

THE PRAIRIE HORNED LARK
Newsletter of the Texas Panhandle Audubon Society

March, 1987

406 West Grand, Borger, TX 79007

Vol. XIII, No. 3

Program for March

The monthly meeting of the Texas Panhandle Audubon Society will be held at 7:30 p.m. March 16 at the Garden Center. Carolyn Stallwitz, birder, naturalist, photographer and artist extraordinaire, will give the program.

The annual conservation dinner will be April 27 (one week later than our regular meeting date) at 7:00 p.m. at the Garden Center. The deadline for award nominations is March 16. Nominations should be written giving the reason why the person deserves the award and submitted to Tommy Rosson, conservation chairman.

A heartfelt thanks to Kenneth Seyffert for his many years of service in getting out the Newsletter. You did a great job and we all appreciate you!

Officers Elected for 1987

President - - - - - Don Myers
Vice President - - - - - Lea Reynolds
Secretary - - - - - Page Smith
Treasurer - - - - - Mary Moyer
Recorder - - - - - Peggy Acord
Garden Club Rep. - - - - Virginia Wood

Board Members

Three Years Joann Pruitt
Fern Cain
Two Years Joe Cepeda
Tommy Rosson
One Year Marvin Hilton
John E. King

Committees: Program, Lea Reynolds; Membership, Mary Moyer; Conservation, Tommy Rosson; Newsletter, Fern Cain; Public Relations, Marvin Hilton; Field Trips, Nancy Elliott, Social, Joann Pruitt, Nominating, Joe Cepeda; Auditor, John E. King

Every active member of T.P.A.S. should be on at least one of the above committees. Right? If you are not on a committee, would you please volunteer. Thanks.

From the President

The Newsletter that you are reading is one of the necessary expenses that the Texas Panhandle Audubon Society incurs to keep its membership informed at a local level. However, the bulk of recipients of this newsletter do not appear to be as interested in local issues as they are in national environmental issues, judging from the participation of the members who are assigned to the T.P.A.S.

In an effort to cut Newsletter expenses and to be able to devote more money to conservation, the T.P.A.S. is going to stop sending the newsletter to members that have never participated in a T.P.A.S. function unless an inactive member says otherwise. This is not an attempt to shut out non-active members, but only to stop the expense of sending to members who aren't interested in local issues.

If you are an inactive member interested in continuing to receive the T.P.A.S. Newsletter, we will continue to send it if you will contact T.P.A.S. at 1400 Streit Drive, Amarillo, TX 79106, or call Don Myers at work 355-1551 or at home 355-1217. If you have attended any T.P.A.S. function in the last year, your Newsletter will continue without having to contact T.P.A.S.

Non-members who want to receive THE PRAIRIE HORNED LARK will be required to pay a \$3.00 yearly charge.

The Texas Panhandle Audubon Society realizes that some people will misunderstand this money saving attempt, but in fact, T.P.A.S. hopes that we will receive many calls that will show that the local interest is greater than we perceive it to be.

Write or call soon. The local chapter is your chapter. We want to hear from you.

Don Myers

Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. before the meeting. This is the most important meeting of the year. Every board member should be at this one.

Spring Field Trips

Sunday, March 15 - Buffalo Lake, 2:30 p.m. Meet at entrance. Walk below Stewart Dike to look for late winter birds and nesting horned owls and woodpeckers.

Sunday, March 29, 2:30 p.m. Meet at entrance to Palo Duro State Park. Joe Cepeda will lead us on a geology walk.

Saturday, April 11, 8:30 a.m. - Ceta Church Camp. Meet at entrance to the Christian Camp.

Saturday, April 18, 8:30 a.m. Buffalo Lake. Meet at entrance. Early migrants and wildflowers.

Sunday May 3, 8:30 a.m. Meet at Memorial Park Cemetery going on to Llano Cemetery later.

Saturday, May 9 - BIG DAY COUNT - details in April Newsletter.

May 14, 15, 16. Texas Ornithological Society Spring Meeting in Guadalupe Mountains.

Sunday, May 24, 8:30 a.m.- Palo Duro Canyon. Meet at entrance. Late migrants, wildflowers, and nesting birds.

Please check the Newsletter each month for changes, updates or additions. A summer schedule will be in the May Newsletter. If you need further information call Nancy (Mrs. E. E.) or Peggy Acord.

Bird Notes

December 4. Greater White-fronted Goose at Sewage Pond. Also seen at other times in December. DM A sighting of 4, March 4 at Sewage Pond. KS

February 2,4,6,10. Cinnamon Teal at Triangle Pond and Sewage Ponds. DM

February 10,23. Two Ross' Geese at Sewage Pond. Snow Geese seem to be very plentiful in the Panhandle this winter. DM

February 18. American Woodcock at Palo Duro Canyon. Second sighting in the Panhandle. KS

February 21 Common Snipe at Sewage Pond. Feb. 21 and 22 Least Sandpiper at Sewage Pond. DM

A very high number of Herring Gulls - 47 - were seen at Whitaker Pond during February.

February 22. Immature Northern Shrike 8 miles north of Umbarger. KS

Two Green-tailed Towhees at Rosemary Scott's place in Vega all winter. First seen November 3 and last seen February 28. One bird had no tail. Was it still a Green-tailed Towhee?

February 18. Western Bluebirds at Palo Duro Canyon. ~~KS~~ DM

March 2. Common Raven. DM Also March 6, McBride Canyon. FC

March 6. Long-billed Dowitchers at Whitaker Pond. DM

March 6. Thousands of Robins in open fields above and in McBride Canyon. Also good numbers of Mountain Bluebirds. FC