

THE PRAIRIE HORNED LARK  
Newsletter of the Texas Panhandle Audubon Society

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MEETING FOR JANUARY:

The next monthly meeting of the Texas Panhandle Audubon Society will be at 7:30 p.m., January 16, at the Garden Center. On the agenda will be the election of officers for the coming year.

NEW EDITOR:

Beginning with the February issue, there will be a new editor for the Prairie Horned Lark. The present editor took over the job with the September, 1967 issue but he now finds it time to call it "halt" and let a new editor bring new ideas and thoughts to the publication. He urges all members, particularly the committee chairmen, to furnish plenty of material to the new editor in order to make this a better publication.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS:

1. Buffalo Lake NWR, Dec. 24, 1983;  
Participants: Tom Johnson (Amarillo); Ken Seyffert (Amarillo).  
Temperature: -3° to 2° F.  
Wind: 10-20 MPH NW  
Chill Factor: -40° F.  
Best Species: Bald Eagle (4); Prairie Falcon (3); White-winged Junco.  
Species recorded on every previous count but not this year: Mallard; N. Pintail; N. Bobwhite; N. Flicker; Loggerhead Shrike; Song Sparrow.  
New for the count: none
2. Lake Meredith (east), Dec. 27, 1983;  
Participants: Peggy Acord (Amarillo); Fern Cain (Borger); Ken Seyffert (Amarillo); Frank Smith (Borger).  
Temperature: 13° to 26° F.  
Wind: 10-20 mph NW  
Precipitation: freezing rain in a.m.  
Best Species: Hooded Merganser  
New for the count: none
3. Qhitaque, Dec. 30, 1983;  
Participants: Peggy Acord (Amarillo); Taylor Carisle (New Orleans); E. B. Ellis (Austin); Joel & Casey Reece (Kress); Ken Seyffert (Amarillo).  
Temperature: 5° to 38° F  
Wind: 15-30 mph SW  
Best Species: Pyrrhuloxia  
Species recorded in every previous count (7) but not this year: Ring-necked Duck; Lesser Scaup; Bufflehead; Bewick's Wren; Marsh Wren; Rock Wren; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Loggerhead Shrike; House Finch; Rugous-sided Towhee; Rugous-crowned Sparrow.  
New for the count: Prairie Falcon; Ring-necked Pheasant; Wild Turkey; Burrowing Owl; Lapland Longspur.
4. Lake Meredith (west), Jan. 2, 1984;  
Participants: Peggy Acord (Amarillo); Fern Cain (Borger); Mary Moyer (Amarillo); Ken Seyffert (Amarillo); Frank Smith (Borger).  
Temperature: 25° to 46° F.  
Wind: 3-10 mph S  
Best Species: Chipping Sparrow; Bald Eagle (17).  
New for the count: longspur sp.

Unfortunately, the weather cancelled out the Amarillo count, for the first time in many, many years. The weather had an adverse effect on all the counts, with the exception of the Lake Meredith (east).

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS 1983/84

- 1. Buffalo Lake NWR - Dec. 24
- 2. Lake Meredith(east) - Dec. 27
- 3. Quitaque (Caprock Canyons SP) - Dec. 30
- 4. Lake Meredith(west) - Jan. 2

<u>Species</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>
Pied-billed Grebe		10	2	
Great Blue Heron		15	1	
Snow Goose		2		1
Canada Goose	125	750	215	615
<u>Green-winged Teal</u>		75	200	
Mallard		1100	1500	2
N. Pintail		4	50	
N. Shoveler		2	8	
Gadwall		35	2	
<u>Am. Wigeon</u>		6	250	
Canvasback		1		
Ring-necked Duck		45		
Lesser Scaup		3		
Com. Goldeneye		47		
Bufflehead		1		
duck sp.		2000		
Hooded Merganser		5		
Com. Merganser		400		
Bald Eagle	4	9		17
<u>N. Harrier</u>	10	8	14	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk				1
Cooper's Hawk	1			
Red-tailed Hawk	2	4	1	12
Ferruginous Hawk	9	4	1	
<u>Rough-legged Hawk</u>	1		1	
Golden Eagle	2	1	4	
Am. Kestrel	5	5	19	10
Prairie Falcon	3		1	
Ring-necked Pheasant	2		9	
<u>Wild Turkey</u>			55	131
N. Bobwhite			27	
Scaled Quail		20	129	3
Virginia Rail		6		
Am. Coot		366	3	
<u>Sandhill Crane</u>			40	
Killdeer		1		
Ring-billed Gull		148		6
Herring Gull		4		
Rock Dove	11	22	11	
<u>Mourning Dove</u>			6	
Greater Roadrunner		1	3	1
Great Horned Owl	1	2		1
Burrowing Owl			1	
Belted Kingfisher		1		
<u>Golden-fronted Woodpecker</u>			3	
Red-bellied Woodpecker		1		2
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	1	7	8	9
Downy Woodpecker			1	4
Hairy Woodpecker		1		1
<u>N. Flicker</u>		24	18	12
Horned Lark	330	6	531	2
Blue Jay		1		
Scrub Jay			18	
Am. Crow		1	14	23
<u>Carolina Chickadee</u>				9
Black-crested Titmouse			3	
Brown Creeper				5
Canyon Wren			1	
Bewick's Wren		1		2
<u>Marsh Wren</u>		3		1
Golden-crowned Kinglet				2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		1		1
Eastern Bluebird				22
Mountain Bluebird			26	26
<u>Townsend's Solitaire</u>		1	3	22

Species	1.	2.	3.	4.
Hermit Thrush			2	1
Am. Robin	1	33	25	305
N. Mockingbird		1	7	
Brown Thrasher				1
Curve-billed Thrasher			1	1
Cedar Waxwing				31
Loggerhead Shrike		10		6
European Starling	24	10,000	150	125
N. Cardinal		8	15	25
PYRRHULOXIA			2	
Rufous-sided Towhee		3		8
Am. Tree Sparrow	2	27	3	4
CHIPPING SPARROW				1
Field Sparrow	1			
Lark Bunting	35			
Savannah Sparrow			3	
Song Sparrow		17	1	3
Swamp Sparrow		2		
White-throated Sparrow				5
White-crowned Sparrow	<del>20</del> 7	<del>22</del> 56	<del>22</del> 43	<del>20</del> 42
Dark-eyed Junco	30	99	121	52
...WHITE-WINGED JUNCO	1			
Harris' Sparrow		1		
McCown's Longspur	37+		40 +	
Lapland Longspur	1+		6+	
longspur sp.	100		1100	1
Red-winged Blackbird	50	50,000	106	36
Western Meadowlark	215	8	335	1
Brewer's Blackbird	30	100		40
Great-tailed Grackle		2		
Common Grackle		20		
Brown-headed Cowbird			10	
Pine Siskin		<del>16</del> 1	<del>147</del> 71	<del>11</del> 3
Am. Goldfinch		16	147	11
House Sparrow	245	100	200	9
TOTAL	28	64	57	51