

## COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS NEWSLETTER

No. 4, May 1, 1971

### 1971 Annual Meeting, May 22-23

The 1971 annual meeting of the Colorado Field Ornithologists will be held May 22 and 23 in the Manitou Experimental Forest north of Woodland Park. You reach the forest by going north about seven miles from Woodland Park on state highway 67. Our hosts are the Aiken Audubon Society of Colorado Springs and the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. Meredith Morris, of the Experiment Station staff, has provided the details which follow.

Many of you have expressed a desire in the past to have an informal, field-type meeting, so that is what we have planned for this year. However, we do plan to have a presentation on Saturday afternoon at 1:00 PM by Dr. Pat Currie, who is in charge of the research work at Manitou Experimental Forest. Dr. Currie will give you a resume of the work being conducted at Manitou and tell you something about the general area around the Station.

As for lodging, there are three possibilities. There are several motels in Woodland Park. A list of these, with addresses, is given on another page, so you can make your own reservations. There are several Forest Service campgrounds in the immediate area but one, Painted Rocks, is very near the Experimental Forest headquarters. This is probably the best choice. You will need to pay a small charge or have a Golden Eagle pass. There are also several private campgrounds nearby. The third choice is the guest lodge at the headquarters. Because of the way the lodge is equipped, we cannot put up couples. We have decided to accommodate women only, up to a maximum of 20. The Station is required to charge \$1.00 per night for lodging; bedding and linens are furnished and cooking facilities are available. The lodge is available on Friday also, if some of you wish to come early. Remember, ladies, the first 20 who request a reservation for the lodge will be accommodated.

Mr. Dick Pillmore, of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, is in charge of the field trip program. He is planning a varied series of interesting field trips in the surrounding area for us. Dick is doing ornithological research in the area and located a nesting Flammulated Owl last summer. How about that?

Registration will be at the office building of Manitou Experimental Forest. The office is the central building of the group. We will have a flag flying in front of the office. Mrs. Helen Thurlow is in charge of registration, information, etc.

The President has called a Board of Directors meeting for 11:00 AM Saturday morning. This meeting will probably be at the office building.

The Paint Pony Country Club will take care of all of our meals. Paint Pony is between the Experimental Forest and Woodland Park, somewhat closer to the Forest. On Saturday they will bring box lunches to the Station at 11:30 AM (they have a wedding at the Club). We will have dinner Saturday evening at the Paint Pony, starting at 6:00 PM. Dr. Richard G. Beidleman, of Colorado College, will be the banquet speaker. For those who wish, breakfast will be served at 6:00 AM Sunday at the Paint Pony, and a buffet will be served around noon. Although the prices are a little high, the Paint Pony serves very ample and delicious meals. Cocktails are available at the Club. Meal prices, brief menus, and a reservation form are given at the bottom of the page.

List of Motels in Woodland Park (Zip code 80863)

Epley Motel	409 E. Highway 24	687-9967
Pine Tree Motel & Cafe	114 E. Midland Ave.	687-9474
Osborne's El Vista Motel	301 E. Highway 24	687-9997
Woodland Hills Lodge	215 W. Dewell Rd.	687-9904
	(1-3 bedroom rustic cabins with kitchens)	
The Lofthouse	222 E. Henrietta Ave.	687-9187
Stewart's Motel & Camping Grounds		687-9426
Valley Vu Motel		_____

RESERVATION FORM

Meals:

<u>Saturday, May 22</u>	<u>Number</u>
11:30 AM - Box lunch (beef sandwiches, etc.) @ \$1.70	_____
6:00 PM - Dinner (prime rib & all the trimmings) @ \$4.60	_____
(Number of children, do not have price yet)	_____

<u>Sunday, May 23</u>	
6:00 AM - Breakfast (steak and eggs, etc.) @ \$1.85	_____
12:30 PM - Buffet (salads, meats, etc.) @ \$3.10	_____

Registration - Manitou Experimental Forest office \$1.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Lodging at Manitou (20 women, \$1.00 per night), number of nights \_\_\_\_\_

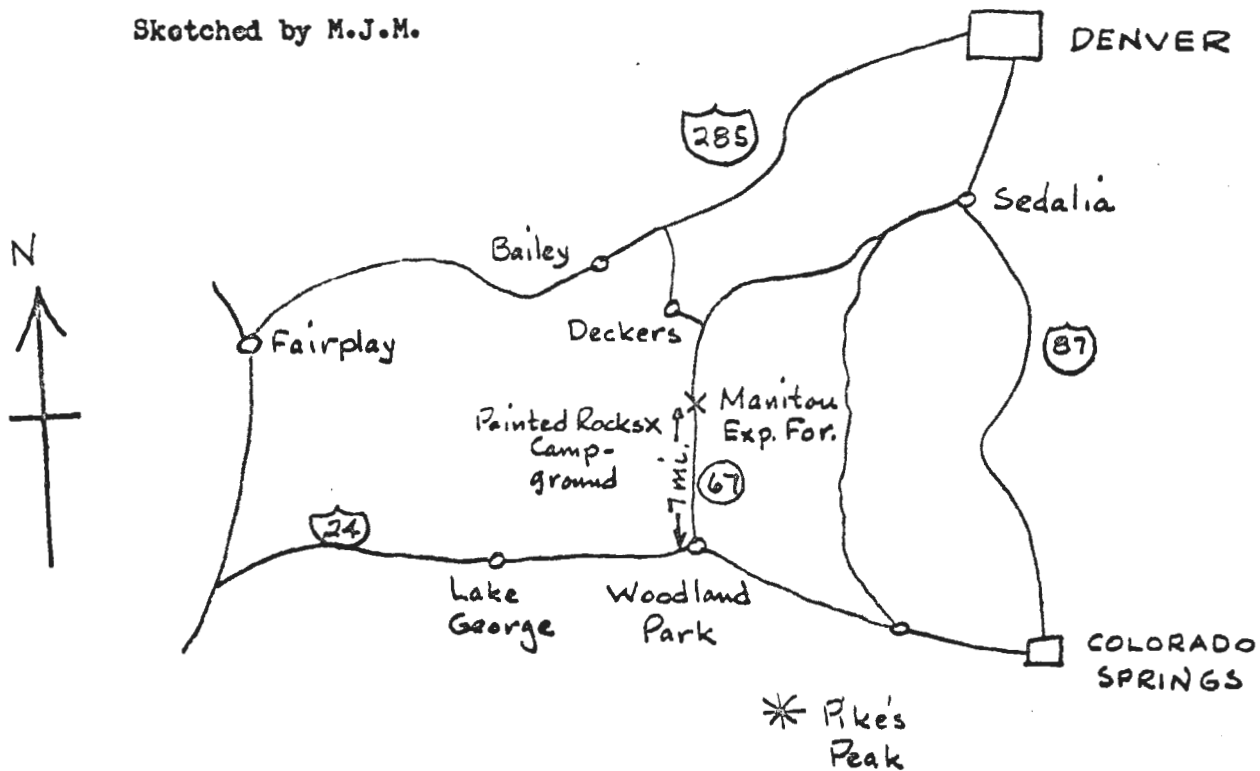
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Do not send money now - pay at registration.

Send this form back by May 15 to: Meredith J. Morris  
1218 W. Magnolia  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

## Manitou Experimental Forest Area

Sketched by M.J.M.

Unusual Sightings

Harlan's Hawk - Seen by Van Truan a mile east of Pueblo on February 19, 1971. Confirmed by Jerry Ligon, Dave Griffiths and Dave Silverman two days later. Identification included the longitudinal markings on tail.

Louisiana Heron - Seen by Michael and Lois Schultz and confirmed by Sam Cadd, on a small lake 10 miles southwest of Colorado Springs in El Paso County. The bird was seen repeatedly between April 23 and May 2, 1970. The report includes all significant field marks. So far as we know, this is the second record for the state; the previous sighting was May 18, 1963 at Barr Lake.

Peregrine Falcon - Seen by Michael and Lois Schultz, 2 miles south of Leadville on March 7, 1971. Report gives essential diagnostic marks. This sighting and reports of two others on the Christmas count give hope that the Peregrine may not be on the way to extinction.

Lesser Yellowlegs - Seen by Michael Schultz March 26, 1971 at Little Johnson Reservoir, El Paso County. Early record.

Baird's Sandpiper - 6 seen by Michael Schultz March 26, 1971 at Little Johnson Reservoir, El Paso County. Early record.

Cinnamon Teal - Male seen by Michael Schultz on March 11, 1971 on Peaceful Valley Pond, 5 miles east of Security. Early record.

### Trip to Hahn's Peak Area, June 19-20

As mentioned in the first newsletter last November, a trip to Hahn's Peak, north of Steamboat Springs, is planned for the weekend of June 19-20.

Steamboat Springs and its nearby areas have many attractions for many people - including birders. The town itself (pop. 2,500, elev. 6,700 ft.) is in the valley at the junction of the Elk and Yampa Rivers, about ten miles west of the Continental Divide in the Routt National Forest. It has a hotel, several motels and good restaurants.

For skiers, Steamboat Springs was included in "ten heroic western slopes" by Holiday magazine. For swimmers, there are indoor and outdoor pools fed by natural springs. For fishermen, there are several hundred miles of streams and many lakes. Hunters will be interested in the wooded hillsides. There are many campgrounds and trails for hiking. Some of the ranches take "guests." The Fourth of July rodeo is a 3-day event, followed by the Northwest Colorado Horse Show in midsummer. For those who like fine food, the "Gallery" has as fine food and drinks as can be found anywhere.

Ornithologically, the area is relatively unexplored. Hugh Kingery has written of the Mt. Zirkel Wilderness Area, and a group went to Hahn's Peak last year. The only known Christmas counts from the region were done by Mrs. Kenneth Ewing and family at their ranch at McCoy, 40 miles south of Steamboat. There must be many interesting trips to be discovered. Mrs. Terry Cole has written a preliminary itinerary of the trip to Hahn's Peak and the region where the Sandhill Cranes nest. I hope she can be with us on June 19-20.

Headquarters for our trip will be the Harbor Hotel, right on the main street, phone 879-1522. They quote rates of \$7.00 for a single, \$10.50 for double. Trip starts in front of the hotel Saturday at 8:00 AM. I would appreciate your letting me know in advance if you are coming.--  
W. A. Davis, 308 Country Club Park, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501.

### Field Trips in the Pueblo Area

The Pueblo Audubon Club has a field trip the first Saturday of every month. They would be glad to have visitors along. Get in touch with Van Truan, 2510 Elizabeth, Pueblo (phone 543-2959), who is in charge of field trips, as to details of time and place. He would be glad to take out groups of people but, of course, arrangements should be made in advance.

### Poisonlab Incorporated

Once in a while there is need to analyze the body of a bird or unhatched eggs for poisons. This can be done by Poisonlab Incorporated, 1469 S. Holly St., Denver, Colo. 80222 (758-0403). Call or write for

instructions on sending materials and costs of the analyses. The laboratory can analyze tissues for poisons such as strychnine, polychlorinated biphenyls such as DDT, or pesticides such as the organophosphorus esters.

#### Bird of the Year Nominations

Please send nominations for the "Bird of the Year" award to R. A. Ryder, 748 Eastdale Dr., Ft. Collins 80521. It is suggested that you follow the form for Report of Unusual Sight Record that appeared in Newsletter No. 2.

#### More 1970 Christmas Counts

Colorado Springs (CoSp) Dec. 27, 1970. Helen Thurlow, reporter. 34 observers in 12 groups. Generally clear, 30-40°F. 81 species, 8,111 individuals.

Longmont (Long) Dec. 22, 1970. Allegra Collister, compiler. 19 observers in 8 parties plus observers at feeders. Fair to partly cloudy, 15-42°F, ground bare, small areas of open water on large reservoirs. 73 species, 14,990 individuals.

	<u>CoSp</u>	<u>Long</u>
Great Blue Heron		4
Canada Goose	35	4501
Snow Goose	1	8
Mallard	712	3844
Gadwall	15	
Pintail	25	3
Green-winged Teal	9	8
American Widgeon	85	5
Shoveler	1	196
Redhead		100
Ring-necked Duck	2	3
Lesser Scaup	20	
Common Goldeneye		118
Barrow's Goldeneye	4	
Bufflehead	10	
Ruddy Duck		4
Common Merganser		67
Red-breasted Merganser	1	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	
Red-tailed Hawk	10	7
Swainson's Hawk	2	
Rough-legged Hawk	7	12
Golden Eagle	1	3
Marsh Hawk	9	14
Prairie Falcon		3
Peregrine Falcon	1	
Pigeon Hawk	1	1
Sparrow Hawk	7	19
Blue Grouse	1	
Scaled Quail	18	

More 1970 Christmas Counts, continued

	<u>CoSp</u>	<u>Long</u>
Chukar		1
Ring-necked Pheasant	2	26
American Coot	35	29
Killdeer	4	30
Common Snipe	13	18
Herring Gull		4
Ring-billed Gull		8
Rock Dove	596	79
Mourning Dove	1	2
Great Horned Owl	4	4
Belted Kingfisher	2	12
Yellow-shafted Flicker	2	1
Red-shafted Flicker	103	133
"    Hybrid		1
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	
Lewis's Woodpecker		10
Hairy Woodpecker	15	13
Downy Woodpecker	13	20
Horned Lark	227	810
Blue Jay	2	8
Steller's Jay	175	
Scrub Jay	174	4
Black-billed Magpie	492	352
Common Raven	4	5
Common Crow	86	234
Pinyon Jay	5	
Clark's Nutcracker	8	
Black-capped Chickadee	54	84
Mountain Chickadee	128	11
Plain Titmouse	1	
Common Bushtit	42	
White-breasted Nuthatch	25	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	
Pygmy Nuthatch	56	6
Brown Creeper	8	5
Dipper	3	30
Canyon Wren	1	3
Robin	446	1
Western Bluebird	6	
Mountain Bluebird	1	
Townsend's Solitaire	10	3
Water Pipit		2
Bohemian Waxwing		20
Northern Shrike	6	7
Loggerhead Shrike	5	
Starling	712	1333
House Sparrow	531	837

More 1970 Christmas Counts, continued

	<u>CoSp</u>	<u>Long</u>
Western Meadowlark	20	295
Red-winged Blackbird	289	791
Brewer's Blackbird		122
Brown-headed Cowbird	10	
Evening Grosbeak	260	115
Cassin's Finch	38	8
House Finch	478	199
Pine Siskin	188	2
American Goldfinch	16	37
Rufous-sided Towhee	25	
White-winged Junco	11	2
Slate-colored Junco	76	70
Oregon Junco	787	563
Gray-headed Junco	756	47
Tree Sparrow	102	629
Chipping Sparrow	3	
Harris's Sparrow		5
White-crowned Sparrow		19
Song Sparrow	69	74
McCown's Longspur	1	

Additions to Membership List

Charles R. Bryant, P. O. Box 566, Monte Vista, Colo. 81144  
 Capt. Kenneth T. Blackshaw, 3803 Mesa Grande Dr., Colorado Springs, Colo. 80907  
 Robert F. Buttery, 970 S. Arbutus St., Lakewood, Colo. 80228  
 Susan H. Reese, 1005 N. Prairie, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909  
 Warner K. Reeser, P. O. Box 2075, Estes Park, Colo. 80517  
 Van Remsen, Box 5157, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. 94305  
 (7160 W. 9th Pl., Lakewood, Colo. 80215 after 6/15/71)  
 Mr. and Mrs. Roderick W. Runyan, 2002 Birchwood Lane, Topeka, Kansas 66604  
 Mrs. Helen Whorton, P. O. Box 1043, Manhattan, Kansas 66502

Remember to Send . . .

Dues of \$3.00 to Miss Sadie Morrison, 1283 Elizabeth St., Denver 80206  
 Reservations for Annual Meeting to Meredith Morris (use form on Page 2)  
 Plans for Steamboat Springs-Hahn's Peak Trip to Dr. W. A. Davis, 308  
 Country Club Park, Grand Junction, Colo. 81501  
 Items for Newsletter to the Editor, Dr. W. A. Davis  
 Nominations for "Bird of the Year" to R. A. Ryder, 748 Eastdale Dr.,  
 Ft. Collins 80521