

# ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDING — 1961

Compiled by Alan Brady

JANUARY 5. Sixty-three members and ten guests attended the seventy-first annual meeting. The following officers and councillors were elected:

John F. McIlvain, *President*  
Robert H. Sehl, *Vice-President*  
Alan Brady, *Secretary*  
Edward L. Altemus, *Treasurer*  
George B. Reynard, *Councillor*  
Clarence E. Stasz, *Councillor*

Elected to the rank of Fellow were:

Edward L. Altemus  
Stephen T. Hartly  
Alfred J. Kronschnabel  
Howell Peniston  
Arthur S. Richards  
John Sawyer

The deaths of Dr. Herbert H. Beck and Bennett Matlack were announced.

The leaders of the seven Christmas Counts in which the Club participated discussed their respective results.

Following a brief period of light entertainment, the meeting adjourned to the traditional sumptuous repast.

JANUARY 19. Meeting cancelled due to snowstorm.

FEBRUARY 2. Forty-five members and eleven guests were present.

Lester S. Thomas was reelected editor of *Cassinia*.

Richard T. Wright was announced the recipient of the Witmer Stone Award for 1960.

Dr. Andrew J. Meyerriecks, exchange speaker from the Linnaean Society and Nuttall Club, gave the attendance an excellent account of the breeding behavior of several species of herons, showing similarities which exist in this family.

FEBRUARY 16. Thirty-nine members and eight guests were present.

Edwin D. Bloor, Jr., was elected to active membership.

The Treasurer's report for the year ending December 31, 1960, was presented.

Charles E. Mohr, speaking to the Club on the alien subject of bats and pack rats and aided by his remarkable collection of slides, opened a new field of interest to the membership with his enthusiasm and knowledge of the subject.

MARCH 2. Forty-one members and sixteen guests were present.

Emil J. Berger, Jr., was elected to active membership.

Robert Van Etten of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service spoke to the Club on the wetlands of the Delaware Valley and New Jersey coastline areas, pointing out the deterioration of many of the marshes under observation and study.

MARCH 16. Sixty members and twenty-five guests were present.

Reverend Alvin B. Gurley and Raymond J. Nelson III were elected to active membership.

Albert Linton again proved his ability as a wildlife photographer as the Club was shown excellent motion pictures of his trip through Kenya, East Africa.

APRIL 6. Forty-seven members and twenty-two guests were present.

The death of Frederick V. Hebard was announced.

Russell S. Fowler, in his film "Surprises in Nature," gave an accounting of a variety of subjects, while the second half of his program featured a beautifully photographed "Story of the King Crab."

APRIL 20. Forty-nine members and nineteen guests were present.

Kenneth Bergstrom and Nathan L. Goodman were elected to active membership.

Norman J. McDonald was commended for his effort on behalf of the D.V.O.C. in setting up the exhibit for the Academy's annual meeting.

"Parrots" were the subject of Charles Rogers' discourse, and he discussed the subject with a facility that has become a Rogers trademark.

MAY 4. Forty-nine members and seventeen guests were present.

Frederick H. Lesser and George W. Richardson were elected to active membership.

Dr. Robert H. MacArthur spoke to the Club on the problems of finding the reasons why there are so many more bird species in the tropics than in more northern latitudes.

MAY 25. Forty-six members and nine guests were in attendance.

Roland Cosgrove and Dr. Joseph R. Patterson were elected to active membership.

The twenty-ninth annual Spring Roundup reports were presided over by Field Trip Chairman Alfred J. Kronschnabel. A total of 227 species was reported with twelve groups participating.

JUNE 1, JULY 6, AUGUST 3, and SEPTEMBER 7. Informal summer meetings were held.

OCTOBER 5. Forty-one members and five guests were present.

The D.V.O.C. agreed to serve as one of the sponsors of the annual meeting of the National Audubon Society in Atlantic City.

The annual Kodachrome slide contest was held; among the unusual photographic work being done by members were bird close-ups taken through telescopes and long-focus lenses.

OCTOBER 19. Fifty-three members and ten guests were present.

Allen Greer was elected to active membership.

Ernest Choate, Philip Livingston, and Robert Sehl gave a synopsis of their trip of last March to Trinidad and Tobago. Each of the three travellers discussed a different phase of the trip. Livingston gave the background for

the week's excursion and the geographical features of the islands. Choate told the story of the fabulous trip itself, and Sehl covered the birdlife observed during the week's stay.

NOVEMBER 2. Fifty-nine members and sixteen guests were present.

Announcement was made of the death of Dr. Samuel C. Palmer, member since 1899 and past President of the Club.

Again the Club was privileged to see the excellent photographic work of Dr. William E. Parker in his series of 16 mm. motion pictures covering a number of birds of the Rio Grande Valley.

NOVEMBER 16. Fifty members and twelve guests were present.

The proposed "Blue Route," a six-lane highway to be built through Crum Creek Valley, was discussed at some length by Walter Tyler who represented a group of citizens living near the Valley.

With the aid of the sound amplifying system in the auditorium, Stephen Harty and Dr. George Reynard presented an audio-visual program of bird sights and sounds. A variety of slides of birds was projected as the applicable songs and calls were simultaneously played from Dr. Reynard's tapes.

DECEMBER 7. Fifty-three members and three guests were present.

Richard B. Ferguson was elected to active membership.

C. Chandler Ross addressed the meeting on albinism in birds, a topic on which very little has been written to date.

DECEMBER 21. Forty-six members and nine guests were in attendance. Ralph Miller and Gordon S. Smyth were elected to active membership.

George H. Harrison, editor of *Pennsylvania Game News*, spoke to the Club, giving the hunters' viewpoint through the Pennsylvania Game Commission. He showed an excellent film entitled "The Mourning Dove Story."

## ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS JANUARY 1 — JUNE 30, 1962

Compiled by George B. Reynard

JANUARY 4. Seventy-two members and eight guests were present. The following officers and councillors were elected:

Robert H. Sehl, *President*

Alan Brady, *Vice-President*

George B. Reynard, *Secretary*

Edward L. Altemus, *Treasurer*

James K. Meritt, *Councillor*

Frederick A. Ulmer, *Councillor*

Elected to the rank of Fellow were:

Russell S. Fowler

Charles A. Hetzel

James K. Meritt

J. d'Arcy Northwood

William E. Parker

Stanley J. Quickmire

Franklin H. West

Emerson Bowes and Richard C. Davids were elected to active membership.

Christmas Count reports were made for Cape May, Brigantine, Gloucester County, and Mount Holly (New Jersey); Rehoboth and Bombay Hook (Delaware); and Bucks County and Delaware County (Pennsylvania).

The traditional repast followed entertainment consisting of a quiz program by Lester Thomas, a phonograph record ("Betty the Birdwatching Bride"), and slides of cartoons assembled by Ernest Choate.

JANUARY 18. Sixty-four members and twenty-one guests were present.

Robert P. Bodine, Dr. Charles G. Grosscup, and Stephin R. Lawrence were elected to active membership.

Committee appointments were made, with Council members as committee chairmen.

The Witmer Stone award of \$25 was presented to Paul M. Schwalbe for his paper in *Cassinia* (Vol. 45), "The Ornithology of the Ancients."

Russell S. Fowler presented a color film and talk on Sanibel Island, Florida, recommending it as a location of extreme interest in the study of both conchology and ornithology.

FEBRUARY 1. Fifty-nine members and eleven guests were present.

Daniel C. Kline was elected to active membership.

Charles H. Rogers of Princeton presented a commentary on "Parasitic Birds," and specimens from the Academy collection were exhibited.

FEBRUARY 15. Fifty-two members and seven guests were present.

Christopher White and John W. Wilson, Jr. were elected to active membership.

Joseph M. Devlin was elected to Council to replace George B. Reynard, who had been elected Secretary at the January 4 meeting.

Linnaean Society exchange speaker James L. G. Fitzpatrick spoke on "Bird Flight from an Engineering Standpoint," exhibiting flying models and going through the mathematical and theoretical procedures necessary to design a gull.

MARCH 1. Fifty members and seven guests were present.

Allen R. Stickley was elected to active membership.

Henry Matthews described experiences and exhibited skins of species of birds seen on a trip to Costa Rica, Panama, and Colombia. Unusual was his preliminary three-year preparation of a key and 17-page checklist for use on this trip, which proved of value in field identification problems.

MARCH 15. Forty-three members and seven guests were present.

Lester S. Thomas resigned as Editor of *Cassinia* and James K. Meritt was appointed to the position.

Allen R. Stickley presented an illustrated talk on Black Bear research studies conducted in Virginia, summarizing methods, problems, and discoveries in trapping some eighty bears during a three-year period. It was concluded that the population was not being over-hunted.

APRIL 5. Thirty-five members and five guests were present.

Michael Chaiffetz and William L. Meyer were elected to active membership.

Ronald Logan spoke on a section of his native land, the Aberlady Bay Nature Reserve near Edinburgh, Scotland. Illustrations and descriptions were given showing the varied terrain and the numerous sea and land birds present. The value of the area in preserving the local flora and fauna was emphasized.

APRIL 19. Forty-three members and thirteen guests were present.

George W. Keller was elected to active membership.

Announcement was made that Phillips B. Street had been elected President of the Wilson Ornithological Society.

The meeting was held at the Philadelphia Zoological Gardens. Dr. John A. Griswold, Curator of Birds, spoke on "Proven Methods of Keeping and Rearing Cranes in Captivity." The definite probability was described of increasing the present population of Whooping Cranes by raising a captive brood each year and then releasing them to the wild. Previous difficulties in raising cranes have now been overcome due in large measure to the use of incubators and to changing the diet of grain to one consisting of turkey pellets and proteins.

A tour of the fine bird house followed the talk.

MAY 3. Forty-two members and nine guests were present.

George Hitchner was commended for his part in arrangements for the recent Eastern Bird Banding Association meeting held at Cape May, New Jersey, on April 28.

Paul F. Springer of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland, spoke on "Insecticides in Relation to Wildlife." Types of pesticides, cautions in their use, and possible beneficial as well as harmful effects were described. Relationships between these chemicals and wildlife are the subject of continuing study.

MAY 24. Forty members and eight guests were present.

Donald Sparks and Sumner G. Billings were elected to active membership.

Field trip chairman A. J. Kronschnabel presented a summary of the May Roundup in which a total of 228 species was noted for the Delaware Valley (Poconos to Ocean City, Maryland). Trip leaders gave individual reports in which the 17 counts ranged, on this rather cold May 13, from 69 to 185 species. Little difference was noted between the conventional calendar day count and the noon Saturday to noon Sunday lists.

JUNE 7. The first of the informal summer meetings was held.