

## THE PRAIRIE HORNED LARK

January, 1972

2709 S. Fairfield, Amarillo, Texas 79103

Vol. IX, No. 1

### PROGRAM FOR JANUARY:

The annual dinner and election of officers will be held at the Garden Center, Monday, Jan. 17, at 6:30 p.m. It will be a covered-dish dinner and members have been contacted as to what dishes to bring. Your guests are welcomed. Carolyn Stallwitz, artist/photographer of Dumas, will present the program which will be color slides of the flora and fauna of Moore County. Mrs. Stallwitz will also have some of her other art work with her.

### CHRISTMAS COUNTS:

Since the final results of only one of the area Christmas Counts has been turned in (that of Arnett, Okla.) we will hold off reporting on those events until the February issue of the newsletter.

### BIRD NOTES:

The cold weather that moved in on 1/3 forced the ducks onto the larger impoundments. Lake Tanglowood was barren on Count day but on 1/5 Pogy Acord and Rita Konney reported good numbers of all our common puddle ducks as well as a few Common Morgansons there. The influx into the Buffalo Lake Wildlife Refuge was tremendous. During the week 1/2 thru 1/8 approximately 78,000 Canada Geese and 300,000 ducks were present. Paul Ferguson reports unusual numbers of Redheads and Canvasbacks. Several Bald and Golden Eagles are there and a smattering of Snow Geese among the Canadas. A Sharp-shinned Hawk has been a frequent visitor at the Duprees at Tanglowood while Rita Konney observed one come onto the porch of her home north of the city on 1/4. No doubt these birds were being driven by hunger to seek their prey near human habitations where regular feeding has attracted many small birds. Both Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, as well as White-throated Sparrows have been coming in to the feeders at the Grady Foxes. An unusual observation was made by Pogy Acord. During the last week of December she observed a flock of 13 Audubon's Warblers at Lake Tanglowood. While isolated birds of this species occur here in winter, it is very uncommon to see this many at one time. Ken Scoffort's winter study of birds in the Palo Duro Canyon has turned up two unusual species. On 1/1 he encountered a Winter Wren along the stream, and he saw it again on 1/9. Also on both of those dates he found the elusive Baird's Sparrow. The population of fringillids is very good on the study area this winter, possibly because of the abundant supply of wood and grass seeds. On the 31 acre plot the White-crowned Sparrows are averaging 27 per trip, the Song Sparrows 21, Tree Sparrows 5, Lincoln's Sparrows 2, White-throated Sparrows 2, Rufous-crowned Sparrows 1, Oregon Juncos 39, Slate-colored Juncos 22, Cardinals 7, House Finches 1, Am. Goldfinches 6, and Pine Siskins 4. Two species notably absent are the Scalloped Quail and the Bobwhite. One other notable observation was the Swamp Sparrow seen at Buffalo Lake on 12/23/71 by KS.

### ORGANIZATIONS YOU MAY WANT TO JOIN:

From time to time we get inquiries from new members and birders concerning state and national organizations and publications that are primarily concerned with the world of

birds. Thinking a list of those organizations will be of general interest, the following are offered for your consideration:

#### TEXAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (TOS)

Objectives - "The purpose of the Society shall be for educational purposes, particularly with reference to birds, their habitat, and their environment."

Active Membership - \$5.00 per year, payable to Mr. E. B. Kinsey, Treasurer, Box 39, Burnet, Texas 78611.

This group holds Spring and Fall meetings at points within the state with primary emphasis on field trips. A month Newsletter is published and a scientific Bulletin dealing with the birds of Texas is in the process of being organized.

#### OKLAHOMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (OOS)

Objectives - "Dedicated to the observation, study and conservation of birds in Oklahoma".

Regular Membership - \$4.00 per year, payable to Mr. Walter Doane, 9912 Mahler Place, Okla. City, Okla. 73120.

This group also hold Spring and Fall meetings with the Spring meeting emphasizing field trips and the Fall meeting the presentation of scientific papers by members. It is a highly oriented member group publishing bi-monthly a Newsletter and scientific Bulletin. The latter is one of the few state bulletins that is respected for its scientific quality.

#### AMERICAN BIRDING ASSOCIATION

Objectives - "exists for the sole purpose of promoting birding as a hobby and a sport and to assist its members in their pursuit of this popular activity."

Individual membership - \$5.00 a year, payable to James A. Tucker, Box 4335, Austin, Texas 78765.

BIRDING is published bimonthly and contains many articles on the sport of birding. One valuable feature are the detailed maps showing specific locations where these hard to find birds may be found in various parts of North America. A must for the lister.

#### CORNELL LABORATORY OF ORNITHOLOGY

Objectives - "a center for the study and cultural appreciation of birds."

Supporting Membership dues - \$10.00 a year. Each member receives the quarterly Newsletter and, on additional payment of \$5.00, THE LIVING BIRD. Payment to 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, N. Y. 14850.

#### CALENDAR:

Jan. 17: Annual dinner and monthly society meeting - 6:30 p.m. at the Garden Center.

Feb. 21: Monthly society meeting at the Garden Center - 7:30 p.m.

TEXAS PANHANDLE AUDUBON SOCIETY

Annual Report  
January 17, 1972

OFFICERS:

President - Konnoth Seyffort  
Vice-President - Esther Waddill  
Secretary - Rita Konnoy  
Treasurer - Armon Mays  
Recorder - Peggy Acord

BOARD MEMBERS:

Term Expires 1972: Lucillo Fiedler  
: B. W. Van Noy  
Term Expires 1973: Thelma Fox  
: Rena Ross  
Term Expires 1974: Vera Deason  
: Jim Jokerst

MEMBERSHIP: 90

MEETINGS:

The Society has met monthly January through May, and September through December. Programs of color slides were presented by Barbara Lund, B. W. Van Noy, Thelma Funtch, Vera Deason, Mary Tom Rascoe, and the Waddills, and Peggy Acord gave a demonstration on the use of natural dyes.

FIELD ACTIVITIES:

BIG DAY: 6 participants, 134 species.

AMARILLO Christmas Count: 10 participants, 72 species.

Other Christmas Counts participated in: Friona, Muleshoe and 2 at Lake Meredith, Arnett and Black Mesa, Oklahoma.

PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES OF THE AMARILLO COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS:

Audubon Wildlife Screen Tour  
Festival of Trees  
White Elephant Sale

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES:

Participation in North American Nest Record Card Program.

Participation in four routes of the Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey of North America.

Participation in a seasonal census of birds in connection with a grasslands ecology study for the International Biological Program.

Conducted a Wintering Bird Population Study for publication in AMERICAN BIRDS.

Volume VIII of the PRAIRIE HORNED LARK printed, consisting of nine issues.