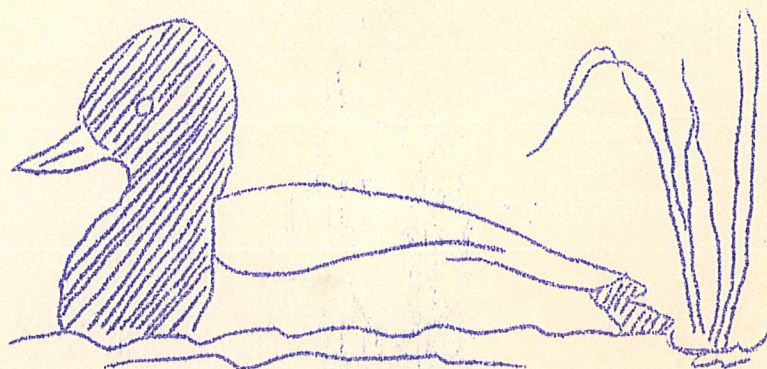


The Leader
Squawk



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--- OFFICERS ---

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: B. Rhett Chamberlain, Box 48, Route 1, Wadmalaw Island, S.C.
Executive Committee: H. W. Freeman, E. A. Cutts, B. R. Chamberlain, Mrs. Francis Barrington,
T. A. Beckett, III, Mrs. R. H. Coleman, I. S. H. Metcalf, Mrs. M. D. Richardson, Miss Elizabeth Simons.

PROGRAM FOR MAY

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers, 8:00 p.m.
Lecture Room, Charleston Museum, May 10
Speaker: Miss Elizabeth Simons, Eclipse of the Quiet Sun

May 14, SATURDAY

All Day Field Trip to Francis Marion Forest and Santee Gun Club
Meet Charleston Museum 6:30 a.m. Leader, E. B. Chamberlain
Bring lunch.

BIRD MOVEMENT IN MAY

Arrivals

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Glossy Ibis | 5 Wilson's Petrel | 12 Magnificent Frigatebird |
| 2 White-rumped Sandpiper | Baird's Sandpiper | 17 Northern Phalarope |
| 3 Bank Swallow | Wilson's Phalarope | 19 Audubon's Shearwater |
| 4 Black Tern | Noddy Tern | |

Departures

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Canada Goose | 11 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker | 18 Magnolia Warbler |
| Black Duck | Orange-crowned Warbler | 19 Gadwall |
| Green-winged Teal | Blackburnian Warbler | Upland Plover |
| Ruddy Duck | Vesper Sparrow | Swamp Sparrow |
| 2 Slate-colored Junco | 12 Gr. Black-backed Gull | 20 Common Snipe |
| 3 Pectoral Sandpiper | 13 Common Loon | Lesser Yellowlegs |
| Hermit Thrush | 14 Sora | 21 Swainson's Thrush |
| 4 Kirtland's Warbler | Roseate Tern | 22 Piping Plover |
| 5 House Wren | Myrtle Warbler | Blk-throated Blue Warbler |
| Worm-eating Warbler | m. Scarlet Tanager | Northern Waterthrush |
| White-crowned Sparrow | American Goldfinch | 24 Veery |
| 7 Ring-necked Duck | 15 White-winged Scoter | 26 Bobolink |
| White-tailed Kite | Short-billed Marsh Wren | Red Crossbill |
| 8 Grasshopper Sparrow | Gray-checked Thrush | 27 Purple Sandpiper |
| 9 Peregrin Falcon | Ovenbird | Yellow Warbler |
| American Golden Plover | 16 Pigeon Hawk | American Redstart |

Departures cont.

10 Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Savannah Sparrow
11 Hooded Merganser
Stilt Sandpiper

17 Cape May Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
White-throated Sparrow
18 Red-throated Loon

27 LeGont's Sparrow
28 Common Scoter
29 Cliff Swallow
Sharp-tail Sparrow

Casuals and Accidentals

Sooty Shearwater
White-tailed Tropic-bird
G Great White Heron
Cacara

Sandhill Crane
Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Hudsonian Godwit
Dickcissel
Nashville Warbler

Wilson's Warbler
Canada Warbler
Western Tanager
Rose-breasted Grosbeak

"According to 'Sprunt and Chamberlain' the Glossy Ibis arrives May 1. It appears however to be arriving earlier each year and may possibly be remaining throughout the winter. Are there any observations to substantiate this ?

Also, the Ruddy Duck is known to have nested in this area for at least two seasons and perhaps should be considered as a permanent resident. All of which reminds us again that our arrival and departure dates are in great need of revision. Do we have any volunteers for this important job ?

APRIL FIELD TRIP

On April 17th, 14 members of the Charleston Natural History Society met at my home after a brief stop at Rantowels Pond where a Common Merganser was sighted. The day was chill at the start but warmed nicely as the sun rose higher.

We spent the morning on foot rambling through the nearby woods and swamps. Vireos, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, and Parula Warblers were numerous and very vocal. Prothonotary Warblers were seen in two different locations, and Robins were still deep in the swamp. A handsome Bobolink was awaiting us on our return to the house.

After lunch, we drove first to the pineland for a short ~~hike~~ hike, then through some back roads of Caw-Caw Swamp where the sharp eyes of David Chamberlain discovered the nest of a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. The bird was making frequent visits and occasionally sitting. A Yellow-throated Vireo and a White-eyed Vireo were observed carrying nesting materials.

Members attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Francis Barrington, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Button, E.B. Chamberlain, David Chamberlain, Mrs. Jane Clarke, Mrs. Wilhelmina M. Coleman, Edmund Cuthbert, Jr., Mrs. Leila Miles, Mrs. Margaret Retallack, Mrs. Stan Smith, Mrs. Lois Doscher.

A total of 84 species of birds were recorded. It was an all-round pleasant day: good birding, lovely weathy, and excellent company !

Dorothy T. Glover.

P.S.

This very nice account of our day in the woods tells only part of the story, as Mrs. Glover most modestly says nothing about her able guidance through the swamps nor of her delightful hospitality which provided ice-cold "cokes" at lunch time and delicious chocolate cake and coffee when we returned from our pineland and backroads hike to her house well after four o'clock. Many thanks, Mrs. Glover for one of our nicest trips.

The Editor

Last year it was decided, for economy's sake, to omit some summer numbers of the Lesser Squawk. This will be discussed at the June executive committee meeting and there is a possibility July and August issues may again be omitted. So if you miss any summer copies don't blame the post office.

Daylight lingers, following sunset during the evenings of May, so that by the time it is dark, Jupiter will be more than half-way down between the zenith and the north-western horizon. Leo, the Lion will be riding high, just west of overhead. An interesting, though very faint configuration may be traced all across the southern sky, by using Regulus as a guide. To the southwest of this first magnitude star, an irregular circlet of faint stars represents the head of Hydra, the Water Snake. A zigzag line of stars straggling eastward from the head, and extending past Spica, is the snake's body. On its back, about midway of the length, is a triangle of stars, with the apex on the snake. This is Crater, the Cup. To the east of the Cup is Corvus, the Crow, represented by four stars forming a box-like figure, with one faint star just beyond the southwest corner.

About twenty degrees northeast of Spica is orange-red Arcturus, the only bright star in the constellation of Bootes, the Herdsman. In shape, this group resembles a kite. A double tail appears to dangle southward from Arcturus.

'MAN'S ORIGINAL TIMEPIECE' is the topic of the Planetarium program on May 16, at 8:00 p.m. This will be the last public showing until the fall.

Elizabeth D. Simons.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

President Freeman has appointed the se members to serve as a nominating committee:

Francis Barrington, Chairman
T.A. Beckett, III
Mrs. R.H. Coleman

May is the month for our annual meeting and election of officers. Please do not stay away in the belief that much time will be consumed in the reading of dry annual reports, and a long drawn-out election. Our only reports will be those of the president and a brief financial statement. We will have our usual program, and this month's talk promises to be a good one.

CORRECTION:

In the list of activities for the year printed in the October issue of the Lesser Squawk the date for the May field trip to the Frandis Marion Forest appears as Saturday, May 17. This, of course, is an error, as May 17 is a Tuesday. The correct date is Saturday, May 14.

We are sorry that our usual leader to this area, Ellison Williams, can not make it this year. We shall miss him and wish that he could be with us. Burnham Chamberlain has kindly consented to serve in his place.

WHIP-POOR-WILLS

Mrs. Leonard Glover reports that on the evening of April 24 and again on April 25 she heard a Whip-poor-will calling near her home in Adam's Run area. To make the identification more positive she heard at the same time a Chuck-wills-widow calling not far off. This is a most interesting observation, as, though the Whip-poor-will is a regular winter resident in this area, it is very rarely seen and even more seldom heard. South Carolina Bird Life gives its departure date as April 28. We shall be interested to know if Mrs. Glover hears it after that date.

As we go to press'' we are happy to report that our fellow member and able secretary-treasurer, Rhett Chamberlain, who has been seriously ill for the past week is showing improvement. We earnestly hope this improvement will continue and that he will soon be completely recovered.