

# ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

Compiled by Richard Mellon

1984

**JANUARY 5.** Sixty-four members and twelve guests attended the 94th Annual Meeting held at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

The following officers and councillors were elected:

President - Harry Franzen  
Vice President - John T. LaVia  
Secretary - Richard Mellon  
Treasurer - James K. Meritt  
Councillor - John J. Harding  
Councillor - James Stasz  
Councillor - Robert Ridgely

Councillors Harding and Stasz were elected to full three-year terms. Robert Ridgely was elected to complete the remaining portion of Alec Forbes-Watson's term.

The Club extended its thanks to outgoing President Harry W. Todd for his two years of excellent leadership.

John T. McNeill, Jr. was elected an Honorary Member of the Club. Edward Fingerhood, Jesse Grantham, and James Stasz were elected Fellows.

Ruth Bergey, William Church, Joseph Engler, and Howard Spendelow were elected to active membership.

The Julian K. Potter Award was presented to Charles Wonderly. No Witmer Stone Award was announced this year.

Reports were made on a number of local Christmas Counts, after which the meeting adjourned for the traditional round of refreshments.

**JANUARY 19.** Forty members and six guests were present.

Robert Barber and Robert E. Cook were elected to active membership.

John Peterson Myers presented a most interesting program on the breeding habits of certain northern shorebirds.

**FEBRUARY 2.** Fifty-eight members and two guests were in attendance.

Daniel Brauning was elected to active membership.

Armas Hill entertained the Club with his usual fine presentation, this time on Costa Rica.

**FEBRUARY 16.** Fifty members and eight guests attended the annual slide contest meeting. Many excellent slides were shown, and the contest winners were Lucy Tyrrell (Scenes), Richard Bell (Natural History), and John Harding (Birds).

**MARCH 1.** Sixty-six members and thirteen guests attended.

Chris Danzenbaker, Michael Danzenbaker, and Alfred Driscoll were elected to active membership.

Peter Dunne, Director of the Cape May Bird Observatory, presented a fascinating program on the "Birds of Kenya."

**MARCH 15.** Forty-six members and eleven guests were present.

Using slides from three continents, Richard Mellon presented a program on the identification of Eurasian shorebirds. Emphasis was placed on the need to look specifically for rarities.

**APRIL 5.** Fifty-eight members and thirty guests attended.

Edward Boyd and John Frink were elected to active membership.

Ted Parker, Director of the Museum of Natural Science at Louisiana State University, presented an outstanding program on the birds of Peru.

APRIL 19. Forty members and ten guests attended.

Larry Rymon presented a most informative program on the status of Ospreys in Pennsylvania.

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

Lee McAvoy was elected to active membership.

Announcement was made of the death on May 1 of Rodolphe Meyer deSchaunsee, distinguished ornithologist and member of the Club since 1922.

The evening's program was a critique, led by Frank Gill, of *The Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding*. Many excellent comments were presented by Club members.

MAY 17. This meeting was held at the Philadelphia Zoo. Larry Shelton, Curator of Birds, addressed Club members on breeding and research projects being conducted at the Zoo.

JUNE 7. Forty-one members and ten guests attended.

Announcement was made of the death on April 24 of F. Morse Archer, Jr., a Club member since 1949.

The program of the evening was the presentation of the Spring Round-up reports. A total of 48 members participated in 15 counts, with top honors going to Alan Brady, Kate Brethwaite, Chris and Michael Danzenbaker, and Robert Ridgely for their 189 species total.

JULY 5, AUGUST 2, SEPTEMBER 6 and SEPTEMBER 20. Informal summer meetings were held at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

OCTOBER 4. Fifty-five members and seven guests were in attendance.

Phillips B. Street presented an outstanding program, illustrated with slides, on his recent trip to Argentina.

OCTOBER 18. Fifty members and twelve guests attended.

Michael Brawley, Jack and Jesse Connor, Polly Crawford, Stephen Hopkins, Stephen Lawrence, Doris McGovern, and Christopher Thompson were elected to active membership.

Robert Sehl presented a most interesting program on Tierra del Fuego, Antarctica and the Falkland Islands.

NOVEMBER 1. Fifty-five members and nineteen guests were present.

Daniel Brauning presented an informative program on the Peregrine Falcon re-introduction program. He spoke on the origins of the program at Cornell University and on the current status of local birds on the PNB Building and Commodore Barry Bridge.

NOVEMBER 15. Sixty-nine members and fifty-five guests attended the Annual Banquet held at Walber's-on-the-Delaware in Essington, Pa.

Peter Dunne presented a program on the ornithological traditions of Cape May.

DECEMBER 6. Forty-nine members and nineteen guests attended.

Clay Sutton presented an in-depth look at "Kites of the Santee."

DECEMBER 20. Fifty-three members and eight guests were present.

Chris and Gerard Dewaghe, Chris Dooley, Albert Guarente, Rey Larsen, Ann O'Leary, Glenna Schwalbe, and Susan Williams were elected to active membership.

Armas Hill provided a fine multi-media presentation on Japan, its birds and its people. Combining costume, anecdote, music, and bird songs with excellent photographs of Japan's varied landscape, the speaker wove a delicate and subtle feel for our eastern relatives.

JANUARY 3. Sixty members and twelve guests attended the 95th Annual Meeting.

The following officers and councillors were elected:

President - Harry Franzen  
 Vice President - John T. LaVia  
 Secretary - Richard Mellon  
 Treasurer - James K. Meritt  
 Councillor - Sidney Lipschutz  
 Councillor - Brian Moscatello  
 Councillor - William Hart Rufe

Councillors Moscatello and Rufe were elected to full terms. Councillor Lipschutz was elected to complete the term of Edward Fingerhood.

James K. Meritt was elected an Honorary Member of the Club. John J. Harding and Christopher Walters were elected Fellows.

The Julian K. Potter Award was presented to Alan Brady for an unprecedented second time. The Witmer Stone Award was presented to Edward Fingerhood for his fine Gyr Falcon article published in *Cassinia*.

Charles Wonderly reported the recent death of Dr. C. Brooke Worth. Dr. Worth was a pioneer in the study of bird diseases and a member of the Club since 1927.

The traditional repast was held following reports on a number of local Christmas Counts.

JANUARY 17. Fifty-five members and eleven guests were present.

The program of the evening was devoted to the scientific expedition into the foothills of the Ecuadorian Andes by staff members of the Academy of Natural Sciences. The presentation, ably given by trip chronicler Robert Peck, was entitled "Conquering the Cutucu." Although the collection of birds and scientific data was the main subject of the talk, the experiences of trip participants with the elements and the natives added a real, and unexpected, sense of adventure to the expedition.

FEBRUARY 7. Sixty-two members and nine guests were present.

Ann Bacon, Tania Bailey, Henry Hallowell, Jr., Robert Myers, and Elizabeth Woodford were elected to active membership.

James Brett presented an excellent history of Hawk Mountain, with considerable emphasis on current wide-reaching projects. These projects include physical and financial assistance in the California Condor program and preparations to co-host a worldwide raptor symposium in Israel.

FEBRUARY 21. Fifty-eight members and thirteen guests were in attendance.

James Brett and William Schipper were elected to active membership.

Bruce Colvin, of Bowling Green University, presented the results of his New Jersey and Ohio studies of Barn Owls which strongly linked successful Barn Owl populations with large areas of grassland for hunting.

MARCH 7. Fifty-four members and eight guests were present.

The program, presented by Paul Castelli of the Bureau of Wildlife Management, dealt with the rapidly changing migration patterns of Canada Geese in New Jersey. Mr. Castelli described the Bureau's work in banding and tagging local populations to determine which are resident birds and which are migratory and how changing patterns would affect future management decisions.

MARCH 21. Thirty-eight members and seven guests were present.

The program of the evening was the annual slide contest. Winners were John Harding (Scenes), Naomi Murphy (Natural History), and Brian Moscatello (Birds).

APRIL 4. Fifty-two members and twelve guests were present.

John Peterson Myers gave an excellent presentation on shorebird migration.

APRIL 18. Eighty-four members and seven guests were present.

The program of the evening was presented by Charles Munn, a Research Fellow of the New York Zoological Society. In a most informative talk Mr. Munn covered in great detail the habits of canopy and understory flocks in Amazonian Peru.

MAY 2. Forty-nine members and nine guests were in attendance.

Wyatt J. Barnes, James Knowlton, and John Williamson were elected to active membership. At age twelve years and eight months, Wyatt Barnes became the youngest member in the Club's history.

Paul Weirick presented an excellent slide show on the birds of Greece.

MAY 16. Fifty-eight members and three guests were present.

Ronald French, Frank Hamilton, Michael Hommel, Geoffrey LeBaron, William McLean III, and Ruth Spendelow were elected to active membership.

Six by-laws proposals were voted upon. Passed were provisions to create a standing book committee, bonding the Treasurer and Trustees, and requiring that the nominating committee announce its nominations for the annual elections at the first meeting in December. Defeated were proposals to make membership dependent on attendance at two meetings, designation of one of the spring meetings as a special meeting, and a stipulation that Council meetings be held after the main meeting.

Dr. Charles Leck of Rutgers University presented "Conservation Problems of Local Migrants in their Summer and Winter Habitats." Discussing the alarming decline among local migrants, Dr. Leck examined Cowbird parasitism and habitat loss as significant factors.

JUNE 6. Forty-five members and guests were in attendance.

Jeffrey Hoagland was elected to active membership.

May Round-up reports were presented and discussed.

JULY 3, AUGUST 1, SEPTEMBER 5 and SEPTEMBER 19. Informal summer meetings were held at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

OCTOBER 3. Seventy-five members and twelve guests were present.

Announcement was made of the death last spring of Waldemar H. Fries, an Honorary Member of the Club.

Elmer Rowley entertained the Club with his excellent slides on Africa. Many members could share his memories of Kenya, but few had made it to the Kalahari Desert in Botswana.

OCTOBER 17. Sixty-two members and five guests were present.

Walter Thurber and Barbara Warren were elected to active membership.

George Reynard presented an informative program on the birds of Cuba, intermixing his personal experiences with excellent tapes of many endemic species. A series of excellent slides accompanied the presentation.

NOVEMBER 7. Seventy-six members and eleven guests were in attendance.

Charles Lyman, Robert Miller, and Richard Williams were elected to active membership.

Howard Brokaw's excellent program on Attu was thoroughly enjoyed by the membership.

NOVEMBER 21. Seventy members and fifty-three guests attended the Annual Banquet again held at Walber's in Essington, Pa.

Armas Hill entertained his audience with a presentation of "Adventures in Brazil."

DECEMBER 5. Sixty-two members and twelve guests were present.

Peter Davey presented a tour guide's view of East Africa. His excellent slide program was followed by an informative question and answer period.

DECEMBER 19. Fifty-nine members and seven guests were in attendance.

Jewel Cummings, Avi Hildebrand, Janet Sedicino, and Captain David Wentling were elected to active membership.

Serge LaFrance presented a program on "Coastal Birding." His talk was illustrated with an exceptionally fine series of slides.