

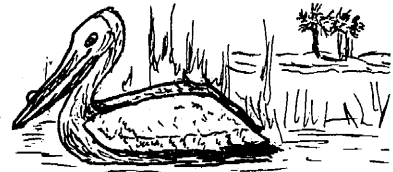
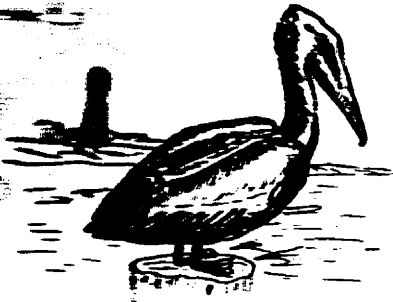
THE PELICAN

INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY THE

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON CLUB

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA



Number 1.

January

1957

Next Club Meeting: Monday, February 4, 7:30 P.M. - Olds Hall. This is the annual poetry night. Members are asked to write or bring to read some favorite poem regarding birds.

Next Screen Tour Lecture: Saturday, February 16. "Penguin Summer" by Olin Sewall Pettingill. One of the famous Walt Disney team of nature photographers. Mr. Pettingill will bring unusual pictures taken in the Faulkland Islands. Season tickets for this and two more programs (March 9 and 23) are still available for \$2.00.

Executive Committee: Monday, February 18, 7:30 P.M. - Olds Hall.

February Field Trips:

Wednesday, February 6: Full day - To Rock Springs via Deland and Sanford. This will be another good day with a good crowd. Bring lunch.

Thursday, February 14: Half day - Tomoka Park and marshes, Loop Drive.

Wednesday, February 20: Full day - Juniper and Alexander Springs via Deland. Limpkins and other unusual birds are often seen. Bring lunch.

Saturday, March 2: Full day - Flagler and Matanzas Inlets. This is usually a good trip for shore birds. Bring lunch.
ALL TRIPS, AS USUAL, START AT 8 A.M. - WEST END ORANGE AVE. BRIDGE.

Christmas Bird Counts. The Editor apologizes to Miss Ann Odsted for inadvertently omitting her name from those who made our local Christmas count on December 22.

Our Halifax Club provided two of the twelve teams that made the count in the Cocoa area on December 28 when another national record count of 186 species was recorded. Fred Ackermann and Conrad Ekdahl, team leaders, were assisted by Mrs. Rose Block, Mrs. Norma Ekdahl, Leon W. Fellows, Miss Lydia Hamilton, Fenn Holden and Frank James. These devoted birders were in the field in the Cocoa vicinity 70 miles away at 6:15 A.M. and worked until dark. Outstanding records were 14 Fulvous Tree Ducks never recorded in this section before and a flock of 50 Cattle Egrets.

Fred Ackermann, Mrs. Block and Miss Hamilton also assisted with the count of the Florida Audubon Society in the Titusville area December 31. The rare Dusky Seaside Sparrow was among the 76 species seen by our team. The total count for the day was 104 species.

Our club has had several very successful trips since the last issue. Also several very unusual records have been made. In brief:

January 3: 27 members saw 60 species on the Tomoka Park-Loop drive, including both Wood and White Ibis, many American and Snowy Egrets, Great Blue, Little Blue, Green and Louisiana Herons. Fred Ackermann reports that Black Skimmers were seen feeding after dark.

January 10: 35 members had a great day in the Cocoa, St. Johns River, Canaveral Fill area. 85 species were listed, including 20 Avocets, Cattle Egrets, Bald Eagles, Pileated and Red-Headed Woodpeckers, White Pelicans, large flocks of Boat-tailed and Florida Crackles, Ibis, and 8 species of ducks. Mrs. Lucille Dence and Mrs. J. A. Welch reported a beautiful female Summer Tanager.

January 16: This was a day. 69 members visited John Hamlet's exhibit of "Birds of Prey" just south of Ocala. All of the hawks and owls seen in this area and many others from far and wide were described and exhibited "on the hoof." Mr. Hamlet's most instructive lecture was supplemented with a demonstration of Falconing as used in the days of Chivalry. A Prairie Falcon was used to show how the knights and ladies of old used trained birds to hunt for them. By calling to the birds while in very rapid flight, Mr. Hamlet directed this bird to turn right or left and to either strike directly at a lure held in his hand or swoop down to kill on the ground.

A few of the many other very interesting things learned were:

Birds of prey do not drink. They get all of the water they need from the food they eat. Sea birds do dimilarly.

Both birds of prey and mammals get larger and lighter colored the farther north or the higher in altitude they live.

Large numbers of birds of prey die from swallowing parasites that infest the birds and animals they eat.

Feathers lost by immature hawks are replaced in a few weeks but the new ones are of adult plumage.

Falcons have dark lines under their eyes to absorb light while they are in flight so they can see their prey better. They have long sharp wings for rapid flight as they hunt in the open while the Accipiters, such as the Coopers and the Sharpshinned Hawks that hunt more in the woods, have shorter more rounded wings and longer tails to help them make quick turns as they fly through the branches.

Our super photographer, Fenn Holden, has succeeded in finding and photographing a female Western Tanager and a Snow Bunting. These are both practically unknown in Florida. Only a previous sight record exists for the Tanager and one Bunting was taken sixty years ago. This bird was found on the white sand fill just south of the yacht basin and might have mistaken the white sand for snow. The Tanager has been coming to his feeding station and has been seen on many occasions.

Warmer than usual weather to the north of us is credited with cutting down on the number of ducks and Robins seen here this year.

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON CLUB
Daytona Beach, Florida

Membership as of January 20, 1957

Note: Unless otherwise stated, all addresses are Daytona Beach. A * indicates that another address, usually in the North, is on file in the club office and can be had on request to the assistant secretary at CL2-4803, afternoons.

OFFICERS:

President: Dr. G. Edgar Folk, 340 S. Ridgewood Avenue.

Vice Presidents: Frank A. Berger, 220 N. Hollywood Ave.

R. S. Henderson, 431 N. Halifax Ave.

Fenn Holden, 215 Essex Dr., Ormond Beach.

Recording Secretary: Mrs. R. S. Henderson, 431 N. Halifax Ave.

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Arthur L. Purinton,
734 Alcazar Avenue, Ormond Beach.

Treasurer: Conrad H. Ekdahl, 414 Segrave Ave.

Trip Director: Fred J. Ackermann, 27 N. Hollywood Ave.

OTHER ACTIVE MEMBERS:

Adams, Miss Marion *

Adams, Mrs. W. M. 723 Buena Vista, Ormond Beach

Alden, Miss E. F. 130 N. Stone S., Deland, Fla.

Anderson, Mrs. M. J. * 507 N. Peninsula Dr.

Anderson, Miss Marion * 507 N. Peninsula Dr.

Austin, Mrs. Mildred * 925 Auditorium Blvd.

Badetty, Miss Emily E. * The Whitehall

Badetty, Miss Marie M. * 132 N. Grandview Ave.

Bartels, Mr. and Mrs. E. 413 Oakridge Blvd.

Benn, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. J. * Hotel Carlton

Berger, Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. 220 N. Hollywood Ave.

Bilderback, Mrs. Ethel 149 S. Wild Olive

Block, Mrs. Rose M. Box 1111, Mary Carl School

Bodeau, Mrs. Olive * 118 S. Hollywood

Bole, Miss Rita L. *

Bosworth, Mrs. Alleyne* Seabreeze Manor

Brame, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Box 504, Rt. 1, Pt. Orange, Fla.

Branch, Mrs. Margaret Gamble *	
Burwell, Mrs. William *	413 Oakridge Blvd.
Cabeen, Mrs. Walter C.	544 S. Ridgewood
Chambers, Mrs. Hubert	Olds Hall
Childs, Chester H.	118 Milton Rd.
Cook, Mrs. Ernest P. *	149 S. Wild Olive
Couch, Miss Lula D.	516 Fairmount Rd.
Coursen, Mrs. Alice F.	301 N. Wild Olive
Davidson, Miss Viola *	
Dayton, Rev. and Mrs. Charles H.	1511 S. Atlantic
Dence, Mrs. Vincent E.	26 N. Hollywood
Doleman, Miss Susan	Box 317, Mt. Dora, Fla.
Earl, Mr. and Mrs. A. J.	215 Fifth St., Holly Hill, Fla.
Ekdahl, Mrs. Conrad	Box 1246
Estes, Mrs. Annie M.	321 N. Ocean Ave.
Fairbank, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. *	
Farr, Mrs. H. G.	320 S. Riverside Dr., New Smyrna
Fellows, Mr. and Mrs. Leon W.	De Barry, Fla.
Folk, Mrs. G. Edgar	Olds Hall
Fopma, Mr. and Mrs. S.	Olds Hall
Garcia, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel I. *	Box 85
Goodwin, Mrs. James *	532½ N. Grandview
Gottfried, Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. *	Box 5311
Gould, Frank N. *	400 S. Grandview
Grezel, Mrs. Celeste *	122 N. Wild Olive
Hagna, Mrs. Bess	22 N. Oleander
Hallowell, Mrs. J. B.	58 S. University Cir., Deland.
Hamilton, Miss Lydia *	Whitehall
Hanson, Miss Gertrude M.	200 S. Carolina
Harding, Edwin B. *	

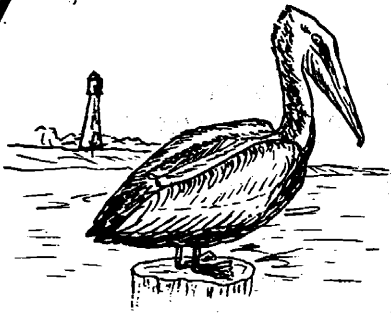
Harris, Mrs. Alexander	1729 John Anderson, Ormond B.
Harris, Miss Cecilia A.	626 Riverside Dr., Holly Hill
Harrisson, Mrs. Stephen M.*	
Haven, Mrs. Leila	Olds Hall
Hobbs, Miss Addie B.*	218 Oakridge Blvd.
Holden, Mrs. Fenn M. *	215 Essex Dr., Ormond Beach
Hudson, Roy D. *	
Humphrey, Mrs. Churchill	Box 187, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.
James, F. S.	347 John Anderson, Ormond Beach
James, Miss Genevieve W.	340 S. Ridgewood
Joliffe, Ruby M.*	
Kennedy, Miss Mary A.	818 N. Wild Olive
Kennedy, R. A.	592 S. Beach St., Ormond Beach
Kent, Mr. and Mrs. M. C.	27 Hibiscus Dr., Ormond Beach
Killian, Mrs. John C.	222 Williams Ave.
Kortheuer, Mr. and Mrs. H. Francis	709 Goodall Ave.
Kroner, Mr. and Mrs. Leo	66 Hibiscus Dr., Ormond Beach
Lees, Mrs. Walter *	32 S. Wild Olive
McMoller, Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. *	2 Alamanda Dr., Ormond Beach
Minnis, Mrs. Adelaide	135 S. Peninsula
Mooney, Mrs. Beatrice	37 N. Oleander
Moore, Mrs. George	1219 Ruger Pl.
Myer, Mrs. Mary B. *	532 N. Grandview
Odsted, Anne D.	514 Earl St.
Olson, Alfred *	Box 6081
Phelps, Mrs. Minnie E. *	413 Oakridge Blvd.
Polleys, Miss M. P.*	218 Oakridge
Pond, Miss Dorothea	324 N. Peninsula
Poppen, Mrs. Catherine	219 - 12th St., Holly Hill

Quam, Miss Inga	Port Orange, Fla.
Rawson, Dr. G. W.	603 Faulkner St., New Smyrna
Schneidman, Mrs. Esther M.*	612 Oakridge Blvd.
Simonds, Mrs. G. B.	114 N. Halifax
Smith, Miss Cora A.	Ormond Hotel, Ormond Beach
Smith, Mrs. Lucretia	340 S. Ridgewood
Storm, Fred W.	114 Milton Rd.
Swift, Mr. and Mrs. S. Ross	Olds Hall
Thomas, Col. and Mrs. O. E.	1240 Bel Aire Dr.
Trench, Lena C.*	
Turzicky, Mrs. Donia	39 Neptune Ave., Ormond Beach
Ullman, Miss Esther	1720 John Anderson, Ormond B.
Valley, Mr. and Mrs. D. P.	165 Riverside Dr., Ormond B.
Van Buren, Mrs. Marjorie M.	1214 Ruger Pl.
Waldu, Mrs. Conrad T.	121 S. Westwood, Deland
Warden, Miss Ida E. *	37 E. Cleander
Welch, Mrs. J. A. *	610 Vermont Ave.
Wenberg, Mrs. Marie	352 Ribault Ave.
Whiteman, Mr. and Mrs. Willard	222 N. Hollywood
Whitman, Mr. and Mrs. Clair	371 Grove St., Ormond Beach
Wightman, Mrs. John	Olds Hall
Whitmore, Miss Helen	
Winkler, Mr. and Mrs. Max K.	Box 83
Wolski, Mrs. C. L.	Rt. I, Sanford, Fla.
Wright, William H. & Mrs. Wright	106 Gardiner Ct.

HONORARY MEMBERS:

Miss Rosella Ames, Marshfield, Mass.
 Miss Jessie Brown, 15 S. Hollywood, Daytona Beach
 Dr. H. C. Chambers, Olds Hall
 Mr. Rupert Longstreet, Stetson University, Deland
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Beacom Rich, 613 N. Halifax, Daytona.

Note: With several people handling memberships, it may be that one or two names have been missed. If so, kindly notify assistant secretary.



THE PELICAN

INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY THE

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON CLUB

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA



Number 2

February

1957

Next Club Meeting: Monday, March 4, 7:30 P.M. Olds Hall.

Next Screen Tour Lecture: Saturday, March 9. Seabreeze High.

Due to the death of the scheduled speaker, Walter H. Shackleton, our friend of long standing Allen Cruickshank will give his lecture and show his pictures entitled, "The River of the Crying Bird." This shows our own Florida bird life and will be specially worthwhile.

Last Screen Tour Lecture of the season: Saturday, March 23.

Dick Bird, well known on our programs, will give his lecture and pictures on "Alberta." He is always an outstanding attraction.

March Field Trips:

Saturday, March 2: All day trip to Matanzas Inlet. Bring lunch. This is always a good trip and will be extended this year to take in Conch Island near St. Augustine.

Thursday, March 7: Half day -- Bethune Pt., McDonald's Pond, etc.

Wednesday, March 13: All day -- Coronada Beach and Turtle Mound.

Thursday, March 21: All day -- Titusville and North Merritt Island.

Saturday, March 30: All day -- Lake Harney and Persimmon Hammock.

Field Trips since the last issue: 45 members saw 90 species on our annual trip to the Welaka Fish Hatchery area. Unusual species -- 500 cowbirds, 6 species woodpeckers, 8 ducks, 6 hawks. Fred Ackermann reported the Least Flycatcher. This is reported to migrate through eastern Florida but there is no record of its having been taken in the state. It is listed as Hypothetical. Good find, Fred.

Jan. 31 -- The first Purple Martin arrived at the Yacht Basin. Larger flock arrived on Feb. 9 and took over but did not stay as usual. We hope another family will rent the house.

Jan. 31 -- 38 members saw 70 species in the Inlet area and en route. Highlights: 1 Great Black-backed Gull, hundreds of Herring Gulls, including adults which are not common here. 2 Cabot's terns.

Feb. 6 -- 65 members saw 82 species on the trip to Rock Springs. Notable finds were 7 Limpkins, 200 white Ibis, 2 Pileated Woodpeckers and 8 species of Warblers, 1 Barred Owl, 300 Ring-necked Ducks in one flock.

Feb. 9 -- Fred Ackermann reports Chimney Swifts at De Leon Springs. This is a very early record for this area.

Feb. 14 -- 30 members saw 75 species in and en route to the Tomoka Park area. High tides had brought more water to the Loop Pond where there were 8 Greater and 24 Lesser Yellowlegs, Water Pipits, Least Sandpipers, Wilson Snipe, Florida Ducks and many Herons. Nearby were 4 Hooded Mergansers and many Wood Ibis.

Feb. 20 -- 36 members braved an all-day rain and saw 70 species at Alexander Springs. Noteworthy were Limpkins, Ring-necked Ducks, both Purple and Florida Gallinules, Hooded Mergansers, Florida Scrub Jays.

Mrs. Rose Block reports a Vermillion Flycatcher at Daytona Highlands.

HOW TO WATCH BIRDS is the title of a recent book by Roger Barton, president of the New Jersey Audubon Society. (McGraw-Hill, \$3.50). This is an unusual book in that it stresses the "How" of bird watching more than the means of identification. There are many excellent books on identification but so few that deal with the proper approach and other important things that lead up to being able to see birds well enough to tell what they are.

It is interesting to note how closely Mr. Barton's advice corresponds to that of Frank M. Chapman, former Curator of Ornithology at the American Museum of Natural History, who wrote in his Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America sixty years ago. Because there is so little written on this important subject that most bird watchers have to learn by slow experience, the Editor quotes a few notes from these two books for comparison.

Frank Chapman, 1895 -- "The best times of day in which to look for birds are early morning and late afternoon. After a night of fasting and resting, birds are active and hungry. When their appetites are satisfied, they may rest quietly until hunger again sends them forth in search of food.....

"Common sense will tell you how to act in the field. Birds are generally shy creatures and must be approached with caution. You must not, therefore, go observing or collecting dressed in flaming red, but in some inconspicuous garb and quietly as a cat. Furthermore, go alone and keep the sun at your back -- two apparently unrelated but equally important bits of advice....

"The observer of birds will find that by far the best way to study their habits is to take a sheltered seat in some favored locality and become a part of the background. Your passage through the woods is generally attended by sufficient noise to warn birds of your coming long before you see them. They are then suspicious and ill at ease, but secrete yourself near some spot loved by birds, and it may be your privilege to learn the secrets of the forest."

Roger Barton, 1955 -- "Birds have excellent eyesight and hearing and are easily startled. This is especially true of some of the larger birds, such as hawks. So the bird watcher should approach birds cautiously. He should wear clothing of subdued color that blends with the background. He should not swing his arms; I often hold my hands behind my back when I am trying to move quite close to a bird. When I was a boy bird watcher, I stalked birds successfully by creeping on hands and knees. There is less inclination to do this as you advance

in years. However, it is well to take advantage of cover, moving behind trees and other natural objects in order to gain concealment. It is better to use a zig-zag approach than to walk directly toward a bird. Movements should be so slow as to be almost imperceptible to a bird: raise glasses slowly and refrain from pointing quickly. Avoid walking heavily or stepping on twigs that crack. Loud talking should be shunned, although some birds have their hearing pitched so high that ordinary conversation does not bother them. Warblers are such birds.

"Birds have somehow gotten to beware of men and women who walk or stand, but they are not so cautious about those in other positions. I am impressed with how readily birds take me for granted in the summer when I lie in my hammock in the yard. Apparently the recumbent form is not so fearsome as the perpendicular.

"Another excellent way to observe birds is to choose a suitable spot and sit down. You will find that birds do not shun the quiet sitting figure. After a while all manner of feathered creatures will appear, birds that you would not have suspected were in the neighborhood, had you merely walked through.

"If possible have the sun at your back and shining full on the bird. However, avoid letting the sun strike bright metallic objects or glass, as the reflection might startle your subject. It is sometimes desirable to plan a whole field trip so that the sun is at your back. If you approach certain areas at the wrong time of day, you will be unable to see the birds because you will be looking into the sun...

"The best time of day for bird observation is early morning or late afternoon. More birds can be seen before seven o'clock on a spring morning than during all the rest of the day. They are awakening and feeding then, and are most active. This is especially true of birds that have just arrived after a long step in their migratory flight. In fact it is well to go afield very early on mornings in the spring because you can identify many birds, such as owls and marsh birds, by their calls before it is light enough to see them, and then with sunrise there is a perfect torrent of song. Birds feed in the late afternoon before retiring for the night, so that is another good time to observe them. Early morning and late afternoon are ordinarily times when there is little wind, and this helps observation. When the day is still, you can see any movement in the trees, but in a brisk breeze the leaves are so agitated that bird movements are concealed. Moreover, I have found that birds do not like wind and will seek protected spots.

"I make good use of old Army clothing, finding that khaki slacks and shirt in summer are the right color, harmonizing well enough with most backgrounds, especially those along sandy shores."

Obviously it is impractical to try to follow all of these suggestions on a bird club trip when there are many observers in one group. You should expect, therefore, that what is gained in pleasure by being with so many good friends is offset to some extent by our not being able to get as close to birds as if we go alone or in smaller groups. This is not to suggest that one should avoid the club trips; but to point out that there is much to be learned and much fun to be had in bird watching by getting out alone or with a friend or two at any time.

A word of caution is in order for the benefit of our members who have not lived in Florida long enough to know that there is an element of danger from rattlesnakes in the Palmetto thickets where one cannot see the ground easily. These snakes are not common; in fact the editor has only actually seen one or two in nearly ten years of Florida bird watching, but it is best to wear heavy high boots when stalking through heavy brush. Wherever you can see your footing there is really little danger.

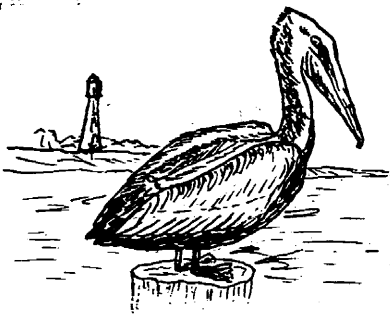
It is well also to take care to select a good place to sit if you are going to observe birds in the thickets. A log or a cleared spot is to be preferred to grass in which one sometimes finds Red Bugs and other pests that bite uncomfortably. Take a good look, too, for ants before you sit down. With a little care one may be just as comfortable and safe in the Florida woods as in any other part of the country and if one does not care to work in the thickets, there is always much to be seen along the roads and paths and on the beaches. The books most commonly used in studying local birds (listed in order of their cost) are:

A Pocket Guide to the Birds by Alden G. Crickshank. This is a paper covered small book on sale (50¢) where popular paper pocket-sized books are sold and it is especially good for those who wish to learn to identify birds quickly by shape, size, flight, etc., as well as color. It is worth more than its cost.

A Field Guide to the Birds by Roger Tory Peterson. This is the familiar field guide used by so many of our club members. It can be purchased in most any of our local bookstores. I think the current price is \$3.75. Its most valuable feature is that it shows clearly the special identification marks to look for in the various species and notes those with which a bird seen might be confused. Every serious bird watcher should have his own copy.

Florida Bird Life by Alexander Sprunt, Jr. (\$12.50) is the standard work dealing particularly with Florida bird life. It is very complete but too large for field work. It may be found in the Cornellia Young Library (corner of Peninsula and Vermont Aves.)

Editor: Robert S. Henderson, 431 N. Halifax Ave., Daytona Beach.



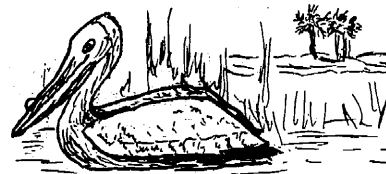
THE PELICAN

INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY THE

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON CLUB

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA



Number 3

March

1957

NEXT CLUB MEETING: Monday, April 1, 7:30 P.M. Olds Hall.

This is the annual business meeting. All committees will make their annual reports for 1957.

FIELD TRIPS:

SATURDAY, March 30: All day to Lake Harney and Persimmon Hammock.

This is always one of the very good trips. Bring your lunch.

SATURDAY, April 6: All day to Bulow Ruins via Tomoka Park, Loop Pond and the sod farm. Bring lunch.

WEDNESDAY, April 10: Half day - Yacht Club, Bethune Point, Reed Canal Pond, McDonald's Farm and Bellevue Road.

WEDNESDAY, April 17: Half day - Same as April 10 plus Port Orange Causeway. At this time of year this is good territory for warblers and many other migrating species.

SATURDAY, April 20: Early Bird short walk - 7 A.M. through Pine Woods Cemetery on Main Street, especially for warblers.

WEDNESDAY, April 24: Same as for April 20. This is one of the best local areas for warblers in the early morning. Why go farther? This should be at the height of the warbler migration.

This will be the last trip for the club this season. It has been a great season and more members than ever have taken advantage of the good trips Fred Ackermann has managed for us. Hats off to Fred for a good job and another good winter season.

FRIDAY, April 5, has been proclaimed State Bird Day by Governor Leroy Collins, who urges all citizens "to give special thought to the value of the bird life of our state." He says in his proclamation that "Human population would be extinct within nine years were there no birds to protect humanity from the ravages of insect activity." Some thought that the mosquitoes were trying to "prove their point" on the last field trip.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM FIELD TRIPS:

MARCH 1 - The Purple Martins that came and went are back again at their house at the Yacht Basin. They like our mosquitoes.

MARCH 2 - 43 members saw 77 species on the trip to Matanzas Inlet. White Pelicans, 500 Black Skimmers, many Willets and a Great Black-backed Gull were of special note.

MARCH 7 - Not as good weather as usual but 20 members saw 65 species. The highlight was the courting dance of the Wilson Snipe at McDonald's pond. Unusual Shoveler Duck there also, and the first Hummingbird at Sugar Mill Gardens. Norma Ekdahl spotted Carolina Wrens with young there. The Port Orange Causeway provided a very late Caspian Tern and 40 Turnstones.

MARCH 4 - Mrs. Welch reported Dowitchers on the beach at Ormond.

MARCH 10 - Fred Ackerman reports that the Killdeer are back at City Island and will probably nest there again as usual, also Royal Terns in their spring plumage with black heads, Piping Plover, many Willets and a Cabot Tern (very late.) Bob Henderson saw the first Laughing Gulls in their black headed summer plumage on the beach.

MARCH 13 - 53 members saw 83 species on the Turtle Mound Trip. A Shoveller Duck, a Pintail Duck at McDonald's Pond (very unusual at this location), and a nice flock of Blue Winged Teal. One Cabot Tern with many Royal Terns and 6 Gannets on the beach. An Immature Bald Eagle, many White Ibis, Cedar Waxwings, Redheaded Woodpeckers enroute.

MARCH 15 - Mrs. H. G. Farr reported the Swallow-tailed Kite at Alexander Springs.

MARCH 16 - 47 members enjoyed a special boat trip to the Inlet. In spite of the fact that there was little chance to observe small birds, 51 species were recorded. Among the most noteworthy were 2 Great Black-backed Gulls, 12 Knots, 2 Caspian Terns.

MARCH 17 - Fred Ackermann reported the first Cattle Egret of the season and 2 Swallow-tailed Kites at McDonald's Farm. Both of these have arrived earlier than in 1956. Miss Inga Quam reported a male Painted Bunting in her yard at Port Orange.

MARCH 19 - Conrad Ekdahl and Fred Ackermann saw (along Route 92 this side of Deland) 2 Prothonotary Warblers, 3 Carolina Chickadees, Prairie Warblers (in summer plumage), Blue-headed and White-eyed Vireos, Brown-headed Nuthatches and the first Crested Flycatcher.

MARCH 20 - The first Red-eyed Vireo by Fonn Holden and the first Hermit Thrush by Fred Ackermann.

MARCH 21 - 32 members saw 82 species on the Titusville trip. Notable were Black-necked Stilts, a Golden Plover (very rare here), 5 Bald Eagles, Rough-winged Swallows, 9 Ospreys circling in one group, Canvasback Ducks, American Widgeon, Black-crowned Night Herons, Anhingas, Boat-tailed Grackles, and many others.

The Halifax River Audubon Club now has 142 members, the largest enrollment in the 25 year history of the group.

The Cornelia Young Library has agreed to arrange a special section for books and publications relating to birds. It will be open for general circulation. Anyone having any books that they wish to have included should give a list of them to the Editor, Robert S. Henderson, 431 N. Halifax Avenue, Daytona Beach.

THE PELICAN

INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY THE

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON CLUB

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

Number 4

April

1957

This is the last issue of THE PELICAN for the spring season. Publication will, as usual, be resumed with the October issue.

That it has been a good season is evidenced by the following summaries from the reports received at the Annual Meeting and final reports on the field trips. Space will not permit including all of the interesting items but these will suffice to show that it was one of the best years in the club's 35-year history.

Officers for the year beginning October 1st are:

President G. Edgar Folk; vice presidents Frank Berger, Chester H. Childs and Robert S. Henderson; secretary, Mrs. Louise S. Henderson and treasurer, Conrad Ekdahl. Members at large on the Executive Committee, Miss Lydia Hamilton and Mrs. Marion J. Anderson.

Report of Treasurer Conrad Ekdahl:

Balance on hand April 1, 1956		\$1421.74
Receipts:		
Members' dues	147.00	
Screen Tour ticket sales	1521.95	
Sales of books, etc.	33.60	
Miscellaneous	13.75	
		<u>1716.30</u>
Total		3138.04
Expenditures:		
Screen Tour costs	126.87	
Publishing Pelican	122.92	
Printing calendars	20.76	
Donations and dues	110.00	
Telephone	40.00	
Supplies for resale	50.72	
Miscellaneous	1.00	
		<u>1473.17</u>
Balance on hand April, 1957		\$1664.87

The five Audubon Screen Tours were well attended and well received.
Receipts: Sale of tickets 1521.95

Expenses: National Audubon Society 895.08
Miscellaneous Expenses 230.79 1126.87

Net Balance 395.08

Twenty-four field trips were conducted with an average attendance of 37 members and an average record of 72 species per trip. The winter season field trips were concluded on April 24. The following are the highlights of the trips since the last report:

- 3/28 Ring-necked and Piping Plovers came back to City Island.
3/25 Black-necked stilts in Loop Pond. Unusual there.
3/30 Club trip to Persimmon Hammock -- 47 members, 80 species.
Highlights were: 60 White Pelicans, Chuck-will's-widow, 3 Cattle Egrets, 15 Dowichers, 15 Wood Ibis, 39 White Ibis, 100 Cedar Waxwings and 1 Forester Tern (very late).
- 4/4 4 Eastern Kingbirds and 2 Sandhill Cranes near Altoona.
4/5 Whip-poor-will in the Highlands.
The Halifax Club entertained a group from the Florida Audubon Society on a half-day trip. A fine list, including 9 Cattle Egrets, were seen.
- 4/6 Club trip to Tomoka Park and Bulow Ruins -- 75 species.
Highlights: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Crested Flycatcher, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Swallow-tailed Kite, Summer Tanager, Redstart, Baltimore Oriole and Orchard Oriole.
- 4/9 Killdeer with 4 young at Bethune Point, Wood Pewee, Western Kingbird at Port Orange.
4/10 Club trip to McDonald Pond, etc. 28 members, 74 species.
Pectoral Sandpiper, Least Terns, Wilson Plover, Duck Hawk, Cattle Egret, Killdeer with young, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Solitary Sandpiper, Boat-tailed Grackle (rare here), Rough-winged Swallow, Pileated Woodpecker.
- 4/17 Club trip -- Bethune Point, Reed Canal Pond, etc.
30 members, 66 species seen including Piping Plover, Semi-palmated Plover, Clapper Rail, Red-eyed Vireo, Least Tern, Caspian Tern (late), Western Palm Warbler (late), Prairie Warbler. These birds can be heard singing in the Mangrove swamps near Station WROD and might well be the Mangrove or permanent resident subspecies of the Prairie Warbler which is only a migrant here.
- 4/19 At St. Augustine Beach and Crescent Beach Fenn Holden and Bob Henderson saw 3 Oyster-catchers, many Gull-billed Terns, many Wilson Plovers, Knots in their red-breasted summer plumage, 150 Royal Terns and many Herring Gulls. In the Crescent Beach marsh they found the Hudsonian Curlew, White Pelican and many Willets.
- 4/20 and 24 These last two club trips to Pinewood Cemetery in Daytona Beach were not very productive, as the warblers were marked by their absence. On the two days only one Prairie and one Myrtle Warbler were recorded. It seems as though the warbler migration may have passed on North earlier than usual this year.

A fine total of 195 species for the winter season including, as has been reported from month to month, a few new and outstanding records for this vicinity. Fenn Holden's photographic record of the Western Tanager added a new bird to the official Florida list.

Our Field Trip Director, Fred Ackermann, did his usual good job of planning and conducting these outings which added so much to the enjoyment of all members who took part in them. Fred was greatly missed on the April 17 trip when he was in South Florida on a four-day tour with the National Audubon Society. We all wish we could have been with him, for he reports having seen 134 species, including the following which are seldom or never recorded in the Halifax River area, or in such large numbers:

34 Glossy Ibis, 3 Painted Buntings, 4 Sandhill Cranes, 10 Burrowing Owls, 6 Caracaras, 7 Western Kingbirds, 67 Cattle Egrets, 8 Limpkins, 45 Black-necked Stilts, 11 Smooth-billed Anis, 1 White-crowned Sparrow, 10 Indigo Buntings, 1 Short-tailed Hawk, 15 Wild Turkeys, 82 Man-O-War Birds, 65 Reddish Egrets, 7 Great White Herons, 12 Roseate Spoonbills, 1 Western Tanager, 3 Black-whiskered Vireos, 2 Gull-billed Terns, and 1 Spotted-breasted Oriole.

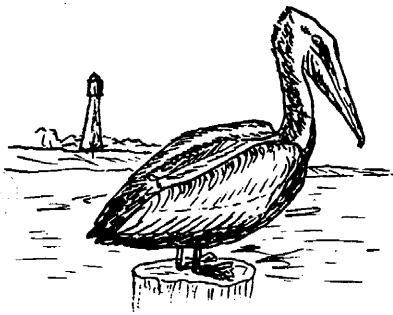
For the past several years the management at Olds Hall has graciously permitted the club to hold its monthly meetings in the recreation room. This has been a comfortable arrangement except that it interfered with use of the room by Olds Hall residents on one of the best television nights. This conflict has been overcome by arranging to hold our meetings next season in the assembly room of the YMCA at 260 N. Beach St., Daytona Beach. Our thanks go to both of these hospitable organizations for extending these past and future courtesies. Due to this change, meetings will be held on the FOURTH Monday evening of each month.

Chit-Chat: A card to Ann Odsted from Gussie and Ed Harding, well-known on club trips in past years, reports that they have spent much of this winter in Mexico where they have seen some of their old bird friends and many new ones.

Fenn and Jean Holden plan to spend at least the early part of next winter photographing birds in California. We all hope to see them again before our 1958 season closes.

Frank James, who has been ill a large part of the winter, has recovered sufficiently to go North. We all look forward to his complete recovery and to having him with us again next season.

The Editor wishes to thank all those who have contributed so faithfully to the success of the PELICAN by sending in their observations and other interesting notes. Any items that might be of interest to other members in the first fall issue may be sent to Robert S. Henderson, 431 N. Halifax Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida.



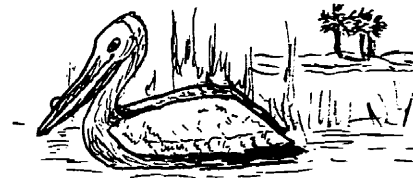
THE PELICAN

INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY THE

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON CLUB

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA



No. 5

October

1957

Your president, G. Edgar Folk, greets you at the beginning of the 1957-1958 season of our Club. Mrs. Folk and I have just returned from a four months' vacation which was packed with interests and great happiness. Our most outstanding bird experience was when, as guests of Jean and Fenn Holden at Grayling, Michigan, we saw a nesting pair of Kirtland Warblers. Fenn and Jean are on their way to California, photographing as they go. When they get around to us they will have something outstanding to show. Meet with us on the 28th at OUR NEW LOCATION AT THE YMCA, in the Green Room, 260 North Beach Street. A letter from them will be read. A banner year has been planned for the season.

FIRST FALL MEETING - Monday, October 28, 7:30 P.M. at the YMCA, next to the Sears store. The large Sears parking lot, also used by the YMCA, is available for parking, as well as the Y parking lot, entered from Beach Street. A feature of this first meeting will as usual be reports from members on their summer birding. It is always most interesting.

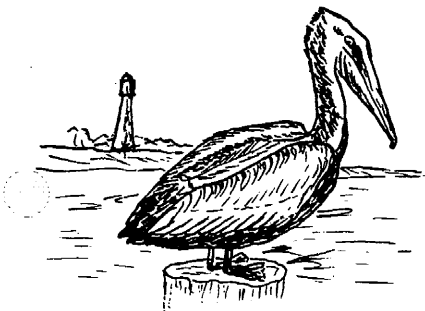
FIRST FIELD TRIP - Saturday, November 2, 8:00 A.M. - South Bridge, West End; cars will be available for all. This will be a half day outing to the Tomoka Park area where we always see good birds. Trip Director Ackermann will lead it.

THE CLUB WINTER PROGRAM IS ENCLOSED. It tells of later trips.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE.

Fill out the enclosed application form and mail it with \$1.00 to Club Secretary, Mrs. Robert S. Henderson, 431 N. Halifax Ave., Daytona Beach, Florida. Be sure to give your present mailing address and if you expect to change it during the winter season, give the new one also if you know what it will be. This is specially important because you will want to receive a special bonus that will be sent to each member who reregisters and to all new members who enroll during the season. This is a new outline on the birds of the Halifax area arranged according to the kind of location in which they are most likely to be found, a brief description that will help look in the right place in the bird guide for additional information, the frequency with which they usually occur and the months they are most apt to be seen.

This is based on the recently published 50-year records of former club president Rupert Longstreet and the club's field trip records for many years. This will be especially useful to those who are just learning their birds. IT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS ONLY.



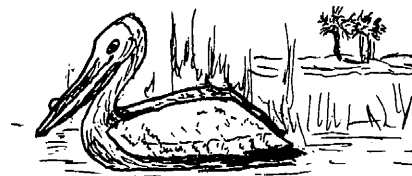
THE PELICAN

INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY THE

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON CLUB

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA



No. 6

November

1957

Next Club Meeting: Monday, Nov. 25 - 7:30 P. M. at Y. M. C. A. Mrs. M. C. Kent will report on her trip to the famous bird islands off the coast of Texas. She is a good speaker and an experienced birder and this should be one of the best talks of the year.

Coming Field Trips: Start 8 A. M. West end of South Bridge.

Saturday, Nov. 23 - All day to the Banana River Area. Some of the ducks should be down by then. Bring lunch.

Saturday, Nov. 30 - Half day - to Inlet and South beaches.

Saturday, Dec. 7 - All day to Welacka Fish Hatchery. This is always one of the best trips of the year for fresh water ducks and marsh birds. Bring lunch.

Thursday, Dec. 12 - Half day to Tomoka Park and marshes.

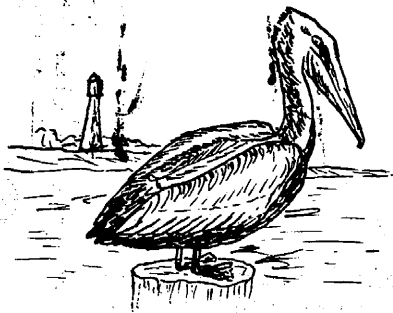
Monday, Dec. 16 - All day to Titusville and Christmas, Fla. Some members like to have the special "Christmas" postmark on their Christmas cards. Have them all ready for stamps. Plan to buy stamps there and help this small post office in exchange for their extra trouble.

Audubon Screen Tour Lectures: Robert C. Hermes will give the first one on "Ranch of the Purple Flowers" at Seabreeze High School - Saturday, January 4, at 8:00 p.m. Season tickets \$3.00 will be on sale at the door or may be purchased in advance from President Folk, Fred Ackermann or Conrad Ekdahl.

Membership: We have 81 re-enrollments and 6 new members now. Any received by the Secretary before this issue is mailed will find their membership cards and the promised outline on birds of this area herewith. Others will receive them the first issue after their enrollment is received. Don't miss your cards.

The Executive Committee has voted to recommend changing the name of the club to Halifax River Audubon Society to conform to the nationwide practice. This is official notice that an amendment to the By-Laws to do this will be acted on next meeting.

Note Covers: From now on THE PELICAN and all supplements will be punched to fit a three-ringed notebook. Heavy cardboard covers suitable for this will be on sale for 10 cents each at the next club meeting.



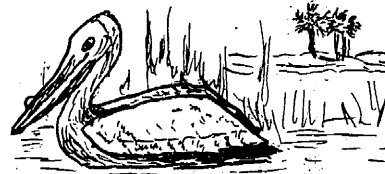
THE PELICAN

INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY THE

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON CLUB

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA



Number 7

December

1957

No Meeting Dec. 30 - so voted by the club to avoid conflicting with the Tourist Club Meeting moved ahead to avoid New Years Eve.

Coming Field Trips: All start at 8 A.M. at west end of South Bridge.

Saturday Jan. 4: Half day to Bethune Pt., McDonald's Farm etc.

Saturday Jan. 11: All day to Rock Springs Park - Bring lunch. This is always one of the really good trips of the year.

Saturday Jan. 18: Half day to good spots along DeLand Rd. including the place where we often see the Prothonotary Warbler. Wear something to keep your feet dry.

Thursday, Jan. 23: Half day along Beville Rd. Canal Rd., Sugar Mill Gardens and Port Orange Causeway.

Audubon Screen Tour Lectures start Jan. 4 at Seabreeze High School. Note that the programs will start at 7:30 P.M. this year instead of 8:00 P.M. in the past years. The seating capacity of the hall has been reduced slightly so come early and tell your friends.

Halifax River Audubon Society is now our name. The constitution was amended at the last meeting. All printed matter will be changed to comply with this as soon as reprints are necessary.

Membership - All who have renewed their memberships or have become new members since the November issue of the PELICAN will receive their cards and the outline on Identification of Birds of the Halifax Area with this bulletin. This is the last issue that will be mailed to last year's members who have not renewed for 1957-58. Send both your permanent and your winter addresses with \$1.00 to the Secretary, Mrs. R. S. Henderson, 431 No. Halifax Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida.

Treasurer Conrad Ekdahl still has a few of the loose leaf folders to fit these punched bulletins and such supplement as are issued during the year. He will have these at meetings and on field trips at 10¢ each. He also has a limited number of check lists for use on field trips. The older ones arranged ornithologically will go, while they last at 1¢ each. Those arranged alphabetically are still 2 for 5¢. New ones will be printed soon, will probably cost more.

The Famous Mt. Dora Boat Trip will be held again this year about the third week in February, cost \$2.50 or \$3.00. Final details will appear in the next issue. Only 50 can be accommodated so this will be limited to members. We have been unable to take this trip for the past several years because of low water but those who went on the last one will never forget it.

Field Trip Reports to date indicate that the winter birds are arriving on schedule and there have been some very unusual records. Here are some of the high-lights.

On The Beach: Ringbills by the thousands with many beautiful adults. Herring Gulls, mostly immatures, are more numerous than usual. Laughing Gulls, too are very numerous and a few Bonapart Gulls have been seen in the usual place where the sewage plant discharges into the Halifax River on Bethune Point.

Royal Terns by the thousands can be seen on the South Beach and at the Inlet and among them you may find a few lingering Common Terns, Forster Terns and Cabot Terns which have been unusually common.

A few Gannets have been seen diving for food well out from the beach and in the surf, Piping and Ringed Plover, Semi-palmated Sandpipers, a few Red-backed Sandpipers, Willets and Black-bellied Plovers are usually found with the familiar Turnstones & Sanderlings.

Red-breasted Mergansers, Scaup and Ringnecked and Ruddy Ducks, Common Loons and both the Pied-billed and Horned Grebes have returned to the river and Wilson Snipe, both Greater and Lesser Yellow Legs and Killdeer Plover have been reported from the ponds.

Bald Eagles were reported on three trips as were Red-shouldered and Red-tailed and Cooper's Hawks.

Cattle Egrets (45 at one time) at McDonalds Farm and the Anhingas and Black Crowned Night Herons are back at Reed Canal Pond.

On the trip to Titusville Beach 21 Man-O-War Birds were seen. One or two a season have been considered good most years.

Golden-crowned Kinglets, very rare in Florida were reported from Pinewood Cemetery on Main Street and seen by the field trip group near WROD Radio Station.

The most outstanding record to date is a male Harlequin Duck seen at the Haulover Canal Bridge by Fred Ackermann, Mrs. Rose Block and Mr. & Mrs. Joe Fairbanks. This is an arctic species that rarely comes south of the New England Coast even in winter. It has been reported only twice before from Florida in 1886 and in 1910. Fortunately, the bird was very accommodating and lighted in the canal where it could be observed at close range for a considerable time. These experienced observers could hardly have been mistaken under these circumstances. Those who are interested in the purely scientific aspect of ornithology may be inclined to raise their eyebrows over such an unusual record but since so many hitherto improbably records have been made in recent years we are not as sure as we used to be that unusual species have been reported in error. So, as far as this editor is concerned, "Thar he wuz".

EDITOR - Robert S. Henderson-431 No. Halifax Avenue, Daytona Beach, Fla.