon Society of Missouri published an article on Chimney Swifts in the December 2005 issue of their publication "The Bluebird". A future conservation project for their membership "was the establishment of Chimney Swift towers as their nesting habitats are destroyed."

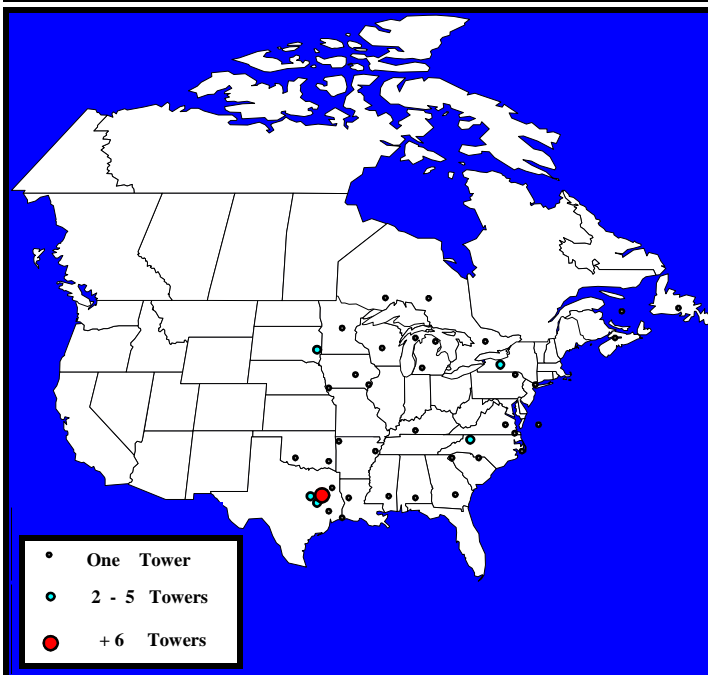
And of course, Joyce Rosson (motherswift) continues to be an advocate for swifts. Through her rehabilitation and educational efforts, many Missourians are learning about the benefits and plight of Chimney Swifts. In the article she wrote for "The Bluebird", she states... "Sadly, huge chimneys are being torn down. This fall, the Kearney Jr. High chimney that had 3000

migrating Swifts just last year and had thousands every year since 1920 when the school was built, was razed. The old church chimney in Oak Grove, Missouri was torn down and in Joplin, Missouri the huge school chimney was capped. This has been and is going on everywhere.

The Chimney Swifts are in trouble and we can help stop the decline by getting the word out about these wonderful birds and by letting them use our chimneys to raise a family and by building towers for nesting and roosting."



Chimney Swift and Vaux's Swift Towers
in North America



Is Your Tower on the Map?

*Check out the newest link at
www.chimneyswifts.org
to find out*

*If you have a tower, and it is
not yet listed, please contact us
with your information!*

dwa@austin.rr.com

Creating Habitat That Mimics Traditional Chimney Construction



Photo by Paul Kyle

Lockhart, TX

Carla and Jud McRee built a new home. Carla is a devoted Purple Martin landlord and also maintains a 12' wooden swift tower. Always an advocate for wildlife, Carla embarked on a design to allow her family to enjoy the benefits of a fireplace and provide nesting habitat for swifts in adjacent yet separate chimneys. Her mason spoke only Spanish, Carla spoke none. Through drawings, gesturing and sheer determination two chambers for swifts complete with their own "clean out doors" were created. In late May 2005, Carla sent a note that "there is a nest with young in one side of the new 'triple shafted chimney'."



Photo by Mary Purcell

Wabash, IN

Mary Purcell sent this photo of her "...completed tower. The left side (capped) is connected to a wood-burning stove, not often used and hopefully not needed when the swifts are here. The right side is all for the swifts. It was completed by migration 2004, but none roosted in it. This spring, there are about 20 swifts daily in my neighborhood, and they've seen the tower but none have dropped in. I hope eventually they will tolerate the 12" x 12" interior. The "C" on the tower is for "Chaetura"."



Photo by Grace Storch

Elizabeth, IL

In 2004, Grace Storch included a false chimney in the construction of her new home. The wooden tower mimics the chase constructed for a conventional metal fireplace and chimney so common in new construction but is strictly for the swifts. Chimney Swifts readily occupied the site and neighbors were unaware that the structure was not a standard commercial chimney.

Conserving and Building for the Future of Chimney Swifts in North America

With few exceptions, the widespread creation of Chimney Swift nesting and roosting habitat has been “accidental” and a result of standard human construction practices over the last two centuries. However, where masonry chimneys and fireplaces were once standard, pre-fabricated stainless steel units have now become the norm. Large airshafts that once served to cool multi-story urban buildings are no longer necessary now that central air conditioning is common. Currently, there does not seem to be any standard construction that is likely to automatically produce any significant number of new Chimney Swift nest or roost sites. However, there are many “missed opportunities” in Chimney Swift conservation.

Modern architecture commonly includes aesthetic features along with the practical. When these features are expressed in the form of columns and towers, Chimney Swift habitat may be ready-made. Because these features are often detached from the main structure, and not functional, the conflicts that often arise between Chimney Swifts and people are no longer an issue. Any structure that is tall, hollow, open at the top and roughly textured inside is probable Chimney Swift habitat. In many cases, a few very simple changes during the design phase of some projects can create structures that are suitable for Chimney Swifts and pleasing to humans. This may be especially appropriate in projects that are already involved in wildlife and nature education.

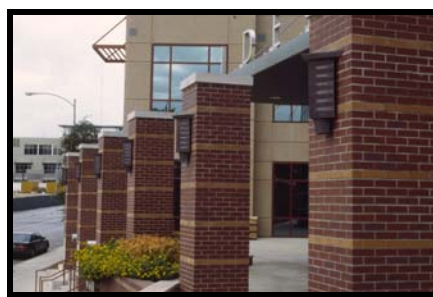
Cinder block, stucco and stone walls and fences also provide an opportunity for habitat creation. Such walls require stabilizing columns every few feet. These columns can be built slightly taller than the wall and left hollow and open on top with drain openings on the bottom. This makes them perfectly acceptable for use by nesting Chimney Swifts. There are even cinder blocks available called “pilasters” that are seemingly ideally designed for the job. These blocks measure 16” x 16” x 8” tall, and have a twelve inch hollow center. Some enterprising conservationists are building such columns at evenly spaced intervals along their fence lines to accommodate Chimney Swifts – much in the same way that bluebird trails have commonly been established in many regions of North America.

Recycled materials may also play a role in the future of Chimney Swift conservation. Piles of old concrete culvert pipes are lying unused in many municipal, county and state storage yards around the country. Since Chimney Swifts have been observed nesting in concrete stand pipes, there is no reason to doubt that the birds would use these discarded pipes if they stood upright. Certainly a foundation and drainage would need to be provided, but no additional construction would be necessary. There might even be an incentive for waste management treatment facilities to erect rows of these concrete columns around their operations to aid in the control of flying insects.

The opportunities to provide habitat for the adaptable Chimney Swift are limited only by our imagination and initiative. Whether we leave our chimneys open for them to use as they have for generations, organize community efforts to place new Chimney Swift Towers in our parks or simply point to the sky and show someone a Chimney Swift for the first time, we can each make a difference in how this story proceeds. The skies would indeed be empty without the merry sounds and astounding acrobatic displays of the Chimney Swifts.

From “Chimney Swifts: America’s Mysterious Birds above the Fireplace”

*by Paul D. and Georgan Z. Kyle
Texas A&M University Press, 2005*



Three examples of “missed opportunities” for creating new Chimney Swift habitat

Photos by Paul D. and Georgan Z. Kyle



REPORT YOUR SPRING CHIMNEY SWIFT SIGHTINGS

The migration paths of Chimney Swifts are not fully understood. All reports of swift sightings are helpful in determining possible routes taken by the species. Two illuminating spring reports from 2005:

From Bert Frenz:

“11 March – 3 on toll road between Villahermosa and Veracruz, about 100 miles south of Veracruz.

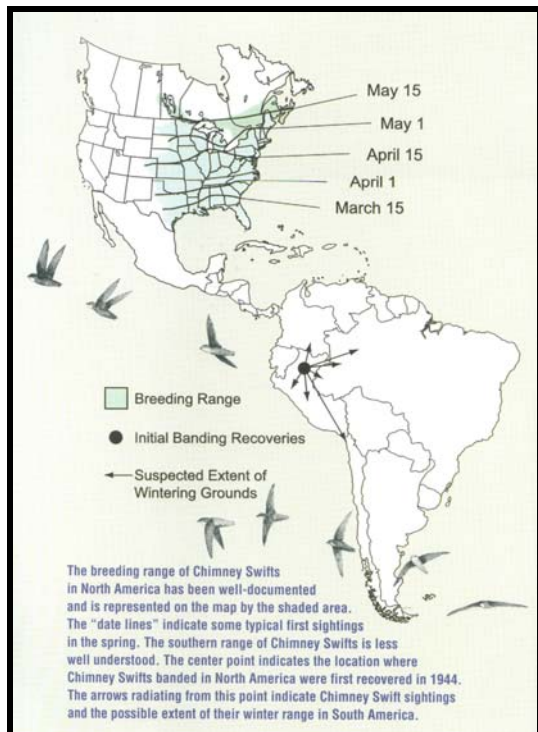
23 March – 1 over Mustang Island, just beyond the sand dunes near the shoreline, 5 miles south of Port Aransas and a few miles north of Mustang Island State Park.”

From Michael Patten and Kimball L. Garrett et. al. (North American Birds, volume 59; No. 3, 2005):

“Birds judged to be Chimney Swifts were recorded in Chiapas as follows: a single at Sumidero Canyon N.P. 25 March and 10 near Queretaro between Jaltenango and Finca Prusia 26 March.”

For the sixth year we will be posting and mapping first spring Chimney Swift sightings across North America. You can follow these sightings as the map is updated on the <ChimneySwifts.org> web site. Please contact us with your first spring sightings!

Email: DWA@austin.rr.com



CHIMNEY SWIFT WEB CAM

We use surveillance cameras to monitor and record Chimney Swift activity in the Observation Towers at the Chaetura Canyon Bird Sanctuary. The web cam will provide a live feed in real time beginning May 1 and will be active from dawn until dusk (approximately 7:00 am through 8:00 pm CDT). In the event of a thunderstorm in our area, it will be shut down.

Robin Horne writes: “I have been spellbound the last few days, since you told me about the Chimney Swift web cam. What an absolutely wonderful thing. I’ve watched the nest during the day, and the birds entering the tower in the evening. This morning I got to see them leaving the tower. Thank you so very much for providing this awesome view. For years, I could hear the swifts in my chimney and wished I could see them. I find it just incredible that I can watch inside your towers in real time. It takes my breath away.”

Don’t miss out! Visit the Driftwood Wildlife Association web site at www.chimneyswifts.org and “bookmark” the Chimney Swift web cam now!

A Swift Night Out

A Swift Night Out is a national effort to raise awareness about Chimney and Vaux's Swifts by drawing attention to the spectacle of fall roosts. Thanks to all who participated in the 2005 Swift Night Out count. This event has helped to locate structures that the swifts use during migration and to record the number of individual birds utilizing those structures. It is also an excellent way to introduce folks to Chimney Swifts. Swift watchers from 20 states and from Ontario, Canada participated in locating and monitoring communal roosts.

"I am sending this e-mail on behalf of my family. Tonight we had the absolute honor and awe to watch hundreds of Chimney Swifts chitter, swirl and descend into an old chimney.

We were at Wakulla Springs State Park in Wakulla Co. Florida and the chimney is part of a running, historic hotel from the 1930's. The park ranger told us what the birds were and told us to go up to the lodge and watch the show. From 8:15 pm until 8:40 pm we watched and listened while what we estimated to be 300+ Swifts (per the park ranger) flew in a perfect hurricane spiral above our heads before plunging one-by-one (sometimes three-by-three) into the narrow chimney.

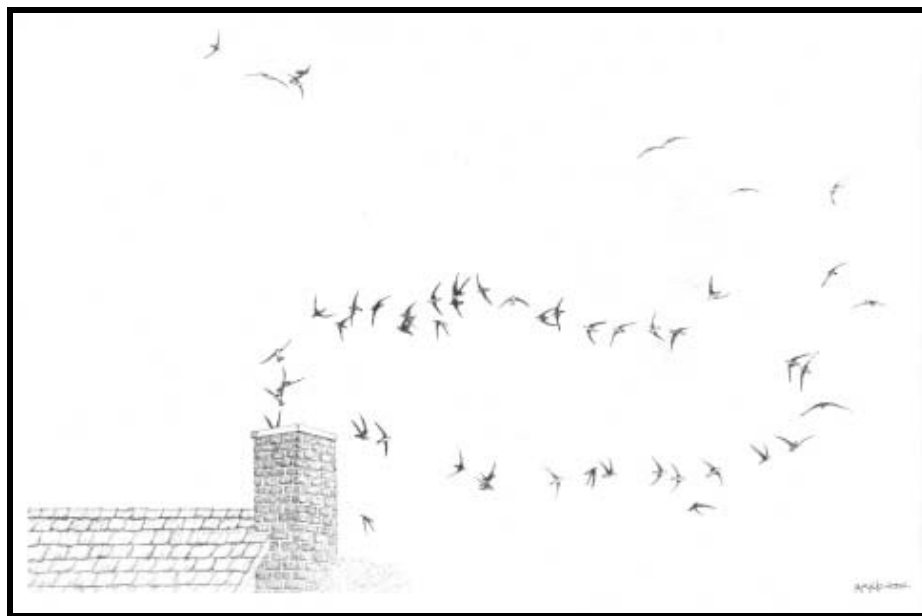
My two children, husband and myself were oohing and ahing as if we were watching a fireworks display on the fourth of July. A small crowd of restaurant and Inn patrons gathered to see "what the fuss was about".

I just had to write to share this experience with you and your organization as I can see that it is clearly a passion for you. My son, a boy scout, saw the Swift house construction on your website and thought that might be a great Eagle project when the time comes.

Thank you for posting such great information about this species. We will look further into what we can do to help promote awareness of these amazing little birds to our friends and neighbors here in Tallahassee."

Peggy Wright

Mark your calendars now. A Swift Night Out for 2006 will be held on **August 11, 12 and 13** and again on **September 8, 9 and 10**.



*For a complete list
of sightings and reports, visit
www.chimneyswifts.org
and click on
"A Swift Night Out"*





AVIAN AFTERMATH OF THE 2005 HURRICANES

The unprecedented occurrence of tropical storms and a record breaking total of 15 named hurricanes in 2005 brought devastation to both human and wildlife abodes in their paths. Katrina and Rita devastated the North American Gulf Coast leaving New Orleans submerged after the levies gave way, and thousands of residents displaced or homeless. Well into 2006 the effects are still being felt. But the untold story is the effect of these storms on wildlife — specifically Chimney Swifts and other migratory birds that were caught in the storms' fury.

A message from Judith Toups in Gulfport, Mississippi: "...as you must be aware, the Mississippi coast counties suffered incredible damage from hurricane Katrina. We are almost at the point of starting with a clean slate – so many structures were destroyed and natural habitats rendered inhabitable, at least for the near future. As we get back on our feet, we have a chance to “do-it-right” and projects such as constructing swift towers in prominent public-use areas would be just one step among many.”

Storms continued to batter the continent, but hurricane Wilma proved to be one of the most detrimental to avian migrants. As a strong storm traveling through the Caribbean, then into the Gulf of Mexico and across the southern tip of Florida, migrants were gathered into the winds and carried well away from their intended course. Following are reports following “fallouts” from Wilma.

“Hurricane Wilma passed well to the east of Nova Scotia, but as its eye disintegrated it deposited large numbers of birds along the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia, with smaller numbers to the northeast in Newfoundland and to the west in southern New Brunswick. A few birds also reached Prince Edward Island....

The following species (at least) seem to be involved with the hurricane. Provisional early numbers are only from Nova Scotia. Taxonomic order:

Magnificent Frigatebirds – 3	Chimney Swifts – thousands
Long-billed Dowitchers – 20+	Yellow-billed Cuckoos – 2+
Laughing Gulls – 75+	Purple Martins - several
Caspian Terns – 20+	Tree Swallows – many hundreds
Sandwich Terns – 10+	Northern Rough-winged Swallows – 20+
Royal Terns – 5+	Bank Swallows – 20+
Forster's Terns – 10+	Cliff Swallows - dozens
Common Terns – 100's	Cave Swallows (Caribbean race) – 5+
Least Tern – 1	Barn Swallows - many hundreds
Black Terns – 2+	
Black Skimmers – 4	

I must stress that these are very preliminary unconfirmed numbers. Also, the actual numbers of birds involved, especially for the cuckoos, swifts and swallows, is certainly much higher, as there are thousands of kilometers of Atlantic coastline in Nova Scotia, and most was unsurveyed. Many birds must also have perished at sea.”

Blake Maybank

Ross and Linda Hall in Nova Scotia relayed information on Oct. 28 about “a gentleman who estimated 400 Chimney Swifts went down his chimney. About 300 removed were dead. About 100 were released and were seen actively feeding along the shoreline.” James R. Hirtle provided additional information on those swifts: “The Chimney Swifts in question did not die from carbon monoxide. These were birds that came in on the day of Wilma

and it was their first evening of arrival. I suspect that their fat reserves were to the point that they were unable to make it through the night. Their fuel reserves totally spent with just enough energy left to make it into the chimney. Likely many died over the ocean before reaching land". Mark F. Elderkin, Species at Risk Biologist remarked: "Unfortunately, the incidence of swifts getting caught in cold fronts in the fall is not that uncommon and we have recorded a few highly significant mortality events over the last 3 or 4 decades. The birds are especially vulnerable when temperatures nearly eliminate supplies of aerial insects on which the birds depend for food."

The normal last sighting of swifts in Nova Scotia is August.

Reports also came in from the Azores:

"The island of Corvo is being battered by a fast moving depression and another one due on Monday. Winds are so strong the flights to Corvo have been cancelled...nobody gets on or off Corvo.

Chimney Swifts – a flock of 27 birds present on the island!

Red-eyed Vireo – 1 still present

Lapland Bunting – 1

White-eyed Vireo – 1

Black-throated Blue Warbler- 1

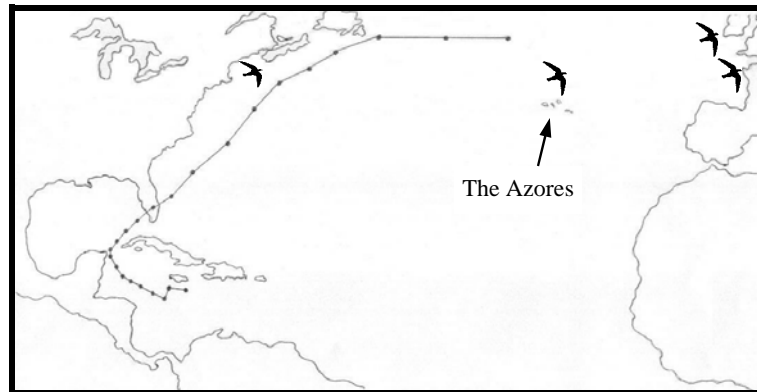
Rose-breasted Grosbeak – 1

Yellow-billed Cuckoo -1

Bobolinks – 2

Indigo Buntings – 2

White-crowned Sparrow – 1



Track of Hurricane Wilma

And from Sao Miguel:

Chimney Swifts – 2

Tree Swallow – 1

Surf Scoter – 1

American Bittern – 1

Ring-necked Ducks – 5

Pied-billed Grebe – 1

Similar reports were made from the other islands comprising the Azores.

But the storm continued to the east with a report and a photo of a Chimney Swift from Michael Frankis in Newcastle, UK, November 2:

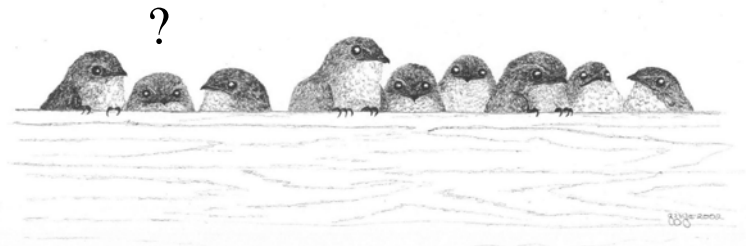
"First record for Northumberland County (northeastern England); seen by about 20 birders who could get there before high tide cut off access to the island. Ties in well with the influx into the Azores and southern Ireland in the last 10 days."

And from Eric Leguay;... "In France also a Chimney Swift was seen yesterday "during several hours" by a LPO ornithologist. L'Île de Sein is an island located in the Finistere department, Bretagne, the extreme western part of continental France."

JET from Wolfville, Nova Scotia stated well the concerns we all have for these lost migrants:... "and what shape are the birds in when they finally are released from the winds of such a hurricane as Wilma and are "allowed" to fall out of the skies, almost literally. They are far from healthy after such a beating, days of it without food and water as they are spun around in the winds. We know what happens to animals and humans on the earth during hurricanes, but that is only for a few hours by comparison."



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS...



“I live in Warner Robins, GA., about fifteen miles south of Macon, GA. Where are all the Chimney Swifts this year? I have a brick chimney and every year I close the top off so the birds will not nest inside. This year I have not seen the first chimney swift. Could this be a local problem or do people in other states report not seeing the birds? Every evening you could see them flying low to catch insects, but this year I have not seen any birds. Let me know if you have any information on what has happened to the birds.”

Gregory

Chimney Swift numbers have declined from approximately 27 million birds in 1969 to an estimated 15 million individuals in 2003. The 44% decline is due primarily to the fact that suitable chimneys necessary for the birds nesting requirements are being capped or demolished. This trend is occurring throughout the swifts breeding range.

“We have lived in our present home since 1978 and have enjoyed the Chimney Swifts in our chimney all these years. We are planning to move this year and I am very concerned about the swifts. I have talked to a couple of wild bird stores and both of them said just cap the chimney and the birds will find somewhere else to go. I am worried about that as we’re the only ones in our subdivision that I’ve seen with the chimney uncapped. Where else can they go?”

Bob and Nancy

It is troubling that your wild bird stores are so callous about Chimney Swifts. The notion that they will “find somewhere else to go” is extremely uninformed. Chimney Swifts present some extremely difficult conservation problems. To nest and roost, they need deep, dark, rough-textured shafts. Historically, those were large hollow trees, but now chimneys are the only real refuge for these remarkable birds. Chimney Swift towers are essentially artificial chimneys, and should be 14 ½” by 14 ½” inside and 8’ tall at the minimum. By nature such structures are anything but subtle, but they can be made to look quite attractive. You might consider having some information about Chimney Swifts on hand and be up front with prospective buyers. Perhaps you will find someone who shares your conservation concerns.

“My neighbor works in the Bee Caves area. He told me that this summer he had a swift nest inside his workshop which is an open sided barn. He watched the young on a daily basis exercising up and down on his tools hanging on the walls (that he needed but was very patient and did not disturb them). The doors were closed at night. Is this unusual? I am so fascinated as it means the swifts could possibly be adapting to other means of nesting.”

Carla

Although unusual, swifts’ nesting inside buildings has been documented in the past. Richard Fischer actually studied multiple pairs of swifts each nesting in separate out buildings in upstate New York in the 1950’s. This has been rarer in the recent past but it is possible that some swifts are adapting to the behavior. Let’s hope that all potential landlords are as tolerant as your friend.

“In the area where I live we have lots of swifts but I have not been able to find a roost site. I have found one in the next town about 13 miles away. I know better but thought I’d ask, these birds wouldn’t be commuting would they?”

By the way, I live in Fowlerville, MI, 40 miles east of Lansing, the state capitol.”

Pat

Thirteen miles is not a long commute for a Chimney Swift. They forage for food five miles or more from their nesting site. They can and do travel much further to join a communal roost after the breeding season. However, some swifts will remain in their nesting chimney until they migrate.

“A student in our elementary school is doing research on Chimney Swifts and was wondering what their natural predators are. Could you provide us with this information?”

Joan

When in flight, Chimney Swifts have very few predators. Occasionally one may be caught by a falcon or other bird of prey, but swifts are really too small, fast and maneuverable to be an easy meal. However, when Chimney Swifts go to roost at night, and when they are nesting, the adults, their eggs and young are vulnerable to anything that might enter their chimney or tower. These include Great Horned Owls, Screech Owls, raccoons, ringtails, squirrels and snakes. Ants can prey on the babies before they are able to fly. House cats have also been seen on roof tops snatching swifts as they come and go from a chimney.

OBSERVATIONS

Sheryl Foote from Guyton, Georgia wrote: “My chimney has been used by nesting swifts for as long as I can remember. Over the years I discovered something interesting about swifts that I did not see mentioned in any of the articles, so I thought I would share it with you.

My house is old and the fireplace is original. It is made solely of brick and mortar and has no damper. Although I did install glass doors to retard heat loss as well as to keep any visiting Critters from getting into the house, they do not do much to muffle the sound, so when the swifts are nesting we can hear them quite well.

The noise does not bother me, in fact, I rather enjoy it but many times when there have been visitors and guests in my home during nesting, I have had to assure them that what they were hearing was coming from birds and not the “after world”. I have been asked many times how I can tolerate “all that noise” and after responding with “They’re usually not this noisy” each time, I started to realize that the swifts were made nervous and restless by the presence of strangers. Activity levels and noises in the house do not seem to affect them as long as only household members are present.”

In late March Jeff Mundy in Austin, Texas was riding his “bike home from work about 8:30 pm. On the southeast side of the capitol dome, about 10 – 15 swifts were working around the flood lights apparently feeding. I found this very unusual as I have never seen swifts out after dark. I wonder if they might be migrants in an out of normal place caught looking for food.

I have not seen them since. In the three years that I have been in this office, I’ve gone by the capitol many, many times at night and never seen anything other than nighthawks or bats there.”

From Sean in University Park, Maryland: “I was walking home on Thursday evening (May 26) and there were up to a dozen Chimney Swifts flying very low above a big lawn in front of the University Chapel. It was about 7:00 pm, late afternoon/early evening with the sun on its way to the horizon but not yet setting. Temperatures were in the mid teens, there was a slight breeze and a few scattered clouds. This evening they were diving down to within a few feet of the ground and flying along at high speeds, much closer to the surface than I have ever seen them. This is behavior that I normally associate with swallows, which zip along a few inches above the tops of lawns hunting bugs. These were not swallows though. The markings, or more accurately the lack of markings, the distinctive erratic flight pattern and the high-pitched twittering call were all features that I became very familiar with during the summer I worked at the chimney in Wolfville. I had several very close (a few feet) looks at them as they zipped past, and their call is really unmistakable. I suspect we may have had a hatch of some tasty insect or other that brought them down to feed.”

CHIMNEY TIME-SHARING REPORTS

“My daughter has been fascinated by all of the swifts in our chimney. We counted 40 going in last night. Our home is 145 years old and the chimney is very large, about 12” by 25” inside. Since it is only one brick thick with no lining we do not use it for fires. I blocked the bottom with insulation to keep the heat in the house.”

Harry Meyer / Yellville, AR

“While looking for a way to remove the birds chirping in my chimney, I have just been enlightened to the Chimney Swifts lifestyle! My chimney cap blew off last August and I had birds immediately move in. I didn’t use the fireplace all winter in fear of nesting material in the chimney and I forgot to replace the cap.

Well, I again have a healthy crew of swifts nesting in the chimney this year. They are pretty loud now so they must be about able to move out!

Now I want to go out and see if I can spot the cigars flying around. I have a ten acre horse farm and will appreciate their insect eating.”

Grace Jacobus / Mounds, OK

“I have enjoyed having Chimney Swifts take up summer residence in my masonry chimney during the past four summers. Each year the population has grown, and I estimate approximately 25 – 30 birds are currently in residence. (It’s also the LOUDEST time with the swift babies!)

Lynn McCawley / Prince Frederick, MD

“I have worked for 30 years at the same place, a residential facility for developmentally disabled. The facility was built in the early 1950’s. There are several “maintenance buildings” dispersed around campus that now have dysfunctional chimneys on each building. Each year we are extremely lucky to have Chimney Swifts come and nest in the chimneys. I don’t believe many people at work are aware of the swifts and I am often asked why I am standing on the sidewalk staring up at a chimney. Also on our campus is a recreational park with a large park pavilion. In the middle of the pavilion is a large open fireplace (that I don’t think has been used in years). I was able to peer up it yesterday and view the swift nest, babies and a parent feeding.”

Gail Miller / Conway, AR

“I live in Orlando, Florida in an older home within the city limits. We haven’t used our fireplace in many years, so the noise of chirping was a surprise. I have only seen two swifts, and I’m assuming it’s the male and female taking care of their young but there could be more. We’re pleased they chose our chimney but surprised they could find it as our home is covered by quite a few huge oak trees and not easily seen from the sky. We have lived in our home for almost 30 years and this is the swifts’ first visit to us.”

Velinda Williams / Orlando, FL

“I’m sharing my home with Chimney Swifts tonight! I just got in, took care of a few things, heard a chirping and thumping, and found it coming from the fireplace...and they are still chirping away!”

Trey Kelley / Austin, TX

“Chimney Swifts use my unused fireplace chimney every year and always arrive around April 1. This is a house that is about 40+ years old. The rain is kept out of the chimney by a rain guard roof that sits on small posts above the chimney opening so the birds enter through the four sided opening between the chimney and the rain guard (must be at least 8 inch openings all around). I have had babies every year.”

Carol Frascella / Houston, TX

“Earlier this year I went down in the cellar and opened the small door at the base of the chimney and found last years nest all in one piece. That nest had been built low in the chimney. Recently I took a hand mirror to look up into the chimney and found that this year’s nest is way up high.” (Sept. 30, 2005)

Marlene Cranmer / Bath, NY

“I would like to report that I have a Chimney Swift nesting site and a fall communal roosting site on my property. We have an estimated 1000-1500 birds before they migrate in early October. The chimney is a 35 foot boiler chimney that the birds have been using for nearly 50 years.”

Misty Minar / Evansville, IN

“I built a house in Boerne, Texas four years ago and it has a stone chimney. Every summer since we moved in we have experienced quite a racket from our chimney. I figured the noise was from birds but was not sure of the type. I knew there was a nest involved because of the squawking of the little ones at feeding time. I didn’t disturb the birds but wasn’t sure I was ready to put up with all the noise every year. After the second year, I went up on the roof in the winter and placed some wire (actually some leftover fencing with 4 inch squares) over the chimney. In the spring of the following year I noticed birds circling over the chimney for several days. I figured that I had successfully blocked their entrance into the chimney. Then, after a few more days, I started feeling guilty and went back on the roof to remove the wiring. When I peered down the chimney there were two birds sitting on a nest staring back at me. Seems like my chimney cover wasn’t a deterrent after all. I left them alone and soon enough the sounds of nestlings could be heard. I still wasn’t sure what exactly I had in my chimney – friend or foe, benefit or pest, native or invader. I asked around and several people confirmed that I had Chimney Swifts. Most of these people suggested I cap my fireplace. Some suggested that the birds carried diseases that could now easily get into my house. Before I reacted, I did some research and bought your book. You have opened my eyes. The birds can stay forever and a little noise is really a small price to pay for having the privilege of these fine birds as part of my home.”

Scott Peacock / Boerne, TX

“I bought my home two years ago in June. I surmise thinking back now that the nesting was already under way. My son and I awoke one night to hear the screeching from the babies. I took the babies out and took them to the Audubon Society who told me to take the babies back and put them in the chimney, which I directly did. Today, a year later, my neighbors came rushing over to tell me that it seemed like all the birds in the sky were hovering around my house and going down my chimney. Sure enough they were. It was like a scene from the movie *The Birds* except with a much better outcome. You wouldn’t believe what some people said to do. I being a bird lover just felt that they were doing more good than harm and looked up your website. I feel honored to have my chimneys filled with these swifts. I know they are not causing any harm and will migrate south pretty soon. I am enjoying seeing them and their spectacular aerial flights. My house was built in 1948 out of cinder blocks and plaster. The chimney is perfect for them. I have 2/3 of an acre and I think I will try to build a couple of the masonry Chimney Swift towers in the back yard. I would love to see if they will use them as well as the house chimneys. I have learned so much from your site and thank you. I now know that all I really need to do is to clean my chimneys in the spring before their arrival.”

Denise Campbell / Beaverton, OR

Our thanks to all who willingly time share their chimneys with Chimney Swifts. Although we advocate the construction of as many alternative nesting towers as possible, existing masonry chimneys provide vital nesting habitat for swifts. Proper maintenance of those chimneys is important for both the homeowner and for nesting swifts. When hiring a chimney sweep to perform maintenance, be sure to select a professional from the National Chimney Sweeping Guild. To locate a professional chimney sweep, go to:



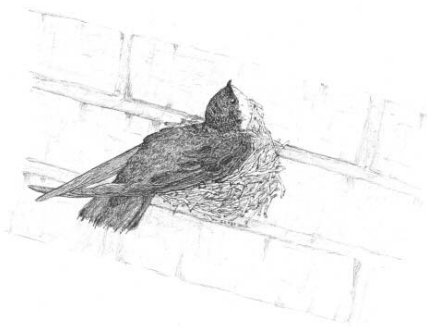
www.csia.org or www.ncsg.org



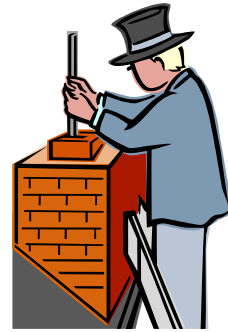
A NOTE FROM NATIONAL AUDUBON

National Audubon is producing a series of poster-brochures to illustrate ways to improve various landscapes for birds. On the brochures for neighborhoods, schoolyards, and apartments Chimney Swift towers will be featured with text to explain what they are. Contact your local Audubon Society for a copy of these informative brochures.

Thanks to Rob Fergus, Science Coordinator for Audubon at Home, National Audubon Science Office for including Chimney Swifts in these publications.



CHIMNEY SWEEPS CORNER



“Chimney Swifts” and “chimney sweeps” are often mistaken for each other. Simply stated, Chimney Swifts are the birds requiring conserve, while chimney sweeps are the professionals who clean chimneys to keep them safe for homeowners and Chimney Swifts alike. More and more, the professional chimney sweeping industry is becoming the front line defense in Chimney Swift conservation. When choosing a company to help you with your annual chimney maintenance, please make certain that you select one of the many fine professionals that do not advertise or advocate “bird removal”.

Paul Hempel, is a professional chimney sweep of Brushes and Brooms Chimney Sweep in Brighton, IL, member of the National Chimney Sweeping Guild and a strong advocate of Chimney Swift conservation. He sent this spring report from his home: “Just wanted to let you know that our swifts are doing great this year. We seem to have more than usual, up to eight patrolling the skies around the house most of the time. They are nesting in both the fireplace and also once again in the small, 7 1/2” round stove/furnace flue.”

Paul also graciously assists in answering inquiries about chimney questions sent to the DWA website. Michael Bell asked: “Is it possible to put a removable chimney cap on during the winter months (when the fireplace is in use) and remove it while the swifts are there? I recently bought a house in Dallas that has swifts in the chimney. I want to be able to use the fireplace but don’t want to disturb the birds”

Paul’s Response: “Thanks for your inquiry about swifts, and for caring about their welfare. Yes, many chimney caps are simple to remove and your idea about taking it off for the nesting season is a good one that works well. It gives you the best of both worlds...a good nesting site for swifts and a good safe cap for the burning season. Most but not all chimney sweep companies have swift friendly company policies so be sure to explain your intentions during your initial call to be sure they are willing to work with you. There are some chimney caps that are difficult to remove and this will let the sweep know to use the proper cap. The nesting debris that the average swift family leaves behind is also minimal so routine maintenance of your fireplace every year or two should keep the chimney in good shape for both you and the swifts.”

Ron Brigman of Blue Sky Chimney Sweeps in Laurens, SC built “a tower made of T1-11 with an outside dimension of 24” by 24”. It is double wall construction. The tower is 12 feet with legs raising it about 2 feet off of the ground. Total height is 14 feet or maybe a little better.” Last spring he “noticed several swifts flying around and making dives at the tower. I

thought maybe they were just checking it out. Then as we watched for a few minutes, a swift flew out of the tower.”

The National Chimney Sweeping Guild convention was held last year in late March in San Antonio, TX. The Guild graciously invited us to make a presentation to the membership about our conservation efforts on behalf of Chimney Swifts. Attendees were very interested in the construction of alternate nesting sites for swifts. Following our presentation, Pat Powers of Austin-German Chimney Sweeps in Austin, TX and Jason from Ace Chimney Sweeps in Longview, TX provided remediation techniques for customers sharing their chimney with swifts. Pat discussed the methods he developed along with the Texas Chimney Sweeping Guild to buffer the sounds of baby swifts for homeowners who are less than enthusiastic about hosting a Chimney Swift family. His techniques are easily duplicated by other sweeps across the country. Since chimney sweeps most often receive the first call from concerned homeowners, their ability to educate callers and provide a solution without disturbing the swifts is crucial. Thank you Pat!!

Finally, Jim Gillum, who manages and edits the trade magazine “The Chimney Sweep News” (SNEWS) summarized the Chimney Swift-related presentations. To see his article go to:

www.ChimneySweepNews.com



ROOST TALES

Fulton, KY

“Chimney Swifts grace Fulton First United Methodist Church. On Wednesday, April 27, we left choir practice from church around 8:00. We heard the song of birds’ overhead and looked to see between 200-300 swifts flying in a circle just above the church building. Having retired from the Navy, I have seen many wonders in my day, but I’ve never seen anything like this. Their flying formation appeared as a large dark “Donut” whirling against the sky at dusk. One point on the circle of flying birds was just above the church’s chimney. Like water going down a drain, the circular formation of swifts poured down the chimney until every one of them was inside. The view lasted 2-3 minutes.”

John

Havelock, NC

From the April 20, 2005 The Havelock News ...”For fifth-graders at Arthur W. Edwards Elementary School, the return of Chimney Swifts from Peru became an opportunity for a science and social studies lesson, complete with a short field trip to one of the bird’s favorite habitats – an old chimney on their school grounds. “We study ecosystems and biomes in our science curriculum,” teacher Amy Satler said. “This migratory population makes a temporary biome out of our chimney. It was a good way to integrate social studies, too.” For the social studies portion of the lesson, students worked in pairs to track the migratory path of the chimney swifts from their winter home to their North Carolina breeding area.”

Pat Coleman

Streetsville, Ontario

“You don’t forget the sight of hundreds of Chimney Swifts, darting, bobbing, swooping and chittering wildly, dancing through the skies above the Credit River.

Bill Evans has never forgotten that memory of his youth, when his family lived near the river in Streetsville and his father tended to the power dam and the power station in the middle of town.

“They used to be here by the hundreds and hundreds and I guess that’s when I fell in love with them – down at the power station,” says the Earl St. resident who was born in the town in 1931 and has lived there ever since. “They lived in the big chimney of the soap factory,”

That chimney was eventually knocked down and Evans thought the miraculous aerobatic displays of the Chimney Swift were all in his past.

A year ago much to his delight, he spotted one while driving along Queen St. A little investigation by the avid birder soon led him to a chimney at Streetsville United Church, where he discovered that, after more than 40 years, Chimney Swifts have returned to Streetsville.”

John Stewart, The Mississauga News

2005 ANNUAL REPORT

Driftwood Wildlife Association

P.O. Box 39

Driftwood, Texas 78619

USA

512.266-3861

dwa@austin.rr.com

*A volunteer organization
dedicated to promoting
research
and
providing community education
in the areas of
wildlife rehabilitation,
and avian natural history.*

Officers:

Don Connell.....President

Georgan Kyle.....Secretary

Paul Kyle.....Treasurer

Editor for *Chaetura*
Paul Kyle

Research and Rehabilitation

We are gratified when research conducted by the Association and the resulting data that is collected can be useful to other organizations as well as our own.

In 2005, the Canadian Wildlife Service used data collected at Chaetura Canyon to prepare a report on the status of and future conservation efforts for Chimney Swifts in that country, where numbers are down by ~95%.

Two books about Chimney Swifts were published by the Texas A&M University Press based extensively on banding studies, habitat construction and observations at the Driftwood and Mansfield Dam sites.

Past issues of the *Annual Report* and *Chaetura* periodically appear in the references of scientific papers, studies, books, magazine articles and web sites.

Ann Connell's 1996 publication "Returning White-tail Deer fawns to their Mother" was reprinted in the 2005 fall edition of the Journal of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association.

Education

Our two web sites were well-visited again in 2005, and are our most efficient way of disseminating educational information. In addition to the useful material posted on the sites, we also offer several PDF downloads and an order form for hard copies of conservation and rehabilitation publications.

Presentations were made to several regional birding groups; the Southeast Partners in Flight Symposium in McAllen, TX; the National Chimney Sweeping Guild Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX; and the Hummer Bird Festival in Rockport, TX.

Two workshops were conducted at Chaetura Canyon in cooperation with the Education Committee of the Travis Audubon Society. The Chimney Swift Tower Workshop resulted in a new Kiosk Tower at the Dripping Springs Elementary School (see page 5). The second annual Nest Box Workshop was held in the Fall. Both workshops concluded with a tour of the Chaetura Canyon Bird Sanctuary to observe conservation projects and habitat restoration on the property.

In October, Paul and Georgan Kyle conducted two four-hour workshops on Chimney Swift Tower construction at the Annual Texas Master Naturalists Meeting at Mo Ranch outside of Kerrville, TX.

Conservation and Restoration

In 2004, DWA embarked on a modest land conservation effort in cooperation with the Travis Audubon Society and private land owners in northwest Travis County, Texas. The majority of the approximately 15 acre site was already under the care of property owners who were sensitive to the needs of the 151 species of birds recorded on the site — including Golden-cheeked Warblers, Rufous-crowned Sparrows, Golden-fronted Woodpeckers, Canyon Wrens and other Hill Country specialties. However, several lots key to the preservation of habitat and water quality in this small canyon came on the market and were slated for development. With a grant from the Peterson Charitable Lead Trust, the Hershey Foundation and other contributors, DWA was able to purchase two of the lots. Shortly thereafter the Travis Audubon Society gained ownership of a third. One additional critical lot remains, but it is not for sale at this time.

Thanks to generous donations and the sale of Georgan Kyle's limited edition prints in 2005, considerable progress was made in retiring the debt on the property. A maintenance trail was marked and partially cleared to provide access for habitat restoration.

Habitat restoration at the original Association banding site near Driftwood, TX continues with the labor intensive hand-removal of junipers. To date, approximately 75% of this invasive native tree has been cleared enabling native grasses and forbes to make a remarkable comeback in spite of the continuing drought.

With Appreciation

We wish to express our thanks to the many members, supporters and contributors who have helped make the Driftwood Wildlife Association a nationally recognized conservation organization. We welcome your comments on past and current projects as well as suggestions for the future.

Financial Statement Ending December 31, 2005

Revenue		Expenditures	
Donations	12,524.47	Chimney Swift Conservation	3,780.74
Fundraising	7,575.86	Habitat Conservation	6,130.85
Interest Income	263.80	Annual Report / Membership	2,430.01
Total Revenue	20,364.13	Web Sites	875.23
Assets		Fundraising	4,825.92
Cash	16,278.12	Audio Visual Equipment	1,222.71
Real Estate	24,000.00	Office Supplies	1,005.57
Capital Surplus		Postage	765.44
Surplus Beginning of Year	16,950.42	Total Expenditures	21,036.43
Revenue over Expenses	<672.30>	Liabilities	1,338.66
End of Year Surplus	16,278.12		
Total Surplus and Liabilities	14,939.46		

SUPPORTING MEMBERS AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Barbara Anderson
Paul J. Baicich
Jim Bayliss
Kathy Bolstorff & Mark Rosholt
Allen Bower
Lynn Box
Brian Brochahn
David Brock
Evelyn Bull & Michael Snider
Gail and Gus Cargile
Sean and Katherine Carroll
Carol Cassetti
Claire Caudill
Cal Cink
Nancy and Jack Collins
Charles T. Collins
Dana, Kim, and Kevin Connally
Ann, Don, David and Sarah Connell
Roderick Coffin II
Kathy Cowart
Harrel Mitchell Crabb
Luann Craighton
Marlene Cranmer
Dessa Crawford
Becky and Jerry Cunningham
Mary Curry
Frank Daspit
Bill Davis
Charlie Davis
Robin, Dick and Natalie DeBehnke
Karol and Jim DeVries
Anne and Allen Dewar
Lauren and Pat Dillon
Shirley and Chris Doggett
Anne and John Donovan
Merce Dostale and Michael Tarachow
Sam Droege
Chris Ducharm
Jackie and Ben Duffie
Marion Ellis
Bill Evans
Maydelle and Sam Fason
Cheryl Fatcheric
Marie and Charles Ferguson
Dorothy Flinn
Lona and Steve Flocke
Denis Fotier
Carole Frascella
Diane and John Fulton
Patsy and David Glenn
Sue Green
Clyde E. Gurney
Danna, Bryan, Briana and Josef Hale
Cecil H. Hale
Dottie and Jerry Hall
Penny Hallock
Nicole Hamilton
Shelia Hargis
Shelly Harris
Liz and Richard Harmeson
Gordon Harrison
Kay and Joseph Hart
Chris Harte
Jean Held
Tom Heine
Paul Hempel
Deborah Herczog
Terese Hershey
Lawrence Herbert
Glen Holmes
Ann Holt
Shelly and David Hopson
Eric Horvath
Isabel and Russell Hoverman
Philip Huey
William C. Hunter
Charlona Ingram
Bettie and Laddie Janda
Paul Janda
Steve Janda
Nancy and Lee Johnson
Jan and Troy Johnson
Maggie Jones
Bill Keeling
John Kelly
Trey Kelley
James W. Knox
Teresa Kragnes
Edward Krick
Georgean and Paul Kyle
Marie Laing
Marilyn and Dan Laney
Mary Nell and Mark Lasalle
Greg Lasley and Cheryl Johnson
Judy and Lewis Leibovich
Stephanie Leuenberger
Laura and Ernie Lewis
Felicia Lovelett
Anne and William Manierre
Terri Martincic
William J. Mayer
John T. McBride, Jr.
Cheryll and Michael McGehee
Helen and John McKetta
Carla McRee and Family
Jane and Bill McVaugh
Sally Means
Laura Meeds
John Meeks
Lydia Middendorf and Nate McVaugh
Eleanor Miller
Gary Mitchell
Nancy Powell Moore
Miriam Moyer
Tom Murphy
Shirley Needham
G. L. Nunn
Cathy Pello
Ann Perry
Betty and Wayne Peterson
Carolyn and Pat Powers
Helen Pugh
Mary Purcell
Agnes Reilly
Leslie Renfro and Alen Pihut
Lauro Reveles
Robert Rice
Mel Rinn
Jim Roecker
Joyce and Bill Rosson
Elaine Rushing
Lynne Schaffer
Susan and Tom Seabolt
Julie, Cliff and Alex Shackelford
Peggy and Steve Shrum
Holly and David Sietsema
Grace and Gary Silcott
Winifred Simon and Shirley Danforth

SUPPORTING MEMBERS AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

(continued)

Mary Penn-Soranno & Bill Soranno
Alan Stanevich
Aileen Stembridge
Grant Stevenson
B' Lou Stone
Grace Storch
Douglass Swanson
Rochelle and Stephen Sweet
Joan Ten Hoor
Jo Ann Thompson
Thea Trotscher
Warren Turner

Richard Tuttle
Russ Van Meter
Christine and James Walters
Robert Walton
Jean and Bob Warneke
Pat and Lloy Weaver
Roger Westerman
Mark Wetmore
Marj and Jim Whitehead
Marcie and John Wilcox
Judy Wilcox-Phelps and Darryl Phelps
Daesene Willmann

Elizabeth and David Wilson
Nancy and George Winfield
Diane Winn and Mark Payne
Jim Wolford
John Woodle
Steve Young
Dorothy and Edward Yturri
Linda and John Zempel
Jane Zion
Dale Zoch-Hardilek

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS

Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
William Hunter
Leah and Lowell Linney
Medical Parkway Kwik Kopy
Peterson Charitable Lead Trust
Rootin' Ridge Toymakers
Travis Audubon Society
Westcave Preserve
Wild Bird Recovery

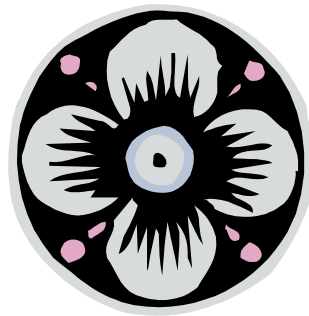
*A memorial or honorary gift to support education
and conservation is a lasting tribute.
We are privileged to carry on our work in the
name of the following people:*

In Memory of:

Barbara Rae Tvede

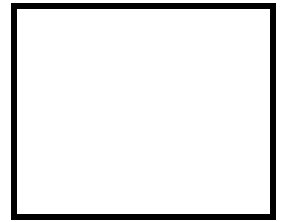
By

*Lydia Middendorf, Nate McVaugh,
Georgan and Paul Kyle*



*The membership of DWA wishes to remember
long time friend and supporter
Danna Hale*

DRIFTWOOD WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION
1206 West 38th, Suite 1105
Austin, Texas 78705



Visit our web site at:
www.chimneyswifts.org

In addition to learning more about the North American Chimney Swift Nest Site Research Project, you can:

- ◇ track the spring movements of Chimney Swifts
- ◇ learn about wildlife rehabilitation
- ◇ download past issues of **Chaetura**
- ◇ order publications from Driftwood

Send your e-mail to DWA@austin.rr.com



*We wish to thank our good friends at
Medical Parkway Kwik Kopy Printing
in Austin, Texas
for underwriting this year's issue of Chaetura*

Chaetura

Volume 11, Spring 2006

The official publication of the
Driftwood Wildlife Association
a non-profit, all volunteer organization
supported by tax-deductible contributions.

Unless otherwise specified,
all articles and photos are by
Paul D. Kyle and Georgan Z. Kyle
All artwork is by
Georgan Z. Kyle.

Copyrighted, 2006
Driftwood Wildlife Association
All rights reserved.

\$ 10.00 Research Associateship
\$ 20.00 Supporting Membership

Printed on recycled paper