



THE SPOONBILL

3

START PLANNING NOW TO TAKE PART IN THE
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT JANUARY 2, 1971.

VOLUME XXIV, No. 6
October, 1970

PUBLISHED BY THE ORNITHOLOGY GROUP, OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB, HOUSTON, TEXAS

MINUTES OF REGULAR OG MEETING HELD OCTOBER 1, 1970

The Ornithology Group's meeting of October 1, 1970, was called to order by Chairman Sarah Gordon at 7:30 at the Downtown Recreation Center.

Avis Brister, Vice-chairman, introduced guests and new members and welcomed 43 members and 12 guests. Henry Robinson, a new member, was instrumental in having bounties stopped in Harris County. Sarah recommended that he be commended in The Spoonbill.

Minutes of the August 6 meeting were omitted because they were in The Spoonbill, and time was limited.

Melba Drake, Treasurer, reported a July 31, 1970, balance of \$221.09; receipts of \$140.40; disbursements of \$244.12, leaving a September 30, 1970, balance of \$117.37. Copy of statement appended hereto.

Melba announced that she has about 15 Steve Williams Checklists which sell for \$1.25; Spoonbill patches for \$1.50; and Field Checklists for 15¢ each, and there are stacks of them.

Sarah explained the abundance of Checklists was due to a misprint by the printer, and same being bought for an additional \$36.08, a bargain. Special thanks were expressed for contributions to publication of Checklist by Dr. Pat Sullivan, Mrs. Margaret Anderson, Mrs. Ewell Bradley and Mrs. Edna Fielding.

Marilyn Krog announced the December 4 meeting will have Steve Williams as speaker, subject "Sparrows" and a map of the area will be available. Those participating in the bird count in January will find this most interesting.

Marilyn Crane related the exciting "birding" had by those present September 27 at east end of Galveston where 123 species were seen; leader, Steve Williams.

Jones Forest and Camp Strake is field trip scheduled October 25 beginning at 7:00 A.M. Meet at intersection of Highway 45 and Hempstead Farm Road 1488; leaders are Ralph Childs and Marilyn Crane.

Those having information regarding OG forward to the Lefkovits' by the 7th of the month.

Mr. Gilman announced the Tyler Rose Trip Oct. 31-Nov. 1; will have two buses with 58 reservations in hand.

Sarah expressed appreciation to those participating in aluminum drive. Proceeds to be announced in Spoonbill.

The clever drawing on OG Roster is by Mrs. L. A. M. Barnette, which is appreciated. The OG members are establishing a library, and Mary Hutchings and Louise Rogers have contributed three books. Pat Sullivan offered to be librarian, and books can be had by calling her.

Sarah announced Outdoor Nature Club's meeting for October will be Tuesday, the 13th. Mr. Don Newman is speaker; subject "Soil Conservation."

There was no old business except sincere thanks to those who contributed time in preparation of the Roster.

There was no new business.

Mr. Clayton Gilman introduced the speaker, who is a club member, Dr. John Tveten, who originated in Minnesota, earned his BS degree at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, and his Ph. D. in Chemistry at the University of Illinois. He is now a research chemist with Enjay Chemical Company, as well as excelling in the study and enjoyment of nature; collector of moths and butterflies; birding for eight years; and, last, but not least, an outstanding photographer. His pictures have been published in National Wildlife, Audubon Field Notes, and Parks and Wildlife. Further, his enthusiastic narrations take his listeners on easy but stimulating journeys into nature's wilderness. Surely no one was aware of any hazards on his trip to Rancho del Cielo; likewise on other films shown this meeting. Thanks !

Mrs. Lefkovits, ably assisted by Mr. Lefkovits, gave a most interesting account of their foster feathered children--three Screech Owls--the cutest.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gladys Galbreath, Secretary

ALUMINUM DRIVE REPORT NO. 1 by Sarah Gordon

Our first load of aluminum weighed in at 39.6 pounds, and now our treasury is \$3.96 richer. Sincere thanks to everyone who participated. We urge you to continue saving and searching and to bring your collection to the December OG meeting. If you have a collection before that date call Sarah Gordon at 523-8285 and I will pick it up. Let's clean up literally and figuratively !!

Editorial addition: It is easy and profitable for the OG to combine aluminum can collecting with birding. Just pick up the plentiful aluminum cans as you travel the back roads in search of birds. If everybody helps we can add a considerable amount to our income. To refresh your memory beverages in all-aluminum cans in the Houston area are Budweiser and Busch beer and all the Coca-Cola Company soft drinks--Coca Cola, Fresca, Sprite, Tab and Fanta.

PREDATOR BOUNTIES DISCONTINUED

The Harris County Commissioners Court has voted to abandon the system of paying a \$5 bounty for each predatory animal killed in favor of taking part in a federal predator control program. This program will be administered by the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in co-operation with the state extension service.

Hank Robison, Jr., who is an OG member and has been a very valued contributor to The Spoonbill, is largely responsible for the Court's action. It was he who first recommended to the Commissioner's Court that the bounty system be abolished. He was commended at the last OG meeting for his part in this action, and we wish to take this opportunity to further commend Hank for his active part in this and other conservation projects, rather than the passiveness that too many of us show.

NOTE FROM DR. DAVID MARRACK

News has been received that James Fisher was killed in a car accident at Hendon, England early this month. He went from being a schoolmaster (Dr. Marrack was one of his pupils) to assistant director of the London Zoo. He became very well-known through his broadcasts and then television reports from the zoo, having made over 700 of these. He had traveled the world studying bird biology and popularized territory studies and colony counts. His book with Roger Tory Peterson was one of his several "best sellers."

ANTI-POLLUTION EFFORT IN CLEAR LAKE CITY

We had a letter from Mr. Frank Kokesh, an OG member from Clear Lake City, concerning his efforts to improve sewage treatment in that area. He is circulating a petition to be submitted to the Board of Directors of the Clear Lake City Water Authority for the addition of facilities to substantially eliminate pollutants going into Clear Lake.

Quoting from Mr. Kokesh's letter "People are concerned about pollution and are beginning to assume personal responsibility. No one has turned me down yet, in spite of the stiff price tag" (approximately \$8/month).

REMARKS BY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR WALTER J. HICKEL

We are indebted to Mr. Russell Clapper for sending us a copy of a speech made by Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel before a National Symposium on Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Waterways at St. Paul, Minnesota, on September 10. Following are some excerpts from that speech which we thought might be of interest.

"It is a real pleasure to be talking today about people preserving rivers, rather than polluting them.

Last month I had an interesting experience in my home town of Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage has three creeks running through the middle of it. They are beautiful little streams which start in the Chugach Mountains and run to the Cook Inlet. However they are threatened. They have begun to be rerouted, funneled through culverts under new highways, and the green belt on either bank is disappearing.

I challenged the people of my town to act. I told them there is something an individual can do when faced by a city problem if he wants to badly enough. There are public funds--city, state and federal--for purchasing land valuable for recreation. There are the extra funds available to build highways so that they not only provide transportation, but increase the beauty of a city rather than desecrate it.

It is up to the public and what we are ready to fight for. All it takes is people who care. But you've got to care enough to stick at it and stay with it until the battle is won. And more than that when the issue is conservation, you have to care enough to stick with it after the battle is won to make sure that it stays won.

I believe the people of Anchorage are going to save Chester Creek and Ship Creek and Campbell Creek.

And this is how the environmental war is going to be won or lost. It takes imagination, it takes finances, it takes hard work, but most of all it takes people who care.

I returned earlier this week from an environmental inspection of Scandinavia--various areas in Finland, Sweden and Norway. Everywhere I went I met public officials and private citizens who shared a desire to clean up the world in which we live. From the arctic tip of Finland to the coastal harbors of Stockholm and Oslo, I was repeatedly startled to see how clean everything was. Frankly, I do not know what laws, if any, might be on the books in these nations to discourage littering. But I suspect their secret of success--laws or not--is pride.

Man cannot indefinitely exploit the bounties of his planet and expect to survive.

Fortunately, some of our lands and waters remain unspoiled, the natural treasures of our times. Wild and scenic rivers rank high among them. We are fortunate that we have the legislation we need to protect our unspoiled rivers for wilderness, scenic, and more intensive recreation use.

We now have nine wild, scenic and recreational river areas preserved in their near-natural state. The eight specified in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Allagash Wilderness Waterway (Maine), the first state river area to be added to the national System. I say to you now, let us commit ourselves to creating a truly nationwide wild and scenic rivers system, one that flows in every state of the union.

The Department of the Interior is ready, eager and able to help. And this year we have the increased appropriation to the Land and Water Conservation Fund to work with. When preservation of quality wild or recreation rivers is at stake, whether they flow through farm lands or urban centers, we will act to save them. And we will use Land and Water Conservation Fund matching grants, or in special "hardship" cases, the Fund's Contingency Reserve which I may use at my discretion.

Every governor may be sure that as soon as we in Interior receive his request for inclusion of a river in the system, we will complete our review and, if the required criteria are met, act quickly to complete our actions. We now are protecting 27 study rivers, only temporarily, but long enough to make a just determination as to whether they qualify for national designation. This is another provision in the Act that underscores the federal government's commitment.

We have advanced one more step in implementing the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior were directed by the Act to identify other rivers that had potential for the system in addition to the original 27 study rivers. Secretary Hardin and I have just approved a list of 47 rivers in 24 states.

How successfully we preserve our remaining wild and scenic rivers will, to some extent, test the strength of our recent land use policies--to count the quality of the environment, and the preservation of our remaining natural resources, high on the list of "best use."

CLEARING HOUSE, SEPTEMBER, 1970

- Grebe, Pied-billed: (1)4, Cove, AKM.
 Pelican, White: (75)28, Cove, AKM; (30)16, Texas City Dike, J&BH.
 Cormorant, Olivaceous: (1)10, Cove, AKM.
 Species: (3)28, Cove, AKM; (50)24, Baytown Tunnel, J&BH.
 Anhinga: (1)5, Cove, AKM.
 FRIGATEBIRD, MAGNIFICENT: (3 immature)16, Texas City Dike, J&BH.
 Heron, Green: (3)1, (1)4, (2)10, (4)16, Cove, AKM.
 Egret, Reddish: (1)16, Cove, AKM.
 Nightheron, Black-crowned: (12)24, Four Corners, J&BH.
 Yellow-crowned: (1)10, 16, Cove, AKM; (1)24, Lynchburg Ferry, J&BH.
 Stork, Wood: (2)10, (5)15, (26)16, Cove, AKM; (76)13, (220)20, (120)27, House-Hall Road and Warren Lake, DHH; (20)24, Four Corners and Baytown, J&BH.
 Spoonbill, Roseate: (40)10, (26)16, (5)28, Cove, AKM; (12)20, Warren Ranch Lake, DHH; (100)24, Baytown Tunnel, J&BH.
 Duck, Mottled: (20)8, (40)10, (1)19, (22)28, Cove, AKM.
 Pintail: (100+)8, 10 (3)11, Cove, AKM; (5)20, Route 1960 and north on 686, DM.
 Teal, Green-winged: (10)10, (1)11, Cove, AKM.
 Blue-winged: (2000)8, (150)10, (300)11, Cove, AKM; (17)20, Route 1960, DM.
 WIDGEON, AMERICAN: (3)10, Cove, AKM; (20)27, Warren Ranch Lake, DHH.
 Shoveler: (20)10, Cove, AKM.
 Ruddy: (3)27, Warren Ranch Lake, DHH.
 Vulture, Turkey: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Kite, Mississippi: (1)5, 10215 Chatterton, DHH.
 Hawk, Sharp-shinned: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Cooper's: (1)10, 30, Cove, AKM.
 Red-tailed: (1)27, Warren Ranch Lake, DHH.
 Red-shouldered: (1)20, 28 (2)30, Cove, AKM.
 Broad-winged: (3+several thousand by Chuck Peting)28, (1)29, Cove, AKM; (5)26, (213)27, 10215 Chatterton, DHH; (2)2, (30)12, Bellaire, DM.
 Marsh: (3)18, 30, (1)23, 28, Cove, AKM; (1)20, Route 1960 area, DM.
 Sparrow: (6)28, Cove, AKM.
 Rail, Clapper: (1)10, Cove, AKM.
 Plover, Snowy: (1)1, Cove, AKM.
 Black-bellied: (11)4, (4)10, (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Turnstone, Ruddy: (1)10, Cove, AKM.
 Snipe, Common: (60)29, Cove, AKM.
 Whimbrel: (1)13, Warren Ranch Lake, DHH.
 Plover, Upland: (1)1, 5, 8, 9, 10, (5)4, Cove, AKM.
 Sandpiper, Spotted: (1)1, 28, (7)10 (2)16, Cove, AKM.
 Solitary: (1)4, (3)8, (2)15, Cove, AKM; (4+)13, Clay Road, Dhh.
 Willet: (5)10, 28, (1)19, Cove, AKM.
 Yellowlegs, Greater: (2)4, (3)5, (1)10, 11, 18, (3)19, Cove, AKM.
 Lesser: (2-10)6 days, Cove, AKM.
 Sandpiper, Pectoral: (1-8)8 days, (15)1, Cove, AKM.
 Dowitcher, Sp.: (20)4, (1-5)5, 16, 19, Cove, AKM.
 Sandpiper, Buff-breasted: (2)1, 12, (1)4, (25+)18, Cove, AKM.
 Sanderling: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Avocet, American: (2)10, 16, (6)28, Cove, AKM; (17)13, (7)20, House-Hall Rd. & Warren Ranch Lake, DHH.
 Stilt, Black-necked: (5 or 6)1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, Cove, AKM.
 Gull, Ring-billed: (1)16, 28, Cove, AKM.
 Tern, Forster's: (2)13, Warren Ranch Lake, DHH.
 Sandwich: (4 or 5)1, 16, (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Caspian: (7)20, Warren Ranch Lake, DHH.
 Black: (1-10)7 days, (NC)12, 14, 15, (20-38)4, 10, 13, 21, 23, (70-75)5, 16, Cove, AKM.
 (5)20, Clay Road, DHH.
 Skimmer, Black: (1)10, Cove, AKM.

Dove, Inca: (2)20, 1725 Longacre, Spring Branch, NP.
 Cuckoo, Yellow-billed: (1 or 2)10, 16, Cove, AKM.
 Owl, Screech: (1)21, Cove, AKM.
 Chuck-will's-widow: (1)16, (4)28, Cove, AKM.
 Nighthawk, Common: (1-5)8 days to 12th, (1)22, 26, Cove, AKM.
 Swift, Chimney: (1)29, Baytown, AKM.
 Hummingbird, Ruby-throated: (1-5)29 days, Cove, AKM.
 Rufous: (1)9 days, 18-30, Baytown, D&DL.
 Kingfisher, Belted: (1)1, 10, 16, 20, 28, Cove, AKM.
 Flicker, Yellow-shafted: (2)29, Cove, AKM; (1)16, Baytown, D&DL.
 Woodpecker, Pileated: (1)16, Cove, AKM.
 Red-bellied: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Kingbird, Eastern: (1-10)17 days, (15+)5, 6, 10, (25)16, (50+)4, Cove, AKM.
 Flycatcher, Great-crested: (1)15, (5)16, Cove, AKM; (1-5)all month, (20+)16, Baytown, D&DL.
 Empidonax: (7)10, 16, (4)28, Cove, AKM.
 Wood, Peewee: (1)9, 10, 11, 12, (3)16, Cove, AKM.
 Swallow, Tree: (1)12, Cove, AKM.
 Cliff: (NC)12, Cove, AKM.
 Martin, Purple: (NC)5, 8, 12, 14, 15, Cove, AKM.
 Chickadee, Carolina: (4)28, Cove, AKM.
 Titmouse, Tufted: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Catbird: (5)28, Cove, AKM; (1-3)28, 29, 30, Baytown, D&DL.
 Thrasher, Brown: (1)20, (50)28, Cove, AKM; (1)26, (3)27, 10215 Chatterton, DHH.
 Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray: (2)10, (4)28, Cove, AKM.
 KINGLET, RUBY-CROWNED: (1)27, 10215 Chatterton, DHH; (1)23, Baytown, D&DL.
 Vireo, White-eyed: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 SOLITARY: (1)30, Baytown, D&DL.
 Red-eyed: (1-3)10 days, Baytown, D&DL.
 Warbler, Black and White: (3)16, (1)28, Cove, AKM; (1)13, 15, 20, 29, Baytown, D&DL.
 Prothonotary, (1)20, Baytown, D&DL.
 Blue-winged: (1)22, Baytown, D&DL.
 Yellow: (1)3, 5, Baytown, D&DL.
 Magnolia: (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 CERULEAN: (1)1, Baytown, D&DL.
 BLACKBURNIAN: (1)16, Cove, AKM.
 Chestnut-sided: (1+)16, Cove, AKM.
 Mourning: (1)16, Baytown, D&DL.
 Yellowthroat: (1)10, Cove, AKM.
 Chat, Yellow-breasted: (1)16, Cove, AKM; (1)8 days beginning 1st, Baytown, D&DL.
 Warbler, Hooded: (1)18, 19, Baytown, D&DL.
 Wilson's: (1)16, (2)28, Cove, AKM.
 Canada: (1-6)9 days, 1-25, Baytown, D&DL.
 BLACKBIRD, YELLOW-HEADED: (1)27, North Fort Bend County, just south of Katy, PC&LG.
 Oriole, Orchard: (1)4, 28, Cove, AKM; (2-5)1, 6, 20, Baytown, D&DL.
 Baltimore: (8)10, (15+)16, (4)28, Cove, AKM; (9)17, (25+)27, 10215 Chatterton, DHH; (2-6)12 days 9-28, (30+)16, Baytown, D&DL.
 Grosbeak, Blue: (5)15, (3)20, (1)28, Cove, AKM.
 Bunting, Painted: (1)18, 19, Cove, AKM.
 Dickcissel: (7)16, (1)21, 25, (20+)28, Cove, AKM.
 Sparrow, Seaside: (8)10, Cove, AKM.

CLEARING HOUSE CONTRIBUTORS:

AKM	Arlie K. McKay
DHH	Dan H. Hardy
J&BH	Jean & Bill Harwell
PC&LG	Paul Caillet & Larry Goleman
NP	Noel Pettingell
D&DL	Dorothy & David Lefkovits
DM	David Marrack

NOTES FROM DAVID MARRACK

Referring to his sighting of Broad-winged Hawks September 12--3 roosted in the trees of my back yard and 13 climbed to 200' or so, wheeling, and drifted south in the sun... The back roads (along route 1960 and north on 686) offer access to some interesting habitat-- towards Moss Hill... Found a dead Peregrine Falcon by road at west end of San Luis Pass bridge (Brazoria County). Shot!! I got loaded with a Screech Owl with a broken wing.

Since this report we have talked with Dr. Marrack by telephone, and he told us that his Screech Owl had died from the infection of his wound. It also grieves us to report that our Screech Owl developed pneumonia and died. There was much mourning in the Lefkovits household.

LETTER FROM PAUL CAILLET

I would like to report two unusual birds which it has been my good luck to see recently. On August 22 Ben Johnson, Larry Golemon and I saw a Worm-eating Warbler in the damp underbrush around Double Lake in the Sam Houston National Forest near Coldspring. He was about three feet off the ground and acting somewhat like the Carolina Wrens which we had seen that morning. His striped crown and long warbler-like bill were clearly visible to all three of us. He did not stay long. The Field Check-List indicates that this bird is rare at this time of year on the Upper Texas Coast. Perhaps he is not so rare to the north of this area where this individual was seen.

On September 27 Larry Golemon and I were in northern Ft. Bend County just south of Katy in the very late afternoon. We were looking through a large (1000 or more) flock of Cowbirds when I saw something yellow. There was one beautiful male Yellow-headed Blackbird in that huge flock. We both watched him for a long time as they fed in the old rice field. We would lose him for a few seconds, but he would always reappear. At length the whole flock flew away. The Field Check-List indicates no record of this bird during the month of September on the Upper Texas Coast. We were very excited to say the least. I have seen this bird on several occasions in the Texas Panhandle but never in this area.

EPITAPH FOR THE BALD EAGLE? 'Lifted' from Texas Parks and Wildlife News Bulletin

Since the snowy pate of the bald eagle is easily identifiable with the symbolism of nobility, courage and eternal vigilance, the United States would be hard put to find a better national emblem. Nevertheless, the U. S. might be wise to start seeking another emblem. The eagle, symbol of our nation, could be on the brink of extinction.

Where once there were thousands along the Texas coast, only five or six pairs remain, according to the National Audubon Society. In the U. S. only 12,000 to 15,000 eagles remain, with 10,000 of them occurring in Alaska.

Though guns and bulldozers have certainly taken their toll of both the eagle and its habitat, other more insidious creations of man are threatening to make the eagle less durable than the nation it represents. Chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides such as DDT, dieldrin and endrin are reported to seriously threaten the future of the bald eagle.

This is because bald eagles, as with most birds of prey, are positioned at the end of a food chain, which guarantees a dosage of poison with practically every meal. For some birds of prey, such as the golden eagle which feeds mostly on mammals, the end should not come as quickly as it may for others which feed mostly on birds and fish as does the bald eagle. Pesticides apparently are magnified more in birds and fish than in mammals.

In some cases bald eagles have been killed outright when DDT and dieldrin accumulated in their brains. But the bald eagle could find his way to oblivion in a much less dramatic way than the quivering death of direct pesticide poisoning. He just won't reproduce. DDT and dieldrin affect calcium metabolism, which in turn affects eggshell thickness. The shells are so thin that parent birds frequently break them while nesting and then eat them.

Since biologists say chances for saving the bald eagle may already be beyond our powers, a study of its natural history may be a moot point very shortly. But while he is still around, we can appreciate the eagle as one of our most interesting wildlife species.

The eagle takes much of his food on the wing. In normal flight he labors like a winged elephant, but when the need arises the big bird becomes surprisingly agile. He is able to pursue an osprey, turn over on his back and pluck a fish from the osprey's talons. The bald eagle can also pick fish from the surface of water or snatch a hunter's freshly shot bird from the air before it hits the ground. But these natural acts of eating, while giving sustenance, are insuring oblivion for the bald eagle. With practically every bite he eats, the eagle gets a minute dose of pesticides.

And soon we may only have the bald eagle's image--on tops of flagpoles and on dollar bills--as a reminder that it was once America's great bird.

CONSERVATION NOTES

Texas Parks and Wildlife fisheries biologists who investigated a kill of an estimated 5 million fish in Corpus Christi harbor in August found oxygen depletion to be the cause. They say that several deep draft ships which passed through the channel before the kill may have stirred anaerobic sludge from the bottom, which robbed oxygen from the water. Another contributing factor was the breakdown of sewage treatment facilities after Hurricane Celia.

Interior Secretary Walter J. Hickel announced that there will be no more cattle grazing on the Padre Island National Seashore after this year, pointing out that grazing is not compatible with preserving the natural values of the seashore nor with its full enjoyment by the public.

Jacques-Yves Cousteau, well-known marine biologist and co-inventor of the aqua-lung, has strongly criticized the use of chemical dispersants to sink oil slicks. He commented "Imagine how clever of mankind. When he has a big slick of poison on top of the water, to add something to it that will make it sink slowly and kill everything in its path, all the way to the bottom. It makes you proud to be human, doesn't it?"

Canada has put into effect a ban on the manufacture of laundry detergents that contain more than 20% phosphates.

The Glass Container Manufacturers Institute has announced a program to buy glass bottles and containers for a penny a pound. They will be ground up and used in making new bottles. Up to 30% old glass can be used. There are other uses in the development state. A list of 92 plants in 25 states that will accept old bottles can be obtained from the Audubon Leader, Audubon House, 1130 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, 10028.

LATE ADDITION TO CLEARING HOUSE

Seen by Joe Farrell and Joe M. Heiser, Jr., September 26, 100+ Broadwinged Hawks in seven flocks (smallest, 12 & largest, 20) all in sight at once, circling over Highway 45 immediately north of Conroe.

COMING EVENTS

November 4 Audubon Wildlife Film, 8 PM, Greater Houston Builders Association Auditorium, 2710 W. Alabama. Meet for supper at 6 PM. at Suzanne's Cafeteria preceding film. This first film of the season is "Central California's Coastal Plain" presented by John E. Taft, who narrates this film which he and Eben McMillan co-produced. A narrow strip of rugged coastline in San Luis Obispo County is the setting for this movie. Here crimson-footed Pigeon Guillemots fill the multitudes of small caverns and holes in the cliff faces, and cormorants by the thousands nest. Fall migrants, including at times the Emperor Goose, boost the wildlife population to immeasurable numbers. Included is a visit to the famed Hearst castle in San Simeon and the 70,000 acre Hearst Ranch, where African game still roams free.

November 13 Regular ONC meeting, 8 PM, Garden Center, 1500 Hermann Drive. The program Tuesday will be "Visit to Venezuela," presented by Dr. John L. Tveten.

Nov. 21&22
Sat., Sun. ONC field trip to the Little Thicket Nature Sanctuary.

December 3 Regular OG meeting, 7:30 PM, at the Fonde Recreation Center. Steve Williams Thursday will be speaker and his subject will be "Sparrows."

Dec. 5 & 6 OG field trip to Palmetto State Park, off Highway 183, between Luling and Sat., Sun. Gonzales. The group will assemble each morning at 8 AM at the park entrance on Highway 183. Our field trip chairman, Marilyn Crane, has recommended that those attending make reservations at either the Lexington Motor Inn in Gonzales or the DeLuxe Motel in Luling. Specialty for this trip will be sparrows, so it will be a good chance to practice what we learn at the December meeting. The Fox Sparrow is one species we hope to see.

OFFICERS

Chairman: Miss Sarah Gordon, 1746 Wroxton Court, Houston 77005
Vice-chairman: Mrs. Harry L. (Avis) Brister, 2314 Saxon, Houston 77018
Secretary: Miss Gladys Galbreath, 2107 North Boulevard, Houston 77006
Treasurer: Miss Melba Drake, 1746 Wroxton Court, Houston 77005
Co-editors of
The Spoonbill: Mr. and Mrs. David (Dorothy) Lefkovits, 1601 Woodlawn, Baytown 77520
Program Chmn: Mrs. Marilyn Krog, 225 Mayerling, Houston 77024
Field Trip Chmn: Miss Marilyn Crane, 3601 Allen Parkway, Apt. 214, Houston 77019
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