

## Abstract of the Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, 1909.

*January 7, 1909.* Annual meeting. Thirty-eight members present. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: PRESIDENT, William A. Shryock; VICE-PRESIDENT, Stewardson Brown; SECRETARY, Chreswell J. Hunt; TREASURER, Samuel Wright.

The meeting was called to order in the room of the Biological and Microscopical Section of the Academy and then adjourned to inspect the new Ornithological Rooms, where a special exhibition of skins had been arranged. The members then returned to a collation.

*January 21, 1909.* Seventeen members present. Mr. Hill described the bird life about Chautauqua Lake, N. Y., and mentioned the Parula Warbler and Redstart as having been found nesting.

Mr. Stone gave a summary of the spring migration of 1908. Mr. Morris described a visit to a Crow roost near New Brinton, Bucks Co., on January 16 in a driving snow-storm. He and Mr. Shryock stood within the woods and watched the Crows settle for the night. They first filled the trees on the edge of the wood facing the storm, and then those farther back making apparently no effort toward protection from the wind and snow.

Mr. Rehn reported a Little Auk (*Alle alle*) taken at Parkertown near West Creek, N. J., January 13, by Joshua Parker. Mr. Redfield reported a House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) seen on Rancocas Creek, December 5, 1908, and a Vesper Sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus*) taken at Wayne, December 21, 1908.

The president appointed the following committees : On Publication, Morris, Rehn, Wright, Hunt and Stone ; on Migration,

Redfield, Pearson, Baily, Street and Stone ; on Twentieth Annual Meeting, Stone, Morris, Wright, Pennock and Brown.

*February 4, 1909.* Twenty members present. This was the first meeting held in the new rooms on the fourth floor of the Museum.

Mr. R. T. Moore read a paper entitled "Three Finds in South Jersey," [see CASSINIA, 1908, pp. 29-40].

Mr. Stone presented some interesting data relative to the bird life of the New Jersey coast marshes fifty years ago. Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*) were reported as very plentiful this winter.

*February 18, 1909.* Twenty-three members present. Dr. Hughes described a trip through the Yellowstone and Southwestern Montana.

Mr. Stone described a second visit to the Crow roost previously reported by Mr. Morris. He considered it undoubtedly the Davis Grove roost listed by Mr. S. N. Rhoads twenty years ago, [see also CASSINIA, 1903].

Mr. Street reported a flock of about 200 Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) at Cape May, N. J., February 14, 1909, and Mr. Stone on behalf of Mr. H. Walker Hand, exhibited a White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) which had been captured by a cat at Cape May, February 5, making the first record of the species for Cape May County.

*March 4, 1909.* Thirteen members present. Dr. C. E. Ehinger, Dr. Francis H. Tomlin and Mr. Ernest Corts, were elected associate members.

Dr. Spencer Trotter read the paper of the evening, "Relations of the Land Bird Fauna of Northeastern America," [see Auk, 1909, pp. 221-233].

Mr. S. N. Rhoads recorded a House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) at Haddonfield, N. J., February 28 and thought it quite likely that it had wintered there.

Mr. Moore exhibited an orange-crowned Warbler (*Vermivora celata*) taken at Haddonfield, N. J., February 25, 1909, and two Cape May Warblers (*Dendroica tigrina*) taken September 22 and October 6, 1907, at the same place, also a White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) at Tuckahoe, N. J., May 11, 1907.

March 18, 1909. Sixteen members present. Mr. Stone spoke on "The Origin of the Genera of North American Birds."

Mr. Redfield reported Redpolls (*Acanthis linaria*) as abundant about Radnor Twp. for a week following March 5.

Mr. Rehn recorded the capture of a Rough-legged Hawk (*Archibuteo lagopus sanctijohannis*) at Stafford's Forge, near West Creek, N. J., March 6.

April 1, 1909. Twenty-two members present. Mr. Redfield read a paper on "The Winter Birds of Cape Cod," in which he described a ducking trip December 26-January 3 last. The Old Squaw (*Harelda hyemalis*) was the most abundant species. Next came the Goldeneye (*Clangula c. americana*) and Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*). One Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) and a Scaup (*Marila marila*) were also taken. Horned Larks (*Otocoris alpestris*) and Myrtle Warblers (*Dendroica coronata*) were the most common land birds, while Snow Buntings (*Plectrophenax nivalis*), Meadow Larks (*Sturnella magna*), Robins (*Planesticus migratorius*), Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*), and several Flickers (*Colaptes auratus luteus*) were seen.

A paper on the "Breeding of the Broad-winged Hawk in Chester Co., Pa.," by Mr. R. P. Sharples, was read. [See *antea*, p. 25].

Mr. Pennock reported the capture of a Northern Shrike (*Lanius borealis*) in Delaware on March 29, the first record for the state.

Mr. Stone placed on record the capture of a Baird's Sandpiper (*Pisobia bairdi*) by Mr. D. McCadden at Stone Harbor, N. J., September 5, 1898. The specimen had been misidentified and had lain undetected in the collection of Mr. Fowler, and later in that of the Academy, all these years. There is no previous record of the species from the state.

Mr. Hill reported 200 Fox Sparrows (*Passerella iliaca*) in Woodland Cemetery April 1.

April 15, 1909. Seventeen members present. A general discussion on the progress of the migration took place.

*May 6, 1909.* Fourteen members present. Mr. S. N. Rhoads addressed the Club on "Memories of a Departed Bird-Lover—William L. Collins." Other reminiscences were given by Mr. Morris and Dr. Trotter.

A paper on the nesting of the Goshawk at Warren, Pa., by R. B. Simpson was read. [See *antea*, p. 26].

Mr. Brown reported Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) at Medford, N. J., May 2, and Mr. Morris described a Robin's nest built on the ground at Olney, Pa.

*May 20, 1909.* Twenty-five members present. Mr. Baily exhibited a number of lantern slides illustrating the development of the Flicker and other subjects.

Mr. Morris described a canoe trip down the Blackwater River, Va., during April, 1909. [See *Recreation*, April, 1910.]

Mr. Rhoads reported a Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*) at Haddonfield in full song.

Mr. Stone recorded the capture of a Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) at Townsend's Inlet May 5th.

*October 7, 1909.* Eighteen members present. The resignation of Mr. Hunt from the office of Secretary and from active membership was read, Mr. Hunt having removed to Chicago. Mr. J. Fletcher Street was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

Mr. S. N. Rhoads spoke on "Some Birds of the Upper Wallkill Valley, Sussex Co., N. J.," and exhibited a nest and set of eggs of the Short-billed Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus stellaris*) obtained there during the past summer. This species was a common summer resident.

Mr. Baily reported a Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*) taken at Haverford, Pa., Sept. 11, 1909.

*October 21, 1909.* Eleven members present. A paper written by Dr. Spencer Trotter entitled "Stray Notes of a Western Trip," was read which described a trip over the Canadian Pacific Railroad, made during the past summer.

Mr. Redfield reported on the work he had done during the early summer in tagging young birds in co-operation with the plans of Dr. Leon J. Cole.

Mr. Fowler reported a Black-bellied Plover (*Squatarola squatarola*) at Bristol, Pa., August 19, 1909.

*November 4, 1909.* Twenty-one members present. Messrs. Lewis S. Byrom and Samuel C. Palmer were elected associate members, Mr. Edw. J. F. Marx, a corresponding member and Mr. J. Fletcher Street an active member. Mr. Street was also elected Secretary to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Hunt's resignation.

Messrs. Baily and Rhoads and Dr. Hughes described a trip to Greenwood Lake, Sussex County, N. J., undertaken in June of the present year, [see *antea*, pp. 29-36].

*November 18, 1909.* Eighteen members present. The evening was devoted to the reading of Bird Biographies prepared for a prospective work on the birds of the Delaware Valley, the object being to get some idea of the best way of treating the subject before it was taken up at length. Mr. Street treated of the Phoebe, Mr. Rhoads the Robin, Mr. Stone the Chat, Mr. Weygandt the Wood Thrush, Mr. Carter the Cooper's Hawk, Mr. Morris the Redwinged Blackbird.

Mr. Morris reported a Northern Shrike (*Lanius borealis*) at Medford on November 5.

*December 2, 1909.* Twenty-three members present. This meeting was held in conjunction with the Ornithological Section of the Academy, in order that the members might hear the annual report of the Department of Birds.

Mr. Stone exhibited one of two Loons (*Gavia immer*) killed near Paoli, Pa., November 25.

Mr. T. H. Jackson had informed Mr. Stone of others killed the same day on the Brandywine Creek at Lenape, Pa.

*December 16, 1909.* Thirteen members present. Mr. Rehn addressed the club on "Impressions of Western Bird Life," commenting on birds seen on an entomological trip through the Northwestern States and down the Pacific coast.

Mr. Stone described the meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union in New York City.