

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979

Compiled by Frank B. Moody

JANUARY 4, 1979. Fifty-nine members and four guests attended the 89th Annual Meeting held at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

The following officers and councillors were elected:

Charles A. Wonderly, President
James K. Meritt, Vice President
Frank B. Moody, Secretary
Walter F. Lipski, Treasurer
Christopher Caracino, Councillor
Jesse Grantham, Councillor

Phillips B. Street was elected Honorary Member. Harold Jackson and William L. Meyer were elected Fellows.

The Julian K. Potter Award was made to John T. McNeill. The Witmer Stone Award was made to Alan Brady.

The program, reports of the area Christmas Counts, was followed by the traditional round of food, drink and good fellowship.

JANUARY 18, 1979. Forty members and three guests attended.

Alexander Hay was elected to active membership.

The program was the annual slide contest, with prizes for the best slides awarded to Richard Mellon (Birds), Richard C. Bell (Natural History) and R. Dale Twining (Scenery).

FEBRUARY 1, 1979. Fifty-three members and twenty-six guests attended the Annual Ladies Night Meeting.

The program was a slide-illustrated account of the Spring, 1978, Club trip to Costa Rica given by Armas Hill.

FEBRUARY 15, 1979. Twenty-four members and two guests braved an ice storm to attend.

In the program, "Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warbler—A New Perspective", member Dr. Frank Gill presented his hypothesis that the distribution changes of these warblers over the past one to two centuries is due largely to extensive man-made changes in available habitats.

MARCH 1, 1979. Forty-seven members and six guests attended.

The scheduled speaker was ill and member Armas Hill admirably substituted with accounts of the mid-February Club field trip to New England and two late February trips to Amherst Island, Ontario, to observe the phenomenal incursion of the Great Gray and other northern owls.

MARCH 15, 1979. Fifty-one members and seven guests attended.

Robert H. Anderson was elected to active membership.

In the scheduled program, member Arthur H. Bergey gave a slide-illustrated talk, "Birding in Israel". Other members showed slides of the March Club New Jersey owl trips to Amherst Island, Ontario.

APRIL 5, 1979. Fifty-two members and six guests attended.
T. Doman Roberts was elected to active membership.
Honorary Member Dr. Ernest A. Choate gave the program, "Birding Experiences in Antarctica", with excellent slides of his recent trip there.

APRIL 19, 1979. Fifty-two members and seven guests attended.
Dr. John J. Harding and James Keating were elected to active membership.
In the program, "Experiences as Editor of 'American Birds'", editor Robert S. Arbib, Jr. described the evolution of the magazine since 1970.

MAY 3, 1979. Forty-eight members and five guests attended.
The program, "On The Non-Existence of Trans-Atlantic Passerine Migration", was given by Dr. Bertram G. Murray, Jr. of Rutgers University. In his view, his data refute the concept that small passerines, notably Blackpoll warblers, make long over-water migrations from northern North America to South America.

MAY 24, 1979. Thirty-seven members and four guests attended.
Edward Fingerhood was elected to active membership.
The death of Dr. Walter B. Keighton was announced.
The program was the reports of the May Round-up, the first under the new optional-day rules. Based upon incomplete reports, the total of 209 species compared favorably with the 1978 total of 233 species, since the weather experienced by most parties was very poor.

JUNE 7, JULY 5, AUGUST 2, SEPTEMBER 6 and SEPTEMBER 20, 1979. Informal meetings were held.

OCTOBER 4, 1979. Fifty-two members and four guests attended.
Peter Dunne was elected to active membership.
The death of Honorary Member Dr. Maurice Broun was announced.
In the program, Dr. Bent Pors Nielsen of Copenhagen, Denmark, discussed "Raptor Migration in Europe", illustrating by numerous slides the techniques and problems of the field identification of the large number of European raptor species.

OCTOBER 18, 1979. Forty-six members and two guests attended.
The program was presented by E. Dudley Ross, exchange speaker from the Delmarva Ornithological Society, who gave an illustrated talk, "Birding in New Zealand".

NOVEMBER 1, 1979. Fifty-six members and two guests attended the Annual Banquet Meeting held at Walbers Restaurant, Essington, Pa.
The death of Nelson D. Hoy was announced.
The speaker, Dr. Kenneth C. Parkes of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, discussed the "Birdwatcher as a Rusty Gate", an informative and amusing account of the techniques of luring birds by squeaking.

NOVEMBER 15, 1979. Forty-seven members and five guests attended.
The receipt of a bequest from the estate of our late member John Dornan was announced.
Jay LaVia and Vernon LaVia were elected to active membership.
Member Dr. Frank Gill described some of his recent research in "Nectar Feeding Birds—Kenya and Costa Rica", with emphasis upon foraging and territorial strategies.

DECEMBER 6, 1979. Fifty-one members and six guests attended.
The program, "Churchill and Pelagics", was given by Thomas Davis of the Linnaean Society, with excellent slides illustrating the field marks of pelagic species.

DECEMBER 20, 1979. Forty-three members and three guests attended.
Member Richard Mellon, operator of Mellon Nature Tours, described "The Mellon Arizona Birding Tour", which was attended by many Club members. Slides taken by Richard C. Bell, Dr. Marvin Hyett, Dr. William Kershner, and Rick Mellon illustrated this program.