

October 11, 1965

Vol. 20, No. 6

CHRISTMAS PLANS

CHRISTMAS ALREADY? Yes, plans are being made for the annual Christmas Count. The count day is December 22, and the place is Palo Duro Canyon, as usual. We hope you will keep this day open, as we need as many observers as can possibly attend.

MORE PLANS

Mrs. I. D. (Peggy) Acord reports that work is progressing on the TPAS Christmas Tree, to be auctioned off in December, the proceeds going to the building fund for the new Garden Center. A natural green tree will be decorated with cornhusk angels and Sweet Gum Tree balls dipped in glitter. More dried cornhusks and Gum Tree balls are needed. A call will be out soon for volunteer workers, too.

PAST MONTH'S FIELD TRIPS

The September 25 field trip to Palo Duro Canyon yielded few birds to the six observers who braved the chilly weather; the only thing worthy of note was a Lesser Goldfinch. Perfect autumn weather added to the enjoyment of the bird walk through Ellwood Park on October 10.

FIELD TRIPS SCHEDULED

October 23, Leo Galloway will lead a field trip to Buffalo Lake. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the bait shop just south of the tracks in Umbarger. We will have a telescope along to observe the waterfowl which are beginning to arrive. This will be one of the last opportunities to get into the refuge before the gates are locked for the season. An early November is a Sunday afternoon field trip, led by Peggy Acord, to the Tom Greene Ranch. Members will be informed by telephone of the time and meeting place. Others who wish to go should notify Leo Galloway and they, too, will be called. Visitors will be welcome.

OUT-OF-TOWN GUEST

In late September, Mrs. Ethel Chapin Harris of Dallas visited and birded with Peggy Acord and Mrs. George (Esther) Waddill at the Palo Duro Club. Mrs. Harris added the Lazuli Bunting to her life list.

CALENDAR

Oct. 18 - Monthly Society meeting, 7:30 pm
 Oct. 23 - Field Trip, Buffalo Lake, 7:30 am
 Nov. ? - Field Trip, Tom Greene Ranch
 Nov. 15 - Monthly Society meeting, 7:30 pm

OCTOBER MEETING

Let's have the Garden Center filled to capacity at 7:30 Monday, October 18, to hear Melvin R. Evans, Manager of the Muleshoe Wildlife Refuge, who will bring a program on the functions of wildlife refuges. These refuges are located in select spots, with specific missions in mind.

BIRD NOTES

Numerous ducks and shore birds were sighted on playa lakes this past week, report Mrs. George (Rena) Ross and Peggy Acord. Included among the ducks were Redheads, which have arrived a little earlier than usual. Kenneth Seyffert also saw large numbers of shore birds on the Canadian River.

Mrs. Kenneth (Kathryn) Whipple had Purple Martins in her neighborhood a week ago, quite a late record for this species.

An Osprey has spent the last week and a half at Lake Stockton, according to Peggy Acord, who also had a Yellow-breasted Chat at her bird bath the last week of September. She and Esther Waddill listed a female Lazuli Bunting and an Eastern Bluebird on September 28. A Green Heron on October 8, all at Palo Duro Club.

Hawk migrations have been observed by Kenneth Seyffert. The few hawks that were low enough to be identified were Swainson's and one Ferruginous. The Galloways also observed flocks in southern Kansas and the northern edge of the Panhandle October 2 and 3. Again, most of the birds were Swainson's with several Ferruginous and Red Tailed.

A nice letter was received from the Floyd V. Studer, telling of the activity at their feeders. The first number to appear was May 8; then no more were seen until May 30. The next ones were on June 11 and 17, but none of the birds remained, even though the feeders were in place. Since August 18, the birds have been making numerous daily trips to the feeders.

Rena Ross had a Black-throated Green Warbler in her yard October 8.

Galloways have had White-crowned Sparrows at their feeder for the past week.

Leo Galloway and Kenneth Seyffert reported a Double-crested Cormorant at Buffalo Lake October 9.

Other birds of interest were Long-eared Owl, Oregon Junco, Brown Thrasher, and 40 or more Pine Siskins at Buffalo Lake and two Sprague's Pipits on a playa near Palo Duro Canyon, all seen by Kenneth Seyffert.

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