

T H E

LUS ANGELES AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

PLUMMER PARK

7377 SANTA MONICA BLVD.

LOS ANGELES 46, CALIFORNIA

Western



Tanager

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MOURNING DOVES

By George T. Hastings

The January number of Outdoor California is a special Mourning Dove issue with eight or nine articles on doves, chiefly by members of the California Department of Fish and Game staff.

Following are a few highlights from several of the articles; Mourning Doves are found in every state of the Union and in every county in California. The only places in the state where they are not found are dense evergreen forests and alpine areas. The nesting cycle is completed in 30 days. They may nest as many as six times in the year, though two or three times is the rule. Most young are hatched from the middle of May to the middle of July, small numbers are hatched in April and after the middle of July into September. Ordinarily two eggs are laid at a time. Man's activities, such as farming and clearing forests, increase the amount of dove habitat. Of doves hatched only about 30% live to be a year old, and only 13% live to be two years old. The oldest dove reported in California was hatched at Gray Lodge in 1952 and found lying on the ground injured about 20 feet from where it was hatched a little over six years later. This one died soon after it was found.

The annual kill by hunters of recent years in California has been over 2,500,000. Yet the number of doves in the state does not diminish. Besides hunting such other causes as predation and disease are the primary means by which nature controls the dove population. Through banding, chiefly of nestlings, the migration routes have been mapped. It has been found that doves from Washington, Oregon and Idaho move south in winter, come to the Central Valley of California but most travelling east of the Sierra to the great wintering grounds of Jalisco, Michoacan and adjacent Mexican states. Most of the birds banded in California went to west-central Mexico for the winter. The band of one banded in Bakersfield was returned from Honduras, Central America. There is also a considerable east west migration, birds summering in Utah, wintering in California. The three major wintering areas for doves banded west of the Rockies are the Imperial Valley, south-central Arizona, and the Mexican area. Doves migrate both by day and night, but most long flights are by night. Some doves remain near the nesting grounds throughout the year while some migrate as much as 2500 miles.

Doves are considered game birds and hunted in all but the eighteen states from Montana and Wyoming across to Maine and New Jersey. They seem to be as abundant in states where they are hunted as in those where they are protected all year. Studies on their food habits show that they are seed eaters, about ten per cent of their food is wheat, barley and other grain, but this is all waste grain picked up from the ground. Most of the food is weed seeds. While almost any seed may be eaten, some ten weeds are the ones preferred and few of these are pernicious weeds. The Department does not consider doves or any other birds important in the control of weeds. (It would seem though that the eating of hundreds of millions of weed seed should have some effect in keeping the numbers down).

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THE WESTERN TANAGER

Free to members...Others \$1.50 annually
 Editor Emeritus.....George T. Hastings
 Editor.....Fern Shelford
 3315 W. 41st St. L. A. 8.....AX 4-0410

THE LOS ANGELES AUDUBON SOCIETY
 Organized 1910. . . . Incorporated 1951
 "To promote the study and protection of
 birds and other wildlife, plants, soil,
 and water."

MEMBERSHIP

Joint with National Audubon Society includes subscription to Audubon Magazine.
 Regular - \$6.50, Husband & wife - \$10.,
 Sustaining - \$12.50, Sustaining-Husband
 & wife - \$20., Active - \$25., Supporting
 - \$50., Contributing - \$100., Life
 - \$300.

OFFICERS 1958-1959

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 Sanctuaries.....Mr. David R. Williams
 Screen Tours.....Mrs. Donald L. Adams
 Western Tanager.....Mrs. Fern Shelford

AUDUBON HOUSE -- Headquarters of the
 Los Angeles Audubon Society, 7377 Santa
 Monica Blvd....HO 7-9495. Open Wednesday,
 Thursday and Saturday - 2-4 p.m., 3rd
 Wednesday - 7:30-8 p.m.; 4th Thursday,
 (members only) 9-10 a.m. - 1-4 p.m.
 Librarian.....Mrs. Robert Landis

- HO 3-9336

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many of the members of this Society originally joined because of a desire to further their own knowledge of nature, or of birds in particular, as well as to have the opportunity of associating with others of like mind. There are few of these, however, who have not also come to share our concern with conservation, I am sure.

Almost from its very beginning, the National Audubon Society decided to concentrate on education and, though it and its Branches have carried on many and varied activities, the emphasis has always been on this. The Audubon Camps, Audubon Centers, Audubon Junior Club program and Screen Tours program are all well known evidences of this educational work of the National, as are publications such as Audubon Magazine, Audubon Research Reports, Nature Bulletins, Leaflets and others.

There is a great need, however, for educational work of a local sort. At present we have Scout and other youth groups coming to Audubon House in Plummer Park for nature counseling, and our Headquarters Chairman, Mrs. Russell Wilson, is actively promoting the Audubon Junior Clubs. Also, we publish check lists, leaflets and other material dealing with local nature and conservation. Admittedly there is room for expansion of all of these activities; in order to do this, however, more volunteers are needed for the work, and additional funds would also help.

As you can see, the extent and success of our educational activities (and other activities too, of course) depends upon you, the members. Mrs. Wilson would be most happy to hear from any members who would like to be of help, and who have a certain amount of time to devote. No experience or other requirements are needed, only a desire to be of help. We also need skilled speakers to augment our Speakers' Bureau and persons to talk to youth groups. So do come forward and help in this worthwhile activity if you possibly can.

Robert E. Blackstone.

CONSERVATION

By Otis Wade

Our Society has recently subscribed to a membership in the Desert Protective Council, feeling that their objectives, "To safeguard wise and reverent use by this and succeeding generations those desert areas of unique scenic, historical, spiritual and recreational value and to educate by all appropriate means children and adults to a better understanding of the desert", are in complete accord with our own. This is a very worthy non-profit, educational endeavor deserving of the active support of all conservation groups and individuals. Membership for adults is only \$1.00; junior members 50¢. Memberships and contributions may be sent to Harry C. James, Executive Director, P.O. Box 716, Banning, California.

The two California chapters of Nature Conservancy continue their process of organization. The Southern California chapter would include the counties of Kern, San Luis Obispo, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial. Chairman for the organizing group is Dr. Ralph M. Rutledge of Sunland. The South California Coast chapter would cover Orange and San Diego counties. Threatened destruction of the coastal salt-marshes near Newport inspired formation of this group. Mr. John W. Johnson is temporary chairman.

Work of the California Public Outdoor Recreation Plan Committee is proceeding about on schedule. The committee is faced with many complicated problems in matters concerning the physical growth and development of the state and its resources. Legislation must be developed which will take care of the many problems and needs for rural and wildland planning control in view of projected population increases.

"There is just one hope of repulsing the tyrannical ambition of civilization to conquer every niche on the whole earth. That hope is the organization of spirited people who will fight for the freedom of the wilderness."

--Robert Marshall

Walt Disney will again serve as national honorary chairman of National Wildlife Week, March 15-21, under the sponsorship of the National Wildlife Federation. The 1959 observance features a "Conservation in the Schools" theme.

A WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Archie H. Calkins,
2400 John St., Manhattan Beach,
Calif.

Mrs. John Chad,
4320 W. 2nd St., Los Angeles

Mrs. Eldridge E. Combs,
4153 Country Club Drive, Long
Beach 7

Mr. Ralph D. Cornell,
1919 Taft Ave., Hollywood 28

Mrs. Merritt S. Dunlap,
2712 E. Chevy Chase Dr., Glendale 6

Miss Maude W. Eldred,
3966½ Crenshaw Blvd., L. A. 8

Dr. Wm. G. Lehman,
27023 Shorewood Rd., Rolling Hills

Mrs. Wm. Bryant Logan,
165 South Anita Ave., L. A. 49

Mr. George A. Mandeen,
2370 Edgewater Terrace, L. A. 39

Mrs. George A. Mandeen,
2370 Edgewater Terrace, L. A. 39

Miss Edna Nearon,
2517 Raymond Ave., L. A. 7

Mr. George W. Nielsen,
Rte #1, Box 808, Red Bluff, Calif.

Mrs. George W. Nielsen,
Rte #1, Box 808, Red Bluff, Calif.

Mr. David Rolapp,
10449 Bainbridge Ave., L. A. 24

Mr. Wm. J. Snider,
312 Kenneth Rd., Glendale 2, Calif.

January Indoor Meeting: Mrs. Clara Weedmark gave a comprehensive talk on "Sparrows". From the largest, the 6½ inch Fox Sparrow to the tiny Grasshopper Sparrow these birds are numerous and widely distributed. There are twenty or more varieties and it takes a great deal of concentration to identify them separately.

MOURNING DOVES -- continued.

An article on "Killing Them With Kindness" states that there are over 100 residents of San Diego who feed doves in their back yards and that more than 10,000 doves depend on these hand-outs. (That means an average of 100 doves for each person feeding them!) Where doves congregate in large numbers they are likely to contract a contagious disease, Trichomoniasis or "canker", that causes a severe inflammation of the throat and the forming of a thick cheesy mass that causes the death of the doves by starvation or thirst. Wild birds rarely contract this disease but several other diseases do attack them, chiefly when they are concentrated in large numbers. The Department of Fish and Game urged the people of San Diego to cut down on the amount of food put out for doves and eventually stop feeding them altogether, so that they may resume their "normal, wild healthy state". The study showed that more doves are hatched in areas where they are fed, thus adding to the concentration. But apparently it did not undertake to learn if birds fed in the city live longer than healthy wild ones. (Before I discontinue feeding the birds I should like to know whether the birds that come to my yard have their lives shortened, or if perhaps they live longer).

The Sacramento Audubon Society began last year what is to be an annual dove census in their area and other Societies are urged to do the same.

The ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY of LOS ANGELES has recently elected Mrs. Mary V. Hood as its president. We offer our sincere congratulations to her and to the Zoological Society. Mrs. Hood seems to be a much sought after person these days. She is now serving as our Youth Training Chairman and is assisting the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks with its Nature Course Workshop. She was forced to decline an office in the local chapter of Nature Conservancy now forming. One person can only do so much.

PAST EVENTS

January Field Trip: With a June-like day, smog-free and vegetation in spring green, Fern Dell was an inspiration. Not as many birds as we had hoped to see, no Robins, but we found the following: Song Sparrow, Brown Towhee, Audubon's Warbler, Gambel Sparrow, House Finch, Wren-tit, Scrub Jay, Fox Sparrow, Hermit Thrush, Mourning Dove, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Anna's Hummingbird, Red-shafted Flicker, Willow Goldfinch, Darbacked Goldfinch and Mockingbird. Mrs. Hoogenboom identified the birds for us.

We ate lunch at the shelter provided for the public by the Soroptimist Club. The highlight of the day was the viewing of three films at the Nature Museum- "The Living Bird", "Colorful Birds", and Mystery of the Wild", these through the courtesy of John Peebles, one of our members. --Edna Burt

February Field Trip: Fine weather and a variety of terrain combined to provide good birding for those on the regular Thursday Field Trip under the leadership of Miss Edna Burt. First stop was at Descanso Gardens where we were guided around the park by Mr. Varga. Picnic luncheon was at the Arcadia City Park followed by a tour of the L. A. County Arboretum. A check list kept by Mrs. Lena Hoogenboom tallied forty species.

The Thursday Field trip (March 19) should also be rewarding. Santa Susanna Park in the Chatsworth Hills will be the location and we hope a good turn out of both birds and birders.

--Otis Wade.

LIBRARY NOTES

Members are invited to use their library at Audubon House in Plummer Park. Our shelves include 500 volumes on all phases of nature. Authors with whom we are familiar, such as Peattie, Cruikshank, Teal and Rachel Carson are represented.

All of these books have been donated by members and friends of the Society and may be borrowed for a month at a time. Librarian--Bettie Landis.

REMEMBER THE SCREEN TOURS

THE 21ST CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The annual Christmas Bird Count was held on Sunday, December 28, 1959, starting at 5:30 a.m. and lasting until 6:00 p.m. Fifty-three observers in twenty-four parties participated. Area was the same since 1937 - 7-1/2 mile radius centering near Pico and La Cienega Blvds. Temperatures from 44 to 70 degrees, visibility low in the morning, clearing in the afternoon. The final count showed a total of 150 species and about 30,000 individuals as compared with 148 species and about 34,000 individuals last year.

Some birds spotted this year, not seen last year; Rock Sandpiper, Glaucous Gull, Black-vented Shearwater, White-fronted Goose, Common Scoter, Peregrine Falcon, Sora Rail, Ruddy Turnstone, Common Murre, Ancient Murrelet, Black-legged Kittiwake.

The complete list compiled by David DuVal is as follows:

Arctic Loon 5; Red-throated Loon 14; Horned Grebe 22; Eared Grebe 38; Western Grebe 680; Pied-billed Grebe 28; Brown Pelican 34; Double-crested Cormorant 16; Brandt's Cormorant 1; Pelagic Cormorant 4; Great Blue Heron 5; Green Heron 2, Common Egret 5; Snowy Egret 27; Black-crowned Night Heron 13; Black-vented Shearwater 9; Canada Goose 1; Brant 1; White-fronted Goose 1; Mallard 365; Pintail 11; Green-winged Teal 3; Cinnamon Teal 7; Am. Widgeon 6; Shoveler 7; Canvasback 1; Greater Scaup 20; Lesser Scaup 843; Bufflehead 1; White-winged Scoter 10; Surf Scoter 1306; Common Scoter 1; Ruddy Duck 17; Red-breasted Merganser 27; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 44; Peregrine Falcon 1; Pigeon Hawk 1; Sparrow Hawk 37; California Quail 190; Sora Rail 1; Am. Coot 745; Semipalmated Plover 150; Snowy Plover 75; Killdeer 111; Black-bellied Plover 465; Surfbird 116; Ruddy Turnstone 1; Black Turnstone 63; Common Snipe 11; Long-billed Curlew 17; Whimbrel 10; Spotted Sandpiper 6; Willet 1351; Greater Yellowlegs 17; Rock Sandpiper 2; Least Sandpiper 891; Dunlin 500; Short-billed Dowitcher 6; Long-billed dowitcher 200; Western Sandpiper 1100; Marbled Godwit 489; Sanderling 48; Am. Avocet 32; Glaucous-winged Gull 225; Western Gull 129; Herring Gull 7; Calif. Gull 514; Ring-billed Gull 2125; Mew Gull 10; Bonaparte's Gull 731; Heerman's Gull 2866; Black-legged Kittiwake 4; Forster's Tern 280; Common Tern 40; Glaucous Gull 1; Common Murre 1; Ancient Murrelet 2; Band-tailed Pigeon 1; Mourning Dove 521; Spotted Dove 75; Ringed Turtle Dove 56; Roadrunner 1; Screech Owl 1; Great Horned Owl 2; Burrowing Owl 1; Short-eared Owl 1; White-throated Swift 62; Black-chinned Hummingbird 3; Anna's Hummingbird 326; Belted Kingfisher 8; Red-shafted Flicker 86; Acorn Woodpecker 7; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 4; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Downy Woodpecker 6; Nuttall's Woodpecker 23; Black Phoebe 42; Say's Phoebe 18; Scrub Jay 313; Common Raven 5; Common Crow 88; Plain Titmouse 113; Common Bushtit 518; Pigmy Nuthatch 1; Brown Creeper 2; Wrentit 534; House Wren 3; Bewick's Wren 32; Canyon Wren 1; Rock Wren 2; Mockingbird 348; Calif. Thrasher 80; Robin 73; Hermit Thrush 49; Western Bluebird 9; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 6; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 70; Water Pipit 284; Cedar Waxwing 865; Loggerhead Shrike 29; Hutton's Vireo 3; Solitary Vireo 1; Orange-crowned Warbler 1; Audubon's Warbler 2789; House Sparrow 661; Western Meadowlark 104; Redwinged Blackbird 4; Brewer's Blackbird 1215; Brown-headed Cowbird 6; Purple Finch 21; Cassin's Finch 2; House Finch 2508; Am. Goldfinch 47; Lesser Goldfinch 163; Rufous-sided Towhee 127; Brown Towhee 810; Savannah Sparrow 22; Lark Sparrow 117; Rufous-crowned Sparrow 4; Slate-colored Junco 3; Oregon Junco 748; Chipping Sparrow 58; White-crowned Sparrow 1139; Golden-crowned Sparrow 185; Fox Sparrow 61; Lincoln's Sparrow 21; Song Sparrow 94.

Those participating in the count were: Don Adams, Caroline Adams, Robert Blackstone, Herb Clarke, Olga Clarke, Ethel Craig, Mary Craig, Loring Dales, Caroline Daugherty, Merritt Dunlap, David DuVal, Dean Fischer, Bob Gee, Tom Gee, Dorothy Goddard, Maizie Goodman, Patrick Gould, Paul Harkin, Mrs. P. Harkin, George T. Hastings, Bruce Hayward, Paul Herman, Mrs. Harry Hoffman, Dick Holmes, Mike Jacobson, Ellen Julian, Reg Julian, Elsie Kennedy, Bob Kirby, Aaron Krieger, William Lofthouse, C. T. Logan, Allen Meyerfeld, Betty Meyerfeld, Gudrun Pepke, Clara Pflager, Earl Rugraff, Bob Sandmeyer, Sara Schaeffer, Roscoe Schaffert, Catharine Shaw, Arnold Small, Dick Smith, Nellie Spencer, Norma Splitter, Fred Starck, John Tramentano, Otis Wade, Clara Weedmark, Ernest Willoughby, Marian Wilson, Russell Wilson, Les Wood.

BIRDING IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The long and almost unparalleled drought was finally broken by the storms of February 8, 10 and 11. Even with this much needed rainfall, precipitation totals for southern California were still far below normal with January going on record as the third driest in the history of the Los Angeles Weather Bureau. These storms brought an average of a little more than 1.0 inch of rain to the dry lowland areas and somewhat more to foothill and mountain regions. The total precipitation to date (Feb. 15) for the Los Angeles area was only 2.12 inches as compared with a normal for this time of year of 8.13 inches and a total of better than 9.0 inches for the same period last year. Mudslides and flooding which followed these storms was expectedly heavy after the devastating fires of early January. Snows were heavy in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino mountains but this white blanket did not seem to drive Montana species into lowland areas.

Coastal birding continued good throughout the month of January and into February, although the pelagic trip of January 25 produced nothing unusual in the way of seabirds. A small number of Jaegers, Shearwaters, and Alcide were seen in addition to the Fulmars which have been fairly numerous much closer to shore throughout the fall and early winter. For those who have not seen the Rock Sandpipers, they were still present on the jetties at Playa del Rey February 12. This bird became number 611 on R. Dudley Ross's life list and must have seemed pretty tame to him after just having returned (on business) from the northeast where he saw Ivory Gull, Hawk Owl, and Lesser Black-backed Gull.

Waterfowl have been on Upper Newport Bay where more than 20,000 mixed Ducks and Geese spent the greater part of the hunting season. Common Scoters have been fairly numerous along the coast with a few birds almost always to be seen at the end of the Playa del Rey

breakwaters and near Point Mugu. Five Whistling Swans were on Elizabeth Lake throughout most of January and were seen by the Blackstones and Adams in February.

No one seems to know what has become of the Robins! Very few have been located this winter even after the storms which we expected would have driven them south out of the mountains and northern valleys. We hope that spraying of insecticides will not have a tragic story to tell as it has elsewhere (see Audubon Magazine Jan-Feb. 1959 for a lucid account of this story). Cedar Waxwings likewise, have been scarce, although a few small flocks have been noted here and there.

ARNOLD SMALL, 3028 Cavendish Drive, Los Angeles 64.

WE REGRET to announce the death of Mrs. Clara Splitter in mid-December. Mrs. Splitter was an enthusiastic naturalist and had shared her enthusiasm and knowledge with members of the Society. She led an active Junior Audubon Club, giving much time and thought to the meetings and field trips for the boys and girls. The Santa Monica Nature Club of which she was a charter member is planning a memorial to her in the form of a gift to the Audubon Center at El Monte to be used for an exhibit of material for and of Junior Audubon Clubs.

Anyone wishing to add to this memorial may send a contribution to Mr. George T. Hastings, 517 Euclid St., Santa Monica.

1959 NATURE WORKSHOP FOR YOUTH LEADERS

Lectures illustrated with colored slides:
 March 5, "Nature's Camouflage" - P. Colburn
 March 12, "Life Zones" ----- J. Cunningham
 March 19, "This Changing World" ---- B. Hood
 March 26, "Astronomy" ----- Dr. Cleminshaw
 April 2, "Sea Shore Life" ----- E. P. Baker
 April 9, "Friendly Insects" - Dr. D. Lowrie
 April 16, "Family Goes Camping" ---- M. Hood

For further information call
 Mrs. Mary Hood - HO 3-0974 or Mr. John
 Peebles, HO 7-1661.

SEE YOU AT THE SCREEN TOUR.

LOS ANGELES AUDUBON SOCIETY

President ; ; ; ; Mr. Robert E. Blackstone, 10363 Calvin Ave., Los Angeles 25
Registrar of Members . . Miss Iola R. Moore, 278 Bronwood Ave., Los Angeles 49

CALENDAR FOR MARCH 1959

March 3, SCREEN TOUR - Tuesday Evening at Virgil Jr. High School, 152 No. Vermont
March 7, 7:45 p.m. and Saturday Afternoon - 2:00 p.m. at John Burroughs Jr. High
School, 600 So. McCadden Pl. Subject "GREAT SMOKY SKYLAND" by G. Harrison
Orians. One of our greatest remaining wilderness areas. Birds and other
wildlife, scenic beauty and primitive civilization of mountain folk.

March 10, TUESDAY EVENING MEETING - 8:00 p.m. sharp at Great Hall, Plummer Park,
7377 Santa Monica Blvd. Program: James Clements will present his excel-
lent color motion picture on "Wildlife in the Remote Corners of Death Val-
ley". Jim and Mary Clements, outdoor adventurers, have been pursuing wild
creatures on foot, skis, snowshoes, and by jeep since they were children
and in their travels prefer to stay off the beaten track. Their films of
Death Valley illustrate how patience and knowledge of terrain can reward
the adventurer-photographer with wonderful sights, even comparatively
close to home.

Don't forget to circle TUESDAY, JUNE 9 on your calendar! The Annual Din-
ner meeting will be held at Cafe de Paris in Hollywood and we are planning
an outstanding program. Look for further announcements and reservation
blanks in the future TANAGER.

Chairman - Arnold Small

March 12, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at 10363 Calvin Ave.

March 14, SATURDAY FIELD TRIP to Tucker Hummingbird Sanctuary in Modjeska Canyon.
Meet at 8:00 a.m. Drive to Orange, east on Chapman Ave. to Santiago Rd.
Turn right and go 8 miles to Silverado Canyon Rd. Keep right and go 5
miles to Modjeska Canyon Fork, turn left 1 mile to Sanctuary. Bring lunch
and binoculars.

Leader - Ethel Craig.

March 19, THURSDAY FIELD TRIP to Santa Susanna County Park. Bus will leave Grand
Ave. entrance to Biltmore Hotel between 5th & 6th Sts. at 9:00 a.m. sharp.
Fare \$2. Please have exact amount. Bring lunch. Route - Ventura Blvd.
to Topango Blvd. to Chatsworth., then Highway 118 to Santa Susanna Knolls
and down to Santa Susanna Park. All park facilities here. Make reserva-
tions by March 18 with MISS EDNA BURT, PL 5-1044.

March 22, SUNDAY FIELD TRIP will be to Tucker Hummingbird Sanctuary in Modjeska
Canyon. Group will meet at 8:00 a.m. at entrance to Irvine Park. To get
to Irvine Park go south on Santa Ana Freeway to Orange turnoff. Turn east
and take Main street through city of Orange. Continue on the street a
few miles east of Orange to Irvine Park.

Leader - Jim Huffman.

March 26, THURSDAY MORNING MEETING at Long Hall in Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica
Blvd. 10:00 a.m. Mrs. Ruth McCune will speak of the birds in her Mt.
Washington garden and show some of the newest Audubon slides. Mrs. McCune
has a pleasant acquaintance with these visitors, some eating out of her
hand. She is also well acquainted with the wild birds that come to enjoy
her hospitality at her cabin at Big Bear. She is a serious birder and a
long time member of Audubon.

Chairman - Olive Alvey.