

# Western Tanager



PUBLISHED MONTHLY, SEPTEMBER TO MAY  
BY THE LOS ANGELES AUDUBON SOCIETY

THE LOS ANGELES BRANCH OF THE  
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

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## THE LOS ANGELES AUDUBON SOCIETY IN 1949-1950

That all the members may know what was accomplished in the past year we summarize briefly the annual reports of officers and committees.

Our president, Mrs. Alice Lewis, noted several evidences of advancement, among these the publishing of our first yearbook announcing all meetings for the year and giving lists of officers and members. This was prepared by a committee of which Mrs. Bess Hoffman was chairman; the receipt of the bequest of \$8318.75 from the Ada Miller estate; and the designating of the educational fund as the Laura Greely Educational Fund. The president represented us at the annual convention of the National Audubon Society in Detroit, and at the convention of the branches of the Society in California at Asilomar. Also at several workshops of the society and at the hearing in Riverside on the Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority.

The Membership Committee, Mrs. Maybelle DeMay chairman, reported that there were 590 members of the society at the end of June. Sixty-nine new members were added during the year, but 94 were dropped or resigned and 14 were lost by death. Of the members 30 are life members, 4 new this year, 6 honorary and 2 patrons. Three hundred and thirty-one of our members are also members of the National Society.

Mrs. C. J. Parker, Treasurer, reported that there was on hand July 1, 1949, \$596.01. Receipts during the year were \$3246.51, making a total of \$3842.52. There was paid out \$3267.03, leaving a balance on July 1, 1950 of \$575.49. The largest item of income was, as always, membership dues - \$1046. A still larger item shows on the report, \$1299 from tickets for the Screen Tours, but expenses of the Tours were \$909.28, leaving a profit of \$389.72, half of which according to contract was sent to the National Society, the balance added to our educational fund. The largest item of expense was \$602.98 for publishing *The Tanager*; our yearbook cost \$172.29, a little over \$100 was spent on afternoon and evening programs. Other receipts and expenditures were for a large number of smaller items. The Laura Greely Educational Fund had a balance of \$348.43 at the end of last year, to this was added during the year \$413.69, of which \$100 was a bequest from Miss Greely. From the fund \$300 was spent for one full, two half and four quarter scholarships to the Camp at Norden. The fund now has \$462.12 with, in addition, government bonds amounting to \$7350.00 from the Ada Miller bequest.

There were seven Sunday field trips, one overnight to the Joshua Tree National Monument. An average of 30 attended the trips. There were eight Thursday trips with an average attendance of 53. An average of 44 species of birds were seen on each trip with a total of 172 kinds of birds seen during the season. The May trip was to Charlton Flats, where after lunch, shared with robins and bluebirds the installation of officers for the coming year was conducted by Mrs. Edith Hastings. Among outstanding birds seen on the trips were White Pelicans, White-fronted Goose, Condor, Pigeon Hawk, Wilson's Snipe, Vaux's Swift, Purple Martin, Lazuli Bunting and Grasshopper and Lincoln Sparrows. Mrs. Caroline Daugherty was in charge of the Thursday trips, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Berry of the Sunday ones.

The Annual Christmas Bird Count for the Los Angeles area was also directed by Mrs. Daugherty. Not quite as many birds were reported as in some other years, still our list of 144 species was the third highest in the United States, Harlington, Texas with 151 and Charleston, South Carolina with 145 being ahead of us.

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THE WESTERN Tanager

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THE LOS ANGELES AUDUBON SOCIETY

For the Protection of Birds and other  
Wildlife, Plants, Soil and Water.

## Society Emblems

The Western Tanager.. The Mariposa Lily  
The Live Oak...The Swallowtail Butterfly

## Society Colors

The red, yellow and black of the Tanager.

## Membership Dues

Student (12 to 18 yrs.) 75¢, annual \$1.50,  
Life \$25, Patron \$100. Joint membership  
with the National Audubon Society \$5.00-  
including subscription to Audubon  
Magazine. Send applications to treasurer.

OFFICERS FOR 1950-1951

President Emerita, Mrs. Mary B. Salmon  
Junior Past President, Mrs. Mary V. Hood  
President .....Mrs. Neil H. Lewis  
First Vice-pres.. Mrs. Florence Hamer  
Second Vice-pres. Miss Bessie M. Pope  
Recording Sect. Mrs. Maybelle DeMay  
Executive Sect. Mrs. Bess Hoffman  
Treasurer Mrs. W. Scott Lewis  
2500 Beechwood Dr., Hollywood 28  
Curator Mrs. Willard Wikoff  
Historian Miss Christine Kemp

CHAIRMEN OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Field Activities Mrs. Caroline Daugherty  
Nature Study Mr. George T. Hastings  
Program Miss Leta E. Adams  
Conservation Mr. Robert L. Pyle  
Extension Miss Clara Pflager  
Publicity Mrs. Joseph Dunn  
Library Mrs. Mary Barnes Salmon  
Membership Miss Bonnie Green  
House Mrs. O. L. Wait  
Hospitality Mrs. Albert Knox  
Publications Mr. George T. Hastings  
Youth Leadership  
Evening Program Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Berry

CHAIRMEN OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Audubon Screen Tours Mrs. Mary V. Hood  
Educational Fund Mrs. O. M. Stultz  
Sales Mrs. Celia Christianson  
Yearbook Mrs. Bess Hoffman  
Nature Study Workshop Mrs. Mary V. Hood  
Finance Mr. R. W. Julian

A GREETING FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Our Society is supposedly inactive in  
the summer months, but due to inside  
information, I wish to thank our officers  
and committee chairmen for their diligent  
work over the summer. I would like to  
alert the membership to watch for our new  
YEAR BOOK. Mrs. Bess Hoffman has compiled  
a great fund of information about the Los  
Angeles Audubon Society, this year in-  
cluding our By-laws. Use it! Don't lose  
it! Come to all our activities you can to  
meet old friends and to make new, as well  
as to support an organization that is mak-  
ing your community a better place in which  
to live. Alice Lewis

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Miss Leta E. Adams,  
1409 Plumas St., Glendale 5  
Mr. John Robert Carleton,  
5306 Irvine Ave., North Hollywood  
Mrs. Florence E. Carr,  
708 N. Madison, Los Angeles 27  
Miss Mildred Ann Cline,  
1436 N. Laurel Ave., Hollywood 46  
Miss Florette E. Freenert,  
726 N. Detroit, Los Angeles 46  
Mr. B. L. Jones,  
1134 Ogden Dr., Los Angeles 46  
Miss Dorothy Lee,  
8400 McGroarty St., Sunland  
Dr. Neil H. Lewis,  
212 N. Wilton Pl., Los Angeles 4  
Miss May McGregor,  
8402 W. Fourth St., Los Angeles 48  
Miss Josephine Moulton,  
1409 Olive Ave., Long Beach 13  
Miss Abbie Newton,  
2610 Rokeby, Los Angeles 26  
Miss Gudrom E. Pepke,  
1631 N. Alexandria, Los Angeles 27  
Mrs. F. H. Randall,  
390 Carrol Park East, Long Beach 14  
Mrs. Clara D. Shafer,  
1224½ E. First St., Long Beach 2  
Dr. Gladys Patric Shakovitch,  
3936 Roderick Road, Los Angeles 65  
Dr. Philip Solomon,  
416 N. Bedford Dr., Beverly Hills  
Mrs. Guy L. Sopher,  
650 Vermont Ave., Los Angeles 4  
Mrs. Sarah Hays Vail,  
7612 Apperson, Tujunga

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. John Q. Burch  
Mrs. Marguerite D. Parker

Program meetings were held on the second Thursday evening of each month in the Echo Park Branch Library with Mr. and Mrs. Berry in charge. Mrs. Alma Stultz was program chairman for the meetings at the County Museum on the third Thursday afternoons. All programs were well illustrated with moving pictures or colored slides and all of great interest and value.

Study classes were held the fourth Thursdays in Plummer Park. The general theme was Balance in Nature with special emphasis on conservation. The Nature Study Committee, with Mr. Hastings as chairman, was in charge of the classes.

The annual Christmas party was held on December 15. As usual the program was delightful; Miss Sarah Ellen Barnes gave several piano selections. "Mirandy" of radio and garden fame presented a program of Christmas traditions and customs, then demonstrated the making of Christmas flower arrangements. After the program Mrs. Manguson and her Hospitality Committee served punch and cake at a beautifully decorated table.

The fortieth birthday of the society was celebrated on May 25th at Plummer Park. At this meeting past presidents and members of long standing were honored. Our President Emeritus, Mrs. Mary Barnes Salmon gave a brief history of the society. Mrs. Harriet Williams Myers told of the founding in 1910. Other members present who joined before 1920 were Miss Cora Bassett, Mrs. C. E. Brown, Miss Miriam Faddis, Miss Ella Johns, Mrs. J. C. Lee, Miss Jennie Morton, and Miss Helen Pratt. Music was furnished by Jose Arias. Miss Charlotte Hamilton, a former president, whistled several selections. A large birthday cake was served as part of the refreshments prepared by Mrs. Caroline Knox.

The Curator, Mrs. Helen Wikoff, reported that the bonds from the Ada Miller estate are in a safe deposit box with the insurance policies on our headquarters building and on our projector and slides. Three large oil paintings of birds' nests by Dr. Henry Smith Williams and eleven water color paintings of local birds by Miss Lydia Devenport are stored in Audubon House.

Mrs. Caroline Knox, Publicity Chairman, sent notices of all our meetings to city papers. The Hollywood Citizen-News sent a reporter to our birthday party and published an excellent illustrated account.

Mr. Edward Terry reported that the Conservation Committee had made efforts to have the city Park Department make an extensive bird sanctuary at Hansen Dam. That small concrete basin had been made to catch drip from faucets in Dexter Park to furnish water for birds and wild animals, and it was hoped similar work would be done in other parks.

Miss Clara Pflager of the Extension Committee reported that the society owns 634 colored slides of birds, many of which had been loaned to various groups. In addition Mrs. Hood has loaned slides from her extensive collection to others.

Mrs. May Wait, House Committee Chairman, reported that arrangements had been made each month for the study classes, for the Christmas party and for the birthday party in Plummer Park and that a sign was painted and hung stating that our headquarters building was the oldest building in Hollywood.

The Hospitality Committee, Mrs. Ada Manguson Chairman, served refreshments at the Christmas party to 160 and at the Anniversary party to over 100.

No other committee accomplished more than the Youth Leadership. Mrs. Mary V. Hood again planned and led a course for leaders that met for ten Wednesday evenings in the museum, concluding with a Sunday field trip to the sanctuary. In planning the course it was announced that registration would be limited to 75. Actually the attendance averaged 115. In giving this outstanding course for leaders of young people Mrs. Hood had the help of more than a dozen of our members. Besides this course Mrs. Hood gave 22 lectures on nature subjects and conservation to schools, church groups, scouts, a sportsmen's club and others.

From these brief notes it will be seen that our society has been active in entertaining and instructing our members and in spreading the gospel of love of nature and the necessity of conservation. The outlook for this new year is fine and the good things in prospect should make all resolve to spread the influence of the society by bringing others to the meetings and securing new members.

### Birds Protected by Federal Law

This is the title of Leaflet 327 just published by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The 522 birds on the list include game birds on which there is an open season when hunting is permitted. It is encouraging to see that the Road Runner and a few other birds formerly not protected are on the list. 37 of the birds are marked as protected in Alaska only, these are birds not found in other parts of the U.S., such as the Willow Ptarmigan, Aleutian Tern, and Lapland Longspur. Copies of this leaflet can be obtained free by writing to the Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Dep't. of the Interior, Washington 25, D.C.

### A SCHOOL CONSERVATION PROJECT

Lafayette High School in New York City has this term done an outstanding job of teaching all pupils the importance of conservation. Two years ago the chairman of the biology department, Mr. Darwin Levine began to interest all teachers in the subject. He attended meetings of each department of the school and tried to show how conservation could be fitted into their work, even presenting definite problems for use in mathematics dealing with conservation. This term the Speech Department had every pupil in the first four terms prepare and present in class a talk on conservation. In each class the best talk was decided by pupil vote. Then these were given in four general assemblies of the school and the best talk of all selected. As a prize a new book on soil conservation was awarded the winner. Such a program carried out in all our schools would do wonders for the cause we are all interested in.

The August number of the Gull, published by the Golden Gate Audubon Society, announces a course of ten lectures on Bird Identification by Howard Cogswell, Museum Assistant in the Department of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California. We know that the San Francisco Audubonites have a very fine thing in store.

### FIELD TRIP FOR OCTOBER

The first trip of the season will be on October 5 to Playa del Rey to study shore and water birds. Full details will be given in the October number of The Tanager, but reserve the date now and plan to attend.

### OBSERVATIONS

Land Birds have had a successful nesting season. Their wild food was in good supply. Canyons and mountain slopes covered with bloom.

SHOREBIRDS: On Aug. 7, Mr. Hastings reports in Playa del Rey marshes many Black-bellied Plovers, some in breeding plumage, some in winter, but most in transition with mottled breasts. 4 young among a dozen Black-necked Stilts, the young still with down on their feathers. Also a few Curlews of both kinds, some Dowitchers and many Willets and Godwits.

LEAST TERNS: Found nesting on July 8, on bare spots back in Playa del Rey marshes. Both eggs and downy young seen. (D)

HUMMINGBIRDS: A prolific year for Anna's. Seen everywhere this summer in numbers. Charlton Flat area, July 6, many Allen's and Rufous (males, females and immature) (D). Mrs. Ray Rogers, Monrovia, reports on July 8 5 species of Hummers off Fish Canyon Road; Black-chinned, Costa's, Anna's, Rufous, and Allen's. Tree tobacco is blooming freely this season and supplying much nectar for Hummers.

ROBINS-BLUEBIRDS: Robins nested again in Wilshire Country Club area, Los Angeles. Robins also nested in Verdugo Woodlands area, Glendale, and in Santa Monica. Western Bluebirds nested in Griffith park in several areas. Families of Western Bluebirds were reported by the Paul M. Sullivans visiting their Woodland Hills yard, Aug. 17, also two Slender-billed Nuthatches like to feed on their walnuts. MT. WILSON: Purple Martins observed going in and out nesting holes in top of high pine trees. Many adult and immature Western Bluebirds feeding near the hotel, July 25.

Watch Now For: Returning Wild ducks, shorebirds and gulls. Slender-billed Nuthatches, American Pipits, Warblers and Gambel's Sparrows.

Caroline Daugherty

The U.S. House of Representatives has just passed H.R.5507 to give protection to the Bald Eagle in Alaska. The bill is now in a Senate committee. Write at once to Senator Edwin C. Johnson, Chairman, Committee Interstate and Foreign Commerce, United States Senate, Washington 25, D.C. saying you hope his committee will immediately recommend H.R.5507 for passage. Also write to our two state senators.