

TEXAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY CONVENTION

Plans are going forward for hosting the T.O.S. fall meeting at Ceta Canyon, Nov. 25-27. Registration will begin Friday afternoon, followed by a Friday evening program on the geology of Palo Duro Canyon. Saturday will feature field trips to the Canyon and to Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

Speaker at the convention banquet Saturday night will be A. S. Jackson of Canadian, whose topic will be the Mississippi Kite. Mr. Jackson has spent years study and photographing this bird, and he has a vast store of knowledge of its life habits. This is a pertinent subject, as the Mississippi Kite has greatly diminished in numbers over the past years.

The new check list of Randall and Potter County birds is being readied for the printer and we hope to have it ready for the T.O.S. meeting.

If you are not a T.O.S. member, you are still welcome. Come and meet the birders from other parts of Texas.

CONSTITUTION

All except one item of the proposed constitution changes were approved unanimously, and there was only one dissenting vote on that item. We hope to have copies of the revised constitution available for distribution in the near future.

CHRISTMAS TREE

We are happy to report that through the efforts of the ladies who participated in a "work party" at the home of Thelma Fox recently, the decorations for the TPAS tree, "Gem of the Forest," are practically ready. After seeing some of the decorative items, we are anticipating a beautiful finished tree.

HOSPITAL NOTE

TPAS treasurer Armon T. Mays has spent considerable time at St. Anthony's Hospital during the past month.

YOUNG NATURALIST

Mike Allender, who helped with the Big Day count last May, is studying Wildlife Management at Texas A & M. Mike is becoming an excellent nature photographer, judging from several of his recent pictures, including one of a Mississippi Kite taken here in Amarillo.

OCTOBER MEETING

This month's meeting will be held at 7:30 Monday, October 17, at the Garden Center, with program, business meeting, and refreshments being planned.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Texas Panhandle Audubon Society is pleased to have as new members Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pedersen of Canyon.

FIELD TRIP

Mrs. B. L. (Esther) Banks has made arrangements for a field trip to a ranch near Adrian on Sunday, October 23, at 2:30. Meeting place: the cafe on the west edge of town on the south side of the highway. Please be there promptly at 2:30. Since we understand this cafe does serve coffee, just look for Galloways' "Wandering Tattler" to mark the meeting spot. Mr. and Mrs. Banks will lead the trip.

PAST MONTH'S FIELD TRIPS

On September 24, Mr. and Mrs. Tol Settles joined the Leo Galloways for a stroll through Llano Cemetery. We were able to get quite close to a perched Swainson's Hawk that was reluctant to leave the cemetery area. Only half a dozen birds were seen that morning.

Thirteen birders attended the October 8 field trip to Buffalo Lake, where the most interesting birds were a flock of 18 Sandhill Cranes and numerous hawks, including a pair of Sharp-shins and a Prairie Falcon.

All of the birders were green with envy when the Pedersens picked up a perfect arrowhead from the side of the road. Other items of interest included a Hog Nosed Snake and a Checkered Garter Snake, which was passed from hand to hand by the braver participants.

BON VOYAGE

Representing the TPAS at the National Audubon Society Convention in Sacramento, California will be Rena Ross and Thelma Fox, (continued on page 2)

CALENDAR

Oct. 17 - 7:30, Monthly Society Meeting
 Oct. 23 - 2:30, Field Trip. Meet at cafe on west edge of Adrian
 Nov. 21 - 7:30, Monthly Society Meeting
 Nov. 25-27 - T.O.S. Fall Meeting, Ceta Canyon

BON VOYAGE (continued from page 1)

who will leave Amarillo on October 7 in order to do some birding in the Pacific Northwest prior to the convention. Having announced their intention to have lunch in their car to save every minute possible for birding, they were surprised recently when friends from the TPAS presented them with a well-stocked lunch basket, cleverly and appropriately decorated by Peggy Acord, who had painted a pair of Roadrunners labelled "Rena" and "Thelma."

CONSERVATION NOTES

By Kenneth D. Seyffert, Chairman

Conservationists can take pride in two victories they have won during the last few weeks involving battles in which they were most deeply concerned and heavily engaged.

It appears that efforts to bring to a House vote the bill to construct dams on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon have been stymied and that some of its leading proponents have given up for this session.

David Brower, the president of the Sierra Club, attributes this, at least temporary, victory largely to the many letters written by concerned people to their Congressmen. With an election year in the offing, many of our Representatives are reluctant to cast their votes on highly controversial matters, such as this bill proved to be. The battle has not been finally won, however, as its backers will re-engage in next year's session of Congress. All of us must continue to be alert and take the initiative in altering the Central Arizona Project Bill to exclude the dams and to expand the boundaries of the Grand Canyon Park.

Upon the President's request to Congress for a declaration of instant taking over of cutting rights for a year within the areas of Mill Creek and Redwood Creek, five timber companies agreed to a moratorium on cutting until October, 1967. This will give Congress an opportunity to debate the issue, and it appears there is a good chance that legislation to create a Redwood National Park will be passed early in the next session. It is also believed that support for the Redwood Creek site, desired by most conservationists, is increasing.

As the Los Angeles Times stated: "The crusade for beauty was once laughed off by politicians as a hobby of posy-picking downers. Not any more. No longer can the beauty crusade be taken so casually in the legislative halls, either in Sacramento or in Washington."

BIRD NOTES

It has been an exciting month of birding, beginning with Rufous and Black-chinned Hummingbirds at the Joe Ross residence Sept. 14.

Red Crossbills were sighted by Esther Waddill on the street behind the old Fisk mansion, September 17. Later that day, Purple Finches were seen with the Crossbills.

Early Sunday morning, September 18, two Ringed Turtle Doves were heard cooing and were then sighted on a telephone pole in the Galloways' alley. A pair of birds had been seen earlier in the year in a yard not too far distant. We are watching to see if this species can become established in Amarillo.

Also on the 18th, Leo and Ruth Galloway recorded a Green Heron at Llano Cemetery. On the 20th, Peggy Acord had a Ferruginous Hawk near Lake Stockton and a female Scarlet Tanager at home.

The first Cattle Egret to be reported in the Panhandle was seen at the playa lake near Memorial Park Cemetery September 21 by the Leo Galloways.

Peggy Acord listed a Philadelphia Vireo on the 22nd. The following day she, Rena Ross, Kathryn Whipple, and Esther Waddill saw the first fall White-crowned Sparrow and an American Bittern at Buffalo Lake. Peggy also had Cedar Waxwings and a Hairy Woodpecker in town on the 26th.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Goshawk, and Double-crested Cormorant were spotted at Buffalo Lake on the 25th by Kenneth Seyffert. On October 1 he found Townsend's Solitaire, Horned Grebe, and Townsend's Warbler at the lake.

October 3, Mrs. Raymond (Margaret Acord) Bailey reported Sandhill Cranes over the Palisades.

Kathryn Whipple, Rena Ross, Thelma Fox, and Peggy Acord recorded Common Snipe and Black-bellied Plover, while Kenneth Seyffert listed Scarlet Tanager at Buffalo Lake, October 4.

On the 8th, Jim Jokerst had a Cooper's Hawk over his place.

A Scrub Jay in the cemetery and several large flocks of Pine Siskins at Lake Stockton were on Peggy Acord's list for October 9.

FOR YOUR BOOKSHELF

A new book that is quite interesting and which would serve as an excellent supplement to Peterson's Field Guide to Birds of North America: A Guide to Field Identification by Robbins, Brunn, Zim, and Singer; published by the Golden Press; price, \$2.95.

Mr. Kenneth Boyfert
2709 Fairfield
Amarillo, Texas 79109

