

RECENT BOARD ACTION:

Prior to our April meeting there was a meeting of the Board of Directors to discuss and act on a matter raised by National headquarters. The subject was the fight currently being waged by the Environmental Defense Fund and backed by the NAS and other conservation organizations to outlaw the use of DDT in Wisconsin. This is thought to be one of the key battles in the conservation cause and it promises to be a lengthy and bitterly fought one. Money is needed to help fight it and for this reason an appeal has been made for all who can to contribute. Our Board recommended to the members of the TPAS that it give \$50 toward this important effort. Because of the poor attendance at the April meeting, a vote on the recommendation was deferred to the May meeting.

TRAVELING BIRDERS:

Rena Ross, Thelma Fox and Vera Deason made a two week tour of the Texas coast and Rio Grande Valley in early May and reported a very productive trip. Of the great many species seen, one lifer was gotten - the Black-headed, or Altimira, Oriole, found in Bentsen State Park. They also picked up the Yellow-green Vireo which made a clean sweep of the Vireos to be seen with the exception of the Solitary. One exciting experience they reported was in watching an extraordinary number of White Ibis, White-faced Glossy Ibis, and all the species of egrets as they came in to a rookery near Freeport.

Dr. and Esther Waddill have just returned from a trip to the Galapagos Islands. We cannot help but think that the Doctor took many fine color slides of the flora and fauna of the area and we look forward to seeing them at a future meeting.

As this newsletter is being printed, Peggy Acord, Mary Griffith, Thelma Fox, Vera Deason and Rena Ross are on their way to the Big Bend National Park. An account of their trip will be given later.

Recently, Rena Ross and some of our other ladybirders entertained Ida Suttman and Virginia Watts, both of Cincinnati, Ohio, and were able to turn up 6 lifers for them. The two had been to the NAS convention in St. Louis and to the Big Bend country before arriving here.

BIRD NOTES:

Hooded Warbler - one male at Llano Cemetery 4/25 by Peggy Acord and Mary Griffith. This is a rare find and Peggy says the bird remained there all of ten days!

Parula Warbler - two at Buffalo Lake on 4/26, one on 4/27, and one on 5/9 by Kenneth Seyffert. All were males.

Chestnut-sided Warbler - one male at Buffalo Lake on 5/4 by KS.

Black-throated Green Warbler - several males seen at both Llano & Memorial Cemeteries 5/3 to 5/7 by our ladybirders & KS.

Gray-cheeked Thrush - seen at both Llano and Memorial Cemeteries 5/3 to 5/7 by our ladybirders. One at Buffalo Lake on 5/9 by KS.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak - a number seen around town, including the cemeteries and the Acords' back yard. The first report

that came in was that of Lucile Fiedler who had seen a male bird. The one reported by Thelma Fox on 5/9 made the ninth or tenth. This is an unusually high number to be seen in our area in one year.

Snowy Egret - one at Buffalo Lake in mid-April by Marie Mayfield. Another at same place on 4/27 by KS.

Green Heron - one at Buffalo Lake on both 4/16 and 18 and one at Llano first week of May, by our ladybirders.

Black-necked Stilt - two at Buffalo Lake on 5/8 by KS.

Baird's Sparrow - one at Buffalo Lake on 5/9 by KS.

Great-crested Flycatcher - one at Palo Duro Canyon on 5/3 by KS, and one on 5/10 by Charles & Sharon Pedersen and KS.

Snow Goose - a late sighting by Sharon Pedersen of a lone bird on a playa SE of Canyon in mid-April.

Townsend's Solitaire - a late sighting of one by KS at Buffalo Lake on 5/8.

Common Merganser - a late sighting of one by KS at Buffalo Lake on 5/9.

BIG DAY:

11 people went afield on May 10 to count birds on our annual Big Day count. These were Peggy Acord, Lucile and Steve Fiedler, Thelma Fox, Mary Griffith, Marguerite Hollar, Jim Jokerst, Armon Mays, Charles and Sharon Pedersen, and Kenneth Seyffert. 107 species were seen, which is the poorest we have ever done. We have tried to analyse the reasons for this poor showing in the hopes that the errors we made can be corrected in future counts, where possible. (1) the birds weren't there. This isn't likely - good counts are largely the result of good organization (2) No one was in the Canyon early enough (3) no one made the Elysian Fields and Lake Tanglewood (4) by noon the wind was something else again (5) the cemeteries and parks were disappointing (6) Peggy Acord didn't stay afield long enough.

Attached to this newsletter is a rundown of our last five Big Day counts.

CALENDAR:

May 19: Monthly society meeting at the Garden Center - 7:30 p. m.
Topic: "Wild Flowers of the Rocky Mountains".

Speaker: Dr. John Denko, pathologist.

Sept. 15: Monthly society meeting.

APOLOGY FOR A SHORT NEWSLETTER:

If you are wondering why this is such a short newsletter the answer is the lack of time. All the Editor's spare time has been taken up in the pursuit of birds. This newsletter will never amount to anything as long as there are a lot of birds around.

BIRDS SEEN IN POTTER & RANDALL COUNTIES ON THE ANNUAL "BIG DAY" COUNTS
AS CONDUCTED BY THE TEXAS PANHANDLE AUDUBON SOCIETY
1965 - 1969.

Species:	1	2	3	4	5	Species:	1	2	3	4	5
Great Blue Heron	x				x	Eastern Kingbird	x	x	x	x	x
Green Heron			x	x		Western Kingbird	x	x	x	x	x
Little Blue Heron			x			Cassin's Kingbird			x		x
Black-crowned Night Heron		x	x	x		Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	x	x	x	x	x
Canada Goose	x		x			Great-crested Flycatcher		x			x
Mallard	x	x	x	x	x	Ash-throated Flycatcher	x	x	x	x	x
Gadwall			x		x	Say's Phoebe	x		x	x	
Pintail	x	x	x			Empidonax sp. Flycatcher	x	x	x	x	x
Green-winged Teal	x		x	x		Western Wood Pewee	x	x	x	x	x
Blue-winged Teal	x	x	x	x	x	Olive-sided Flycatcher	x	x	x	x	
Cinnamon Teal	x		x			Horned Lark	x	x	x	x	x
American Widgeon			x			Violet-green Swallow			x		
Shoveler	x	x	x	x	x	Tree Swallow			x	x	
Redhead					x	Bank Swallow		x	x	x	
Ruddy Duck	x		x	x	x	Rough-winged Swallow	x	x	x	x	
Turkey Vulture	x	x	x	x	x	Barn Swallow	x	x	x	x	x
Mississippi Kite	x	x	x	x	x	Cliff Swallow	x	x	x	x	x
Sharp-shinned Hawk			x	x		Purple Martin			x		
Cooper's Hawk			x			Blue Jay	x	x	x	x	x
Red-tailed Hawk	x	x	x	x		Scrub Jay					x
Broad-winged Hawk			x			Common Crow	x			x	
Swainson's Hawk	x	x	x	x	x	Black-crested Titmouse	x	x	x	x	x
Golden Eagle				x		Verdin			x		
Marsh Hawk			x	x		Common Bushtit	x	x	x	x	
Sparrow Hawk	x	x	x	x	x	House Wren	x	x	x	x	x
Bobwhite	x	x	x	x	x	Bewick's Wren	x	x	x	x	x
Scaled Quail	x	x	x	x	x	Long-billed Wren			x		
Ring-necked Pheasant		x	x	x	x	Canon Wren	x	x	x	x	
Turkey		x		x		Rock Wren		x	x	x	x
American Coot	x	x	x	x	x	Mockingbird	x	x	x	x	x
Semi-palmated Plover		x	x	x		Catbird			x		x
Snowy Plover	x		x	x	x	Brown Thrasher		x	x	x	x
Killdeer	x	x	x	x	x	Robin	x	x	x	x	x
Black-bellied Plover	x	x				Hermit Thrush	x	x	x	x	x
Long-billed Curlew	x					Swainson's Thrush	x		x	x	x
Upland Plover					x	Veery			x	x	x
Spotted Sandpiper	x	x	x	x	x	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	x	x	x	x	
Willet	x					Ruby-crowned Kinglet	x	x	x	x	x
Greater Yellowlegs			x			Cedar Waxwing	x	x	x	x	x
Lesser Yellowlegs	x		x			Loggerhead Shrike	x		x	x	x
Pectoral Sandpiper	x			x	x	Starling	x	x	x	x	x
Baird's Sandpiper	x	x	x	x	x	Gray Vireo			x		
Least Sandpiper		x	x	x	x	Solitary Vireo			x		
Long-billed Dowitcher		x	x			Warbling Vireo			x		x
Stilt Sandpiper	x	x	x	x	x	Black & White Warbler	x	x	x		
Semi-palmated Sandpiper	x	x	x	x	x	Orange-crowned Warbler	x	x	x	x	x
Western Sandpiper		x				Nashville Warbler	x	x	x	x	x
Marbled Godwit		x				Yellow Warbler	x	x	x	x	x
Sanderling			x			Magnolia Warbler	x				
American Avocet	x	x	x	x	x	Myrtle Warbler	x	x	x	x	x
Black-necked Stilt	x		x			Audubon's Warbler	x	x	x	x	x
Wilson's Phalarope	x	x	x	x	x	Townsend's Warbler	x				
Herring Gull	x		x			Blackburnian Warbler				x	
Ring-billed Gull	x		x	x	x	Chestnut-sided Warbler			x		
Franklin's Gull	x		x	x	x	Blackpoll Warbler		x	x		
Black Tern	x		x	x	x	Ovenbird		x		x	
Mourning Dove	x	x	x	x	x	Northern Waterthrush		x	x		x
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			x		x	MacGillivray's Warbler	x	x		x	x
Roadrunner	x	x	x		x	Yellowthroat		x	x	x	x
Barn Owl			x			Wilson's Warbler	x	x	x	x	x
Great Horned Owl	x	x	x	x	x	American Redstart	x	x	x	x	
Burrowing Owl	x	x	x	x	x	House Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x
Poor Will			x	x		Western Meadowlark	x	x	x	x	x
Common Nighthawk	x	x	x			Yellow-headed Blackbird			x		x
Black Swift			x			Red-winged Blackbird	x	x	x	x	x
Chimney Swift	x	x	x	x	x	Orchard Oriole	x	x		x	x
White-throated Swift			x			Bullock's Oriole	x	x	x	x	x
Belted Kingfisher	x	x	x	x	x	Brewer's Blackbird	x	x	x		
Red-shafted Flicker	x		x		x	Boat-tailed Grackle	x	x	x	x	x
Golden-fronted Woodpecker	x	x	x	x	x	Common Grackle		x	x		x
Red-headed Woodpecker		x		x	x	Brown-headed Cowbird	x	x	x	x	x
Acorn Woodpecker	x					Scarlet Tanager		x			
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	x	x	x	x	x	Summer Tanager					x
Hairy Woodpecker					x						

Species:	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Cardinal	x	x	x	x	x
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				x	
Black-headed Grosbeak	x		x	x	x
Blue Grosbeak	x	x	x	x	x
Indigo Bunting	x	x			x
Lazuli Bunting	x	x	x	x	x
Painted Bunting	x	x	x	x	x
Evening Grosbeak			x		
House Finch	x	x	x	x	x
Pine Siskin		x	x	x	x
American Goldfinch	x	x	x	x	x
Lesser Goldfinch	x			x	
Red Crossbill			x		
Green-tailed Towhee	x		x	x	x
Rufous-sided Towhee	x		x	x	
Lark Bunting	x	x	x	x	x
Savannah Sparrow			x		
Grasshopper Sparrow			x	x	
Vesper Sparrow	x	x	x		x
Lark Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x
Rufous-crowned Sparrow		x	x	x	x
Cassin's Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x
Black-throated Sparrow		x			
Gray-headed Junco	x				
Chipping Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x
Clay-colored Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x
Brewer's Sparrow	x				
Harris' Sparrow		x	x		
White-crowned Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x
Lincoln's Sparrow	x	x		x	x
Song Sparrow				x	

1. May 9, 1965 114 species

2. May 8, 1966 108 species

3. May 7, 1967 144 species

4. May 12, 1968 117 species

5. May 10, 1969 107 species