Scheduled

The fifth of this season's Encanto Park bird walks, sponsored by the Maricopa Audubon Society and the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department, has been set for next Tuesday, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The tour will start beside the lagoon behind the clubhouse and will continue until noon.

February is the best month for sighting birds that winter in the Phoenix area, according to Mrs. David Demaree, co-leader of the walks. The group also can expect to see many water and land birds resident in the Valley.

All persons interested in birds are invited to take part in the walks.

Bald Eagle Subject Of New Movie

Latest addition to the outdoor film library comes from the National Audubon Society which announces its release of "The Bald Eagle, Our National Bird." Described as "the first authentic, first-rate motion picture ever made about the natural history of the bald eagle," the film was produced by Dr. Arthur A. Allen, of the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology, and Bayard W. Read, retired banker and one of the country's outstanding wildlife photographers.

Closeup and panoramic shots show eagles feeding, hunting, nesting and young birds growing to maturity. Read traveled to Alaska and Florida to make the scenes in their most important remaining nesting areas and at the extremes of their geographical range. Both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service assisted in the expeditions.

The film is in color with narration by Read and has a running time of 33 minutes. Rental fee is $7.50 and it may be obtained from the Society at 1130 Fifth Ave., New York 28.

Many ornithologists fear the bald eagle, selected as our national emblem in 1782 by the Second Continental Congress, is headed toward extinction unless a long-time downward trend is reversed.

Hunting And Killing Wildlife Deplored

By DR. F. L. KOERBER
Phoenix

Well, well! So Eddie Meier, the man of many menus, finally blasted off from the top of old Big Bertha, the page of The Republic (May 20) dedicated largely to the archaic proposition that our wildlife exists essentially to provide a hide, horn, head, or stomach pleasure for its sportive cohorts. He hopes to kill off passage of HR 9882, a congressional bill designed to protect and exclude the mourning dove from further hunting.

Excerpts are quoted out of context from Dove Conservation Militant, Box 72, St. Paul, Minn., which are freely used and abused. Addresses now are here supplied so that the reader can secure the uncult material and make up his own mind about it. The Committee for Dove Protection, Box 562, Palm Desert, Calif., is a nearer group so dedicated.

In his "scientific facts of life" assertions, Mr. Meier is also adept at half-truthing. Food sustenance in the dove is never a problem, for they gorge themselves on weed seeds, always in abundant supply, and thereby make themselves invaluable in weed control; this is a scientific fact. His contention, as every hunter contends, that you cannot stockpile wild life is fallacious. Because that is exactly what nature does, indirectly, through successive progeny, provided they are here to have any.

MR. MEIER kicks around other scientific facts. He failed to mention studies showing that 20 per cent of the doves are hunted while yet hatching their young. Also, that a major proportion of wounded doves are never found.

But let us apply his "facts of life" arguments to the robin, meadowlark, or thrush and see how absurd they sound. Or better yet, apply them to the 46 shot-through species (at long last) put on the protected list. Or the 39 pathetic whooping cranes about which Mr. Meier wrote last so tenderly, but hindsightedly (May 9).

The belabored dove conservationists hope only to prevent a dove parallel with the extinct passenger pigeon, which numbered many millions more than the dove and had a faster reproductive rate.

ANYHOW, Mr. Meier talks for the hunters; he is not talking for the beautiful songbird that sings in our back yard to us and his nesting mate.

And from the gourmet's standpoint, the dove meat is a liability; often discarded and uneaten. Individually, they are hamburger size, dry, requiring expert preparation.

At any rate, dove hunting is a privilege, subject to withdrawal when so considered desirable. Less than 1 per cent of the population hunt doves, 4 per cent profit and favor it, and probably not more than 10 to 15 per cent are indifferent, which leaves a huge majority actually opposed. Those opposed to dove-hunting also should write Senators Hayden and Goldwater, Representatives Rhodes and Udall, Secretary Udall, representatives from their former states, instructing them all to support HR 9882 to outlaw dove-hunting.
Mrs. Carnes To Show Films

Mrs. Herbert E. (Betty) Carnes, internationally known ornithologist from Tenafly, N. J., and now a winter resident of the Valley, will speak and show two of her films at 9 p.m. next Friday evening in the Peace Pipe Room of Camelback Inn.

The program will be open to residents of the area. It will include her new film "Mack, the Maladjusted Mallard," a whimsical story of an injured duck that she nursed back to health, and "Desert Paradise" filmed during their holidays here.

The most recent of Mrs. Carnes’ honors was appointment as the first woman ornithologist to the Council for Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology along with noted Roger Tory Peterson. Dr. Arthur Allen heads the university’s outstanding department of ornithology.

A past president of the New Jersey Audubon Society, she with such outstanding artists as Peterson, Frances Lee Jaques, Kathleen Cassel, Florence Titman raised well over $1 million for conservation. It was her idea to have their bird, animal and wild flower paintings on numerous stationery items to raise the funds.

She has represented this country several times at the International Ornithological Congress at Helsinki and holds three world’s records: the only woman ever to band a peregrine falcon, to capture and band seven American Eagles, and to capture and band a great horned owl.

On one of her previous visits to the Valley, Mrs. Carnes was accompanied by her "Tiny Tim," a young injured humming bird, one of hundreds she has nursed back to health to be released to life in the wild when they have recovered.

With her husband, Herbert E. Carnes, vice-chairman of the board of American Home Products Company, she occupies a winter home on Sundown Drive in Paradise Valley.

Bird Show Free; Will Last 2 Days

The Arizona Bird Club, the Kiva Canary Breeders and the Arizona Budgerigar Society will sponsor the Sixth Annual Arizona Bird Show Saturday and Sunday at the Goetzl Bros. Hall, 2005 E. Indian School Road.

The show, open to the public, free of charge, will be held from noon to 9 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

All types of birds from California and Texas as well as from Phoenix, Tucson and other Arizona cities will be shown, according to C. A. Arthur, show chairman.

A special feature attraction for the children will be the Child’s Pet Bird Contest open to all children 13 and under. These will be judged for appearance only.

Entry fees for the show are 50 cents per bird and will be accepted Friday at the show. Catalogues will be available upon request from Mrs. C. Pearson, 3216 W. Garfield.

Many types of parakeets, canaries, finches, parrots, soft bills, and singing birds will be featured along with small doves, quail and talking birds.

Mississippi River Screen-Tour Topic

In 1880, little did Father Hennepen realize that his Indian captors were taking him past a veritable island of treasure high up on the Mississippi River.

Wednesday evening, Dr. Walter J. Breckenridge, director of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History, will take his arm chair travelers on a hunt for nature’s treasures at this tiny spot.

The colored motion picture film, "Island Treasure," third in the Audubon Screen Tours, will be shown at 7:45 p.m. in the Phoenix College Auditorium.

Down through the past four centuries, many changes brought about by man have changed the island’s history. Where once was caribou is now white-tailed deer. The bald eagle’s nesting places gave way to the great horned owl. The cottontail replaces the snowshoe rabbit.

Dr. Breckenridge is not only a photographer, but an ornithologist, herpetologist and artist, and this, a wildlife study of his home state of Minnesota, is another contribution to his conservation of wildlife. He has been on two arctic expeditions, one of which he headed into the deep northwest territory of Canada.

On his tiny island, Dr. Breckenridge lets the viewer follow the seasons as he did for many years: watch a beaver cut down 20-inch diameter cottonwood; see raccoons establish their winter den while redpolls feed on nettle seeds; see tiny shrews live on snails while bewaring the broadwinged hawk; watch hoar frost transform a woodland into a fantasy.

Locally the Screen Tours are shown in collaboration with the National Audubon Society by the Phoenix Evening College and the Saguaro Camera Club, in the dedication of conservation of natural resources in relation to human progress.

Second Bird Walk Scheduled

Winter visitors and Valley residents are invited to the second of this season’s Encanto Park bird walks at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at the park boathouse, said Mrs. Betty Puckie, city park department supervisor.

The department cosponsors the walk with the Maricopa Audubon Society.

Members of the society lead the walks, help identify the birds, and prepare a bird check list for walk participants.
IN THE MIDST OF ALL THE FESTIVE HOLIDAY AFFAIRS comes a strange but clarion call to duty:

Bird Watchers, arise! And at 5 a.m., please.

Tomorrow, we discover, is THE day! It is the one day of each year when all over the United States a certain organization dons the uniform of the day (warm clothing, binoculars, pedemeters, and thermos of coffee) and sets forth en masse to...take the bird census.

This evidently has been going on an amazing number of years—in Phoenix since the local Audubon Society was organized in 1951. But, speaking for that group of untutored souls who can’t imagine arising—voluntarily—at a feet-freezing hour like 5 a.m., and to whom the only recognizable bird (besides an English sparrow) is our Rocky Mountain quail...well, this bird census is a project of stupifying proportions.

"Box" (Mrs. David) Demarce of 148 W. Rose Lane is top bird in the event—actually quite a pro with more than 30 bird censuses to her credit. Her first was at age 2 in Vermont; it was her father’s hobby and now is hobby and consuming interest for the daughter. Thus far, however, she’s engendered only Luke-warm interest among her family members: engineering consultant husband and three boys.

But one of the boys may accompany her tomorrow when the group of 20 (plus any interested Valleyites) meets at Flagstaff’s in Uptown Plaza promptly at 6 a.m.

LIKE THE U.S. CENSUS TAKERS, these will miss a few fast-flying evaders. (And they won’t be asking a mile-long list of personal questions.)

But they will cover a 15-mile area west of Phoenix which includes desert, water and swamp. It reaches from 27th Avenue to Litchfield Road, and from 4 Avenue to Salt River.

One leader heads each group which is assigned one of the six specific areas. They trudge off over rough terrain with about 5 miles walking per day and many more miles via automobile when the feet wear out.

But pity the poor recorder. Imagine the bedlam as one member of the group yells "I see 621 bluejays" and another calls "695 bluejays" and so on.

Actually, it’s very simple to count birds on the wing, reports Mrs. Demarce, blithely.

"You merely count a small section of the flock, then multiply
Look Out, You Birds, People Are Counting

Maybe nobody can say how many birds are around.

But Mrs. David Demaree and her 13 friends are going to find out.

Last year there were 96,900 birds of 89 species that preferred Phoenix to Florida.

This year perhaps more—she isn’t predicting for the birds. It depends on the weather and a lot of things, she says, philosophically.

Mrs. Demaree, 148 W. Rose Lane, has been counting birds annually since the age of 2 when her father, the late Dr. Lucretius Ross of Bennington, Vt., introduced the art to her.

The late Dr. Ross, incidentally, was an early national authority on bird records in the 1900s.

Mrs. Demaree and her friends, members of the Maricopa Audubon Society, will join the nationwide (and Canadian) annual count of birds Dec. 29. The count, conducted by the National Audubon Society, ends Jan. 1.

On Dec. 29, the peering 20 will train binoculars and telescopes from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on birds in the 15-mile-radius centered on a point a quarter mile southeast of 19th Avenue and Indian School.

Humans in the line-of-sight will have to look out for themselves.

The same 15-mile area has been observed for 10 years by the group.

Every once in a while the local count gets a blackbird boost—one time 250,000 blackbirds zoomed in for the count, Mrs. Demaree, who is local society education chairman, reports.

The National society says the 63rd inventory will be conducted in 600 communities.

Each group of watchers must be accompanied by at least one ornithologist to aid in identification.

Last year, 661 areas were scanned and a total of 77,748,949 birds belonging to 526 species were recorded by 9,677 U.S. and Canadian watchers.

Encanto Park Bird Walks Set To Resume Tuesday

Bird watchers, please note: It’s that time of the year again.

The city parks department announced yesterday that the sixth annual bird walks at Encanto Park will resume at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday under the sponsorship of the Maricopa Audubon Society.

Walks also are scheduled for the same time on Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5 and 19, March 5 and 19 and April 2 and 16, officials said.

Persons interested in the free guided walks are asked to meet by the lagoon near the Encanto Park boat house. The walks last until noon.

Winter birds now arriving at the park, officials said, include orange-crowned warblers, juncos and the bridled titmouse. Resident species include the cactus wrens, curved-billed thrashers, Gila woodpeckers, coots and mallard ducks.

Illustrated Bird Talk Scheduled

Mr. Herbert E. Carus of Tenafly, N.J., will speak on the "Personality of a Feather" at the 8 p.m. Thursday meeting of the Gila Audubon Society, at the Zeta Brothers Auditorium, 2005 E. Broadway Road.

Mrs. Carus is the first woman honored by the Cornell University Council of Ornithology and holds an honorary certificate of membership in the New York University. She has banded a peregrine falcon, great bonito owl and seven American eagles.

The former president of the New York Audubon Society, Mrs. Carus raised over $2 million for the American Audubon Society through the sale of paintings and water colors, and she finds them done by famous authors.
BIRDS OF THE PHOENIX AREA

LECTURE - COLORED SLIDES
PRESENTED BY
MRS. LOWELL BONNEWELL
MARICOPA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Tuesday, January 23, 1962
10:30 A.M.

PHOENIX PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM
N. Central and McDowell Avenues

All interested in knowing the birds of the Valley of the Sun are cordially invited to attend without charge.

Sponsors
Phoenix Public Library
Maricopa Audubon Society
Phoenix, Arizona, Parks and Recreation Dept.

SPOTTED HERE
Mountain Chickadee Seen Here

Have you ever seen a Mountain Chickadee?

One was basking in the sun here the other day and was spotted by participants in a bird walk at Encanto Park. That was the first recorded sighting of the bird in the Valley, according to Mrs. Betty Pucke of the city parks department.

Another bird walk is coming up at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday. Winter visitors are especially invited, and there's no charge. The treks begin by the lagoon behind the park clubhouse.

With January, a twice-a-month schedule is in effect. Walks will be held on the first and third Tuesdays, continuing through April. They begin at 10:30 a.m. and end at noon. The walks are led by members of the Maricopa Audubon Society, which co-sponsors them with the parks department.

The Naturalist

By Maricopa Audubon Society

How many different kinds of birds are there in and around Phoenix? Twelve? Fifteen? Twenty-five?

Most people are politely incredulous to learn that on an average day from 25 to 30 species of birds can be found in our gardens, along the roads, and on the desert nearby. By intensive searching in separated areas, often 50 to 75 varieties can be discovered. Over the years about 185 species have been identified in the Salt River Valley, and in all Arizona over 400 species are recorded.

The excitement of this chase is the primary and often the chief attraction of "bird watching."

To begin with, when a birder sees a blackbird he must determine which of seven possible individuals it is, red-wing, Brewer's yellowhead, starling, brown-headed cowbird, red-eyed cowbird, or, rarely, the boat-tailed grackle.

And sparrows! Look at "that sparrow" carefully, as it is one of a large family of over 50 members, 10 of them recorded here in the Valley, and many more in all Arizona. The study of sparrows ranks high in bird watching.

Wrens, orioles, tanagers, hawks, owls, thrashers, swallowed, flycatchers, hummingbirds, and almost all other bird families are represented by several different species in our state and by a smaller number in the Salt River area.

In future articles members of Maricopa Audubon Society will tell their experiences pursuing this delightful occupation, with special attention to the birds peculiar to Arizona and the Southwest. These will include the amusing roadrunner, the silky flycatcher phainopepla, the small loco and large white-winged doves, Auber's towhee which scratches for a living, and the beautiful gilded flicker.
WILDLIFE IS TOPIC

Mamma osprey (fish hawk) is shown bringing home family's favorite dish to her two babies on island in Gulf of California. This is one of the pictures to be shown by Lewis Walker of Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson at April meeting of Maricopa Audubon Society. Meeting will be held at 8 p.m. tomorrow in Goettl auditorium, 2005 E. Indian School.

Sound Show Set

How to disperse birds from grain fields and airport runways by sound will be demonstrated at 8 p.m. today when the Maricopa Audubon Society meets at Goettl Brothers Auditorium, 2005 E. Indian School. Demonstrating a device manufactured by his company will be Gordon Boudreau, owner-manager of Bio-Sonic Control Co.
The Naturalist

Owl's Death Blamed On Wanton Hunters

By The Maricopa Audubon Society

Five days after the current dove hunting season opened, we were driving along 115th Avenue near McDowell shortly after dark, when we saw what looked like a dead bird lying in the middle of the road. I stopped the car, got out, and picked up one of the most engaging of our native birds, a burrowing owl. It had been shot through the breast, just for the fun of it. Or should I say the "sport" of it?

This was a wanton act, performed on the public highway. It was furthermore an ignorant act, as well as a cruel one, as any owl is an economic asset to any neighborhood for its control of insects and small rodents.

The burrowing owl lives in the ground and forages at night. Its home is restricted to a certain quality of soft dirt, easy to dig into with its wings. Like all owls, it is an unconscious clown and is irresistibly charming.

Those of us who believe that wildlife also has a right to exist, have cherished the few habitats of the burrowing owl, and have watched them in the vain hope that they would remain unmolested. Three years ago I saw 12 owls sitting two by two on a secluded sandy road in Southwest Phoenix. Each year since we have seen fewer live birds and more dead ones, shot during the hunting seasons. The owner of the ranch tried to protect them, he told me, but the hunters defied him, finally killing one of his bulls. The owls are all destroyed.

I have seen Lake Sullivan, 20 miles north of Prescott, and said to be the source of the Verde River, littered with dead birds, coots, ducks and herons, during the hunting season. A pond on Olive road was ringed and floating with dead ducks and coots on the final days of a recent hunting season.

And this is conservation? Or sportsmanship?

"Not a sparrow falles." Birds and all wildlife are in the public domain, and I am declaring my vested right and enjoyment in them by demanding their protection, alive, against the presumption of those who take pleasure in destroying them. U.E.M.

Rod And Gun

Wasteful Killings Irk Hunters, Too

By BEN AVERY

IN TODAY'S Arizona's Outdoors is a column, "The Naturalist," by Mrs. Una E. Miller of the Maricopa County Audubon Society concerning killing of a burrowing owl and other wasteful killing of birds, particularly coots.

I do not agree entirely with Mrs. Miller, but I think it important for every sportsman to read her column, then think twice before he kills a wild bird, animal, or member of the reptile family.

Mrs. Miller, I believe, and many other nature lovers are too quick to convict all hunters. For some reason they never mention the fishermen who kill fish, nor do they become irate at the housewives who eat raw biff, or the crop dusters who kill all insects and anything else that gets in the way. Yet insects are just as important in the scheme of things—sometimes more important—than birds or animals.

At any rate Mrs. Miller had no proof that it was a hunter that killed the burrowing owl, and I doubt if she is sure it was hunters who killed the ducks and coot and herons. It just could have been some careless user of poison, or even a disease or contamination.

But if even one of them was killed by a hunter and left to rot, it would be one too many. In talking with Mrs. Miller I learned a good many things, and came to realize how distasteful it can be to many good citizens for hunters to brag too loudly of killing five bears in five days, bagging the Big 10 of game animals, or printing too many pictures of dead animals in the newspaper.

Mrs. Miller, and a good many others motivated by the finest ideals of appreciation for nature, don't understand the thrill of the hunt for the hunter's sake, of trapping the hogs with a gun, bow and arrow, a shotgun and a dog, or stalking the deer, the elk or the wild turkey.

Sportsmen recognize feelings of those like Mrs. Miller even though they do not agree with the doctrine wildlife can be preserved unhunted and undamaged. In ages past many species have become extinct without hunting. It is doubtful if sport hunting ever seriously hurt any species. Some proof of this can be found in Europe where some species have been hunted for centuries.

The real danger to any species is in its habitat and food supply. The mourning dove faces a serious threat, one aggravated by the fact that many who believe like Mrs. Miller, want to halt all hunting of the mourning dove. The threat, however, is destruction of the dove's nesting places by farmers who are suffering grain and safflower dammage by whistings, not doves.

Resources of conservation agencies, including the Audubon Society, is needed to save the mourning dove by carrying out an education program, and, through research, trying to find some way to protect the farmers' crops from whitewing damage.

Why is the whitewing and not the dove to blame? Because the whitewing feeds on heads of grain and other seed sources, while the mourning dove is a ground feeder, and only picks up that which falls to the ground, including weed and Johnson grass seeds.

But it looks as if we will get little help from the Audubon people if they continue to direct their efforts against the hunter and fisherman conservationist instead of joining him, looking the other way when someone passes the roost duck or venison, and pitching in to work for wise management of all wildlife.

I was happy to note that the head of the National Audubon Society spoke up recently at Jackson Hole in support of sport hunting of elk in Yellowstone Park as a means of protecting their range, instead of slaughter by park rangers.

Unfortunately, few Audubon members will agree with him and he may soon be jobless.

Meanwhile, sportman should clean their own house by never killing anything they don't intend to eat. And even then they should not be hoggish by trying to fill a freezer with wildlife.

Apologies To Audubon Society

I hereby apologize to the Maricopa Audubon Society for any inference that its members felt otherwise. But it should be understood that the main theme of my column still stands, and it still is offensive for hunters to brag or make excessive display of dead game animals.

And no sportsman will kill any animal and allow it to go to waste.
The Naturalist

By Maricopa Audubon Society

Several observant people have called members of the Maricopa Audubon Society this summer, asking: "What are these peculiar birds we have in our yard? They look like blackbirds but different. Some of them have a red eye?"

The "red eye" provides the conclusive clue. The bird is the red-eyed cowbird, now called the bronzed cowbird, a member of the blackbird family. Only the mature and immature males have the red eye; the eye of the female is brown. The species is comparatively rare but recently has been identified frequently. The reason for this is not clear. Many seem to be spending the summer in and around Phoenix.

There are five species of cowbirds in the United States, only two of which concern us in the Valley. The smaller one is the brown-headed cowbird of which the male has a definitely two-toned dress, with a rust brown head and glossy black iridescent body. The female is gray.

Cowbirds are our only parasitic birds, laying their eggs in other birds' nests, and then leaving the rearing of the young to the involuntary host. It is not uncommon to see a very small bird, such as a warbler, feeding a young cowbird, twice its size. The foster parents apparently are completely deceived. Other small birds victimized by the larger cowbirds are vireos and smaller sparrows. The cowbird young hatch a day or so before the legitimate inhabitants, are larger, and often crowd or starve out the smaller birds. Some smart enough to construct false bottoms in their nests, then cover the interlopers' eggs before laying their own.

The name cowbird is given because of the habit of the species in following cattle about the fields, picking up the grasshoppers and other insects stirred from the ground. Its Greek name Molothrus means vagabond, tramp, or parasite. They are considered to be polygamous, promiscuous.

One family in Paradise Valley reports fantastic actions by the cowbirds during their breeding season. The males swell out their feathers, especially around their necks, until they seem double their size. They spread their wings and tails, strut about, and stretch their necks and heads upward, gurgling liquid notes like pouring water from a jug, glog-glog. K.W.

The Arizona Republic

By The Maricopa Audubon Society

"Shining robe" is the delightful interpretation of the scientific name of our native bird, phainopepla nitens lepida, commonly seen throughout our valley, but strangely unknown to the average visitor to the countryside.

It seems impossible that this beautiful shiny black silky flycatcher with its feathery crest should be found so often on the dry desert, but it is its favorite habitat. There is a solid economic reason for this. The phainopepla loves the fruit of the mistletoe, that common parasite of much of our desert vegetation.

But it is also frequently found in the city, where it likes the pepper tree, and we are often asked to identify the "black cardinal with white wing patches" with the beautiful crest.

His demure lady friend has the same general characteristics but is dull brown instead of her mate's shining black.

Their preference of a home is about mesquite thickets or similar environments where wild berries are plentiful. They also can be found nesting sometimes in a clump of mistletoe.

Phainopeplas are thought to raise only one family each season. Later in the year as family cares are over often flocks of 10 or more can be found in the foothills where favorite berries abound.

These birds seem never to go to the ground except for nesting material or for water, which they seem very well able to do without regularly.

The next time you drive out on the desert, look for these birds with the beautiful buoyant flight.—K.W.

Field Trip Route Dec 6 - 1962

West on Camback to Black Canyon Highway - SOUTH on Black Canyon Hwy to DURANGO.... West on Durango St to 35th Ave. South on 35th Ave to LOWER Buckeye - West a few blocks to a railroad CROSSING.

TURN South and go down this UNUSED RAILWAY and PARK CAR.

When we leave this site later - Go back to Buckeye and then WEST on Buckeye to 43rd Ave. South on 43rd a short distance to a Gravel Pit and Park on right side of road.

Officers 1962

Cal Hoyall, President
Mrs. Eric Lambart, Vice President
Lloyd Shuttleworth, Treasurer
Mrs. Janet Sitzman, Secretary
“IN THE SPRING A YOUNG MAN’S FANCY turns to” ... the darnedest things—and love is just one of them.

A spring jump in membership in the Audubon Society would indicate that bird-watching then becomes almost as popular as girl-watching.

College credit even is given for bird-watcher’s vacations now. (Girl-watcher’s vacations long have carried a few semesters of such credit—according to parents of some college students.)

A twinkly-eyed Englishman brings us the news. He’s William N. Goodall, West Coast representative of the National Audubon Society. “Though trained as a concert pianist—his love of people, lots of people, and his love of the out-of-doors just didn’t fit with six to 10 hours’ solitary practice at the keyboard.”

Now he’s in Phoenix to begin search for an Arizona site for a new Audubon camp. The national society has vacation camps listed in California, Connecticut, Maine and Wisconsin. Purpose of the camps is educational and recreational: to “add to one’s knowledge and understanding of the natural world . . . developing an appreciation and affection for nature and all her processes, including a sense of individual responsibility for the care and wise use of our natural resources.” Teachers, youth leaders, business and professional leaders find them a combined vacation of “recreational pleasure and pleasurable education.”

And it’s true that college credit may be given. Mr. Goodall, who also has brought a new film for showing in our local schools, it is “The Bald Eagle—Our National Emblem,” and is aimed at alerting us to preservation as well as knowledge about this bird. The national society has been engaged in a five-year research project on the emblem bird. They don’t want to wait until it’s almost extinct—as is the case of passenger pigeons, the California Condors and the Whooping Cranes.

But birds are not their only concern. The society’s chief interest is conservation of all natural resources and wild life.

“After all, the birds do not live a vacuum, you know,” says Mr. Goodall. “We’re concerned with providing preserves for them as they lose their natural habitats to a growing population . . . at the endangering (to wild life) use of pesticides and insecticides world wide.”

SIXTH ANNUAL SEASON OF BIRD WALKS OPENS

Encanto Park is many things to many people with its sun and shade, its trees and shrubs, its winding paths, its waterways, its play and game areas. For those who enjoy birds, it offers a rich resource for “birding.” Ninety-five land and water birds have been identified by those who have taken the Encanto Park Bird Walks.

April 3, 1962

Bird Show at Ensenada

Lewis Walker of the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson, will speak at 8 p.m. Tuesday at a meeting of the Maricopa Audubon Society in Goetz auditorium, 2001 E. Indian School.

He will show slides and colored movies of the sanctuary at Isla Raza in the Gulf of California. The Mexican government has been working with the National Audubon Society in developing the island as that nation’s first monument devoted to wildlife.

Also appearing at the meeting will be William Goodall, Berkeley, Calif., Western representative of the national society.

Encanto Park Bird Walks

The sixth season of free, guided bird walks in the park starts Tuesday, November 20. All who wish to participate meet at 10:30 a.m., by the lagoon beside the Encanto Park Boat House. The walk lasts until noon. Four hundred twenty-nine winter visitors and Phoenix residents attended the bird walk last year.

“Birders” may expect to see Audubon and Orange-crowned Warblers, Junco's and the Bridled Titmouse—winter birds now arriving in the area. Residents—Cactus Wrens (our State Bird), Abert Towhees, Curved-billed Thrashers, Gila Woodpeckers, Coota and Mallard Ducks are always “at home” in Encanto Park.

Mrs. David Demoeree, and Mrs. Lowell Donnerwell, Maricopa Audubon Society, are leaders of the walks, now veterans of five seasons and over 50 Encanto Park Bird Walks. Mr. and Mrs. Bryon Edwards serve as recorders for the walks and distribute checklists of the birds of Encanto Park and the season’s schedule to all attending.

Bird walks all start at the same time and place and are scheduled for Tuesday—November 20, December 4, January 8, February 8 and 19, March 5 and 19, and April 2 and 16.

The bird walks series is offered as a community service by the Maricopa Audubon Society and the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department.
Watching's for the Birds