

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

January 1, 1978 to December 31, 1978

Compiled by Frank B. Moody

JANUARY 5, 1978. Fifty-six members and five guests attended the 88th 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
Richard C. Bell, Councillor
Henry W. Todd, Councillor

Lester S. Thomas was elected Honorary Member of the Club. James Akers, John Danzenbaker and Kenneth Tischner were elected Fellows.

The Julian K. Potter Award was made to William A. Middleton.

Announcement was made of the memorial service on January 14th for former president, John F. McIlvain.

Reports were made on several area Christmas Counts. Among the highlights were a black-legged kittiwake at Cape May, black-headed gull and orange-crowned warbler at Oceanville, high counts of mallard (1737) and black duck (2087) at Northwestern Gloucester County and nine pileated woodpeckers at Glenolden.

Following the formal meeting, members and guests adjourned for the traditional round of excellent food, drink and good fellowship.

JANUARY 19, 1978. Twenty-eight members and two guests attended the meeting, the low attendance being due to a snowstorm.

The evening program was the annual slide contest. Winners in the three categories were guest John Drummond (Birds) and member Brian Moscatello (Natural History and Scenes).

FEBRUARY 2, 1978. Forty-six members and six guests attended.

Stephen L. Jennings was elected to active membership.

The speaker of the evening was Mrs. Jeal Diehl, representing "CARP", Concerned Area Residents for the Preservation of Tinicum Marsh, who discussed the status of the country's first National Environmental Center, which will be at Tinicum. The presentation included a slide show prepared by the Valley Forge Audubon Camera Club, "Treasures of Tinicum".

FEBRUARY 16, 1978. Forty-three members and three guests attended the meeting. Thomas J. Evans was elected to active membership.

The speaker of the evening was member John E. Dornan, who showed movies of two trips to Antarctica in 1974 and 1975, featuring many birds and mammals photographed at arms length.

MARCH 2, 1978. Fifty-three members and four guests attended.

In the program, members John C. Miller and Samuel J. Orr used color slides to demonstrate field marks for a number of area birds and included many challenging identification problems.

MARCH 16, 1978. Forty-three members and twenty guests attended this Annual Ladies' Night Meeting.

William R. Stocku was elected to active membership.

The program comprised slides and commentary describing the ten day, August, 1977 Club trip to the west coast and was presented by participants Richard C. Bell, Arthur H. Bergey, William R. Kershner, Armas Hill, Alan Brady and Robert H. Sehl.

APRIL 6, 1978. Forty-two members and nine guests attended.

President Wonderly described a new Club service, a travel file, where members could briefly describe prime birding areas, near and far, for assistance to other members contemplating trips.

In the program, member Arthur H. Bergey described two trips to South Africa and to Mozambique in the 1960s, using movies, slides and tape recordings to portray the rich bird life.

APRIL 20, 1978. Fifty-three members and five guests attended.

Fred C. Arnold was elected to active membership.

The program, "Bird Studies at New Cape May", was given by Clayton Sutton, environmental planner for Cape May County. An admirer of Witmer Stone's "Bird Studies at Old Cape May", he expertly compared the status of Cape May's avifauna then and now, using many magnificent slides for illustration.

MAY 4, 1978. Twenty-eight members and five guests attended the abbreviated meeting which was held at the Rancocas Nature Center, near Mt. Holly, New Jersey.

After a box supper, host and Center Director Karl Anderson described the history and the programs of the Center, a newly-opened sanctuary of the New Jersey Audubon Society, which occupies a small acreage in Rancocas State Park. Because of the heavy rain, few members participated in the programmed field trip of the area.

MAY 25, 1978. Forty-three members and two guests attended.

The program consisted of reports of the May Round-Up held on Sunday, May 14th. Counts were very low, with practically all areas suffering heavy rain or fog most of the day. A twenty-four hour count on the following Friday, May 19th, was excellent, with 201 species.

An extensive discussion of the constraints imposed by a fixed Sunday date for this was held, with emphasis upon weather and week-end road and water traffic problems. A motion was passed that the May Round-Up be held between midnight and midnight on any one day between the 5th and the 20th of May.

JUNE 1, JULY 6, AUGUST 3, SEPTEMBER 7 and SEPTEMBER 21. Informal meetings were held at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

OCTOBER 5, 1978. Forty members and six guests attended.

The death of James Akers was announced.

The program was given by Peter Dunne, Director of the Cape May Bird Observatory, who expertly described the "Hawk Flights at Cape May Point".

OCTOBER 19, 1978. Forty-six members and six guests attended.

Larry C. Shelton and David Moon were elected to active membership.

It was announced that contributions in memory of James Akers could be made to the Atlantic Audubon Society or to the Avian Rehabilitation Center.

In the program, Dr. Lloyd L. Falk of the Delmarva Ornithological Society described a 1975 trip to the Galapagos Islands. The slide presentation gave an excellent feeling for that environment and its fascinating inhabitants.

NOVEMBER 2, 1978. Forty-five members and two guests attended.

Samuel G. Jones was elected to active membership.

The program, "American Habitats", was presented by Harold Morrin of the Delmarva Ornithological Society. Beautiful slides of habitats from mid-ocean to dense forest were portrayed, along with the flowers, mammals and birds found in each area.

NOVEMBER 16, 1978. Fifty-two members and five guests attended the annual banquet meeting held in the African Hall at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

Christopher Walters was elected to active membership.

The program was the first to be held in the new auditorium at the Academy of Natural Sciences. The guest speaker was John C. Yrizarry, well-known to the membership as a leader of recent Club trips to Tikal and to Costa Rica. His subject, "Birds of Tikal", was illustrated by many slides which were used to point out the field marks critical for identification.

DECEMBER 7, 1978. Fifty-one members and four guests attended.

The program was given by John Drummond, a recent regular meeting attender who has been on assignment in the Philadelphia area from his home in England. His program, "Birds and Wildlife of Northern India", was illustrated with superb slides of birds seen in three sanctuaries in India and one in lowlands Nepal.

DECEMBER 21, 1978. Forty-three members and three guests attended.

Andrew J. Mack and Clayton Sutton were elected to active membership.

The scheduled speaker could not attend because of illness. President Wonderly admirably filled in with a slide-illustrated description of two trips to Bonaventure Island, portraying, among other birds and scenery, gannets galore.