

PROGRAMS

September 21, 1978	Informal Meeting
October 5	<u>Hawk Flights at Cape May Point</u> , Peter Dunne
October 19	<u>Galapagos Wildlife</u> , Dr Lloyd Falk
November 2	<u>American Habitats</u> , Harold Morrin
November 16	Annual Banquet (See below)
December 7	<u>Birds and Wildlife of Northern India</u> , John Drummond
December 21	<u>Random Birding in the Southern United States</u> Jack Cadbury

All meetings will be at 8:00 P.M. at the Academy of Natural Sciences except for the Annual Banquet which begins at 6:00 P.M.

ANNUAL BANQUET

Thursday, November 16, 1978

At the Academy of Natural Sciences

6:00 P.M.	Refreshment Hour for all tastes
7:00 P.M.	Dinner
8:30 P.M.	Featured Speaker: John Yrizzary
	Subject: Birds of Tikal

Price: \$10.00 (\$14.00 for non-members)

Please remit your check (payable to DVOC) by November 2 to

Ronald Logan
4639 Edgemont Street
Philadelphia, PA 19137

April 29-30 Pocomoke Swamp

This annual migration south to greet the spring produced such sightings as the Henslow's Sparrow (singing from an exposed perch on Elliott Island), Brown-headed Nuthatch (also on Elliott Island), Bald Eagle and Barred Owl on their nests at Bombay Hook, and Gannets off Ocean City and Assateague Island. Sadly Pocomoke Swamp itself was most memorable for the depressing traffic jams and crowded paths. Most long-time visitors agree that such people pressure and the incessant challenge of tapes of its own voice have driven the Swainson's Warbler elsewhere in the area. It surely is time to examine carefully the effect of the indiscriminate use of tape recordings by bird watchers. Yes, we enjoy those close views and marvelous slides of even the rarest of local birds, but should we not be more concerned about the successful nesting rather than the successful viewing and photographing of even our common species?

May 14 Spring Round-up

It becomes somewhat difficult to discuss the annual Spring Round-up when we have several groups that in a most cavalier fashion choose dates other than the official date for their count. Of the five groups that went out on the fourteenth, the Sehl, Brady, Logan, LaVia party reported the high total of 154 species. This one trip of the year when "numbers" count more than pure observation is a real challenge of one's knowledge of birding habitat and habits. To be in the right place at the right time is more of an art than one who has never attempted a "big day" may realize. With such a modest 'high' total (154) maybe some new DVOC groups will put their expertise on the line next May.

HARRY FRANZEN ON TRAVEL INFORMATION

The Club is attempting to prepare a file of travel information for the use of our members. We are considering the formation of a loose leaf binder that will be available at our meetings. Members or others could then copy information that could help in planning their birding trips. They could also contact the people who have visited different areas and check on other details not covered in our guide.

To do this we will need information from our members for January 1973 to the present. Harry Franzen volunteered to coordinate the material and would appreciate your cooperation

The sample outline lists the information that would be most helpful. Any other comments that might prove helpful would also be welcome. The material may be brought to any of our meetings. I already have the information on the group DVOC trips, and so we don't need those. Trips to almost any location not in our immediate area would be appropriate. If there are any questions, feel free to ask either Charlie Wonderly or Harry Franzen at any of our meetings. We expect to have a continual listing, and so keep us posted on your future trips as well.

Sample entry:

Surinam

March 12-29, 1977

Participants: H. Franzen (DVOC) plus eleven other birders.

Interests: Strictly birding.

Number of Species Seen: 365

Leaders in Field: Tom Davis and Greg Toffic

Organizer of Trip: Wonder Bird Tours

Areas Covered: Meerzog, Weg nar Zee, Zanderin, Carolina Road, Brokopondo, Afobaka Dam, Brownsberg Preserve, and Raleigh Falls Preserve.

Bird lists available

EDITOR'S PLUG FOR THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Last June while spending a day at the Mile-Hi in Ramsey Canyon in Arizona (name-dropper!), I was subjected to the self advertising of the sponsoring organization: The Nature Conservancy. Their information convinced me that among the burgeoning groups seeking the conservationists' money, here is an organization that truly deserves our full support, for their one purpose is "to save ecologically significant lands," and they have done so to the tune of over one million acres. All of us who have to watch the subdividers whittle away at our favorite birding areas while the government tries to decide what action to take, should be concerned enough at least to send for information about this action organization:

The Nature Conservancy
1800 N. Kent Street
Arlington, VA 22209

FIELD TRIPS

- Sept. 30-Oct. 1 Barnegat to Cape May
Meet at Barnegat Lighthouse at 8:00 A.M.
- November 5 Bake Oven Knob
Meet at the top as early as you think the
hawk flight will begin.
- December 2 (tentative) Pelagics
Contact Alan Brady for details of this
boat trip out of Barnegat Light.
- December Christmas Counts: Leaders please send me the
names and dates of your counts and your phone
number to be listed in the November Newsletter

IN MEMORIAM

This summer two of our most respected members, John E. Dornan and William E. Parker (Honorary Member), passed away. Doc Parker's outstanding wildlife movies have often entertained the Club, and John Dornan addressed the Club as recently as last February. Both will be missed by their many friends as well as by the membership as a whole.

Rare Sighting at Tinicum

Horace Alexander reports that on April 6, 1978, he observed two alcids at Tinicum Wildlife Refuge. He believes them to have been Ancient Murrelets. Such an exciting identification should keep all of us on our toes--you never know what might show up.

Richards Resigns

Dr. Keith Richards has resigned as editor of Cassinia, and we thank him for a fine job. The position has not yet been filled, and any member interested in assuming this task should contact President Wonderly immediately.

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