

The Lesser Squawk



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NEW OFFICERS

At the May meeting of the Society officers were elected for the 1971-72 season. The new officers are:

President - Waddell F. Robey, Jr., 3 St. Michael's Alley, Charleston

Vice-President - Robert W. Level, P.O. Box 322, McClellanville

Secretary-Treasurer - Alan H. Bills, 221 Forest Circle, Summerville

Executive Committee

Members at Large - Miss Frances Brewster
Mrs. H.M. MacLennan

FIELD TRIPS FOR 1971-72 SEASON

On May 24 the Executive Committee approved a tentative list of field trips for the 1971-72 season. The first trip will be in September rather than in October as has been the custom in recent years. Another departure from the usual routine of one-day trips will be a weekend trip in February. The tentative list, subject to amendment in the fall, is:

Sept. 19 Francis Marion National Forest, wildflowers

Oct. 17 Mt. Pleasant Causeway, shorebirds, short trip

Nov. 14 Bellefield Plantation Bird Census

Dec. 26

or Jan. 2 Christmas Bird Count

Jan. 23 Santee Wildlife Refuge, waterfowl

Feb. Mattamuskeet Lake, N.C., waterfowl, weekend trip

Mar. 19 Bull Island

April 16 Folly Roads, Gal. Yaguro Island, etc., short trip

April 23 Spring Bird Count

May 14 Harbor Creek and the ledge

THE SKY-WATCHERS' GUIDE

With the summer months come vacations, and more outdoor opportunities for members of the Natural History Society. Since meetings will be suspended during July and August, three months of Sky-watching will be included in this article.

The most important event in June, astronomically speaking, will be the Summer Solstice which will occur on the 21st at 8:20 p.m. At that moment the earth will reach a point on its orbit most directly south of the sun while it continues to maintain the tilt of its axis toward the North Star. The sun will rise in the northeast, and set in the northwest, shedding light and heat on the northern hemisphere through more hours of day than at any other time of the year.

Before it is completely dark, Jupiter may be seen about 15 degrees above the south-eastern horizon. It is located in Scorpius which, by 8:00 o'clock at mid-month, will be completely in view. The graceful curve of stars, dominated by orange-red Antares, is unmistakable.

Following Jupiter, about three hours after sunset, Mars will rise. During the next three months, the red planet will play a spectacular part which Sky-watchers will want to observe. Each night, it will increase in brilliance until the maximum is reached on August 12 when it will shine with fiery splendor. It will then reach its closest approach to the earth since 1924. The distance between will be less than 35 million miles, or roughly 10 million miles nearer than the average. Comparison of its brilliance can be made with that of Jupiter which will then be near the meridian when Mars rises in the southeast.

About an hour before sunrise in mid-June, four of the planets may be visible, especially for those with telescopes. A little north of east, Venus and Saturn will rise in conjunction, Mars will be on the meridian and Jupiter will set a little south of west.

In July, Mercury will return to the evening sky, setting about an hour and a half after the sun. As the month advances, the opportunity of viewing Saturn will steadily improve, since its time of rising retreats to the earliest hours of the morning. By the end of the month it will appear shortly after midnight.

August is the "banus" month! In addition to the close approach of Mars, there will be a meteor shower which will reach its greatest activity just four days after Mars attains its maximum brilliance. These meteors flash into view annually at this time, and are known as the Perseids, because they appear to be emanating from the constellation Perseus. They may be observed in greatest numbers between midnight and 4:00 a.m., with the peak occurring on August 16.

Lack of time and space preclude descriptions of the constellations, but observers watching the sky through the next three months will find no lack of beauty and orderliness and quiet joy. Leo, the Lion, will disappear from view; Scorpius will be followed by Sagittarius, the Archer; bright red Arcturus, which is on the meridian as soon as it is dark in June, will be approaching the western horizon in August; and brilliant white Vega, in Lyra, the Lyre, will move from the eastern half of the sky to a position almost directly overhead.

Elizabeth D. Simons

BIRD LISTENING 28 JUNE

Accipiters

1 Schaefer's-tailed Flycatcher
14 Sooty Tern

16 Rescate Sparrowhawk
17 Billed Tern

25 Brown-headed Cowbird

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

6 Swallow
Arctic
7 Sooty Shearwater
8 Bonapart's Gull
13 Black-billed Cuckoo
Cedar Waxwing

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

Gulls and Accipiters

Western Gulls
Sooty Shearwater

White-winged Scoter

Red-breasted Merganser
Bobolink

THE CHARLESTON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

REVISED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

This organization shall be known as the Charleston Natural History Society, Incorporated.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose and objectives of this Society shall be to engage in any such educational, scientific, investigative, literary, historical, philanthropic and charitable pursuits as may be part of the stated purposes of the National Audubon Society of which this Society shall function as a Chapter.

Section 2. This Society is not organized, nor shall it be operated, for pecuniary gain or profit, and it does not contemplate the distribution of gains, profits, or dividends to the members thereof, or to any private shareholder or individual. The property, assets, profits, and net income of this Society are irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes and no part of the property, assets, profits, or net income of this Society shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer, or member thereof or to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. Upon the dissolution, or upon abandonment, the assets of this Society remaining after payment of or provision for all debts and liabilities of this Society, shall be donated to National Audubon Society, Inc. or its successor or, if unwilling or unable to accept said donation, to such corporation or corporations, association or associations, fund or funds, or foundation or foundations having similar objects and purposes as this Society, as the Executive Committee of this Society may designate, subject to the order of a Court as provided by law; provided that none of such assets shall be donated to any organization other than one organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes as presently set forth in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 3. No substantial part of the Society's activities shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, nor shall the Society participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Section 4. All current data collected by members which in the opinion of the Executive Committee is worthy of permanent record, shall be recorded by the Secretary in the Society's official Log Book.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any person interested in the purposes of the Society is eligible for membership.

Section 2. Classes of membership shall be the same as those maintained by the National Audubon Society.

Section 3. Annual dues of membership shall be as established by the National Audubon Society and shall include the following categories or others that may be set by the National Audubon Society: Regular (individual), Family, Student, Sustaining, Supporting, Contributing, Donor, Life.

Section 4. All of the above classes of members shall enjoy all the rights and privileges pertaining to the members of both this and the National Society.

Section 5. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, a limited special membership shall be created which will include a subscription to the Lesser Squawk.

Section 6. Membership dues shall be payable at the time of application and shall be effective from the date of election, and in the case of Regular, Family, Student, Sustaining, Supporting, Contributing and Donor members, yearly thereafter. In the case of Life members, dues shall be paid in full in one sum at the time of application and will be accepted as of the time of election.

Section 7. Should renewal of membership dues not be paid within six months after the time they are payable, a member so in default shall forthwith be dropped from the rolls.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers shall be a President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. The duties of each shall be those usually pertaining thereto.

Section 2. The control and conduct of business of the Society shall be vested in the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall determine the policies of the Society. The Executive Committee shall include (a) the elected officers (b) the immediate past president and (c) not more than six (6) at-large members elected by the membership for a term of one year.

Section 3. Nominations for officers and Executive Committee shall be made by a nominating committee appointed by the President. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Section 4. The term of office shall be from the annual meeting in May to the next annual meeting in May.

Section 5. The president shall hold office for a two year term and shall not succeed himself. All other officers shall serve for one year terms but no individual may hold the same office for more than three (3) consecutive terms.

Section 6. No one individual shall serve for more than four (4) consecutive years as a member of the Executive Committee, except in the case of an individual who after four years is elected President and then serve two additional years on the Executive Committee.

Section 7. Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting in May.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section 1. A regular meeting shall be held on the second Tuesday of every month, except for the months of June, July, August, September and December.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President when such meetings shall be necessary or desirable.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in the spring, once in the fall, and once in the winter on the call of the President, or at the request of two or more members of the Society.

Section 4. Ten (10) members shall constitute a quorum at a regular and special meetings.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

Section 1. The president, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint chairmen of standing committees who, in turn may select their own committee members with recommendations and suggestions from the Executive Committee. Terms of office shall be for one (1) year or until their successors are appointed; but no chairman shall serve more than three (3) consecutive years for the same committee. Standing committees shall be composed of not less than three (3) members.

Section 2. Standing Committees of the Society may be as follows, and other such committees as become necessary to carry out the functions of the Society:

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The President shall appoint a Membership Chairman. It shall be the duty of this committee to cooperate with the Membership Department of the National Society by such measures as obtaining lists of names and addresses of potential members residing within the allotted territory of this Society. It shall also be the duty of this committee to conduct membership campaigns and to attempt to obtain the continuing membership of those who have become delinquent in the payment of their dues.

FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE

The President shall appoint a Field Trip Chairman. It shall be the duty of this committee to plan, organize and arrange for the proper conduct of field trips.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

The President shall appoint a Publicity Chairman. It shall be the duty of this committee to publicize, through newspapers, radio, TV and other publicity media, the purposes and program of the Chapter.

ARTICLE VII: PUBLICATION

Section 1. The official publication of the Society shall be known as The Lesser Squawk.

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITMENTS

This Society, or its officers or Executive Committee, shall not enter into any commitments binding on the National Audubon Society without authorization from the latter. In like manner, the National Audubon Society shall make no commitments binding on this Society without its consent.

ARTICLE IX: DISCONTINUANCE

This Society reserves the right to terminate its Chapter status on six-months' notice, given in writing to the National Audubon Society, in which case all allocation of dues by the National Society to this Society will cease on expiration of the six-months' period. This Society recognizes the right of the National Society to terminate the Chapter relationship on six months' notice, given by it to this Society in which case the members of this Society shall continue as members thereof for the balance of the term for which dues have been paid.

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This constitution may be amended at any regular, or special meeting called for the purpose, by a two-thirds majority of members present provided the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to the Executive Committee at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which it is to be considered.

BY-LAWS

1. Regular meetings shall be held in the Lecture Room of the Charleston Museum at 8:00 P.M.
2. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to conduct the business of the Society, to arrange at least three major field trips each year, and at least four shorter field trips designed especially for beginners in nature study; to appoint an Editor for the Lesser Squawk; to arrange and announce in the summer edition of the Lesser Squawk a program for the year; and to set up a project or projects in some phase of natural history in which all members of the Society may be expected to participate.
3. Attendance on field trips shall be limited to members of the Society not in arrears in dues, and to guests invited by the Executive Committee.
4. Programs in general shall consist of papers prepared and presented by members of the Society, or in seminar-like discussions led by members.
5. No monies of the Society shall be paid out except on the approval of the Executive Committee.
6. No member of the Society shall derive any personal benefit from the expenditures of the Society's money.
7. The order of business at regular meetings shall be:
 - a. Call to order
 - b. Reading of the minutes
 - c. Treasurer's report
 - d. Reports of special observations
 - e. Old Business
 - f. New Business
 - g. Program and Discussion
 - h. Adjournment

The Charleston Natural History Society
FOUNDED 1905

Official Bulletin: *The Lesser Squawk*

July 6, 1971

Dear Society Member:

As you know, we have elected to affiliate with the National Audubon Society, and in so doing it has been necessary to make a few changes to our constitution and by-laws. These changes have been carefully thought out by our Constitution and By-Laws Committee and the enclosed version has their unanimous approval. Every effort has been made to avoid unnecessary changes.

We have initiated one important addition to the membership section. In recognition of our active, long-standing members, who do not hold Audubon membership, we have created an Associate Membership in the Charleston Natural History Society, Inc. We appreciate and value their past and present service.

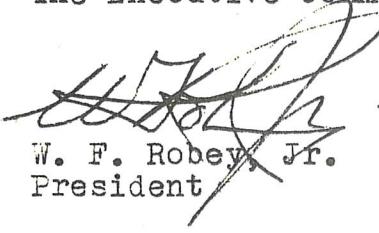
Please read over, carefully, the enclosed copy of our new constitution and by-laws and then complete the attached ratification card. A card should be completed by each member. Please return the card as soon as possible so that we may certify the vote.

Finally, although most of us will be receiving AUDUBON magazine, we assure you that we will definitely continue publication of the Lesser Squawk.

Again, please don't forget to mail the ratification card. We look forward to seeing you again in the fall

Very cordially,

The Executive Committee


W. F. Robey, Jr.
President