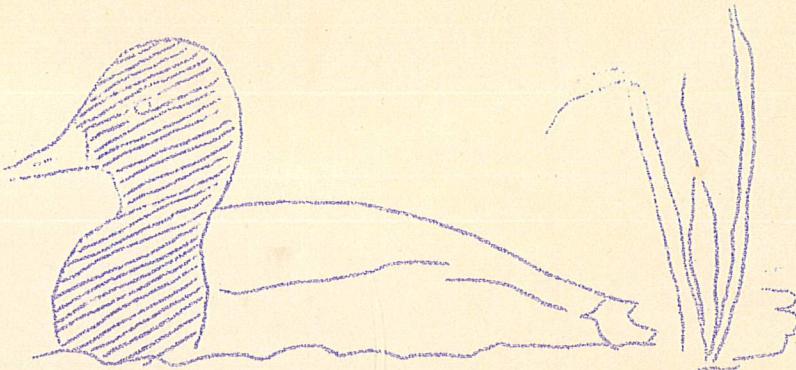


the lesser

Squawk



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President: Harry W. Freeman, 1340 Bluebird Dr. Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Vice-president: Ernest A. Cutts, 1466 Edgewater Dr., Edgewater Park, Charleston, S.C.

Secretary-Treasurer: I. S. H. Metcalf, 805 Condon Dr., Battery Point, Charleston, S.C.

Executive Committee: H. W. Freeman, E. A. Cutts, I. S. H. Metcalf, Mrs. Francis Barrington, T. A. Beckett, E. B. Chamberlain, Mrs. R. H. Coleman, Miss Elizabeth D. Simons, Mrs. L. S. Smith.

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PROGRAM FOR JUNE

June 14  
Meeting of the Executive Committee, 8:00 p.m.  
Charleston Museum Office  
No meeting. No field trip in June

BIRD MOVEMENT IN JUNE

5 Scissors-tailed Flycatcher  
14 Sooty Tern

1 Baird's Sandpiper  
3 Northern Phalarope  
4 Solitary Sandpiper  
5 Horned Grebe  
Blackpoll Warbler  
6 Blue-winged Teal  
American Widgeon  
Shoveler

Western Grebe  
Sooty Shearwater

Arrivals

16 Roseate Spoonbill  
17 Bridled Tern

Departures

6 Avocet  
Sharp-tailed Sparrow  
(L. Barrington)  
.7 Surf Scoter  
9 Bonapart's Gull  
10 White-rumped Sandpiper  
(Weston)  
15 Black-billed Cuckoo

Casuals and Accidentals

Red Phalarope (Manigault)  
White-winged Scoter

25 Brown-headed Cowbird

13 Cedar Waxwing  
17 Knot  
18 Gannet  
Tree Swallow  
23 Red-breasted Merganser  
25 Snow Bunting  
28 Marbled Godwit

If the dates are not taken from South Carolina Bird Life the authority is given.

ELECTIONS.

At the May meeting the following officers were elected for the 1966-67 session.

President: Harry W. Freeman  
 Vice-president: Ernest A. Cutts  
 Secretary-Treasurer: I. S. H. Metcalf  
 Executive Members at Large  
 Miss Elizabeth D. Simons  
 Mrs. L. S. Smith

SPRING BIRD COUNT.

The 1966 Spring Bird Count took place on Saturday, April 30 with 15 participants in 5 parties in the regular Audubon Count area. The weather was cloudy and showery in the early morning and the birds stayed well out of sight, but came out in numbers after the rain passed over. Although we did not equal last year's count of 162 we did see 140 species with 7419 individuals. Uncommon, but not really unusual were Swallow-tailed Kite, and Swainson's, Blackburnian and Kentucky Warblers. We missed 32 species this year that we got in spring of 1965 and we got 10 species this year that we missed last year. Last year we had 20 observers in 6 parties.

Those taking part were: Roy Baker, Francis Barrington, Louise Barrington, Ted Beckett, Edwin Blitch, David Chamberlain, Burnham Chamberlain, Teague Coleman, Wilhelmina Coleman, Robert Clem, E. C. Clyde, J. H. Dick, John Metcalf, Ted Metcalf, and Dory Smith.

E. B. Chamberlain, Compiler.

MAY FIELD TRIP.

Saturday, May 14 dawned dark and drizzly and was apparently discouraging to most of our members. Our leader, Burnham Chamberlain was unable to go, and at the last minute his substitute was also out of the running, so Wilhelmina and Teague, and Francis Barrington sallied forth to the museum hoping for recruits and were joined there by Dory Smith and our two new members, Mrs. and Mrs. David Yount.

As the people at the Francis Marion Forest had been told to expect us after we left the Santee Gun Club and as said club trip was not available, we stopped first at Moore's Landing and McGee's Woods before going on to the Forest. Those in charge there evidently don't know what a hardy breed the bird watcher is, because, possibly on account of the bad weather, when we reached the gate at about 10:45 we found it locked fast. Nothing daunted, we drove to the other gate near Wambaw Creek, climbed and settled down to watch for the kites. We expected to wait a long time, for the Swallow-tails have not been seen on the past two field trips to the Wambaw. As we waited and ate an early lunch some hawks and a Mississippi Kite flew over and at 12 o'clock our patience was rewarded by a close view of two and possibly three, beautiful Swallow-tailed Kites. Then, mission accomplished, we headed for home after recording 82 species of birds, several attractive (?) water snakes and many spring flowers. Aren't you sorry you stayed in bed?

W. M. C.

SUMMER RECESS

June brings our time of summer recess and this June brings to a close three years of interesting and rewarding work as your editor. I am truly grateful for the many fine contributions from our members and especially for the informative and clearly expressed monthly "heavenly" articles by Miss Elizabeth Simons. I am sure we are all much more aware of the yearly course of the planets and constellations because of her contributions.

Though there are no meetings nor field trips during the summer it is hoped that the members will keep tabs on any interesting facts that they may come across about birds, beasts or flowers wherever they may go for their vacations. We shall probably not publish the Lesser Squawk in July and August unless letters from Vacationers or unusual data warrant it.

MEMBERSHIP.

Our society seems to be flourishing and growing. We now have 140 members on our rolls. This includes 9 Junior Members and 51 out of town members from Mt. Pleasant, Summerville, Wadmalaw, Edisto, Columbia, Greenville and Inman in S.C. Also 2 in N.C. 4 in Georgia, 1 in Florida and in Maine and 2 in France.

During the past year we welcomed the following new members.

C. Fred Andrus  
Charles A. Andrus  
Mrs. Caroline Borowsky  
John R. Dennis, Jr.  
Timothy M. Gwynette  
W.C. Huggins  
Mrs. Judith Johnson

Mrs. W. D. Johnston  
Mrs. Jean King  
Stanley C. Langston  
George R. Maxwell  
Miss Lucia Moody  
Miss Dorothy Rivers  
J. Stuart Walker

Mr. and Mrs. J. David Yount

WHIP-POOR-WILLS AGAIN.

Mrs. Caroline Borowsky reports hearing Whip-poor-wills calling in Christ Church Parish on the evening of May 17 and for three or four days previous to that date. This is the second report this spring, from widely separated areas, of Whip-poor-wills. The next time you hear a "chuck" listen carefully and be sure it is not his cousin. The calls are distinctly different.

THE SKY-WATCHERS' GUIDE.

Since the nights of June are the shortest of the year, sky-watchers should make full use of the hours of darkness at their disposal. In the long period of twilight which follows the sunset, it may be possible to see two of the planets. At the beginning of the month, Jupiter will be quite close to the horizon, but on June 3, the moon will offer unequal competition, as it will be full on the opposite horizon. By the fifteenth, Jupiter will be lost to view. In its place, Mercury will appear, reaching greatest eastern elongation in the last week of the month. Saturn rises about midnight and Venus about two hours before sunrise.

Leo moves steadily westward, followed by first-magnitude Spica twinkling with a white light in the southwest. Well above the horizon in the southeast, Scoppio, the Scorpion will be in view. Orange-red Antares is the only bright star in a beautiful curve which does resemble the arachnid for which it was named. High overhead, another orange-red star shines brightly. This is Arcturus, in Bootes, the Herdsman. Both Dippers are now in excellent view, so that there should be no difficulty in locating the North Star.

The Summer Solstice will occur on June 21. At that time, summer will arrive in the northern hemisphere.

Elizabeth D. Simons.

BACK NUMBERS.

The editor has on hand innumerable copies of back issues of the Lesser Squawk from 1957 to the present June 1966 number. A few issues are lacking, but any member wishing to keep a complete file can probably get missing numbers by getting in touch with me, the editor. (Before I get desperate for lack of space and throw them all away !)

