

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

July 1, 1966 to December 31, 1967

COMPILED BY JOSEPH A. JACOBS

JULY 7, AUGUST 4, and SEPTEMBER 1, 1966. Informal summer meetings were held with good attendance at each.

OCTOBER 6. Fifty-four members and five guests attended.

The program was "The Ornithological Summer" presided over by Les Thomas. Members gave extemporaneous reports of their summer experiences. Chandler Ross and Horace Alexander reported on the International Ornithological Congress which was held in Scotland in July and on the one-week cruise among the islands off the coast on a ship that held 900 ornithologists from all over the world.

OCTOBER 20. Thirty-seven members and five guests attended.

Bernard Thielen and Edward W. Graham were elected to active membership.

The speaker was our member O. Hammond Coles, a horticulturist, who spoke on "Berries and Other Bird Favorites." Mr. Coles illustrated his talk with a great many cuttings of the berry-bearing vines, shrubs, evergreens, and trees. The interest in the subject was indicated by the active participation of the members.

NOVEMBER 3. Fifty-two members and seven guests attended.

Bob Sehl read a letter from Don Eckelberry concerning the 191-acre "Spring Hill" estate of Mrs. Wright in Trinidad. Mrs. Wright has offered to sell this property to ornithologists for \$75,000, which is considerably less than its value on the open market.

Dr. Ernest Choate spoke to us on "Birdlife of Nepal and Points East." The subject was well illustrated with slides taken by the speaker on his trip in February of this year. The speaker did not restrict himself to birds alone but also touched on the customs of the people and their architecture, all beautifully illustrated.

NOVEMBER 17. Thirty-nine members and six guests attended.

The feature of the evening was the annual color-slide contest. These contests afford us the opportunity of seeing the best of everyone's pictures; they are all excellent and enjoyed thoroughly.

DECEMBER 1. Sixty-three members and twelve guests attended.

Elmer C. Rowley was elected to active membership.

The program was on "Quetico and Canoeing in the Boundary Waters." A movie film was shown on the subject, after which Ed Manners spoke to us of his two trips to the Quetico. Augie Sexauer's excellent slides were shown. Ed told us that the Canadian section of the park has been cut over or burned and that it contains lots of game and beaver. The United States section has big trees, some primeval, but contains little game. Ed summed up the bird life and his own observations perfectly with his closing statement, "You don't see too many birds but you see them nice."

DECEMBER 15. Fifty-seven members and eleven guests attended.

A new Christmas Count, Central Bucks County, was announced by Ray Hendrick.

A tribute to Witmer Stone by Ernie Choate was presented, with comments by several other members who knew him personally. This year is the 100th anniversary of Witmer Stone's birth.

The speaker of the evening was John Dornan who showed his moving pictures taken during a world trip. The areas covered were Hawaii, Japan, Hongkong, Bangkok, Darjeeling, and Ghana. Many of the birds of these areas were shown.

JANUARY 5, 1967. Seventy-seven members and seventeen guests attended. Robert L. Haines, for the nominating committee, presented the following slate to serve for one year, and it was duly elected:

President, George B. Reynard
Vice President, Lester S. Thomas
Secretary, Joseph A. Jacobs
Treasurer, Edward L. Altemus

Councillors to serve for three years — Edward R. Manners and Frank B. Moody
Bob Sehl presented the Julian Potter award, a copy of "Birds of the Northern Forest," appropriately inscribed, to Joseph A. Jacobs.

The results of the various Christmas counts were reported. These counts were taken in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware.

Les Thomas conducted a brief quiz program, after which the meeting was adjourned, and we enjoyed our usual light repast.

JANUARY 19. Fifty members and six guests attended.

Dr. William Parker presented his 16 mm movies and commentary of birds he had taken on several trips. His subjects were all in the wild and the pictures were unusually excellent and were thoroughly enjoyed as was indicated by the complimentary remarks and applause.

FEBRUARY 2. Fifty-two members and nine guests attended.

Martin Whitehead was elected to active membership.

Richard C. Davids, speaker of the evening, presented "South American Sojourn." Mr. Davids illustrated his talk with slides and many handmade articles he brought home with him. The time he spent in the Andes and the head-hunter land provided him with many fascinating experiences.

FEBRUARY 16. Forty-nine members and eleven guests attended.

Paul J. Bankes was elected to active membership.

Charles H. Rogers from Princeton University spoke on Tytonidae and Strigidae. He noted that he spoke to our fathers twenty-one years ago on owls and he hoped that our sons would ask him to speak again twenty-one years hence, and that would be a fine way for him to celebrate being one hundred years old!

MARCH 2. Fifty-three members and twelve guests attended.

Gene Stern asked members to consider an Iceland trip to be held next year.

The speaker was David F. Moore from the New Jersey Department of Conservation and Economic Development who spoke on "Conservation in New Jersey." After viewing two films, we entered into a very active symposium on conservation in New Jersey, during which we discussed the Green Acres program, Bald Eagles, mosquito commissions, the pine barrens, the proposed jet port, and controlled burning.

MARCH 11. Forty members and five guests attended.

Willet T. Van Velzen of Patuxent Research Refuge spoke on the federal breeding bird survey. Since many of our members participated in this project, there was considerable interest in hearing and seeing some of the results obtained from the data collected. The program ended with a question-and-answer period.

APRIL 6. Forty-nine members and eight guests attended.

Benjamin Trimble, the Linnaean Society exchange speaker, presented "Newfoundland Bird Life." By means of color slides, we were shown most of the seabirds of the area. Many of the species illustrated were followed by a breeding-distribution map which was also projected on the screen. The wonderful photography, along with the maps and commentary, proved very rewarding and enjoyable.

APRIL 20. Thirty-six members and twelve guests attended.

Earl V. Wade was elected to active membership.

The program consisted of contributions by members on varied subjects. Two subjects developed the longest discussion: one, the methods used by different members to dispose of cats that become an nuisance, and the other, an osprey nest-building project by Joe Jacobs.

This evening's program gave members who haven't attended our informal summer meetings an opportunity to see what they are like.

MAY 4. Forty-five members and ten guests attended.

Raymond T. Bye was elected to active membership.

William Peterman, who works with the Division of Fish and Game, Department of Conservation and Economic Development, New Jersey, spoke on "Wildlife Management." With the aid of slides, Mr. Peterman explained some of the activities of his department. Of particular interest was a field project on Clapper Rails in the Jersey marshes. This work was shared by Boy Scouts who helped locate nests that were marked and revisited to determine what success these birds have in rearing young.

MAY 25. Fifty members and six guests attended.

Following a report by Fred Ulmer for the Conservation Committee, concerning four bills tied up in committee relative to seven to ten million dollars that are spent annually on a poison program by predatory mammal hunters, we heard reports from the leaders of the several groups represented that participated in the Spring Roundup. Of the thirteen groups that took part in the round-up, the highest count was 186 species and the lowest count recorded 75 species.

JUNE 1, JULY 6, AUGUST 3, and SEPTEMBER 7. Informal summer meetings were held with the usual good attendance.

OCTOBER 5. Thirty-nine members and eight guests attended.

The death of Nelson D. W. Pumyea on September 4, 1967 was announced. Nelson was an honorary member and a life member who celebrated fifty year's membership in the club last year.

Announcement was made that through the efforts of Ernie Choate, a rather large collection of books on ornithology, donated by a Mrs. Harley, was acquired by the club.

The program consisted of a forum for the general membership on behavior experiences and summer reports. Many members had some interesting experiences to share, and everyone seemed to enjoy having a part in the program.

OCTOBER 19. Sixty members and nine guests attended.

James Carroll, Barry Sauppe, and Dr. Lindley M. Winston were elected to active membership.

Steve Harty announced that the club had been presented with Nelson Pumyea's back issues of *Cassinia*, a gift of Mrs. Pumyea.

The program was "Water Birds and Birds of Prey" by Dr. Raymond T. Bye. Dr. Bye's very interesting program began with a description of the type equipment he uses and his reasons for choosing what he has. Many of his pictures were so good that our reserved group showed audible appreciation.

NOVEMBER 2. Thirty-three members and four guests attended.

The sum of \$25.00 was again contributed for use of the Philadelphia Conservationists.

J. d'Arcy Northwood, Curator Emeritus of the Audubon Shrine, spoke to us on John James Audubon, his paintings, and his writings. Many Audubon books were assembled on a table in front of the speaker, and each of them was considered briefly.

Mr. Northwood proved himself to be an accomplished historian and authority on John James Audubon.

NOVEMBER 16. Forty-seven members and four guests attended.

The death of Bernard Thielen on October 1, 1967 was announced.

Richard T. Paul was elected to active membership.

The evening's program consisted of our annual colored slide contest. Three slides in each class were allowed to be submitted and there were three classes: Class 1 — birds; Class 2 — general nature; and Class 3 — scenery. The winners were Will Middleton, Peter Hall, and Augie Sexauer, in the order given.

DECEMBER 7. Forty-six members and eight guests attended.

Joseph F. Varley was elected to active membership.

Several members commented on the high count of 48 adult and 9 immature Whooping Cranes that have arrived on their wintering grounds in Texas this Fall.

Will Middleton spoke to us on "Canadian Islands in the Blue Ridge Mountains." After a brief commentary that explained geologically how these islands were created, he showed color slides of many varied scenes taken in the Blue Ridge on a recent trip in the Spring.

DECEMBER 21. Fifty-six members and fourteen guests attended.

Paul Cronin was elected to active membership.

R. Dudley Ross presented us with an account of his recent bird safari to East Africa. Of his five weeks spent in Africa, four were spent in areas where he was out of touch with civilization.

The trip began in Nairobi, and some of the places visited and beautifully illustrated were Lake Nakuru National Park and its flamingos, the Masai Mara game preserve, Serengeti Park, Ngorongoro crater, Lake Manyara Park, Tsavo Park — a game preserve, Mt. Kenya, and northern Kenya.