

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

Compiled by Brian Moscatello

1986

- JANUARY 2.** Fifty-five members and seven guests attended the 96th Annual Meeting. The following officers and councillors, were elected: President—John LaVia, Vice President—Richard Mellon, Secretary—Brian Moscatello, Treasurer—James Meritt, Councillor—Sidney Lipschutz, Councillor—Frank Haas, Councillor—Lee Yoder, Councillor—William Tannery. Councillors Lipschutz and Haas were elected to full terms. Lee Yoder was elected to a two-year term to complete the term of Moscatello, while Tannery was elected to a one-year term to complete the term of James Stasz. Alan Brady was elected an Honorary Member of the D.V.O.C. William Hart Rufe was elected a Fellow. The Julian K. Potter Award was given to Serge LaFrance for his outstanding bird photography, which has appeared in *Records of New Jersey Birds*, *American Birds*, and *Cassinia*. Edward W. Mudge, III, Joan Warren, and Andrew Warren were elected to active membership in the club. A number of Christmas Counts were reported on, and the program concluded with a slide show of bird cartoons, collected by Roy Imsick and narrated by Alan Brady. The meeting adjourned to the lobby for the traditional refreshments.
- JANUARY 16.** A good crew of 67 members and four guests attended. Betsy Jones of Surf City was elected to the club. Dr. Frank Gill led the group on a tour of the Ornithology Department, from Project VIREO to the skins collected on the recent expedition to Ecuador.
- FEBRUARY 6.** Forty-seven members and four guests were present. Katrina Knight and Earl Harrison were elected to active membership. The members enjoyed an informative program on birding on the lower Susquehanna River, presented by Robert Schutsky of the Muddy Run Research Station.
- FEBRUARY 20.** Fifty-seven members and nine guests were present for the election to active membership of Sally Conyne, Barbara Fox, Michael Newlon, and John Stewart. "Local" notes were highlighted by reports from New England and Texas, where many members had birded in the preceding weeks. Kenn Kaufman guided the audience through the confusing maze of Jaeger identification. His excellent presentation generated many questions.
- MARCH 6.** Fifty-five members and six guests were in attendance as Larry Lewis and Daniel Murray were elected to active membership. The program for the evening was the annual slide contest. Winners were: Gerry Dewaghe (birds), Lucy Tyrrell (natural history), and Richard Bell (scenes).
- MARCH 20.** Fifty-eight members and seven guests enjoyed an interesting program by Paul A. Buckley on the "People and Wildlife of India and Nepal."
- APRIL 3.** Sixty-five members were joined by four guests. Kenn Kaufman was elected into the club. The death of Dr. Samuel Kresson was announced. Dr. Kresson, a member since 1959, died March 28. "Seabirds at the Ends of the World" was presented by Dr. Daniel Roby. An informative program was made all the more enjoyable by exceptional photography.
- APRIL 17.** Fifty-seven members and two guests were present. Dawn Coughlan of Philadelphia was elected to active membership. The club's own Dr. Frank Gill was the speaker. "Dodds, Kiwis, and Others" was a thought-provoking review of the evolution of flight in birds, and the equally mysterious evolution of flightlessness.
- MAY 1.** Ten guests were introduced to the 62 members in attendance. Armas Hill announced the formation of a committee to plan for the club's centennial. Dick Bell entertained the members with a review of the recent D.V.O.C. field trip to Argentina, which was led by Phil Street.

MAY 15. Forty-one members were joined by seven guests at the second May meeting, at which Lynn Kaufman was elected to membership. Serge LaFrance coordinated a program that consisted of several short sections detailing recent trips by members. A highlight was a review by Dr. George Reynard detailing a recent expedition—of which he was a member—that confirmed the existence in Cuba of several Ivory-billed Woodpeckers.

JUNE 5. Thirty-eight members approved Sandra Weiss of Medford as a new member. One guest was present. The presentation of Big Day Reports was the program for the evening.

JULY 3, AUGUST 2, SEPTEMBER 6 and SEPTEMBER 20. Informal meetings were held at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

OCTOBER 2. Five guests joined 69 members at the first formal meeting of the fall. Dan Brauning of the D.V.O.C. and the Academy reviewed the Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas Project, and encouraged members to participate in this worthwhile endeavor.

OCTOBER 16. A good turnout of 72 members and six guests was present. Michael O'Brien was elected to active membership. "Birding Down Under" was presented by members Tom and Margaret Southerland. Their fine slides made Australia seem a great destination for all of us 'birdos.'

OCTOBER 30. Sixty-five members and five guests attended the third meeting of the month, as the Academy was unavailable in November. John McCarthy and Andrew Thurber were elected members of the club. The D.V.O.C.'s own John Miller presented the program, a review of his many exciting trips to the world's best birding locations.

NOVEMBER 20. About 100 members and guests attended the Annual Banquet, held at the Cannstatter-Volksfest-Verein in Northeast Philadelphia. Jim Brett, curator of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, presented a fine program on birds and nature in the Holy Land, entitled, "From David's Spring to Wadi Qelt: A Naturalist's Israel."

DECEMBER 4. Fifty-two members and guests were saddened to learn of the death of long-time member Dr. John Royal Moore. Another member, Dr. Marvin Hyett, entertained those present with a witty identification program titled "Birding From the Hip."

DECEMBER 18. Three guests and 49 members were present to elect Eric Anderson and Mary Varley to active membership. The purchase of the 200-acre Hidden Valley Ranch by the Nature Conservancy in Cape May was announced. Frank Haas presented an "I.D. Potpourri" in a series of double or triple projections, reminding us of the need for great care in sight identifications.

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JANUARY 8. The 97th Annual Meeting of the D.V.O.C. was attended by 62 members and guests. The following slate of officers was elected: President—John LaVia, Vice President—Richard Mellon, Secretary—Brian Moscatello, Treasurer—Barbara Haas. Frank Windfelder and Donald Jones were elected as Councillors.

Frank Windfelder and Sandra Sherman were elected Fellows of the club. Because of their long hours in the field studying and documenting the status of Barred Owls, Red-shouldered Hawks, and Bald Eagles in South Jersey, Clay and Pat Sutton were given the Julian K. Potter Award for Field Ornithology. Dr. John Harding received the Witmer Stone Award for his second book, *Marsh, Meadow, and Mountain*.

Jeffrey Hawk was elected to active membership. The program for the evening was the reporting on a number of local Christmas Counts. The meeting adjourned for the traditional round of food and drink.

JANUARY 15. Seventy-three members and guests were present to enjoy Mark Robbins' slides of several Academy expeditions through South America.

FEBRUARY 5. Five guests and 55 members were present to elect Dale Souder and Linda Mills to active membership. The program for the evening was the Annual Slide Contest. Over a dozen entrants submitted more than 100 slides. The winners were: birds, Daniel Brauning; natural history, Patricia Sutton; and Howard Spendelow, scenery category.

- FEBRUARY 19.** Forty-eight members and guests were in attendance. Member Peter Dunne advised the club on the history and future of the World Series of Birding, a major birding event and an important conservation fund-raiser.
- MARCH 5.** Forty-nine members and three guests present. The work of the Avian Rehabilitation Center, which annually helps over 100 species of injured birds, was discussed by Betsy Jones.
- MARCH 19.** Forty-five members and eight guests were in attendance as Joseph Palumbo and Patricia McKeown were elected to the club. "Black Warriors and Prairie Ghosts" were found in the forms of Krider's Red-tails, Golden Eagles, and even Snowy Owls, in Clay Sutton's informative program on Western raptors.
- APRIL 2.** Forty-nine members and eight guests were present. Oliver Graham led the audience on a slide tour of the Camargue, exploring the breeding ecology of Greater Flamingos.
- APRIL 16.** Forty-five members and guests attended. George Ovitt was elected to active membership. Program Chairman Richard Mellon presented the program on shorebird identification, with tips on locating rarities.
- MAY 7.** Sixty members and guests were present to enjoy Elmer Rowley's program on birds, wildlife, and scenery of Australia.
- MAY 21.** A couple dozen members attended the meeting at the Bird Exhibit in the Philadelphia Zoo. John Drummond of Pennington, N.J., was elected as an active member. The exhibits and breeding program were discussed by zoo personnel.
- JUNE 4.** The presentation of Big Day (May Run) Reports was the program for the evening.
- JULY 2, AUGUST 6, SEPTEMBER 3, and SEPTEMBER 17.** Informal meetings were held at the Academy of Natural Sciences.
- OCTOBER 1.** A good group of 63 members and ten guests attended the first formal meeting of the fall. The members enjoyed an outstanding program on gull identification by Rick Blom. The death in September of Howard Spendelow was announced with regret.
- OCTOBER 15.** Seventy-one members and guests were present. Claudia Wilds presented a program on tern identification.
- NOVEMBER 5.** Fifty-four members and seven guests were in attendance. Doug Gross presented an interesting and informative program on the avifauna of north-central Pennsylvania, an area close to home that is still being explored ornithologically.
- NOVEMBER 19.** Ray Davis presented an audio-visual program on Florida Birds at the club's Annual Banquet, held at the Cannstatter-Volksfest-Verein. About 75 members and guests were in attendance.
- DECEMBER 3.** Forty-eight members and seven guests were present. Alan Brady unveiled a D.V.O.C. Commemorative Plate for the Centennial to be celebrated in 1990. The death on November 20 of member Sam Jones was announced. In the absence (due to the flu) of the scheduled speaker, Program Chairman Rick Mellon stepped in with a bird identification quiz.
- DECEMBER 17.** Fifty-seven members and seven guests attended the last meeting of the year. Raymond Barnes and David Ward, Jr., were welcomed as new members to the D.V.O.C. Maurice Barnhill from the Delaware Ornithological Society presented an interesting program, using tapes, on warbler songs. A method for learning songs was discussed, and by playing tapes at reduced speed, structure was revealed that is normally not detectible by the human ear.