

## THE PULASKI SNIPE

We're not just worried about birds. We're worried about people.

Vol. VIII No. 2

Newsletter of the Pulaski County Audubon Society  
A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

March 28, 1974

Our winter-season meetings have been excellent and well attended. Joe Poe's talk on flowers and fruits of Arkansas' herbs, vines, and trees, "Wild Harvest" in February demonstrated his fine photographic technique and taught us a great deal. At the March meeting Steve Wilson of the Arkansas Highway Department's Environmental Section discussed, with many slides, the activities of the department in complying with the spirit of the National Environmental Act. We appreciate the efforts of the Department in this direction.

The Pulaski Society is proud to be able to send two persons to National Audubon Workshops under the Ruth Thomas Scholarships. The winners are Mrs. Catherine Conwell who has taught Kindergarten at College Station for the past five years and Mr. Mel White who is associated with the Pulaski-Perry Regional Library. Mr. White has been accepted at the Maine Camp and Mrs. Conwell is in process of applying to Wisconsin or Maine. Both are members of the Society.

The new Chairman of the Conservation and Education Committee is E. P. (Perk) Floyd, 7123 Azalea Drive, Little Rock 72209. Perk will be glad to have any suggestions for the work of this committee. The other members of the committee are Eulalia Araoz, Edith Bowman, Roberta Crabtree, and Marty Floyd. Perk and Marty are interested in any news of ornithological, animal, archaeological, or other natural-history interest. They plan to make slides to use in educational work. They are especially interested in photographing nesting birds. Call Perk at 562-4306 or Marty at 376-9450.

The new chairman of the Field Trip Committee is Bill Shepherd. Call him at 375-3918 for information about field trips.

The quality of the lecturers of the 1973-74 Wildlife Film Series was excellent. We are especially grateful to Karl Maslowski of Cincinnati for his talk "A Naturalist Afield." He showed 60 species of birds, insects, mammals, and amphibians, with recordings of their voices, plus some remarkable time-lapse photographs of opening spring blossoms. At short notice Mr. Maslowski talked to 300 students at Parkview High School, and Ellen Neaville's students created a fine impression on our visitor. Unfortunately we did not meet expenses this year.

President Shirley Ann Gilmore requests that the members of the Board of Directors review the NAS proposal regarding Junior Memberships carefully and return the questionnaire to her by April 15. Junior memberships are extremely important to our future.

### MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS

Tuesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.: Regular meeting, at the Sears Activity room (Charm School) on South University Avenue, Little Rock. John Preston, Director of the Museum of Science, will talk on birds of prey and predator relationships. He will bring live hawks, owls and animals.

Saturday, April 20, 8:30 a.m.: Field trip to Lonoke fish ponds to see spring shorebirds. Meet at Joe Hogan State Fish Hatchery in Lonoke at 8:30 a.m. Leader, David Hunter, 758-2365. Bring lunch if you plan to stay all day.

Saturday, May 18, 6:15 p.m.: Twilight field trip to Saline County to see the Bachman's Sparrow, and hear it sing at sundown, also, we hope, Chuck-will's widow, Whip-poor-will, and a Woodcock singing its flight song. Meet at the Safeway parking lot, corner of Baseline and Chicot Roads. Bring walking shoes for good gravel Timber Access Road. Leader, Bill Shepherd, 375-3918. Eat before you come, or bring a sandwich.

Tuesday, June 11, 6 p.m.: Picnic potluck supper, at Reservoir Park on Cantrell Road. Bring dishes and silverware. Beverages will be furnished by the Society.

Saturday, June 15: Field trip - time and place to be announced.

Tuesday, July 9, 6 p.m.: Picnic potluck supper at Alsopp Park. Bring dishes and silverware. Beverages will be furnished by the Society.

### OTHER MEETINGS

April 18-20: Spring meeting of the Texas Ornithological Society, Beaumont, Texas.

April 27 - 28: American Birding Association, Region X (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma) at Arkadelphia, Arkansas. For information write Max Parker, 107 Wildwood, Hot Springs 71901.

May 3-5: Spring meeting of the Arkansas Audubon Society, Jonesboro. For information write Mary Ann Sloan, Box 222, State University, Arkansas 72467.

May 4-5: National Audubon Society West Central Region conference, Wichita, Kansas

May 9-12: Annual meeting of Cooper Ornithological Society, Flagstaff, Arizona

May 10-11: Spring meeting of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society, Salt Plains Refuge and Northwestern State College, Alva, Oklahoma.

June 6-9: Annual meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society, Pellston, Michigan.

October 14-18: Annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma. This is the most important meeting in the American bird world; all who can should plan to attend. It will not be held again in this part of the country for some time.

August 12-17: International Ornithological Congress, Canberra, Australia. Wonderful side trips to wildlife and scenic areas in Australia, New-Guinea, and New Zealand, a lifetime opportunity.

Non-members are welcome at all the above meetings, which always include field trips to see special birds and the scenery of the area.

### BIRD NEWS

The February 16 trip to Pine Bluff produced 8 kinds of ducks, including 2,500 Shovelers, 1,000 Gadwalls, 500 Lesser Scaups, 500 Ruddy Ducks, 6 Redheads, 1 Wigeon, and 1 Ringnecked-Duck. With them at the sewer ponds were 1,000 Coots and 1 Eared Grebe, and along the river were 12 Ring-billed Gulls. We found one Red-cockaded Woodpecker at the sanctuary in Grant County, thanks to Bill Shepherd's keen ear.

The 11 people on the Lake Maumelle trip on March 23 had good views of 5 Common Loons coming into breeding plumage. The Eared Grebe and 3 Horned Grebes seen were still in winter plumage. The only ducks seen on the lake were Buffleheads. The Barred Owl that answered the tape of the Screech Owl call provided a new twist to the use of cassette tapes. We are sorry that the people who went home early missed the Blue-gray Gnatcatchers and the Roadrunner.

MUSEUM NEWS

The Guild of the Museum of Science and Natural History as a fundraising activity is presenting a series of films to be shown at the Little Rock Public Library; all at 7:00 p.m.:

March 25 - Ozark Country - April 24 - Vacation in the Southwest May 8 - Amazing Switzerland

Admission for the series is \$4.00 for adults, \$2.50 for those under 18; members receive a generous discount.

Special classes begin at the Museum April 6 for young people in grades I through VII, tuition \$10.00 Phone 376-4321 for details.

Grade I - II - Environmental Art; Grades I - III - Living Things are Everywhere  
Grades III - V - The Nature of Things; Grades V - VII - Exploring Astronomy

GOSSIP AND COMMUNICATIONS

A petition to the President and the Congress pleading for help in saving threatened and endangered species of birds and other animals is being circulated by Animal Information Digest of Clayton, Missouri. Its aim is 1 million signatures. If you wish to sign, there is a copy of the petition at the Museum of Science in MacArthur Park.

Outstanding audio-visual programs and attention to new conservation issues characterized the spring meeting of the Ozark Society in Little Rock, March 16 and 17. Jim Faulkner of Little Rock led a wild float trip down Ethiopia's Omo River by means of a multi-media color presentation. Missouri's Tom Aley used videotape to cure all those present of ever again drinking from a spring. Aley demonstrated how polluted water in limestone regions like those of the Ozarks goes underground immediately and then travels long distances without being filtered or otherwise purified before re-emerging. Resolutions adopted urged full exploration of alternatives to the proposed Bell Foley Dam on the Strawberry River, objected to use of the aerial bush-hog for trimming roadside trees, supported the Eastern Wilderness Areas Bill, and asked the U. S. Forest Service to open all its recreation areas year-round. (WMS)

How do you feel about motorcycles and motor scooters on the public lands? A public meeting will be held on Use of Off-road Vehicles on Corps of Engineers managed land at Nimrod Lake at Plainview - Rover High School Plainview, Arkansas on Saturday, March 30 at 10 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to familiarize the public with Presidential Executive Order 11644 dated February 8, 1972 and to determine the needs of off-road vehicle users at Nimrod Lake and the views of the public regarding trails and areas for off-road vehicle use. Executive Order 11644 provides that use of off-road vehicles such as motorcycles, dune buggies, and similar vehicles have demonstrated the need for a unified Federal policy towards the use of such vehicles on public land.

If you wish to express your opinion, write to the Resident Engineer, Nimrod - Blue Mountain Resident Office, Plainview, Arkansas 72857. BEFORE APRIL 30.

Great doings at the J. W. Baker Elementary School, 14001 West 12th (Kanis Rd.) The PTA and the principal have made plans for use of 2 acres of woodland behind the school and have sought advice from the Soil Conservation Service. PTA members have worked hard to develop a half-mile nature trail and a rustic seating area for classes. No undergrowth beyond that needed for the trail and resting area has been trimmed, so that there is ample habitat for birds and animals. Mrs. Sandra Pate who teaches at the Baker School told us about this project and has invited our members to come out to see the nature trail.

Aldersgate Camp, in conjunction with the American Camping Association, extends an invitation to attend an "Ecology Workshop" May 31 - June 2, at Aldersgate Camp, 2000 Aldersgate Road, Little Rock. 72205. All teachers and those who work with young people are urged to participate and exchange ideas and experiences. Call Marty Floyd at 376-9450 for information.

See you at Jonesboro,  
Henry N. Halberg, Editor

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Check the Membership You Desire (includes Audubon Magazine)

- Individual . . . . . \$12.00 per year
- Family . . . . . 15.00 per year
- New
- Sustaining . . . . . \$25.00 per year
- Student . . . . . 6.00 per year
- Renewal

Name.....  
(Please Print)

Address .....

City ..... State..... Zip #.....

Local Chapter: Pulaski County Audubon Society

Membership fees and contributions are tax deductible.

Please make checks payable to National Audubon Society

Join the Pulaski County Audubon Society and automatically become a member of National Audubon Society. You will receive the bi-monthly AUDUBON MAGAZINE and the SNIPE, published from time to time by Pulaski County Audubon Society.

Send to: Mr. Donald L. Oglesby, Treasurer  
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Little Rock, Arkansas 72207

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