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The Seventy-Ninth Annual Meeting

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THE SEVENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Seventy-ninth Annual Meeting was held at the 4-H Camp in the Bessey Division of the Nebraska National Forest, near Halsey, 17 and 18 May, 1980. The attendance at this meeting was 73, compared to "seventy-odd" at the 1973 meeting and 87 at the 1970 meeting, both held at the Camp. The formal program, which was held to a minimum to maximize the time available for birding consisted of demonstrations of bird banding by Hazel and Fitzhugh Diggs of Hamburg, Iowa, and Ruth Green of Bellevue, and at the annual banquet a slide-illustrated talk by David Griffiths, of Pueblo, Colorado, on "Birds of Alaska and Colorado". At the business meeting the officers were all re-elected: Ruth C. Green, Bellevue, president; Prof. Stanley Longfellow, Kearney, vice-president; Mrs. Emma Johnson, Omaha, secretary; Mr. Wm. W. Lemburg, Cairo, treasurer; Dr. Neva Pruess, Lincoln, librarian; and Dr. R.G. Cortelyou, Omaha, editor. Grand Island was selected as the site for the 1981 meeting, and it was decided to try to return to the 4-H Camp for the fall meeting, if possible, with the Harlan County Reservoir as an alternative site. Because the supply of Check-lists was exhausted about a year ago, and Dr. Johnsgard has printed privately a limited edition of a new Check-list which he hopes to have issued in a larger edition under organizational sponsorship, Dr. Pruess and Dr. Johnsgard were authorized to look into the possibilities of joint sponsorship by NOU of any such printing, and of the availability of the book through NOU.

The Seventy-sixth Annual Field Days were held Saturday, 17 May, and Sunday morning, 18 May, with some early arrivals birding much of Friday. Friday was a day of state-wide rain, much of it light and intermittent. At Halsey Saturday the rain was rather light and infrequent, and by Sunday it was just an infrequent mist. But for the whole period the sky was overcast and the light poor for birding. The rain was badly needed, and the weather probably helped hold the birds and so contributed to the good count: 132 species, plus any number of unidentified Empidonax species. On the other hand, road conditions prevented birding in the southern part of the Forest, and the grouse blinds had been closed and cattle turned into the pastures just before the meeting began. A very black hawk, apparently a Red-tail was seen both days in the air a little southwest of the Camp, and a very busy Chickadee nest was another interesting discovery. The 1973 meeting was held 12 and 13 May on "reportedly the first nice" weekend at Halsey "this year", and produced a count "on or near the Forest" (the same standard used for the 1980 count) of 99, plus unidentified Empidonax species. The 1970 meeting, 16 and 17 May, produced a count of "125 on field trips Sunday (some off of the Forest) and 6 others recorded earlier but not on Sunday" (*NBR* 38:26). (Only 130 species were listed. The original count card is not in the file, so it can not be determined whether the count is wrong, or a species — maybe Empidonax species or Rock Dove — was omitted.) A comparison of the three counts is given on the next page. 1980 = A, 1973 = B (an * in this column marks those birds seen only by a party which went north to Hackberry Lake, on Valentine Refuge (*NBR* 41:23), probably comparable to the "off the Forest" records for 1970). and 1970 = C.

Horned Grebe	- - C	Forster's Tern	A - -	Black-and-white Warb.	A B C
Eared Grebe	- - C	Common Tern	- * C	Blue-winged Warbler	A - -
Western Grebe	- * -	Black Tern	A B C	Tennessee Warbler	A B -
Pied-billed Grebe	A * C	Rock Dove	A B -	Orange-cr. Warbler	A B C
White Pelican	- - C	Mourning Dove	A B C	Yellow Warbler	A B C
D-c Cormorant	A - C	Barn Owl	A - -	Magnolia Warbler	A - -
Great Blue Heron	A B C	Screech Owl	A - -	Cape May Warbler	A - -
Green Heron	A - C	Great Horned Owl	A B C	Yellow-rumped Warb.	A B -
Great Egret	A - -	Burrowing Owl	- B C	Townsend's Warbler	A - C
American Bittern	- - C	Long-eared Owl	- - C	Blackburnian Warb.	A - -
Canada Goose	- * C	Poor-will	A B C	Chestnut-Sided War.	A - -
Mallard	A B C	Common Nighthawk	A - -	Bay-breasted Warb.	A - -
Gadwall	A * C	Chimney Swift	A B C	Blackpoll Warbler	A B C
Pintail	A * C	Belted Kingfisher	A B C	Pine Warbler	A - -
Green-winged Teal	- * C	Common Flicker	A B C	Palm Warbler	A - -
Blue-winged Teal	A B C	Red-headed Woodp.	A B C	Ovenbird	A B -
American Wigeon	- - C	Hairy Woodpecker	A B C	No. Waterthrush	A - -
Northern Shoveler	- * -	Downy Woodpecker	A B C	La. Waterthrush	- B -
Redhead	- - C	Eastern Kingbird	A B C	Mourning Warbler	- B -
Canvasback	- B -	Western Kingbird	A B C	Common Yellowthroat	A B C
Lesser Scaup	- * C	Gr. Crested Fly.	A B C	Yellow-br. Chat	A B C
Bufflehead	A * -	Eastern Phoebe	- B C	Wilson's Warbler	- B -
Ruddy Duck	A - C	Yellow-bellied Fly.	- B -	Canada Warbler	A - -
Turkey Vulture	A B C	Traill's Flycatch.	- - C	American Redstart	A B C
Cooper's Hawk	- - C	Least Flycatcher	A B C	House Sparrow	A B C
Red-tailed Hawk	A B C	Empidonax sp.	A B -	Bobolink	A - C
Swainson's Hawk	- B C	Eastern Wood Pewee	A - C	Eastern Meadowlark	A - C
Ferruginous Hawk	- - C	Olive-sided Fly.	A - -	Western Meadowlark	A B C
Marsh Hawk	A B C	Horned Lark	A B C	Yellow-head, Black.	A * C
Prairie Falcon	A B -	Tree Swallow	- * -	Red-winged Blackb.	A B C
American Kestrel	A B C	Bank Swallow	- B -	Orchard Oriole	A B C
Gr. Prairie Chicken	- B -	Rough-winged Sw.	A B C	Northern Oriole	A B C
Sharp-tailed Gr.	A B C	Barn Swallow	A B C	Common Grackle	A B C
Bobwhite	- B C	Cliff Swallow	A B C	Br.-headed Cowbird	A B C
Ring-n. Pheasant	A B C	Blue Jay	A B C	Cardinal	A B C
Turkey	- - C	Black-b. Magpie	A B C	Rose-br. Grosbeak	A B C
Virginia Rail	- * -	Common Crow	A B C	Blk-headed Grosb.	A B C
American Coot	A * C	Clark's Nutcracker	- - C	Blue Grosbeak	A B C
Semipalm. Plover	- B -	Black-c. Chickadee	A B C	Indigo Bunting	A - -
Killdeer	A B C	White-br. Nuthatch	- B -	Lazuli Bunting	A - C
Common Snipe	- - C	Red-br. Nuthatch	A - C	Dickcissel	- - C
Long-billed Curlew	A * C	House Wren	A B C	Evening Grosbeak	- B -
Upland Sandpiper	- B C	Short-b. Marsh Wren	A - -	Purple Finch	A - -
Spotted Sandpiper	A B C	Gray Catbird	A - C	Pine Siskin	A B C
Greater Yellowlegs	A - -	Brown Thrasher	A B C	American Goldfinch	A B C
Lesser Yellowlegs	- - C	American Robin	A B C	Roufous-sided Tow.	A B C
Willet	- - C	Wood Thrush	A - -	Lark Bunting	A B C
Pectoral Sandpiper	- B -	Swainson's Thrush	A B C	Grasshopper Sp.	A B C
White-rumped Sand.	A - C	Gray-Cheeked Thr.	A B C	Vesper Sparrow	A B C
Baird's Sandpiper	- B C	Eastern Bluebird	A B C	Lark Sparrow	A B C
Least Sandpiper	A B C	Golden-cr. Kinglet	- B C	Dark-eyed Junco	A - -
Semipalmated Sand.	A - C	Ruby-cr. Kinglet	A - C	Chipping Sparrow	A B C
Western Sandpiper	A - -	Cedar Waxwing	A - C	Clay-colored Sp.	A B C
Sanderling	- - C	Loggerhead Shrike	A B C	Field Sparrow	A B C
Stilt Sandpiper	A - -	Starling	A B C	Harris' Sparrow	A B C
American Avocet	- - C	Bell's Vireo	A B C	White-cr. Sparrow	A B C
Wilson's Phalarope	A * C	Solitary Vireo	A - -	White-th. Sparrow	A B -
Northern Phalarope	- - C	Red-eyed Vireo	A - C	Lincoln's Sparrow	A B C
Herring Gull	- - C	Philadelphia Vireo	A - -	Song Sparrow	A - C
Franklin's Gull	A - C	Warbling Vireo	A B C	Lapland Longspur	A - -