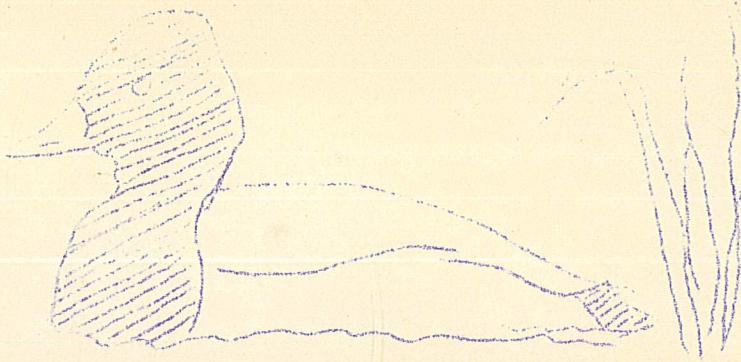


Charleston, S.C.

Squawk



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PROGRAM FOR JUNE

Summer Recess: No meeting-No Field Trip.

June 13

Meeting Executive Committee, 8:00 p.m.

Office Charleston Museum

BIRD MOVEMENT IN JUNE

Arrivals

5 Scissors-tailed Flycatcher 16 Roseate Spoonbill 25 Brown-headed Cowbird
14 Sooty Tern 17 Bridled Tern

Departures

1 Baird's Sandpiper	6 Avocet	13 Cedar Waxwing
3 Northern Phalarope	Sharp-tailed Sparrow	17 Knot
4 Solitary Sandpiper	(Barrington)°	18 Gannet
5 Horned Grebe	7 Surf Scoter	Tree Swallow
Blackpoll Warbler	9 Bonaparte's Gull	23 Red-breasted Merganser
6 Blue-winged Teal	10 White-rumped Sandpiper	25 Snow Bunting
American Widgeon	(Weston)°	28 Marbled Godwit
Shoveler	13 Black-billed Cuckoo	

Casuals and Accidentals

Western Grebe	Red Phalarope	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Sooty Shearwater	(Manigault, Baldwin et al)°	Bobolink
White-winged Scoter	Ruddy Duck"°	

° If the date is not taken from South Carolina Bird Life, the authority is given

°° This species has nested in the state for the past several years.

Approximately 256 species of birds have been reported in the Charleston area in June.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1967-68

At the May meeting this slate of officers was elected for the 1967-68 session.

President: Ernest A. Cutts

Vice-President: Julian R. Harrison, III

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Lloyd S. Smith

Exec. Members at-large: Edmund R. Cuthbert, Jr. and Stanley C. Langston

These officers, together with all past presidents and the Editor of the Lesser Squawk, comprise the Executive Committee and conduct all business of the society.

Past presidents are, Mrs. Francis Barrington, T. A. Beckett, III, E. Burnham Chamberlain, Mrs. Robert H. Coleman (also editor of the Squawk) Harry W. Freeman and I. S. H. Metcalf.

The summer meeting of this committee will be held on the evening of June 13 to decide on field trips and programs for the coming year. Suggestions for monthly trips and programs should be given to a member of the committee for consideration before this meeting.

SPRING BIRD COUNT.

A most successful spring bird count was held on April 29. The weather was perfect, and fifteen observers in six groups made this our best count in many years, chalking up 157 species, including Field Doves, Wild Turkeys, an Oven Bird and a late Eastern Phoebe. These teams covered the six territories. Roy Baker and Edwin Blitch, Wando River area and Willow Hall Road, Ted Beckett and Wilhelmina Coleman, Gehrin's Bridge area and Causey's Pond, Louise Button and Edmund Cuthbert, Porcher's Bluff, Norman Chamberlain, Julian Harrison and Tim Gwynette, Mayrants, Sten and Dory Smith, I'on Swamp by bicycle, John Henry Dick, Calvin Clyde, R. V. Clem and David Leont, Bull's Island. Burnham Chamberlain, Compiler.

W.M.C.

MAY FIELD TRIP.

Seven members of the society and one guest met at 7:30, Sunday morning, 14 May for the short field trip to Lane's End, on John's Island. Although the number of species of birds seen was not large, severally brilliantly colored ones displayed themselves very patiently for us. We particularly enjoyed Nonpareils, an Indigo bunting, a lovely Summer Tanager, and a downright inquisitive Parula Warbler. The weather was just about perfect, and although we walked across and around several fields, a few muddy feet were the only drawbacks. Light refreshments were served on the Metcalfs' cottage porch before the group broke up.

Those present included: Mr. Barrington, Mr. Metcalf, Tom Metcalf, Mrs. Fugeil, Miss Nell Prior and Mrs. G. T. Prior, Mrs. Button, and Mrs. Smith.

Bird list: cattle egret, white ibis (from a distance) willet, laughing gull, least tern, mourning dove, red-bellied woodpecker, crested flycatcher, blue jay, Carolina Wren, mocker, brown thrasher, cardinal, purple warbler, meadowlark, redwing, summer tanager, indigo bunting, painted bunting, towhee (heard).

Ted Metcalf.

SUMMER RECESS.

May 9 was our last regular meeting until October and this issue of the Lesser Squawk will be the last until the September number. Make note of your observations and summer experiences and/or trips and have them ready for the September issue-deadline Aug. 24.

OBSERVATIONS.

Edwin Blitch sends in the following: Black-poll Warbler, Dill's Bluff Road, Apr. 30. Black-throated Blue Warbler May 6. Male Cowbird May 10 to 28. White-throated Sparrow at St. Andrews High School May 10 and a Kentucky Warbler's nest and 5 eggs on Bee's Ferry Road on May 6.

CORRECTION

The Western Tanager was listed in the May Squawk under Casuals and Accidentals as seen in May by Louise Barrington. This was a mistake which we hasten to correct. Upon looking through back numbers of the Squawk we find in the issue of January 1958 the following paragraph, headed "'A Rare Visitor'" - "On December 23 and again on the 24th (1957), the Barringtons observed a male Western Tanager at their feeding station in Riverland Terrace. This is pre-eminently a record for our permanent Log-Book."

How then did this editor print May? That called for research in Sprunt and Chamberlain book. Nothing in the index about Westerns, only Scarlet and Summer, but pasted on the page about those birds was a clipping from Woods and Waters about a Western Tanager seen on the golf course by Mrs. Alice L. Wndes on May 10, 1957. Don't ask the editor which gremlin mixed up those dates and names? At least she has found a use for the piles of back issues cluttering up her shelves! On checking again with the Barringtons I find although it was not reported at the time, in January 1958 they had two male Western Tanagers in their yard.

BREEDING MEGANSERS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

For the past several years I have noticed an increase in the number of pairs of Red-breasted Mergansers seen in the Charleston area during the height of the nesting season, May and June. To me this indicated that they should be found breeding. On 6 June 1965, when returning from a banding trip to Deveaux Bank, a female with two young about 5 to 6 weeks old were seen within 15 feet of the observers. Several unsuccessful attempts were made to collect a young bird for a specimen. Since there are no breeding records for the entire southeastern United States the record is of importance.

I might add that sight records of pairs present increased in 1966 and further increases in paired adults for 1967 is quite noticeable to date, May 20. Two hens are present at this writing in the Ashley River that show every indication of nesting.

20 May 1967 the first pre-flight fledgling was collected in the state for the Hooded Merganser. Only 2 breeding references are listed for the state for this species. One is Bachman's observation in 1838 and the other of DeCamps in 1937. This specimen appears to be about 6 weeks old and was accompanied by one other which was banded and released. It will be placed in the Charleston Museum collection. William McIntosh, JR. was present and assisted in securing the specimens.

T.A. Beckett, III

THE SKYWATCHERS' GUIDE.

Four of the five naked-eye planets will be in view during the early evenings of June. The first half of the month will present a spectacular display involving three of them, and the moon, as daylight begins to fade. Shortly after sunset, Venus may be seen high in the west, advancing steadily through Cancer until the 21st, when it will reach greatest eastern elongation. On that day, it will be 45 degrees from the sun. On June 8 Venus will be north of Jupiter, and on the 11th, the crescent moon will pass north of Venus. Thus, these three shining bodies will be in a vertical line.

Also, well above the western horizon, Mercury will become increasingly conspicuous until June 12, when it will reach greatest eastern elongation, not setting until 1 1/2 hours after the sun.

At midmonth, Mars will cross the meridian at sunset, and set about midnight, (E.S.T.) The gibbous moon will pass Mars on the 16th.

For the "night owls" among us, Saturn may be seen to rise about an hour after midnight, (E.S.T.), or for very early risers, it may be located in Pisces, not far from the Square of Pegasus.

Elizabeth D. Simons.