

PROGRAMS

- October 4: Rapter Migration in Europe  
Dr. Bent Pors Nielsen, Copenhagen, Denmark
- October 18: Birding in New Zealand  
R. Dudley Ross
- November 1: Annual DVOC Banquet at Walber's-on-the-Delaware,  
Essington, PA  
Price: \$11.00 per person (filet mignon). Private cash bar.  
Social Hour: 6:00 PM Dinner: 7:00 PM  
Speaker: Dr. Kenneth C. Parkes, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh  
Topic: The Birder as Rusty Gate (a both amusing and  
seribus account of the arts and techniques  
of squeaking)
- PLEASE MAIL THE FORM ON PAGE 4 OF THIS NEWSLETTER TO RON  
LOGAN BY OCTOBER 18.
- November 15: Nectar Feeding Birds--Kenya and Costa Rica  
Dr. Frank Gill
- December 6: Churchill and Pelagics  
Thomas Davis, Linnaean Society, New York City
- December 20: The Mellon Arizona Birding Tour  
Rick Mellon and others

All meetings (except November 1) will be held at 8:00 PM at the  
Academy of Natural Sciences.

DON'T FORGET THE LAST OF THE INFORMAL SUMMER MEETINGS ON SEPTEMBER 6 AND  
SEPTEMBER 20--SAME TIME AND PLACE.

FIND OUT THE REALLY IMPORTANT NEWS--CALL THE BIRDING HOTLINE:

215-567-2473

or 567-BIRD

FIELD TRIPS

- October 6-7                    Barnegat to Cape May  
Meet at Barnegat Lighthouse at 8:00 AM
- November 4                    Bake Oven Knob  
Meet at the top as early as you think the hawk flight will begin.
- December                      Christmas Counts: Leaders, please send the Newsletter editor the name and date of your count and your phone number to be listed in the November Newsletter.

DVOC MEMBER NAMED REGIONAL EDITOR

With Robert Paxton of New York City, DVOC member Keith Richards now edits the Hudson-Delaware Region for American Birds. This region has many birders concentrated in the Delaware Valley and in the New York City area. A large number of promptly submitted reports can assure that the Delaware Valley gets its share of space in the seasonal reports.

The regional editors have one month or six weeks (depending on the season) to submit their copy.

	Summer	Autumn	Winter	Spring
End of Season:	31 July	30 Nov.	28 Feb.	31May
Copy Deadline:	1 Sept.	15 Jan.	1 April	15 July

To be useful, reports should be in about two weeks after the end of the season. Notes on special sightings can be sent in by post card as they occur. This allows early writing and research for the seasonal report. Your cooperation can help our area to be represented properly in American Birds.

FROM THE EDITOR

Well, I've called Wonderly, Brady, and Meritt, and they had no items for this Newsletter. Meritt did suggest that I include a plug for the Delaware Valley Birding Hotline. I understand that they've had some major expenses and would welcome donations from the DVOC. Please contact Dr. Frank Gill to help keep this most worthwhile project comfortably solvent.

Now that that's done, I'm going to have to fall back again on what the LaVias did on summer vacation. I did promise Meritt that I'd put the tear-off form for the banquet on the reverse of my comments so that nothing important is lost when you mail it to Ron Logan. Pity poor Logan, however, who will now have some 75 partial copies

FROM THE EDITOR (cont.)

of these remarks.

As you know the three most important reasons for being a teacher are June, July, and August. Last year my two teenage sons and I spent six weeks camping and birding in Arizona, Utah, and Colorado; this year we moved further north for a month mostly in Wyoming and Montana. Again, we can talk about birding in the American West only in superlatives. For those of you with the time and energy, we recommend you follow in our footsteps.

I'll skip over the tornado troubles we had in southern Minnesota, after all how interesting can a night in a motel cellar be? The Badlands and the Black Hills make South Dakota the first stop of real interest to eastern birders looking for western excitement. Say's Phoebe and Mountain Bluebird are, I think you'll agree, superior "trash" birds that make the Badlands memorable for more than just the surface-of-the-moon scenery. White-throated Swifts were particularly exciting against this landscape and Rock Wren struck us as quite appropriate.

Being fanatical birders does have its drawbacks, however, as we never have time or inclination to make the usual tourist stops. Can you believe we barely slowed down to glance at the impressive Mt. Rushmore from the road? We had more pressing concerns: I had just read a most cogent article claiming three species of sapsuckers (why are the arguments of the "splitters" always more convincing than the drivel produced by the "lumpers"?). We soon were able to add the Red-naped Sapsucker to our "Blue Goose" list, and shortly after that, views of the other non-species of the Black Hills, the White-winged Junco, made us agree with Bob Sehl: this is no Slate-colored Junco.

At this point we decided to forsake our usual desultory method of just poking around and headed directly to a ranch south of Casper, Wyoming, for a glimpse of a female Sage Grouse with young. We believed, however, that this bird was worth more than this brief stop, so we stayed over and spent the morning beating the sagebrush to find a mixed flock of seven more of these impressively large grouse.

The accuracy of some bird names struck us as we unexpectedly scared up a pair of Sage Thrashers in the same location. They were about the last birds we saw that day as our eyes were now at all times on the ground about three feet in front of us. The reason was simply that I had stepped on--not near, but on!--a prairie rattlesnake. We were ready for the snake free snow of the Grand Tetons now.

It was, in fact, snowing as we crossed the high pass into Jackson Hole for a week of the best hiking and birding we ever had imagined. There's a story associated with each bird for us, but a mere list of the highlights should be enticing enough: Calliope Hummingbird, Black Rosy Finch, Trumpeter Swan, Lazuli Bunting, Williamson's Sapsucker, Northern Three-toed Woodpecker, Eared and Western Grebes, Prairie Falcon, Blue Grouse, White Pelican, Sandhill Crane, and too many more even to list. Herds of elk, performing beaver, numerous Moose, and

D.V.O.C. ANNUAL BANQUET  
WALBER'S - on - the - DELAWARE  
ESSINGTON, PA.

November 1, 1979

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail with \$11 remittance per person to: Ronald Logan,  
4639 Edgemont St., Phila., Pa. 19137 by October 18.

FROM THE EDITOR (cont.)

road blocking Bison all added to our delight in this country.

Even after such success, Yellowstone and Glacier Parks were not anti-climactic. Without the usual crowds (scared off by the gas shortage), we were able to appreciate the history and unique displays of Yellowstone, but it was the awesome beauty as we hiked five miles out and up from Logan Pass in Glacier that impressed us most of all. With Bighorn rams, Mountain Goats, and flocks of Gray-crowned Rosy Finches, we shared a view unsurpassed by anything we flatland dwellers can imagine. Everything, including some rewarding prairie birding in North Dakota, was, indeed, anti-climactic after this. As you can see, given the slightest chance, I'm ready to talk about our trip, so if you have any questions....

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Robert H. Anderson, Chalfont, PA  
Edward Fingerhood, Media, PA  
Alexander Hay, Westtown, PA

John J. Harding, Philadelphia, PA  
James Keating, Broomall, PA  
T. Dornan Roberts, Berwyn, PA

IN MEMORIAM .

The saddest duty of an editor for a fraternal order such as ours is to record the deaths of our members. I am sure we all share the grief of the families of Jim Akers, Dr. Walter Keighton, and Bill Reynolds. They will be missed.

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