

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Monday, January 16, 1978: ANNUAL MEETING at the Auditorium, Amarillo Garden Center  
7:00 p. m.

## PROGRAM:

The Annual Meeting of The Texas Panhandle Audubon Society will bring as its speaker for the evening Mr. Tom Smilie from the Albuquerque office of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Mr. Smilie has been their Public Affairs Officer for some years, and he has been involved in many special projects for the Wildlife Service. The most recent has been with the Arctic Peregrine in the Dry Tortugas Islands, and the Whooping Cranes living with the Sandhill Cranes in New Mexico. Next year he goes to Greenland to further his studies. His subject will be "The Role of the Fish and Wildlife Service with Endangered Species".

We also have the honor of seeing some of the bird carvings of Mr. Irad Arnold of Tucumcari who will bring an exhibit of his work. This will be New Mexico Night for the Society.

President Nancy Elliott will conduct the business meeting for the election of the new officers and new Board members for the coming year.

Mrs. Marguerite Empie is Chairman of the Annual Meeting Committee and will be in charge of the dinner plans. We will have a buffet dinner and reservations must be made by January 14. Bring any guests who might be interested in this Conservation theme.

## TO FELLOW MEMBERS:

The Annual Meeting will conclude my year as president of the Texas Panhandle Audubon Society. I want to thank all of the officers, directors and members who have helped to make the job pleasant. Mary Moyer particularly deserves our thanks for the tireless work she does in planning programs and securing speakers for our meetings. Ken Seyffert's work on publications, and his and Peggy Acord's efforts on field trips and Christmas Bird counts are certainly appreciated. Fern Cain and Orwin Rush contributed greatly to the conservation efforts of the chapter. Peggy Acord and Ginger Holiday earned our admiration for their work in the Festival of Trees. Rona Ross and her committee have helped to boost our membership. And my special thanks go to Rosemary Scott and Armon Mays for their good work as secretary and treasurer. It takes members who are interested in the wildlife and conservation concerns of the local and national scene. We now have 102 memberships in the Texas Panhandle Audubon Society. Fifty or more of these have participated in some meeting, field trip, Christmas bird count, or Christmas tree activity. We welcome our new members and urge all members to become involved in some of the activities of the chapter. We've had some good programs and some good times and we want you to enjoy them with us. Good luck to the new officers and a Happy New Year to all.

...Nancy Elliott...

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS:

Buffalo Lake NWR -

Participants - Ed and Nancy Elliott(Canyon); E. B. Ellis(Pampa); Ken Seyffert(Amarillo); Larry Wynn(Umbarger).

Species new for the count - White-fronted Goose, Say's Phoebe, Lark Bunting. 101 species have been recorded on 11 counts.

Highlight of count - KS, dauntless leader of one group, led them across dry, weed-grown lake bed as short cut to cars. Weeds were at least waist high and dauntless leader disappeared several times as he stepped into bottomless holes. Loyal party followed close behind. Number of birds seen on passage - 0.

Amarillo(Palo Duro Canyon) -

Participants - Peggy Acord(Amarillo); Nancy Elliott(Canyon); E. B. Ellis(Pampa); Marguerite Empie(Amarillo); Jim Montgomery(Lubbock); Thelma Puntch(Amarillo); Ken Seyffert(Amarillo).

Species new for the count - Ring-necked Pheasant. 126 species have been recorded on 15 counts.

Highlights of count - the count being saved from disaster by the abundance of birds on the Hagh Currie Ranch.

Lake Meredith(east) -

Participants - Fern Cain(Borger); Larry Duke(Borger); E. B. Ellis(Pampa); Marguerite Empie(Amarillo); Wes Phillips(Fritch); Thelma Puntch(Amarillo); Ken Seyffert(Amarillo); Frank Smith(Borger). 102 species have been recorded on 8 counts.

Species new for the count - Prairie Falcon, Canyon Wren, Brown Towhee, Savannah Sparrow.

Highlights of count - KS, dauntless leader of one group (Empie and Puntch), led them across Canadian River on elevated 12" wide board that spanned valley for  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile. Intrepid trio made journey without a hitch until they reached point near the end where a plank was missing. Group wasn't about to turn around and retrace steps, so solved problem with their usual ingenuity. Reward? - Virginia Rails, Long-billed Marsh Wrens, Rough-legged Hawk. During afternoon entire party stopped by two cowboys who thought they were deer poachers.

Arnett, Oklahoma -

Participants - Ruth and Leo Galloway(St. Joseph, Mo.); Ken Seyffert(Amarillo).

Species new for the count - Horned Grebe, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Lark Bunting, Savannah Sparrow, Baird's Sparrow. 107 species have been recorded on 12 counts.

Highlights of count - old friends meeting again; 252 Turkeys; 4 Schreack Owls.

Lake Meredith(west) -

Participants - Fern Cain(Borger); E. B. Ellis(Pampa); Ken Seyffert(Amarillo); Frank Smith (Borger).

Species new for the count - Goshawk; Sharp-shinned Hawk; Fox Sparrow; Lincoln's Sparrow. 10<sup>4</sup> species have been recorded on 8 counts.

Quitague -

Participants - E. B. Ellis(Pampa); Nancy and Ed Elliott(Canyon); Kelly Himmel(Crosbyton); Jim Montgomery(Lubbock); Ken Seyffert(Amarillo).

Species new for the count - Northern Shoveler; Blue Jay; Curve-billed Thrasher; Hermit Thrush; Fyrrhuloxia; Harris' Sparrow. 95 species have been recorded on 3 counts.

Highlights of count - bitter cold in the morning with strong north wind ~~in the morning~~ followed by snow that brought count to a halt by 2:00 p.m..

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS 1977/78

1. Dec. 17 - Buffalo Lake NWR, Texas
2. Dec. 18 - Amarillo (Palo Duro Canyon), Texas
3. Dec. 20 - Lake Meredith(east), Texas
4. Dec. 22 - Arentt, Okla.
5. Dec. 31 - Lake Meredith(west), Texas
6. Jan. 1 - Quitaque, Texas

Species	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
Horned Grebe				x		
Pied-billed Grebe		2	3	4	1	6
Great Blue Heron		1	15	1	8	1
Canada Goose	935		200		266	
White-fronted Goose	1					
Mallard	300	32	67	12	3563	42
Gadwall			11		30	25
Pintail	500		8		750	4
Green-winged Teal	6		32	2	2	13
American Wigeon	14		6	13	81	11
Northern Shoveler	13					8
Redhead			4			
Ring-necked Duck		5		24		10
Canvasback				38		13
Lesser Scaup			1	1	2	4
Common Goldeneye			4	7		1
Bufflehead		1		3		15
Common Merganser		64	15	6		1
Goshawk					1	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2		2		1	
Cooper's Hawk		1	2	1		
accipiter sp.						1
Red-tailed Hawk	9	1	17	15	17	
Rough-legged Hawk	6		1	1	1	
Ferruginous Hawk	7		1		2	
Golden Eagle	1	1	1		2	1
Bald Eagle		3	2		8	
Marsh Hawk	25	5	15	15	7	4
Prairie Falcon	2		1	1	1	
Merlin	2					
American Kestrel	12	6	7	6	14	16
Lesser Prairie Chicken				1		
Bobwhite	28	2	20	90	12	34
Scaled Quail	44	64	162		50	77
Ring-necked Pheasant	9	1				
Turkey		35		252	243	
Sandhill Crane	315					
Virginia Rail			5	2		
American Coot		11	6	267	4	97
Killdeer			4			7
Common Snipe				2		1
Ring-billed Gull			33		20	
Rock Dove	5	1	1			71
Mourning Dove	27	3	16	82	59	22
Roadrunner	2	2	3			
Screech Owl				4		
Great Horned Owl	2		1	1	1	
Burrowing Owl	1					
Belted Kingfisher		1	3	1		2
Common Flicker	16	23	20	33	34	15
Red-bellied Woodpecker			1	10	1	
Golden-fronted Woodpecker		33				8
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		1		1		2
Hairy Woodpecker			1	2	5	
Downy Woodpecker				10		
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	7	3	8		6	4
Say's Phoebe	1					
Horned Lark	303	110				70
Blue Jay				11		1
Scrub Jay		2				5
Common Crow		4		27	13	6
Carolina Chickadee				13	19	
Black-crested Titmouse		6				7
Bushtit		15				
Red-breasted Nuthatch					3	

Species	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
Brown Creeper		1	1	3		
House Wren						1
Bewick's Wren	2	9	4	7	10	5
Long-billed Marsh Wren		1	12	1	5	3
Canyon Wren		2	1			1
Rock Wren	4	2	1		1	2
Mockingbird		9		x	1	7
Brown Thrasher		2		1	1	
Curve-billed Thrasher	1				6	1
American Robin		231		45	114	23
Hermit Thrush						4
Eastern Bluebird		15		60	95	
Western Bluebird						6
Mountain Bluebird		15			26	15
Townsend's Solitaire		2	1			
Golden-crowned Kinglet		1				
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		3	1		6	2
<del>XXXXXX</del>						
Northern Shrike	1					
Loggerhead Shrike	10	2	5	13	11	6
Starling	8	96	50,000	31	81	39
Yellow-rumped Warbler		3				4
House Sparrow	115	37	48	42	15	221
Eastern Meadowlark			6	1		
Western Meadowlark	195	103	72	1	73	180
meadowlark sp.				137		
Red-winged Blackbird	36	365	500,000	569	586	31
Brewer's Blackbird	350		1	40		
Brown-headed Cowbird		50	1	3		
Cardinal		33	1	13	14	13
Pyrrhuloxia						1
Purple Finch					1	
House Finch	6	20			190	5
Pine Siskin	5	24	6	34	89	24
American Goldfinch	24	53	54	121	138	1
Green-tailed Towhee		1				
Rufous-sided Towhee	1	8		1	4	3
Brown Towhee			1			1
Lark Bunting	40	12		47		8
Savannah Sparrow		1	2	2		
Baird's Sparrow				1		
Rufous-crowned Sparrow		5	10		3	4
Dark-eyed Junco	168	394	235	99	442	79
Tree Sparrow	136	15	203	419	66	
Field Sparrow	3	3	2	7	19	1
Harris' Sparrow		2	7	140	9	1
White-crowned Sparrow	474	123	201	35	201	123
White-throated Sparrow		3				
Fox Sparrow					1	1
Lincoln's Sparrow		5		1	1	
Swamp Sparrow		1	1			1
Song Sparrow	18	22	28	20	26	30
McCown's Longspur	350	2		1		
Lapland Longspur	75					
Chestnut-collared Longspur	30					
longspur sp.	500	10		10		
Total -	52	69	65	64	63	69

x - seen during count week  
but not on count day.