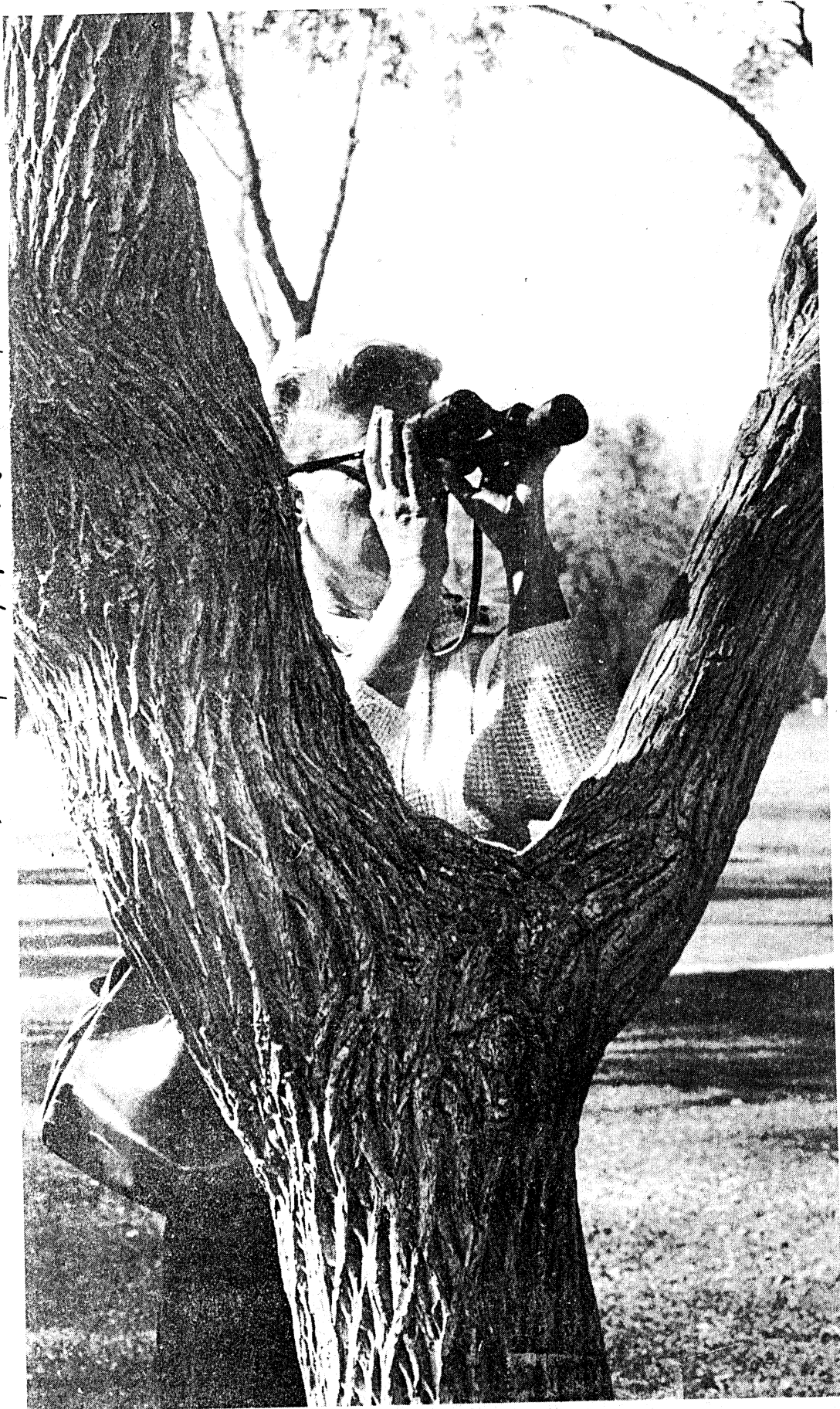


A FORKED TREE is not standard equipment, but Mrs. Henry Kier finds it handy. Anything from opera glasses to field glasses can be used on a bird walk.

March 19, 1962 A. I. 2. Journal



BIRD WATCHERS

Forget the Feathers, But Check the Feet

Never mind the feathers. Check the feet.

That advice on expert bird watching was relayed Monday by Mrs. Buxbee Demaree, chairman of the education committee of the Maricopa Audubon Society. The society is co-sponsoring another of its public "bird walks" at 10 a.m. today in Encanto Park.

Mrs. Demaree, an expert bird watcher herself, says a bird may fool you in a lot of ways, but that his feet always are a dead giveaway.

"For instance, a woodpecker has two toes in the front, and two in the back," she said. "This helps him cling to a tree or a utility pole without too much strain."

Other birds, such as Cardinals, find it more convenient to have most of their toes in front, she said.

Mrs. Demaree noted that the importance of bird feet looms even larger when it is conceded that some birds hop on them, while others walk.

Still other birds habitually run, she said, although nobody knows why.

Another item for expert watchers is the beak, Mrs. Demaree said.

"Some birds have long heavy beaks for boring holes, she said. "Others, like house finches, have short, heavy beaks for eating gnats and lawn seed.

Mrs. Demaree said visitors participating in the walks are likely to see birds that are hard to find outside Arizona—feet or no feet.

"We've been having a lot of



Pigmy nuthatches, and a few mountain chickadees," she said. "Were also seeing Inca and white-winged doves, gila woodpeckers and black-chinned hummingbirds."

Mrs. Demaree said the hummingbirds have conventional-type feet, but that as far as anyone has been able to tell, they never walk on them.

So what good are they? Ask the next hummingbird you see. Mrs. Demaree doesn't know.

Journal March 6, 1962

Bird-Watchers Flocking to Arizona

Observers Find Area An Ideal Site for Winter Spotting

By THOMAS B. LESURE
Special to The New York Times.

PHOENIX, Ariz.—The refugees from wintry regions who flock here at this time of the year are not limited to the human race. Actually, people are following the example of many species of migratory birds, who also regularly seek to escape the northern cold by flying down to the Southwest to pass their sunny winters. And now, more and more human visitors are deriving fun and benefit from bird-watching and bird photography in this area.

Of all the southwestern states, Arizona is probably the foremost for winter bird-watching. This is not only a home for several hundred species, but also is in the path of the Pacific Flyway, one of the nation's busiest for migratory birds. What is more, generally fixed by changes in altitude, rather than latitude, show off, in a relatively small area, fauna and flora that approximate a span from Mexico to Hudson Bay.

The warm deserts, the mountain slopes and meads, the canyons, the lakes, the rivers like the Colorado and tall forests of pine and aspen all harbor a great variety of bird life. These visitors range from common robins and sparrows to more exotic kinds, such as hummingbirds and peacocks. One also finds herons, cranes and egrets here, rather unexpectedly in landlocked Arizona.

Guides for Watchers

Fortunately for bird-watchers, almost any hour of any day is likely to be good for spotting a wide selection of species. But patience and a few proven techniques are most rewarding, whether one intends merely to sightsee or to spend more time in capturing birds on film. For identification, two books are valuable, Peterson's "A Field Guide to Western Birds" and Brandt's "Arizona and Its Bird Life." The former is a handy guide; the latter is more detailed.

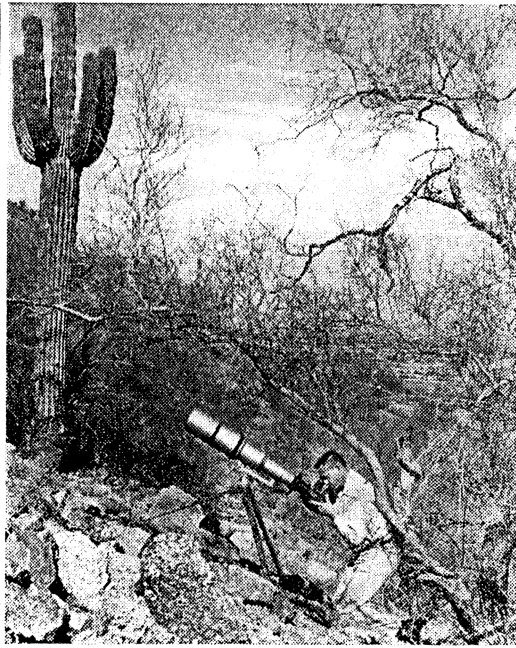
A pair of field glasses is useful for spotting and observation. Camera equipment can be as simple or complicated as one pleases. Generally, however, a telephoto lens is needed, or one must set up a camera, with a remote shutter release, about 20 or 30 inches from where a bird is likely to light.

Suitable spots are water holes, nests, baited stumps and rocks or other controlled feeding stations. Birds are quick on the uptake when it comes to food, and pinon nuts, small grains, water, suet or fruit are favorite lures. Hence, one can often set up conditions for getting good results.

Since most birds have a pattern of coming and going, the observant photographer can quickly learn the best places for taking pictures. A blind is sometimes useful, but not always necessary. Often, a car serves as a substitute; in many cases, birds quickly accept a person's presence if noise and movement are kept to a minimum.

Conditions vary, but a general setting for Ektachrome film in a mounted camera is an aperture of f/11, shutter speed of 1/100 and a distance of 24 inches for the flash reflector with a 5B bulb.

For those tourists whose time is limited or for those seeking a quick general introduction to



William Peterson

A photographer focuses his long lens on the area's birdlife

Arizona birdlife, two spots beckon. They are the walk-in aviaries of the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum near Tucson and the new Maytag Zoological Park in Phoenix. Here, almost at arm's length and without any restraining screens, one can get acquainted with birds such as the cactus wren, thrashers, quail, cardinals, turkey buzzards, magpies, jays, Mexican caciques, roadrunners, doves and numerous others.

Another favorite with winter visitors who want companionship while bird-watching is the program sponsored by the Maricopa Audubon Society and the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department. These include regular bird walks in Encanto Park, Phoenix. There are such common winter birds as ducks, flickers, flycatchers, geese, grebes, hawks, hummingbirds, kingfishers, nuthatches, robins, sapsuckers, sparrows, starlings, vireos, vultures, warblers and wrens.

Periodic Field Trips

The society also conducts periodic field trips to such points as Kitt Mountain near Tucson, Sycamore Creek, River Ranch, Seven Springs and Patagonia.

There is no question, however, that the most satisfaction comes from individual discoveries, from going out on one's own and seeing the birds in their usual habitat. A concurrent dividend, of course, is also getting to know Arizona and its contrasting landscapes more intimately. Where, then, to go?

The best spot for varieties of birds, according to the Maricopa Audubon Society, is around Patagonia, especially along Sonoita Creek. There, rolling cattlelands and friendly mountains bask under the state's most agreeable climate at a point about 30 miles north of the Mexican border. Nearby Madera Canyon in the Santa Rita Mountains, between Tucson and Nogales, also plays host to a fine selection, including such rarities as the coppery-tailed trogon.

Working eastward, the Huachuca Mountains boast of 11 species of hummingbirds and 18 species of flycatchers among the almost 200 different kinds of birds that thrive there. The

Chiricahua Mountains, once an Apache stronghold, have high concentrations of birds in localities such as Portal and in Rustler's and Bearfoot parks.

Nearer to Tucson, Rillito Creek and Pantano Wash, both along the Santa Catalina Mountains, are good places to spot such birds as the Arizona cardinal, hooded oriole, western blue grosbeak, crested flycatcher, desert sparrow, Palmer's thrush, phainopepla and verdin.

Perhaps the biggest surprises in this arid land come along the Colorado River. There are several wildlife refuges along the river between Lake Mead and the Mexican border, but almost any stretch of the stream is likely to produce excellent bird-watching. For there, the desert dwellers meet the water birds.

Topcock Swamp, below Davis Dam, is a popular gathering place for ducks and geese. Lake Havasu adds pelicans and American egrets. Southward, one can see hordes of snowy egrets, coots, blue heron, comorants, kingfishers and other water birds. And below Imperial Diversion Dam, north of Yuma, the sloughs are populated with sandpipers, dowitchers and similar shore birds.

Pleasant Day's Outing

Easy drives from Phoenix, particularly in a wide arc ranging northward, lead to other places where "birding" can be combined with a pleasant day's outing that might include visits to ghost towns, Indian ruins, Joshua Tree forests or copper camps. Among the possibilities are Cave Creek and Pinnacle Peak north of Scottsdale, the Hassayampa and Santa Maria Rivers near Wickenburg, Coon's Bluff on the Salt River, Camp Verde, Montezuma Castle National Monument and New River, off the Black Canyon Highway.

The biggest benefit of bird-watching in Arizona is a hidden one. It is the quiet art of communing with nature, and that, perhaps, is reason enough to take up bird-watching on a Southwestern sojourn.

MARICOPA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Guidelist for Annual Christmas Bird Count

AREA LEADERS: Please note mileage at entrance to your area and upon leaving same, to secure total car mileage. Enter 2216 Leave 2221 1/2 Count ALL birds, where possible. Estimate flocks as accurately as possible. If any unusual specie is seen, try to have several observers see same and note characteristics on attached list. 50 miles

Please list names and addresses of all observers in your area and collect 50¢ from each observer who wishes his or her name to appear in AUDUBON FIELD NOTES. This entry fee is used to help finance publication of the Christmas Bird Count.

- | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| | <u>Rose W Faeklam</u> | <u>Buffalo, N.Y.</u> |
| | (Name) | (Address) |
| Leader- | <u>Una E Miller</u> | <u>5717 W Clarendon</u> |
| | <u>Gladys Brown</u> | <u>4202 W McDowell</u> |
| | <u>Walter A Brown</u> | <u>4202 W McDowell</u> |
| | _____ | _____ |
| | _____ | _____ |

10-13-63
AZ Repub

Screen Tours to Start

A panorama of Canada's southwest province with its check and balance system of nature will open the 1963-64 Audubon Wildlife Film season on Oct. 29 when Chester P. Lyons returns to Phoenix with his new film, "Nature's Plans and Puzzles."

Lyons will be remembered by Valley residents as he appeared on the 1961 Audubon Screen Tour program with his motion picture, "The Right To Live," which was also set in his home province of British Columbia.

THIS IS THE FIFTH year the Audubon Wildlife Films have been co-sponsored by the Phoenix Evening College and the Saguaro Camera Club, in collaboration with the National Audubon Society.

The programs are all presented in the Phoenix College Auditorium and begin at 7:45 p.m.

All of the colored motion pictures are personally presented by professional photographers, many of whom are considered top naturalists.

The National Audubon Society is dedicated to the conservation of wildlife, plants, soil and water in relation to human progress, and this year's programs are especially related to this educational theme. The Wildlife Films are only one of a dozen integrated activities the society sponsors in the United States and Canada.

On Dec. 2, Walter Berlet will present the second of the

series. "The Living Wilderness." Berlet, who lives in Wyoming, is an especially qualified conservationist, and his film features many of the animals of the western United States mountain areas.

Another Canadian province will be featured on Feb. 3, 1964, when Edgar T. Jones brings his film entitled "Alberta Outdoors." Alberta's terrain varies greatly, and this artist-photographer-naturalist combines them all in an excellent nature study.

Emerson Scott is another returnee to the Valley's Audubon audiences. Scott entranced his viewers in January 1962 with "Pika Country" — showing shots of the tiny pika of the Rocky Mountains and unusual movies of the bighorn sheep.

THIS SEASON, on March 16, Scott will further the society's aim of conservation with "Our Changing Heritage." A study of the changes man is bringing to our land, Scott tells his story with a herd of domestic sheep as they go through their various grazing lands during the four seasons.

Gazette

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1963

Bird Watcher Walk Slated

Bird lovers expect to see some 20 different species when they leisurely tour Encanto Park tomorrow from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Mrs. David Demaree, local bird expert, and some associates of the Maricopa Audubon Society will identify and describe the birds.

Sponsored jointly by the society and the city parks-recreation department, the walks start at Encanto boathouse, 15th Avenue and Encanto Boulevard. There is no charge, but walkers should bring binoculars.

Some 92 birds have been spotted since the walks began more than seven years ago.

Tomorrow's walk will be the second of the season. Next walk will be Jan. 7.

FINAL PROGRAM on the series will feature Alfred G. Etter on April 13. "Awake To Nature" also deals with the change man is forcing on nature. In this study made from Dr. Etter's own experiences in Missouri and Michigan, this documentary helps the viewer decide what he can do to relieve the unbalanced system now existing.

Tickets for the Audubon Wildlife Films may be purchased at the Phoenix Evening College office or through Saguaro Camera Club members. The popular family ticket, entitling three or more members of a family to view the films for just \$1 more

than two regular season tickets, is again offered. Student tickets are also available, as are single admission tickets.

The co-sponsors especially wish to reach young people for this educational series, and therefore have set an earlier starting hour for their pleasure.

Bird Walks To Start

Nov - 1962

If you like birds, mark Tuesday on your calendar.

The sixth season of free, guided bird walks begin at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Encanto Park. A total of 95 land and water birds have been identified by those who have taken the walks in the past, said Mrs. Betty Puckle, of the Phoenix Parks Department, cosponsor with the Maricopa Audubon Society.

Mrs. Puckle said those wishing to join the walk should meet by the lagoon near the Encanto boat house. Leaders will be Mrs. David Demaree and Mrs. Lowell Bonnewell of the Audubon Society.

Walks are scheduled for the following Tuesdays — Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5 and 19, March 5 and 19, and April 2 and 16.

Bird Walks Open Tomorrow

Gazette 11/19/63

Phoenix harbinger of winter—the Encanto bird walks — will arrive at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Mrs. David Demaree of the Maricopa Audubon Society, cosponsor of the walks with the Phoenix Parks Department, again will lead the guided events for residents and winter visitors.

Those taking the walks are provided with a check list of the 96 different birds identified in the past six years.

11-19-63 Phoenix Gazette

Birds Of a Feather, etc.



WHERE DID HE GO? -- Half hidden in the tangled undergrowth, Mrs. DeAnn Kelley, 3531 W. Granada, hunts for the rare Vireo in Encanto Park's shady sanctuary.

It's a darn good thing birds don't go around watching people.

People watch birds, of course, though no one has ever explained satisfactorily exactly why they watch 'em. Whoever saw a bird do anything novel or intriguing?

Right here in Phoenix, we have bird watchers -- a whole mess of them. They gather at Encanto Park at 10:30 a.m. or some such ridiculous hour and scratch around looking at the yellow breasted wingdingers and what not. The walks are arranged by the Maricopa Audobon Society and Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department.

"We walk like Indians down a narrow, winding path," says bird watcher third class Beatrice Fein, of 1430 N. Third. "You never know what bird you will see next."

(Editors note: No, you don't.)

"This morning, I saw a common loon," Miss Fein added, with a touch of fervor in her voice. "I haven't seen one in years."

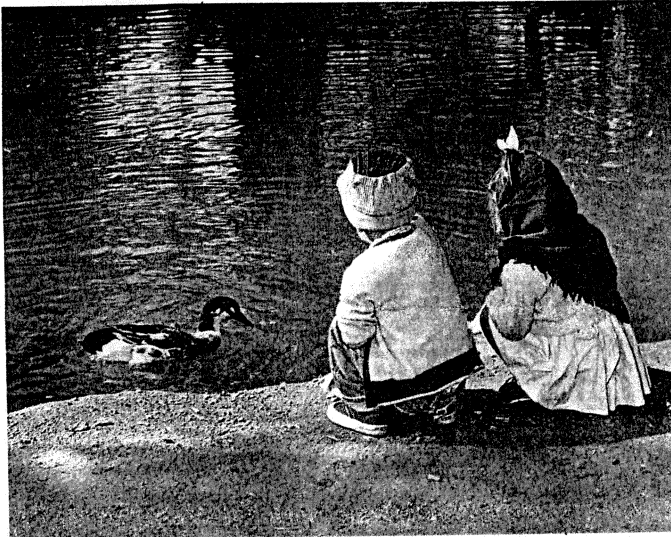
(Editors note, again: Have they changed much?)

Another bird watcher, armed with binoculars, camera and bratwurst sandwich, was observed peering at two birds sitting in a bush.

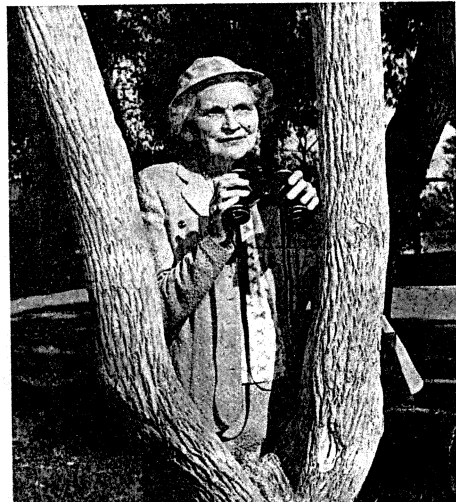
"Don't you feel you are prying?" he was asked.

"Not a bit," he replied. "The birds don't mind."

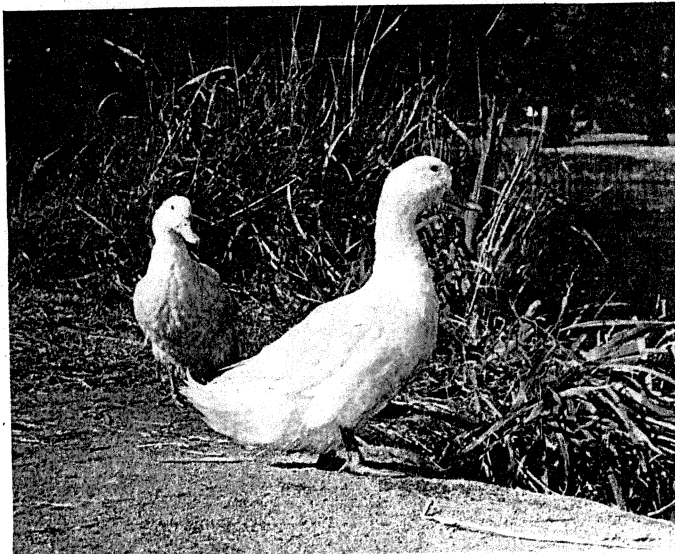
The interviewer decided he would mind very much if he were a bird.



TYKES TAME A WILD ONE -- Getting their fowl the easy way, these children entice one of Encanto Park's wild ducks with cookie crumbs.



BYE BYE BIRDIE -- Rose Facklam watches as the bird she has been studying wings off into the blue.



DUCKY DETOUR -- While searching out the rarer species in Encanto Park, bird watchers take a gander at these old time residents.

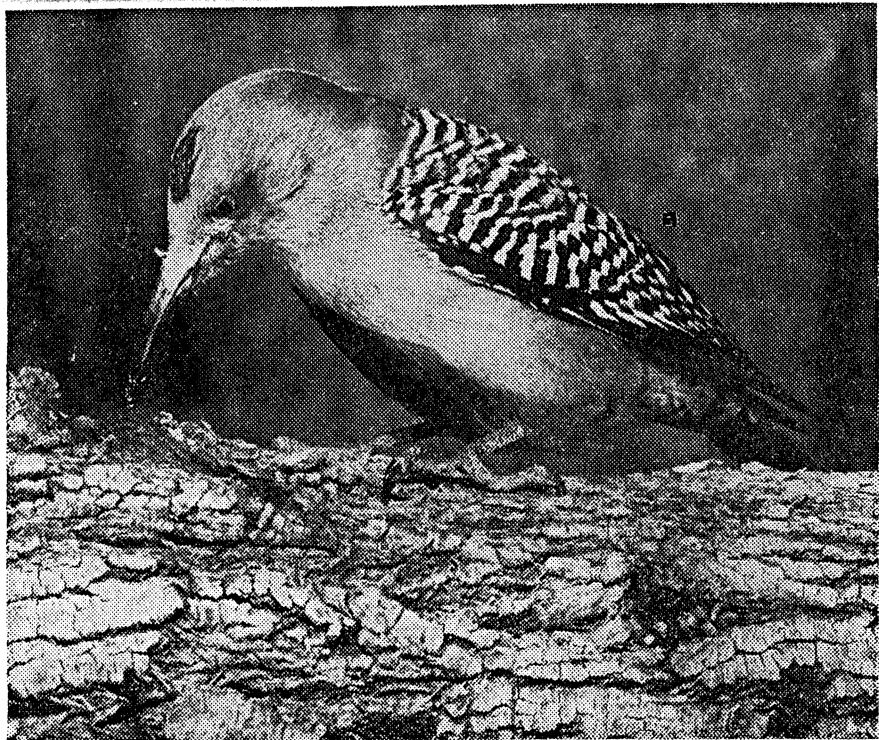


WATCH THE BIRDIE -- John J. Bogar, 4013 E. Indianola, crouches to shoot a picture of the Oregon Junco.



Republic Photo by Earl McCartney

Mrs. David Demaree



To be seen: *The Gila Woodpecker*

Audubon Film

AZ Republic

Come See the Birds

1963

Bird Watchers Watch

By JEANNE TRO WILLIAMS

Cartoonists delight in showing bird-watchers loping over the greensward, binoculars at the ready, hailing with glad cries the first sighting of a Cross-Grained Termagant.

The stereotype seems unjust to the serious purpose and public service of the Maricopa Audubon Society, a chapter of the national group.

The 150 members, 65 per cent of them women, do study Arizona's bird life, contribute to scientific knowledge. They are also ardent conservationists, dedicated to preserving all forms of wild life and natural beauty.

Mrs. David M. Demaree, 148 W. Rose Lane, has been a member of the local group since its start 10 years ago. "Sparrows, nuthatches, blackbirds are the same in Arizona as anywhere else," said she. "Robins are winter tourists. They never nest here in the Valley, but some years tremendous flocks fly in—particularly when pyracantha bushes are full of berries."

PROHIBITIONISTS won't approve. The berries ferment in the robin's craws, and the birds get tiddly . . . "Where's that cat?"

Motorists are amused on Arizona's back roads by impromptu races with the state bird, the jaunty Roadrunner—Chaparral cock if you like. Long-legged and fast on his feet, he whooshes alongside the car, relishing the game.

Mrs. Demaree said that he is found in

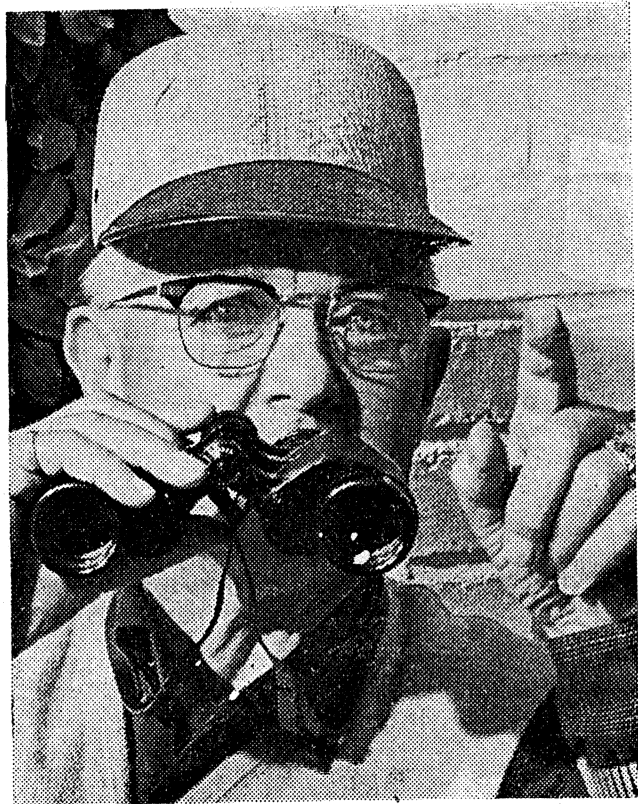
parts of California, Texas, New Mexico and Mexico, where they call him "paisano," which means "countryman."

The Maricopa chapter, in cooperation with National Audubon Society, is presenting a series of films, narrated by the filmmakers.

ALL WILL BE shown at 7:45 p.m. at Phoenix College Auditorium, 1202 W. Thomas Road.

The first is Tuesday, "Sights and Sounds of Africa," by G. Stuart Keith. Nov. 30, John Taft narrates his film "Land That I Love;" Jan. 23 "Once Around the Sun" by William Ferguson; Feb. 28, "The Untamed Olympics" by Walter H. Berlet and on April 16, "Wild Rivers of North America" by John D. Bulger.

For tickets, telephone Lloyd Shuttleworth, 254-8721; Carmela Crawford, 277-2844 or Lowell Bonnewell, 943-5290.



Gazette Staff Photo

I'VE SPOTTED A LOON

Keith Warren, 1329 E. Vermont, today spotted Loon in Encanto Park lagoon as 1963-64 bird walk series and illustrated bird lectures got under way, sponsored by city parks and recreation department. Warren, a bird walk leader, said Loons are unusual in Phoenix, preferring to be near large bodies of water. Walks at park are scheduled Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4 and 18, March 3, and April 7 and 21.

Film Lecture On Birds Due

An illustrated lecture on "Arizona Birds" will be presented by Harry L. and Ruth Crockett at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Phoenix Public Library Auditorium.

The Crocketts are nationally known for their lectures and movies and their articles in "Arizona Highways." They have spent many years in studying birds, and many hours waiting to trip the camera shutter.

The result, according to Mrs. David Demaree, Maricopa Audubon Society coordinator, is a "spectacular" in "living color" of birds seen close up, in flight, at feeding tables, at their nests.

The program is offered without charge under the sponsorship of the Phoenix Public Library, the Maricopa Audubon Society and the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department.

Phoenix Public Library - 12-63

Feathered Visitors Visible

Phoenix's winter visitors sure include some strange birds — feathered varieties, that is.

You'll probably see a white-breasted nuthatch or an orange-crowned warbler if you join the next Encanto Park bird walk. It will begin at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Encanto boathouse. Everyone is welcome and there's no charge.

Gazette 1-3-63

11-3-63 Gazette

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

Bird Watchers Find Many Wintering Here

By GINGER ARLINGTON
Gazette Staff Writer

They stopped, looked, and listened.

"I hear a Gila," someone said.

Binoculars aimed in the direction of the Gila woodpecker's churr.

"I hear him, but I don't see him," came a mild complaint.

Mrs. David Demaree, of the Maricopa County Audubon Society and leader of the Encanto Park bird walk, pointed out a red-capped fellow.

"The Gila is the bird that makes a lot of those holes in saguaro cacti or in your coolers and houses," she told her group of watchers.

The group traveled on. They were only part of 50 Phoenix residents and winter visitors walking and watching at the park.

THE WATCHERS pointed out various birds and asked questions.

"Is that the ordinary sparrow with that little black tie?"

They compared bird-eating habits.

"They like pyracantha berries, but he eats pepper berries."

"I feed about 25 Inca doves every morning."

They discussed traveling companions.

"Do the two birds, the Ore-

Other birds alighting here for the winter include the Audubon warbler, hermit thrush and several kinds of ducks, said Mrs. David Demaree of the Maricopa Audubon Society, leader of the walks. The society and the city parks department are walk co-sponsors.

If you're interested, you can get a schedule of the remaining six bird walks and two free illustrated bird lectures at parks department headquarters, 2700 N. 15th Ave.

gon Junco and the gray-headed Junco, travel together?"

A green heron perched on a metal pipe. The watchers examined him through binoculars. His green back and head and rust-colored neck drew exclamations of delight.

Bird watchers seem to have other things in common besides an interest in birds. They all have binoculars, a love of wild life, and extremely sharp eyes.

MANY TRAVEL from state to state finding new species of wild life. But, according to Mrs. Demaree, there are plenty of birds to be seen right here in Phoenix during the winter.

Within a 15-mile radius in the west part of town, 103 species of birds were seen recently. Among those seen at Encanto were the Bridal Titmice and Anna's Hummingbirds.

But, as one lady said, looking around at the Encanto greenery, "Even if you didn't see any birds, it would still be a pleasant walk."

The next Encanto bird walk is scheduled Feb. 5 at 10:30 a.m. behind the Encanto Park club house.

The walks, co-sponsored by the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department and the Maricopa County Audubon Society, are open to the public free of charge.



Nov 18-63

Bird Count Scheduled Dec. 28

Gazette

The annual Christmas bird count — which gives some idea of what man has been doing to the birds — will be held by the Maricopa Audubon Society Dec. 28.

Fears that man is destroying the bird world, or certain parts of it, may be alleviated by the count.

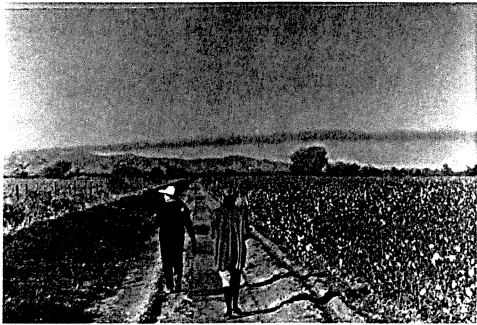
THE COUNT, which involves the cooperation of dozens of local bird lovers and naturalists, will cover a 15-mile circle west of Phoenix.

Mrs. David Demaree, veteran society member, will direct the operation, which is part of a nationwide effort aimed at finding out what our feathered friends are up to this year.

Counting teams will meet at Uptown Plaza at 6 a.m. on Dec. 28. Counters should make advance arrangements with Lloyd Shuttleworth, AL 4-8721, it was announced by William H. Patey, editor of "The Roadrunner," the society's publication. At 6:30 p.m., Dec. 28, the counters will dine at Ontra Cafeteria opposite Park Central.

THE SOCIETY'S first bird walk of the season will be held at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow in Encanto Park, starting from the Boathouse Lagoon. Other walks are scheduled Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4 and 18, March 3, and April 7 and 21.

Leslie Mahoney, Phoenix architect, will present his pictures of a three-months safari in Uganda, Kenya, and Tanganyika, at 8 p.m. Dec. 3 in the Goettl Auditorium, 2005 E. Indian School.



Wednesday, October 9, 1963

Jack Williams

Hawks Declared Friend Of Man

Leaving sukiyaki for a moment, we spring to the defense of our feathered friend, the hawk. William H. Patey of 111 E. Royal Palms Rd. came in to enlist our aid.

He has an illustrated chart showing the broad-winged rodent hawk, the white-headed fishing hawk, the short-winged bird hawk, duck hawk, sparrow hawk, pigeon hawk, marsh hawk and Swainson's hawk.

This circular has been prepared by the National Audubon Society.

Although we hadn't given the matter much thought before, we now have learned that hawks are our friends. "They are living mouse traps," the circular says.

Our new friend reported that a farmer watched one red-tailed hawk capture 32 mice in one day, which establishes the vital role our friends, the hawks, play in keeping down rodents which otherwise would become a serious problem.

Rodents breed so rapidly they would overrun the country, were it not for the constant patrolling of hawks. This rodent burrowing also menaces the top soil and invites washouts and erosion.

Hawks and owls both perform valuable service to man.

Re Public 5-22-63

Audubon Society Sets New List of Officials

Newly elected officers of the Maricopa Audubon Society are discussed by nationally prominent speakers. Mrs. Eric Lambart, president; Gordon Boudreau, vice president; Mrs. George P. Hunt, secretary; and Lloyd Shuttleworth, treasurer.

William H. Patey, director, attended the western conference of the national society held at Asilomar, Pacific Grove, Calif., as delegate of the local group.

Theme of the meeting was "Our Living Heritage Going Where," he reported, with conservation problems on many fronts being

The national society holds two major conventions yearly. Asilomar is the permanent site of the western meeting while the site of the eastern convention changes yearly. The 1963 session will be held in Miami, Fla., in November.

THEY'LL KNOW BY NOVEMBER

Valley Bird Lovers Wonder If Robins Will Be With Us

Will the robins come to Phoenix this year—or go to Florida?

This is the big question among local bird lovers.

Mrs. David Demaree, one of the Maricopa Audubon Society's most enthusiastic members, reports that last year the birds flocked in unusual numbers to Florida, but virtually forgot about Phoenix.

By November, the robin question likely will be answered, she says.

DESPITE the robin-slack, there is no lack of other species here—Mrs. Demaree has just recorded the 71st species—a black-headed grosbeak—in her yard at 148 W. Rose Lane.

The beginning of autumn today finds the warblers and water birds winging over Arizona with a few stopovers, southward bound for warmth and food, she notes. Ducks and tanagers also are being spotted en route.

Comes Christmas local Audubon members will make the largest bird count in their history.

BIRD FAMILY life is decreasing as the winged ones move south in groups or flocks, in contrast to their pairing off for the merry months of spring, when they produce families.

Clouds of white-crown sparrows are expected to remain here during the winter as usual, Mrs. Demaree says, with some sparrow hawks to gobble up the mice and grasshoppers around.

Bird colors are dulling now, in tempo with the autumn.

NEXT SPRING or maybe the one after that, Mrs. Demaree hopes like most bird lovers, to see the grand migration at Rockport, Texas, where birds appear in fantastic migrating numbers as they move north, in this instance, from South American points.

Bird lovers everywhere are, of course, wondering what effect various air pollutants, such as bug-killers, will have on the bird population. But they aren't certain: For example, while warblers and big birds like sandhill cranes

are decreasing, doves and such are increasing in numbers.

LARGE BIRDS are definitely having a hard time because they are unable to find

nesting places, as man encroaches upon the land, she indicates.

RARE VISITORS

Gazette 11/4/63

Bird Watcher Spots Loon; Black-Bellied Ducks, Too

A common loon and some black-bellied tree ducks were spotted in Phoenix—a rare occurrence—a local bird watcher reported today.

Mrs. David Demaree of the Maricopa Audubon Society said the common loon, a sea bird, ordinarily doesn't come so far inland, but occasionally is seen in Colorado. The tree ducks tend to stick to Mexico and South America.

ROBINS, EXPECTED sometime this month or by Christmas, haven't been spotted by society members as yet, she said, adding that the weather up north has remained warm, so that birds which come here in winter haven't moved out of their natural habitats. And the robins may go to Florida,

instead, as happened last year.

When cold hits the north and food becomes less plentiful, they flock this way, Mrs. Demaree explained.

Ducks are arriving already, she added.

MRS. DEMAREE has recorded more than 71 bird species in her yard at 148 W. Rose Lane.

Bird watchers, in a sense, annually hold their breath as the counting season begins, wondering what various air pollutants, such as bug-killers, will do to the bird population.

Comes Christmas, the largest bird count in the history of the local Audubon society is expected.



"I had no idea birdwatching was so exciting!"