

AMES AUDUBON SOCIETY
April Newsletter, April 1978

Barney Cook, editor 517 Hayward Ave. Ames, Iowa, 50010 292-8833

April Program

WHAT: Big Bend National Park
Who: Bob and Joan Jefferson
When: Tuesday, April 11, 7:30 pm
Where: Room 182, Killdee Hall, ISU

We are fortunate that our very own members, Bob and Joan Jefferson will share some of their reminiscences from Big Bend National Park. Big Bend is the most famous of all parks in birding circles as more species of birds occur than in any other park. On the Rio Grande it lies on a major immigration route. It is far enough to catch some Mexican spillovers and central enough to share some eastern and western birds. From past programs we have come to admire Bob's excellent photography and to share Joan's warm love of nature. Bring your youngsters.

April Field Trip: WE will meet at the old Bow Bridge at Soper's Mill to walk the Green Belt Trail. As many members know Ames Audubon funds and labor were used to refurbish this grand historical structure. The stretch of trail northward is perhaps the longest portion of the Green Belt now open. With some luck we should see early spring birds—Wood Ducks, Fox Sparrows, Golden-crowned Sparrows and Yellow-rumped Warblers.

We will meet at the bridge at 9:30am. To reach Soper's Mill go north on hwy 69 to the Gilbert turn. Go right (east) on the gravel road to the river. The old bridge is just to the north of the bridge now in use.

Birding Story County: The big birding news this month comes from Gene Burns. He tells me that Pete Peterson banded a Hoary Redpoll this winter. Thus the bird at Griff Buck's feeder was doubtless a Hoary Redpoll. Gene had no zerobands or he would also attempted to band the bird. Other confirmed sightings of Hoary Redpolls occurred across the state.

Personally I had little time to bird but I did get out on several occasions. A list of birds seen follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Great Blue Heron | 2. Canada Geese |
| 3. Snow Geese | 4. Mallard |
| 5. Am. Widgeon | 6. Bufflehead |
| 7. Red-tailed Hawk | 8. Turkey Vulture |
| 9. Killdeer | 10. Am. Woodcock |
| 11. Mourning Dove | 12. Rock Dove |
| Belted Kingfisher | 13. Common Flicker |
| 15. Red-bellied Woodpecker | 16. Downy Woodpecker |
| 17. Eastern Phoebe | 18. Horned Lark |
| 19. Blue Jay | 20. Common Crow |
| 21. Black-capped Chickadee | 22. Tufted Titmouse |
| 23. White-breasted Nuthatch | 23. Red-breasted Nuthatch |
| 25. Am. Robin | 26. Cedar Waxwing |
| 27. Starling | 28. Yellow-rumped Warbler |
| 29. House Sparrow | 30. Western Meadowlark |
| 31. Eastern Meadowlark | 32. Redwinged Blackbird |
| 33. Rusty Blackbird | 34. Common Grackle |
| 35. Brown Headed Cowbird | 36. No. Cardinal |
| 37. Evening Grosbeak | 38. Purple Finch |
| 39. Common Redpoll | 40. Am. Goldfinch |
| 41. Vesper Sparrow | 42. Dark-eyed Junco |
| 43. Tree Sparrow | 44. Harris Sparrow |
| 45. Fox Sparrow | 46. Song Sparrow |



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Editor, 217 Hayward Ave., Ames, Iowa, 50010

Grief + Ruby Buck
1108 Scott
Ames

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