

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

1951-1952

January 4, 1951. Sixty-four members and six guests attended the 61st annual meeting.

Election to various classes of membership were as follows:

Active — Thomas J. Byers and John C. Miller.

Fellow — John H. Arnett and John McIlvain.

The following officers and councillors were elected:

Robert L. Haines, *President*

Joseph M. Cadbury, *Vice-President*

Henry T. Underdown, *Treasurer*

Phillips B. Street, *Secretary*

C. Chandler Ross, *Editor*

Julian K. Potter, *Councillor*

Dale R. Coman, *Councillor*

Underdown presented his 24th annual treasurer's report.

Cassinova was succeeded by *The Scare Crow*.

The Christmas Census Reports were made by the leaders of the various groups.

Entertainment was furnished by a play entitled "D.V.O.C. Town Meeting of the Air."

Refreshments as usual ended the meeting.

January 18, 1951. Forty members and eight guests present.

Frederick V. Hebard spoke on "Injury Feigning." He traced the practice down through the families of birds. A lively question and answer period followed the presentation.

February 1, 1951. Fifty-one members and two guests present.

Charles E. Ford was elected to active membership.

The topic of the evening was an open discussion of "Where Are We Going?" Members presented their views as to how the club could be improved and as to what they considered should be changed.

February 15, 1951. Fifty-five members and eight guests present.

The following committee to investigate and propose changes in the constitution and procedures was appointed: Reimann, chairman; Arnett, Cutler, Barnett, Hebard, and Weyl.

Edward S. Weyl resigned as councillor and Reimann was elected to serve out his term.

Philip A. Livingston gave an illustrated talk entitled "Birding West of the Pecos."

March 1, 1951. Sixty-one members and two visitors present.

Committees appointed were as follows:

Field Trip — H. Cutler, Donaghy, Reynolds, McIlvain, and Stasz.

Library — McIlvain and Kramer.

Conservation — McLaughlin, Manners, Hoy, and E. Rigby.

The feature of the evening was a two reel color film entitled "Meet the Ducks," which was produced by Ducks Unlimited and the Fish and Wild Life Service.

March 15, 1951. Fifty-two members and three guests present.

The following were appointed to the Publications Committee: Ross, chairman; Bond, Arnett, Street, and Lukens.

The subject of the evening was a discussion of record keeping by members, samples of various types of records were presented by Potter, who lead the discussion.

April 5, 1951. Fifty-five members and six guests present.

Charles H. Rogers spoke on feathers. He described the structure of the feather, feather tracts, color, and pigments. Specimens were used as examples, especially of moults.

April 19, 1951. Forty-four members and twelve guests present.

James R. Gillin spoke on his experiences with nests and eggs over a period of over fifty years. He named and commented on some of the collectors he had known, exhibited examples from his collection and described interesting experiences connected with their taking.

May 3, 1951. Fifty-six members and nine guests present.

Richard C. Harlow spoke on his experiences as an oologist, giving interesting experiences on trips with our members past and present.

Interesting nests and eggs in Pennsylvania, Alberta, and New Brunswick were described through the use of slides.

May 17, 1951. Fifty-six members and six guests present.

The 1951 Witmer Stone Award Committee was appointed consisting of Weyl, chairman; Schl, and Middleton.

Herbert Cutler, conducted the Round-up recapitulations, a member of each party citing the highlights of the day. A total of fourteen parties participated and two hundred and thirty-one species were recorded.

June 6, 1951. Thirty-five members and six guests present at the informal meeting.

July 5, 1951. Twenty-six members and two guests present at the informal meeting.

August 2, 1951. Twenty-one members and five guests present at the informal meeting.

September 6, 1951. Thirty-two members and eight guests present at the informal meeting.

October 4, 1951. Fifty-two members and twelve guests present.

Dr. John H. Arnett spoke on "Bird Structure." With the aid of a skeleton, a blackboard, and a well dissected pigeon, he presented a very instructive description of the anatomy of a bird.

October 18, 1951. Forty-seven members and nine guests present.

Active members elected: Howell Penniston, Evan Randolph, and N. C. Wycoff.

A symposium on sight records was conducted by Julian Potter. He described many of the difficulties of field identification and suggested the importance of having a mental picture of the bird.

November 1, 1951. Forty-two members and six guests present.

The meeting was devoted to discussing and voting on changes in the Constitution and By-Laws as promulgated by the committee appointed for that purpose and approved or modified by Council.

November 15, 1951. Fifty-four members and seven guests present.

Charles E. Pancoast elected to active membership.

The following committees were appointed:

Hawk Conservation: McLaughlin, chairman; Linton, Kramer, Manners and Choate.

Nominating Committee: Reynard, chairman; Donaghy, and D. Cutler.

Frederick V. Hebard spoke on "Range Extensions in Georgia." He particularly mentioned the Robin, House Wren, and Blue-headed Vireo.

December 6, 1951. Fifty-two members and nine guests present.

A refreshment committee for the Annual Meeting of Lukens, Kramer and McLaughlin was appointed.

Joseph B. McCall, Jr., presented his newest film, "Coastal Wings," a Kodachrome ornithological travelogue from Georgia to Maine showing his excellent bird pictures.

December 21, 1951. Thirty-eight members and five guests present.

Charles H. Rogers spoke on the "Crows and Jays" describing their characteristics and distribution throughout the world.

Jan. 3, 1952 - 76 members and 8 guests present. Samuel J. Mulligan elected to active membership. The following officers, councillors, and fellows were elected:

Joseph M. Cadbury - President
Phillips B. Street - Vice-president
John H. Arnett, Jr. - Secretary
Henry T. Underdown - Treasurer
William R. Middleton - Councillor
Richard T. Darby - Councillor
Maurice Broun - Fellow

David A. Cutler — Fellow
Richard T. Darby — Fellow
George B. Reynard — Fellow
William P. Reynolds — Fellow
Paul W. Schwalbe — Fellow
Robert H. Sehl — Fellow
Lester S. Thomas — Fellow

Following the reports on the Christmas censuses, Norman McDonald presented a short program entitled *Who Said This?* The meeting was then adjourned and refreshments were served.

Jan. 17, 1952 — 61 members and 10 guests present. Floyd Cranmer and Leon E. Goff elected to membership. The Field Trip Committee was appointed as follows: D. Cutler, chairman, Fowler, MacIvain, Zeidman. Dr. Paul Kellogg of the Albert R. Brand Bird Song Foundation at Cornell gave an extremely interesting talk on the scope and objectives of the Foundation's work. He played several tape recordings of birds' songs.

Feb. 7, 1952 — John H. Foster and Hal Harrison elected to active membership. The Auditing Committee found the Treasurer's report for 1951 in order. The President appointed the following committees: Conservation: Kramer, H. Cutler, C. Price, J. Fowler, A. Linton, and P. Schwalbe. Ornithological Studies: Reimann, F. Hebard, J. Jacobs, E. Manners, G. Reynard, and R. Sehl. Publication: C. Ross, J. Arnett, Jr., J. Bond, P. Street, E. Weyl. Richard Pough of the American Museum of Natural History spoke on *The Hawk Situation*, though many of his remarks covered other fields of conservation. His emphasis was mainly on hawk shooting at Cape May, the proposed state park at Island Beach, N. J., and methods of getting better conservation laws adopted.

Feb. 21, 1952 — 49 members and 3 guests present. Leon Shectman and Alan Brady elected to active membership. The following committees were appointed: Library — Dr. Harold Austin & M. Weiss; Book — P. Livingston & P. Schwalbe. Frank McLaughlin took the Club "Into the Realm of Wildlife" with the aid of some fine kodachrome slides he had taken of plants and animals, mostly in New Jersey.

March 6, 1952 — 60 members and 5 guests present. The expected speaker was unable to be present, and an impromptu Stump the Experts program was arranged in which panels of 5 persons each tried to guess in 20 questions the bird or ornithologist chosen by the audience.

March 20, 1952 — 60 members and eight guests present. George Clark elected to active membership. Dr. A. J. Charles Vaurie, exchange speaker from the Linnacan Society spoke on the summer birds of Bimini, B.W.I. The talk was illustrated with a beautiful group of slides.

April 3, 1952 — 49 members and 12 guests. The recent deaths of James Gillin and Dr. Harold Austin were announced. Dr. J. R. Moore was elected to active membership. M. A. Linton was appointed chairman of the Conservation Committee. Edward Manners gave an extremely interesting, illustrated talk on some studies made by him on silt fills along the Delaware River, and the ecological successions which follow the drying of these fills.

April 17, 1952 — 53 members and 8 guests present. Roberts Amb's was elected to active membership. Cornelius McFadden spoke of the McFadden-Turner Expedition for the Greenland Gyrfalcon of 1951. His interesting and informative presentation, and colored slides, made the trip seem very real to his listeners.

May 1, 1952 — 54 members and 6 guests present. Edgar G. Murphy was elected to active membership. Kramer and McLaughlin were appointed to the Communications Committee. Philip Livingston spoke on two trips he had taken to Florida In Search of Gumbo Limbo Tree. When he found the latter to be abundant, he turned his attention to tree orchids, though judging by an excellent set of kodachrome slides, he had time also for other plants, birds, reptiles, and other animals.

May 15, 1952—57 members and 5 guests present. D. Cutler led in summarizing the reports from the 1952 annual DVOC Roundup. A total of 230 species was seen, with one group recording 208, and notable rarities were Brunnich's Murre and Swallow-tailed Kite. The compilers included the weather conditions in the report.

June 5, 1952—27 members and 5 guests present. The death of William J. Serrill was announced. Informal reports by members on their ornithological activities were given.

July 3, 1952—More informal reports by members were given.

August 7, 1952—31 members and guests present, with C. Ross presiding, and Kramer serving as secretary. More informal reports by members were given.

September 4, 1952—32 members and 4 guests were present. J. McIlvain presided, and C. Stasz served as secretary. Informal reports by members were given.

October 2, 1952—46 members and 13 guests were present. The Witmer Stone Award Committee was appointed as follows: Ulmer, H. Cutler, J. Bond, J. Gillespie, R. J. Reichert of the Miracle Optical Company gave a valuable talk on optical instruments of use to ornithologists. The information was interestingly and enthusiastically presented, making an instructive and pleasant evening.

October 16, 1952—Allston Jenkins and George F. Nicklas were elected to active membership. A proposal for amending Article VI, Sec. 1 of the DVOC By-laws was announced. Mr. John Jubon, exchange speaker from the Urner Club, showed some color motion pictures he had taken of Water Birds of New Jersey. Especially interesting were some sequences of the Cattle Egrets at Cape May.

November 6, 1952—62 members and 9 guests present. Joseph Evans was elected to active membership. The President appointed an Emergency Committee to Save the Tinicum Marshes from silting as follows: Jenkins (chairman), D. Cutler, Hoy, J. Fowler, Q. Kramer, and E. Woolman. He also appointed another sub-committee of the Conservation Committee to investigate ways in which the DVOC could further hawk conservation in Pennsylvania. The Committee was: E. Choate, V. Debes, P. Street, N. J. MacDonald, and E. Weyl. Julian Potter spoke on Operation Godwit, his long search for the Hudsonian Godwit on the New Jersey shores, beginning in 1913. The talk was mainly an excellent commentary on the changing abundance of our shorebirds, and particularly, their comeback following the passage of the Migratory Bird Act.

November 20, 1952—46 members and 8 guests were present. An amendment to Article VI, Sec. 1 of the DVOC By-laws was passed. The death of Daniel Heckler was announced. The following committees were appointed: Nominating—J. S. Quickmire and G. Reynard; Auditing—Fries and W. Middleton; Refreshment—Kramer and J. Fowler. Charles Rogers spoke on the Birds of Shakespeare, of which he said there are about 600. His talk was prefaced with some general remarks about the ornithology of Great Britain.

December 4, 1952—65 members and 16 guests present. J. George Hitchner was elected to active membership. Seth Low of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service spoke on banding operations of the government. First he gave an interesting historical outline of the development of the present program. He then discussed many aspects of the present banding activities, record-keeping, etc., and finished his talk with two excellent motion pictures dealing with waterfowl management.

December 18, 1952—George Reynard spoke on Fun with Bird Songs, and described some of his observations in his project of timing song intervals. He had made observations on 812 individual birds of 44 species, and found that there is surprisingly little difference in singing in a species from place to place, or at different times of the year. He illustrated some of the birds with colored slides.