

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The Orinoco River! What an exotic name! What unusual plants and animals! Nesting Hoatzins, the Great Aruco, Morpho Butterflies, a four-eyed fish! A visit to an Indian Village! What an educational opportunity! All this and more, too, at 2:30 Sunday, April 11.

This is the last Audubon Screen Tour of the year. Financially, our screen tour season has been very disappointing. Can't we make one last desperate effort to publicize the film and to contact individuals who might attend? A full auditorium could end this season on a successful note. --Leo Galloway

NOTE OF THANKS

On behalf of the Amarillo Council of Garden Clubs, Mrs. Vera Deason has expressed gratitude to the members of the TPAS for their contribution in making a success of the White Elephant Sale.

MORE ATWATER PRAIRIE CHICKEN

The first goal has been reached by the Texas Prairie Chicken Committee; funds have been raised to exercise an option to buy 2,600 acres of Prairie Chicken habitat in Colorado County, Texas. Within two years, \$300,000 more will be needed to complete the purchase.

ANOTHER RARE PRAIRIE CHICKEN

In the Texas Panhandle may be found the Lesser Prairie Chicken. The A.O.U. checklist of 1957 indicates the bird is found only in certain localities in the extreme southeast corner of Colorado, SW Kansas, NW Oklahoma, NE New Mexico, and the Texas Panhandle. It was not listed on a Christmas Bird Count until a count was initiated at Fort Supply, Oklahoma, in 1962.

Mrs. I. D. Acord is attempting to set up a field trip so we can observe the dancing of the Lesser Prairie Chicken near Canadian, Texas. Since the trip will probably be prior to the mailing of the next Prairie Horned Lark, those interested should call either Mrs. Acord or Leo Galloway so they may be notified of date, time, and meeting place.

HISTORY

At the February meeting, Jack Hughes gave a very interesting talk on the Alibates Flint Quarries and displayed several artifacts taken from the ruins.

MARCH MEETING

Don't miss the talk on mammals to be given by Charles E. Wright, associate professor of biology, West Texas State University, at the Garden Center, 7:30 Monday, March 15. Guests are welcome.

NOTES

Former TPAS president and Mrs. Lloyd Foster now reside near Newport, Tennessee. We are happy to have several former Amarillo residents continuing their affiliation with our society.

Karl Kobes of Albuquerque, former vice-president of TPAS, and Forrest Romero, president of the Tulsa, Oklahoma, Audubon Society, were in Amarillo recently and called on Mrs. I. D. Acord.

FIELD TRIPS SCHEDULED

Saturday, March 13, Leo Galloway will lead a trip to the cemeteries to observe local birds and to look for early migrants. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the north gate of Llano Cemetery.

Tentative: Prairie Chicken trip.

BIRD NOTES

The Whistling Swan was added to the life lists of several birders March 7, as ten members congregated at Buffalo Lake. Other noteworthy birds of the trip were Long-billed Marsh Wrens and three Bald Eagles. Many of the ducks and geese have vacated the Refuge to start their long trip north.

Mrs. Grady Fox and Mrs. George Waddill have had female Purple Finches at their feeders.

Mrs. Acord observed a pair of Common Nighthawks at Lake Stockton.

Mrs. F. D. Hill has had Ladder-backed Woodpeckers at her hanging suet bag and hanging log feeder this winter. Several other members have had occasional birds at their feeders.

March 6, Jim Jokerst studied a Golden Eagle nest on the edge of the caprock near Quitaque. The nest, containing two eggs, had been discovered about a week earlier.

CALENDAR

- Mar. 13 - Field trip - cemeteries.
- Mar. 15 - Monthly Society meeting.
- Apr. 11 - Audubon Screen Tour, "Delta of the Orinoco," Robert C. Hermes.
- Apr. 19 - Monthly Society meeting.