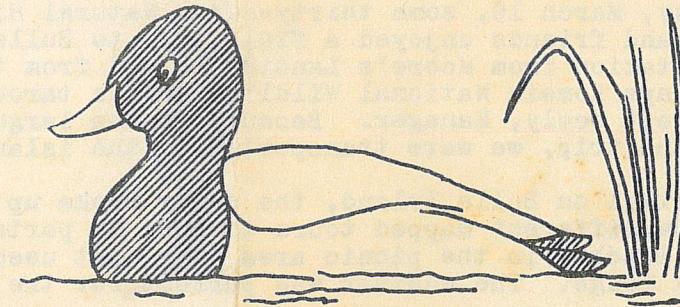


frigate birds, flamingos, loons, oyster catchers, storm petrels, jacanas, gulls and terns, tropic birds, shearwaters, skimmers, nuthatches, jaegers, boobies, spoonbill and trogons. Many species in these families were already covered.

The recently published book, Economics of Pollution, which consists basically of the lectures given by Dr. Elvis Stahr and economist Kenneth E. Boulding at New York University last year, is now available by mail order from National Audubon's Service Department (950 Third Ave.) for \$5.95 per copy, including postage.

the lesser

Squawk



Published at Charleston, S.C. by The Charleston Natural History Society, Inc., April, 1972, Volume XXIV No. 4. Editors: Alan M. Bills, 116 Presidents Circle, Summerville, S.C. Ph. 873-0481 and Waddell F. Robey, Jr., 3 St. Michael's Alley, Charleston, S.C.

OFFICERS

President: Waddell F. Robey, Jr. 3 St. Michael's Alley, Charleston, S.C. 29401

Vice-President: John G. MacDougal, 1 New Town Lane, Charleston, S.C. 29412

Secretary-Treasurer: Alan M. Bills, 116 Presidents Circle, Summerville, S.C. 29483

APRIL ACTIVITIES

The regular meeting of the Society will be at 8:00 PM in the lecture room of the Charleston Museum on Tuesday, April 11, 1972. The program will be presented by Dr. Edwin Joseph, Director of Research at the Fort Johnson Marine Biological Laboratory.

In place of the usual field trip this month's activity will be the annual Spring Bird Count on Sunday, April 23, 1972. Those wishing to take part in this project should contact Julian Harrison at 795-1694 by Monday, April 17, 1972.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Dr. William Sladen, the noted authority on penguins and the Whistling Swan, will be in Charleston on May 23, 1972 and will probably present his movie on the Antarctic penguins. More details will be given in the next issue of the Squawk.

MARCH FIELD TRIP TO BULLS ISLAND

On Sunday, March 19, some thirty-seven Natural History Society members and friends enjoyed a field trip to Bulls Island. Boat transportation from Moore's Landing to and from the island was provided by the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge through the courtesy of Mr. Burkett Neely, Manager. Because of the large number of persons making the trip, we were transported to the island in two boatloads.

Upon arrival on Bulls Island, the party broke up into small groups to follow different mapped tours to various parts of the island. We ate our lunches in the picnic area near what used to be called Dominick Lodge. The weather was perfect for the occasion.

About eighty-seven different species of birds were identified. Of special interest were an immature Great-Horned Owl, who posed most accommodatingly in a tree near the picnic area; and three Whistling Swans seen on Summerhouse Pond. Several good-sized alligators were reported on Summerhouse Pond.

Because of the unusually low tide in the afternoon, the return trips to the mainland were pushed up, but the widely exposed sand flats and oysterbanks offered good opportunities to observe shore birds at close range.

Ted Metcalf, Leader.

THE SKY-WATCHERS' GUIDE

Several events of astronomical interest will occur during April. Venus, which has been moving steadily higher into view in the western sky after sunset, will reach its maximum height, or distance east of the sun, on April 7. This is known as its greatest eastern elongation. On that date, it will not set until 10:30 PM.

The great Christian festival of Easter, which falls this year on April 2, is governed by the position of the moon. It is always the first Sunday following the first full moon which occurs on or after the Vernal Equinox. The moon was full on March 30.

Three conjunctions of planets will take place this month - the first just at Easter-time. Mars and Saturn will appear quite near together, both setting shortly after Venus. On April 7, Venus and Saturn will be in conjunction, and on the 23rd., Mars and Venus. Thus, since Venus is between the earth and the sun, it may be observed as it begins a return trip on its orbit.

About 1:00 AM, Jupiter will rise in the southeast in the constellation of Sagittarius.

On April 15, between 8:00 and 10:00 PM, Leo will be overhead, straddling the meridian. Westward of Leo, the winter constellations are all moving toward their setting. Orion, directly west, is nearest the horizon; Auriga, with brightly-shining Capella, is northwest of the ecliptic; and Castor and Pollux, in Gemini, are located between these two groups and nearer to Leo. Just above the southwestern horizon, Sirius continues to shine with scintillating beauty until it disappears from view.

In the east, a brilliant star of orange-red hue is an early herald of summer. This is Arcturus, in the constellation Bootes. Most of the stars in this group are quite faint, and form the shape of a kite.

The big Dipper is high in the north. Just as Polaris may be located by following the "Pointers" in the bowl of the Dipper, Arcturus may be found by following the curve of the handle.

Observers may notice that the Milky Way has now disappeared from view. This is due to the earth's position on its orbit. In two months' time, the Milky Way will reappear near the eastern Horizon.

Elizabeth D. Simons

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY MEETING

The Environmental Law Society will present the noted lecturer, author and environmental lawyer, Mr. David Sive, on Friday, April 7 at 8:00 PM in room 1074 Currell College, University of South Carolina. His topic will be "Environmental Protection in an Agrarian State." Any member of the society is cordially invited to attend this lecture in Columbia.

NATIONAL AUDUBON NEWS

The Environmental Protection Agency has suspended the use of the poisons 1080, cyanide, strichnine and thallium for use against predators such as coyotes but not for use against such animals as ground squirrels and prairie dogs. However, the case is still under study.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act, under which the federal government protects many species of birds is based on treaties with Canada and Mexico. Early this month a treaty amendment was signed in Mexico City, extending the list to all previously unprotected species in 32 families of birds. Now covered are all hawks and owls; vultures; crows and jays; a number of fish-eating birds that were formerly unprotected, including kingfishers, anhingas, cormorants and pelicans, and ibises. The others are the alcids, limpkins, herons, stork, grebes, albatrosses,