

November, 1980

2206 Lipscomb, Amarillo, TX 79109

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PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER;

The monthly meeting of the TPAS will be at the Garden Center at 7:30 p. m., Nov. 17. This will be our last meeting until the Annual Dinner in January as December will be taken up with Christmas Bird Counts. It will be a double-barreled affair. The first part will be a presentation "Pictorial Life of the Hummingbird" by James Rittenberry, and the second part "Fall" by Dr. George Waddill. Both will be color slide presentations.

BIRD NOTES;

Oct. 14; near Amarillo, Randall Co. - two Ospreys (PA,RR), and another one at the Palo Duro Club (EW). The first Brown Creeper of the season in Vega, Oldham Co. (RS).

Oct. 15; near Umbarger in Deaf Smith Co. - 60 American Avocets, 70 Long-billed Curlew, a Marbled Godwit, and large numbers of Barn and Tree Swallows (RR, RS, EW).

Oct. 19: on the Frank Duncan Ranch in southwestern Hutchinson Co. - TPAS field trip where PA, RS, and KS joined Frank and Estollo Duncan in a delightful afternoon in a lovely setting. The best birds seen were 2 Red-bellied Woodpeckers, a White-breasted Nuthatch, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, a Swamp Sparrow, and where the best peepwatcher was a raccoon in a cottonwood tree.

Oct. 26; at Buffalo Lake NWR, Randall Co. - 2 Sharp-shinned and one Cooper's Hawk; the first Rough-legged Hawk of the season; the first Bald Eagle (an immature); a Barn Owl; the first Long-billed Marsh Wrens (4); a Sage Thrasher; the first Mountain Bluebirds (54); the first Tree Sparrows (2); in nearby Deaf Smith Co. - 40 Long-billed Curlew - all by KS.

Nov. 2; at Ceta Glon, S. Ceta Canyon, Randall Co. - TPAS field trip attended by PA, MD, AM (and nephew Jeff), RS, KS. The best birds were a Sharp-shinned Hawk, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and Golden-crowned Kinglets (2).

PA - Peggy Acord RS - Rosemary Scott
MD - Mary Donelson KS - Ken Seyffert
AM - Armon Mays EW - Esther Waddill
RR - Rona Ross

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS;

The National Audubon Society's annual Christmas Bird Count keeps growing bigger and bigger. In last winter's count --the 80th--more people took part and covered more territory than ever before. Approximately 33,000 observers participated, organized into teams that covered 1,320 count areas in the United States, Canada, and Central and South America. They reported more than 109 million birds, species by species, including a number

of hugh blackbird roosts.

The highest count this time was in the Atlantic area of the Canal Zone in the Republic of Panama, which sighted 320 different species. Freeport, Texas, tied with San Diego, California, for the highest count in the United States; each found 217 species. Complete results are in the count issue of American Birds.

The schedule for our own area counts are as follows:

Dec. 20(Saturday); Buffalo Lake NWR - meet at refuge headquarters at 8:00 a.m. Count leader is Larry Wynn.

Dec. 21(Sunday); Amarillo - meet at entrance to the Palo Duro Canyon SP at 8:00 a.m. Count leader is Peggy Acord.

Dec. 28(Sunday); Lake Meredith(west) - meet at Nat'l Parks headquarters in Fritch at 7:30 a.m. Count leader is Fern Cain.

Jan. 1 (Thursday); Quitaque - meet at SP headquarters at Lake Theo at 8:00 a.m. Count leader is Ken Seyffert.

Jan. 4 (Sunday); Lake Meredith(east) - meet at Nat'l Parks headquarters in Fritch at 7:30 a. m. Count leader is Ken Seyffert.

The date for the Arnett, Oklahoma count is yet to be set.

Breeding Bird Surveys;

Attached is a table giving the results of the annual Breeding Bird Surveys on nine representative species in the Texas Panhandle. These counts began in 1967 with the Channing count and are conducted during the first two weeks in June. The results of all counts each year are not available, but we believe the information presented here will give an interesting picture of the relative distribution of these typical species.

It is with regret that we note the passing away of one of our long time members, Peggy Hassell, on October 28. Our deepest sympathies are extended to Sam and the family at 3906 Huntington.
