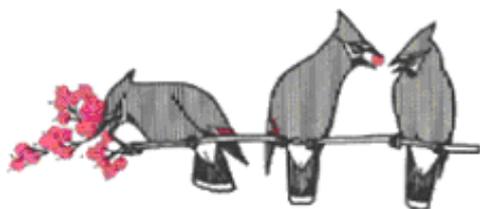


HISTORY
OF THE
AMOS W. BUTLER
AUDUBON SOCIETY



by
Charles E. Keller



Dr. Amos W. Butler

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Amos W. Butler Audubon Society

*3650 Cold Springs Road
Indianapolis, Indiana 46222*



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—C. E. K.

*To those who have shown the way-
they know who they are!*

HISTORY OF
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From left to right (back row): Clara Alma Moore; Mrs. Fred Barnikol; Mrs. Howard F. Wright; Mrs. John Goldthwaite; John Goldthwaite; Robert Myers; Unidentified.
(middle): Earl Brooks.
(front): Howard F. Wright; William A. Myers (This photo was taken by the author at Dr. Brooks's residence in Hamilton County near Noblesville in 1947.)

The Amos W. Butler Audubon Society came into being on 18 March 1938 at a meeting of the Indiana Audubon Society, Central District, which was called to order by Dr. Earl Brooks, a practicing dentist from Noblesville, Indiana. A constitution was drawn up and formally adopted on 29 April 1938. Article 1 of that constitution read as follows: "Name.—This organization shall be known as the Indiana Audubon Society, Central District, Amos W. Butler Chapter. The following counties constitute the Central District: Boone, Hamilton, Hendricks, Marion, Hancock, Morgan, Johnson and Shelby." Article 2 spelled out the object of the organization: ". . . to carry out the work of the Indiana Audubon Society and to undertake district conservation activities that may be approved by the Indiana Audubon Society." In all, there were a total of eight articles, which were signed by Samuel E. Perkins III, Sue S. Sims, and Bernice Hussey.

In the latter part of his life, Butler resided in Indianapolis, first as state ornithologist and later as secretary to the State Board of Charities, serving in the latter capacity for some twenty-five years until his death in 1937. Ever since his *Birds of Indiana* was published in 1898, he has been considered the father of Indiana ornithology.

A forerunner of the chapter, called the Indianapolis Audubon Society, apparently existed as early as 1900, according to an old clipping from the *Indianapolis Press* dated March 10 1900. It is of an article entitled "Need and method of bird protection," by Dr. W. J. Frazer, and on it is penciled a notation by William Watson Woollen: "This paper was read before the Indianapolis Audubon Society 2 March 1900."

Woollen is best remembered in Indianapolis for his bequest to the city of some 44 acres of ground. This primitive wild wood, located just west of 1-465 and south of Fall Creek on the east side of Indianapolis, was to be retained in perpetuity under the name of Woollen's Gardens of Birds and Botany. Unfortunately, the gardens are now in a sad state of disrepair and bisected by rutted trails used primarily by off-road vehicles, motorcycles, etc. The old clubhouse known as "Buzzard's Roost" was torn down in 1964 when 1-465 was built. As a result of the demands of progress, the city of Indianapolis lost an important part of its natural heritage.

Woollen was also instrumental in helping to found the Indiana Audubon Society in 1898, and it is very likely that the Indianapolis Audubon Society was founded then or slightly later.

I can find no further mention of Indianapolis Audubon, and suspect that it was a disjointed group with no minutes or real organization. Among the minutes of the Indiana Audubon Society for 1937 there is mention of the formation of nine districts in the state. The following excerpt appeared in the *Indiana Audubon Yearbook*, forerunner of the *Indiana Audubon Quarterly* (1937:54-55):

For years the Executive Committee held a mid-year meeting where business was discussed. The Annual Meeting and The Year Book was the sum total of the major events for a year. This is insufficient to keep a large membership interested. By the plans now the state is divided into nine districts, as indicated in the illustration, also in the constitution. It is the hope to get a working organization in each district, and there will be district meetings of the State Organization at various times throughout the year. This will interest new members and be a feeder for the annual meeting and will add to the interest for the old guard, as well as the new members. It is to be understood that these district organizations are not to be separate bodies, but are the State Audubon in their district and they are to be so named. Each district can determine as to how often they meet and are to build their own program as they see fit. Their dues are the same as the State dues, in fact, it is the State dues and if they have any local expense they must raise that in some manner. It is hoped that after they are organized with a full quota of officers they will have a meeting in one of the centers of their district and it has been suggested that the members in that center will furnish the program and the next month or meeting they will meet in another center in the district and so on. Field trips can be held frequently and will not only be educational—but entertaining and will add to the social upbuild of the membership, and are easily planned. Much publicity should be given these various meetings and we are sure the interests of the Indiana Audubon Society will grow by leaps and bounds. The Northeast District has already been organized, as a demonstration project, and it is functioning beautifully. The officers will assist, if needed, in perfecting these District Organizations,—it is hoped the

membership will feel free to call upon them to perfect their plans.

Reports of district activities can be found in the *Indiana Audubon Yearbook*. Amos W. Butler remained a chapter of the state organization until 1952 (the name district was changed to chapter in 1945), when it became affiliated with the National Audubon Society. In the November 1951 issue of *Audubonnews* appeared the following comment:

The Amos W. Butler Chapter on January 1st, 1952 will become a branch of the National Audubon Society. At our January meeting, all details with regard to the affiliation will be explained. Inasmuch as our local dues will be due January 1st, we are taking this opportunity to request that any member who intends becoming a joint member, refrain from remitting local dues. If you intend to become a joint member, your name will be given the National and a notice will be mailed you by the National. You will remit directly to them. In fact, it is suggested that all members refrain from paying local dues until after our January business meeting regardless of whether you intend to become a joint member or think now that you want to not follow a certain form which has been suggested by the National.

. . . —Willard M. Morlan, President.

Amos Butler has therefore been a branch/chapter of the National Audubon Society for 37 years.

According to Terres (*The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds*, 1980, p. 623), “The National Audubon Society was founded in 1905, in New York City, as the National Association of Audubon Societies for the Protection of Wild Birds and Other Animals, Inc., with the name later changed to the National Audubon Society. It is one of the largest nonprofit conservation organizations in the world, with many branches and affiliates, and a national and international membership open to anyone interested in supporting its work.”

So far as I can determine, there are only two living charter members of the society since the time it became known as the Amos W. Butler Audubon Society: Mildred Campbell and Dorothy White.

Following is a chronology of important events gleaned from past minutes and the society’s publications (note: club years usually

ran from September of one year until May of the following year, but for simplicity's sake I have given highlights of each calendar year).

1938

The first meeting of the Central District was held 18 March after a 6:30 p.m. dinner at Fryburger's Tea Room in Noblesville. Before the dinner, members and guests viewed an exhibit of bird postage stamps, bird specimens, and bird glassware. After dinner Miss Norma Koch of Indianapolis gave a talk on her recent trip to New Orleans and Mexico, with movies illustrating the same. Dr. Earl Brooks was asked to serve as chairman. Elected at this meeting were: President, Samuel E. Perkins III; Vice-President, Roger Roberts; Secretary-Treasurer, Margaret R. Knox; Corresponding Secretary, Prudence Douglass.

The sum of \$5.44 was collected in free-will offerings.

At the second meeting held on 29 April, Miss Dorothy White was elected to serve on the Legislative Committee.

The third meeting held on 11 June featured Joel W. Hadley's talk on unusual experiences with birds.

At the fourth meeting of the year held on 17 September, Miss Mildred Campbell displayed some colored plates by bird artist Rex Brasher, and told of her visit to his home.

1939

At a meeting held 28 January at the Colonial Tea Room, a letter was drafted by the members present to abolish the steel trap and substitute the humane trap.

The following officers were elected at the April meeting: President, Earl Brooks; Vice-President, Roger Roberts; Secretary-Treasurer, Frank Johnson; Corresponding Secretary, Prudence Douglass.

At the 11 November meeting, held at the Blue Bell Tea Room in Shelbyville, Prudence Douglass moved that the Audubon Society prepare a hawk exhibit for the purpose of educating the general public about the difference between predatory and non-predatory hawks, as she put it. Dorothy White acted as secretary in the absence of Mr. Johnson.

1940

At the April meeting the following officers were elected: President, M. D. Baumgartner; Vice-President, Margaret R. Knox; Secretary-Treasurer, Dorothy Siegel; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Arthur P. Thomas. (The 1940 minutes are extremely skimpy— only one page, of which this is the meat.)

1941

Richard Pough of the staff of the National Audubon Society spoke on the illegal traffic in bird feathers and presented a display of feathers that were illegally being sold in Indianapolis.

Elected at the April meeting were: President, Margaret R. Knox; Vice-President, Jean Clark; Secretary-Treasurer, Dorothy V. Siegel; Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy Hobson. Following the election a hike along White River produced an Osprey, but most birds were extremely scarce due to the high wind.

At a scheduled field trip led by Mildred Campbell on 25 October a total of 38 species were seen.

A 30 November field trip produced 19 species. Highlight of this trip was 17 Pine Siskins at Riverside Park.

At the 2 December meeting Edna Banta was guest speaker. This program was held after a \$0.65-per-plate dinner at the Indianapolis YWCA. Plans were made for the taking of an annual Christmas Count.

The Christmas Count, held on 22 December along White River, including Holliday Park, Butler campus, Riverside, Sewage Disposal Plant, and Maywood, along Fall Creek northeast from Fairgrounds to Woollen's Gardens and Boy Scout Camp, along Pleasant Run at Garfield Park, Irvington and east, along Pogue's Run at Tech High, and also Bacon's Swamp, University Heights, and city center, produced 46 species.

1942

At the 30 January meeting a group of Shortridge High School students who had participated in the Christmas Count took part in the program.

Thirty-one species were tallied on the 14 March field trip along White River to Riverside Park.

The 20 March meeting featured Alden H. Hadley, who gave a talk on the Audubon Camp of Maine.

Forty-four species were counted on the 11 April field trip along White River to Riverside Park.

The following officers were elected at the April meeting: President, Margaret R. Knox; Vice-President, Jean Clark; Secretary-Treasurer, Dorothy V. Siegel; Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy Hobson. The matter of funds to carry on the activities of the Central District was discussed and it was agreed that each member should pay \$0.50 a year.

A special meeting was held 21 June at McCormick's Creek State Park with Edna Banta as the leader. Those who wished to attend were asked to send \$2.26 for the round-trip bus ride to Spencer, where a truck would transport them to the park. Dinner reservations were available at the Inn for \$1.25. A total of 39 species were counted.

Elizabeth Downhour presented a program on "How Birds Are Named" at the 28 June meeting.

A series of three field trips were scheduled for 14-15 November at various locations in Indianapolis.

The Christmas Count held on 29 December produced 46 species.

1943

At the 20 February meeting held at the home of Mrs. Arthur P. Thomas, Earl Brooks announced that Mrs. Finly Gray had bequeathed the Canal House, its contents, and 254 acres of land in Fayette County to the Indiana Audubon Society to be used as a sanctuary in memory of her daughter, Mary, to be known as Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. (An additional 400 acres were added in 1946.)

Several field trips were conducted throughout the period by Mildred Campbell and Scott Calvert.

The following officers were elected at the April meeting: President, Margaret R. Knox; Vice-President, Clara A. Moore; Secretary-Treasurer, Mildred Campbell; Corresponding Secretary, Marion White.

The National Audubon Society in conjunction with the Children's Museum will sponsor a series of wildlife films at Shortridge High School in 1944.

Fifty-two species were counted on the 19 December Christmas Count, which had been enlarged to include a new area at Oaklandon Reservoir (Geist Lake). A Northern Goshawk was reported.

1944

At the 5 January meeting held at Shortridge the \$0.10 fee for Christmas Count observers was discussed. It was decided to deduct that fee from the treasury.

On 8 March 39 members met at Shortridge for a meeting followed by Olin Sewall Pettingill's film lecture entitled "Wildlife in Action."

The following officers were elected at the April meeting: President, Clara A. Moore; Vice-President, Scott Calvert; Secretary-Treasurer, Mildred Campbell; Corresponding Secretary, Thelma Patterson. After the meeting Alexander Sprunt, Jr., presented a Wildlife Film, "A Naturalist Afield, Afloat, and Aloft."

At the 22 September meeting Dorothy White reported on the shorebirds at Geist Reservoir.

After the 8 November meeting the members attended the wildlife film presented by John H. Storer.

The 26 December Christmas Count produced 52 species.

1945

At the 1 February meeting the following high school students who were sponsored by Mildred Campbell and Howard F. Wright were introduced: Charles Berriman, Charles Keller, Dale Rice, Ed Mockford, and Steve Wainwright. The meeting adjourned early to

attend Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr.'s illustrated lecture on "Bird Magic in Mexico."

Elected officers for the year were the same as last year.

Announcement of the death of Frank M. Chapman was made at the 29 November meeting.

Forty-one species of birds were counted on the 24 December Christmas Count. A sleet storm apparently kept the species count lower than in former years.

1946

One of the highlights of the year was the 8 April trip to Jasper-Pulaski to see Sandhill Cranes and Greater Prairie Chickens. William Barnes acted as guide.

Several of the meetings were held prior to wildlife films. Officers elected included: President, Mrs. Fred Barnickol, Jr.; Vice-President, Scott Calvert; Secretary-Treasurer, Howard F. Wright; Corresponding Secretary, Thelma Patterson.

At the 22 November meeting the question of sponsoring the Audubon Screen Tours (wildlife films) was discussed. A committee was appointed to draw up plans to be presented at the next meeting.

The Christmas Count held on 21 December produced 39 species.

1947

The Screen Tours Committee's report was accepted at the 10 January meeting. The National Audubon Society had instituted a series of lectures, illustrated by films or slides and narrated by leading authorities, about some facet of conservation or nature. These illustrated lectures, originally sponsored by the Children's Museum and then by the Amos W. Butler chapter, were called Screen Tours (later, Wildlife Films). The chapter customarily scheduled at least five of these films during the year. In the early days of the organization most of these were presented at the Indiana World War Memorial, later at Shortridge High School, and finally at the Children's Museum. They were discontinued in 1986.

A Bald Eagle was reported to have been seen at Geist Reservoir.

The past year's officers were reelected at the May meeting.

Talks were given by members about various species and how to identify them at several of the meetings.

Howard Wright was appointed Screen Tours Chairman.

Speakers for the season included: Allan Cruickshank, Bert Harwell, Howard Orians, George Link, and Olin Sewall Pettingill.

It was suggested at the 9 December meeting that the profits from the Screen Tours be used to form a scholarship award for some of the younger members of the society.

Sixty species of birds were seen on the 20 December Christmas Count. Included on that list were three Palm Warblers.

1948

At one of the two meetings held in February it was decided to hold several afternoon Screen Tours for school children.

The annual Jasper-Pulaski hike produced, in addition to the Sandhill Cranes and Greater Prairie Chickens, several Lesser Golden-Plovers and Bonaparte's Gulls.

At the April business meeting the following officers were elected: President, Howard F. Wright; Vice-President, Mark Pangborn; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Howard F. Wright; Corresponding Secretary, Marian Goldthwaite. Five committees were appointed for the year. Mark Pangborn became chairman of the Screen Tours.

The 10 September meeting was held at the Canary Cottage. At this meeting it was decided to sponsor an art exhibit by George Miksch Sutton at Shortridge in conjunction with his Screen Tour. Dues were set at \$0.25. Screen Tours speakers included Allan Cruickshank, George Miksch Sutton, Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., Howard Cleaves, and Alice and Harold Allen. Season ticket price for the five lectures was \$2.40 adult, \$1.20 student.

Membership figures for the chapter at this time, a decade after its founding, are not available, but I would estimate the total was less than 100.

1949

At the 4 March meeting it was announced that a series of beginner and experienced birders' hikes would be held by Charles Keller on the first three Sunday mornings in May. Dues were

increased to \$0.50. It was agreed to sell \$1 shares to help finance the afternoon Screen Tours.

Some 250 Sandhill Cranes were seen on the Jasper-Pulaski trip.

Officers for the year were: President, Howard F. Wright; Vice-President, Mark Pangborn; Secretary, Charles E. Keller; Treasurer, Henry C. West. Screen Tours speakers for the year were Alexander Sprunt, Tom and Arlene Hadley, Carl W. Bucheister, Bert Harwell, and Roger Tory Peterson.

The first issue of *Audubonews* was published in October with Howard F. Wright as editor.

Sixty-one species were seen on the 28 December Christmas Count.

1950

The following officers were elected at the April meeting: President, Mark Pangborn; Vice-President, Edna Collins; Treasurer, Henry C. West; Secretary, Roberta Woods. Charles Marks was elected chairman of the Screen Tours. Dues were increased to \$1 adult and \$0.50 for grade school child. Beginner hikes were held in May.

Dale W. Rice was appointed editor of the *Audubonews*.

Sixty-one species were seen on the Jasper-Pulaski outing.

Screen Tours speakers included Allan Cruickshank, Arthur C. Twomey, Karl Maslowski, Howard Cleaves, and Olin Sewall Pettingill.

At the 10 November meeting Mark Pangborn brought up the question of affiliation with the National Audubon Society. Under the plan each local member would pay \$5 of which \$1.50 would be returned to our local chapter. It was decided to discuss the matter at a future meeting. The Christmas Count, held on 23 December, totaled 54 species.

1951

At the January meeting it was agreed to present the affiliation plan with National to the incoming officers in April with the suggestion that it be adopted.

Howard Wright was appointed field trip chairman to succeed Charles Keller, who had been drafted.

Richard Marks was appointed editor of the *Audubonews*.

Officers elected at the April meeting were: President, Willard Morlan; Vice-President, Mildred Thompson; Secretary, Edna Collins; Treasurer, Katherine Graves. Screen Tours speakers were Walter Breckenridge, Fran Hall, Lucie Palmer, Alfred M. Bailey, and Bert Harwell.

National Audubon affiliation was discussed at the September meeting with a vote on this proposal to be set prior to 1 January 1952.

The membership voted to accept National Audubon affiliation at the October meeting.. This procedure would mean not only increased membership for the chapter but an increase in revenue.as well as some confusion. Many people believed that if they belonged to the National Audubon Society it meant they were also members of the state organization, or they thought that one Audubon Society was enough. State membership has never exceeded 1,000, while the Amos W. Butler chapter has a membership currently in excess of 2,000.

At the November meeting Clara Moore became Vice-President replacing Mrs. Thompson, whose husband had become ill.

Phil Kahl was appointed editor of the *Audubonews*, succeeding Richard Marks.

The Christmas Count, held on 22 December, totaled 42 species.

1952

It was announced at the January meeting that we had officially become a branch of the National Audubon Society.

At the February meeting a letter was read from National Audubon asking that we drop the words “chapter of the Indiana Audubon Society” and adopt the words “branch of the National Audubon Society.”

Officers elected in April were: President, Willard Morlan; Vice-President, John Satter; Secretary, Edna Collins; Treasurer, Katherine Graves.

A spring bird count was held 17 May with 117 species counted.

At the October meeting a talk was given by Dorothy White on John Gould's contribution to European ornithology.

Screen Tours speakers included Walter Shackleton, Alfred Etter, G. Harrison Orians, Robert Hermes, and Fran Hall. John Jenks became Screen Tours director.

Howard F. Wright was appointed editor of the *Audubonews*, succeeding Phil Kahl.

It was announced at one of the meetings that Mr. and Mrs. Howard F. Wright had become the parents of a baby boy.

The Christmas Count, held on 20 December, totaled 59 species.

1953

At the February meeting it was decided to increase the price of the Screen Tours tickets to \$2.50 adult and \$1.25 for student. . Among those present at the meeting was Charles Keller, who had finished his stint in the army.

Screen Tours speakers for the season included Allan Cruickshank, Howard Orians, Dick Bird, Laurel Reynolds, and Tom and Arlene Hadley.

In a letter to the Indiana Department of Health it was stated that the society approved of pigeon reduction in the downtown area of Indianapolis.

The following officers were elected at the April meeting: President, Willard Morlan; Vice-President, Charles E. Keller; Secretary, Edna Collins; Treasurer, Phoebe Nelms. Spreading the spring bird count over two days beginning 16 May resulted in a total of 132 species being recorded.

At the October meeting it was decided once again to sponsor a booth at the hobby show. Mrs. Bidgood and Mrs. Grepke volunteered to take over the arrangements for the show.

Charles Berriman presented a program on Alaska, where he had been stationed while in the army.

The Christmas Count held on 26 December produced 63 species.

1954

Both the Long-eared Owl and the Saw-whet Owl had been seen in the Indianapolis area.

Officers elected were: President, Forest K. Paul; Vice-President, Dorothy White; Secretary, Emma Schlender; Treasurer, Marian Goldthwaite. At the election meeting the featured speaker, Paul Angle of the Indiana Department of Conservation, said the outstanding problem of the day in Indiana was the scarcity of trees. Ninety percent of the virgin trees in the state had been cut and only a small percentage of replacements were being planted. If more trees were replaced, the groundwater supply and cover areas for birds would increase.

Screen Tours speakers included Arthur A. Allen, Leonard Hall, G. Clifford Carl, Ernest P. Edwards, and Robert C. Hermes. Ticket prices were increased to \$3 adult and \$1.50 student. Dorothy White was appointed Screen Tours chairman (a position she held until 1985; this is the longest tenure of any Screen Tours chairman in the U.S., and it resulted in partial financial independence for the chapter).

Scholarships to Audubon Camps were again discussed but no action was taken.

Fifty-one species were recorded on the 31 December Christmas Count.

1955

It was announced at the January meeting that the new Audubon Camp in Wisconsin would open in June. Tuition would be \$95 for the two-week period.

At the February meeting there was a good crowd on hand despite a temperature of -4 degrees. One of the items brought up was Senate Bill No. 370, which would permit hunting of the Mourning Dove. Clara Moore moved we send a resolution condemning passage of this bill. The motion was unanimously passed.

Screen Tours speakers included Alexander Sprunt, Jr., Roger Tory Peterson, Howard L. Orians, Walter Shackleton, and Olin Sewall Pettingill.

Officers elected: President, Forest K. Paul; Vice-President, Dorothy White; Secretary, Emma Schlender; Treasurer, Margaret Loving.

At the May meeting a question arose as to how checks should be made out for Screen Tours tickets. It was decided they should be made payable to The Amos W. Butler Chapter of the Indiana Audubon Society (sic). The chapter donated the sum of \$500 to the Indiana Audubon Society toward the construction of a bathroom at the caretaker's house at Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary.

Charles Berriman was in charge of the chapter's booth at the hobby show in November.

Sixty-four species were counted on the 31 December Christmas Count.

1956

At the February meeting a question came up concerning the official name of our society. A motion was made by Margaret Loving and seconded by Howard Wright that we be known as The Amos W. Butler Audubon Society.

Officers elected: President, Forest K. Paul; Vice-President, Dorothy White; Secretary, Edna Collins; Treasurer, Margaret Loving.

Screen Tours speakers were Patricia Bailey Witherspoon, Cleveland P. Grant, Emerson Scott, Albert Wool, and Murl Deusing.

An excellent talk was given by Henry C. West concerning the botanical and zoological value of Bacon's Swamp. Apparently there had been some discussion about filling the swamp because of the death by drowning of two boys. In a letter sent to the Marion County Plan Commission, Mr. West discussed the value of the swamp and possible steps that could be taken both to preserve the area and also to prevent children from playing there. It was suggested that a committee be formed to work toward making the swamp a bird sanctuary or a state park. In fact, neither was done. Instead Bacon's Swamp was drained for real estate development. This unique area, the southernmost glacial peat bog in the state, has been lost to future generations.

Beginners' hikes were scheduled for Sundays in May between 7:30 and 9:00 a.m.

Chapter dues were raised to \$1.50 to conform to the amount that the society received from the National.

The Christmas Count held on 22 December produced 67 species.

1957

At the January meeting a letter was read from Earl Brooks concerning the possibility of our providing some funds for a memorial to Dr. Amos W. Butler at Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. It was agreed to temporarily withhold any decision in this matter until more information was brought forth; however, a check for \$50 was sent to Dr. Brooks earmarked for a floodlight at the sanctuary.

At the February meeting an invitation was received from the Indianapolis Hiking Club to join them on one of their hikes. Dorothy White had attended a meeting of the Park Department and advised us on their brush-clearing activities on the islands at Lake Sullivan. She had their promise that this would stop.

Screen Tours speakers were: Olin S. Pettingill, William Wagoner, George Miksch Sutton, Howard Cleaves, and G. Harrison Orians.

Officers elected: President, Howard F. Wright; Vice-President, Mildred Thompson; Secretary, Margaret Knox; Treasurer, Orpha Pangborn.

Seventy species were seen on the Jasper-Pulaski trip.

At the September meeting the treasurer reported a balance of \$1,740.05. Henry C. West became the editor of the *Audubonews*.

Noted in the October issue of the *Audubonews*: the formation of a telephone committee to report all rare birds and to pass on other news.

Sixty-five species were counted on the 21 December Christmas Count

1958

At the January meeting some concern was expressed about the proposed new highway (I-65) that would cut Lake Sullivan in half. No action was taken.

At the March meeting a letter from the National Audubon Society was read telling of the destruction of Starlings in Indianapolis. After much discussion, no action was taken.

At the April meeting there was a discussion concerning a possible contribution by the chapter to Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary for the construction of a library building. Action was delayed pending further investigation. The following officers were elected: President,

Mildred Thompson; Vice-President, Charles Berriman; Secretary, Margaret Knox; Treasurer, Orpha Pangborn.

Screen Tours speakers were Arthur A. Allen, Bert Harwell, Cleveland P. Grant, Fran Hall, and George Regensburg.

At the May meeting a "Save the Dunes" petition was circulated, and the president urged everyone to get as many signatures as possible. As is well known, the Indiana Dunes territory is unique for its flora and fauna. Threatened commercial or private development would destroy valuable habitat for native plants and animals. The "Save the Dunes" Council was spearheading a fight to save the area, and had solicited donations and support from all the conservation organizations in the state.

A "Checklist of Birds of Marion County and Adjacent Central Indiana Counties," prepared by Henry C. West and selling for \$0.25, is now available. Jeannie Moore was elected secretary following the resignation of Margaret Knox. Effects of fluoride were discussed by Dr. Robert L. Dilts. (At that time, the fluoride issue was controversial, because some individuals believed that adding it to the water supply would cause catastrophic health problems, or even that it was a Communist plot to poison the U.S.A.)

Dues to the National Audubon Society were raised to \$6.50 per individual.

At the November meeting a letter was read from the National Audubon Society describing the migration of Whooping Cranes. There was a record high count of 36 birds that year. Balance in the treasury was \$3,385.72. The society agreed to donate \$1,500 to Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary for the building fund. Several of the younger members including William and Robert Buskirk presented a program on "Birds of Geist Reservoir."

At the December meeting it was announced that the Mourning Dove was again in danger of being designated a game bird. It was decided to send a resolution drafted by Henry C. West opposing same. An electric skillet was presented to Dorothy White following a kitchen fire in her home.

Sixty species were seen on the 28 December Christmas Count.

By now, the membership had reached about 200.

1959

At the January meeting Henry West asked for sufficient funds to pay for printing expense of the *Audubonews*. Total cost is now \$5 per issue (160 copies printed).

At the February meeting Mr. West related that the bill to make the Mourning Dove a game bird had been tabled, and gave much of the credit for the bill's tabling to the tremendous pressure put on Congress by the garden clubs. John Satter led a discussion on the possibility of the society's conducting a breeding bird census in cooperation with the National Audubon Society.

At the March meeting William Barnes told of the alarming decrease in numbers of the Greater Prairie Chicken (a species that is now extinct in Indiana).

Thirteen hundred Sandhill Cranes were recorded on the 21 March trip to Jasper-Pulaski.

Officers elected were: President, Charles Berriman; Vice-President, Charles Keller; Secretary, Jeannie Moore; Treasurer, Orpha Pangborn. Screen Tours speakers included Leonard Hall, Alexander Sprunt, Laurel Reynolds, Bartram Cadbury, and G. Harrison Orians.

At the May meeting Mildred Campbell gave a talk on the Least Flycatcher.

Russell Mumford's program on his studies of the Acadian Flycatcher was a feature of the November meeting.

The December meeting featured James Landing, who spoke on avian geography.

Sixty-two species of birds were found on the 26 December Christmas Count.

The society donated the book *Fundamentals of Ornithology* to the Public Library in memory of Mrs. Joel Hadley who died this year.

In spite of professional speakers, attendance at the meetings was at an all-time low.

1960

At the January meeting, Val Nolan gave a talk on his studies of the Prairie Warbler. The local dues were increased to \$2. A new constitution was voted upon and adopted.

Framed Audubon prints were donated for Earl Brooks Hall at Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary.

At the April meeting it was decided to help fund junior members who would be taking the breeding bird census at Geist Reservoir. Twenty dollars was voted upon to help with their expenses. Officers elected: President, Charles Berriman; Vice-President, Dollie Stuck; Secretary, Marie Paul; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer.

Screen Tours speakers included Olin Pettingill, Fran Hall, William Anderson, Emerson Scott, and William Fergason.

James B. Cope spoke on the Harpy Eagle at the May meeting held at the Kiwanis Club.

At the September meeting Dorothy White gave a talk, illustrated with slides, on her trip to Mexico.

Results of the breeding bird survey done by William Buskirk, Bob Buskirk, Jeannie Moore, and Bruce Fall were presented at the October meeting. Dr. Paul moved that a copy of their research be sent to the National Audubon Society. Balance in the treasury was \$1,856.90.

Several books were given as prizes to the students who participated in the breeding bird survey.

At the November meeting Dave Dagleish was appointed chairman of the conservation committee. Dorothy White and Dollie Stuck agreed to fill the feeders at Woollen's Gardens.

Sixty-two species were seen on the 31 December Christmas Count.

1961

At the January meeting the first Audubon Camp scholarship was awarded to Jeannie Moore, past secretary of the club. She chose the Audubon Camp of Maine. It was agreed to continue with the breeding bird survey by our junior members. It was suggested that the money instead be sent to Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. No decision was made. The conservation committee headed by Dave Dagleish made several recommendations; one was to set up and maintain feeding stations at various parks within the city.

At the February meeting Dorothy White asked for contributions of dishes and bookcases for Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. Balance in the treasury amounted to \$1,354.86.

Edna Banta gave a presentation on the status of the Saw-whet Owl in Indiana at the March meeting. Three hundred dollars was contributed to Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary toward the purchase of bookcases and \$200 was donated to National Audubon Society for their sanctuary fund.

Officers elected at the April meeting: President, Charles Berriman; Vice-President, David L. Dalglish; Secretary, Dollie Stuck; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer. A topic of discussion was the possible highway project which would bisect Woollen's Gardens. It was suggested we contact the State Highway Department to protest the project.

At a board meeting in October it was agreed to cosponsor the annual meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society at Purdue in 1962. A check for \$28 was sent to the Nature1 Conservancy to buy an acre in Pine Hills.

Screen Tours speakers included: Eben McMillan, Karl Maslowski, Charles Hotchkiss, Fran Hall, and Arthur Twomey.

At the November meeting, Joel Hadley gave a talk on his fifty years of birdwatching. He gave credit for his interest in birds to Miss McClellan, one of his former teachers at Shortridge.

Seventy-one species of birds were tallied on the Christmas Count.

1962

A birdhouse-building contest for school children was implemented through the public school system, with prizes awarded for the best houses. A check for \$100 was sent to the National Audubon Society for its Bald Eagle fund.

At the April meeting Bill and Bob Buskirk were announced as recipients of a scholarship to an Audubon Camp of their choice. Officers elected were: President, Emma Schlender; Vice-President, David Dalglish; Secretary, Dollie Stuck; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer.

Wildlife Film (formerly Screen Tours) speakers were Walter Berlet, Edgar Jones, Fran Hall, Howard Cleaves, and Roy Coy.

Bill and Bob Buskirk reported on their stint at the Audubon Camp of Maine at the September meeting. Balance in the treasury was \$2,877.61.

Russ Mumford spoke about animal life of the southwestern United States at the November meeting.

Dr. Goethe Link presented a program on Hummingbirds at the December meeting. A statement was read condemning Bill No. 1366, which would allow hunting Mourning Doves in Indiana.

Results of the Christmas Count were not published in the *Audubonews*.

1963

A petition was circulated at the January meeting for the membership to sign opposing hunting Mourning Doves.

At the February board meeting Charles Berriman and Dorothy White became editors of *Audubonews*. Officers elected at the April meeting were: President, Emma Schlender; Vice-President, David Dalglish; Secretary, Charles Keller; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer.

Wildlife Film speakers were to be Earl Hilfiker, Roy Coy, Harry Pederson, Charles Hotchkiss, and Patricia Witherspoon. The society purchased a projector, screen, and public address system for \$550 in order to show the Wildlife Films. Congratulatory cards were read concerning the appointment of Bill Buskirk and Jeannie Moore as counselors at the Audubon Camp of Maine.

Handbook of North American Birds Vol. 1 was donated to the Public Library in honor of Ward J. Rice, who died this year.

A hike on the Southport levee near White River and Helen Hendrick's farm was scheduled by Charles Keller. Only one person showed up.

Sixty species were seen on the Christmas Count.

1964

At the January Board meeting the president requested that the secretary draft a letter protesting the partial destruction of Woollen's Gardens to make way for Interstate 465. The letter was subsequently drafted and published in the *Indianapolis Times*.

At the April meeting the following officers were elected: President, Dave Dalglish; Vice-President, Gerald Dryer; Secretary,

Virginia Dilts; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer. Charles Keller moved that we contribute \$500 to Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary. A committee was appointed to investigate the motion.

Wildlife Film speakers included Robert Hermes, Emerson Scott, Roy Coy, C P. Lyons, and D. J. Nelson.

After considerable discussion at a special meeting called by the president, it was decided not to donate any funds to Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary at this time. (There had been a change in management at the sanctuary, and some members were unhappy about it.)

At the September meeting a special courtesy committee was suggested to send remembrances on behalf of the chapter for weddings, funerals, illnesses, etc.

Martin houses constructed for the Indianapolis Zoo were being used. Treasury balance as of 11 September 1964 was \$2,209.21. It was suggested by the president that Mrs. Sheila Smith assist Miss White with the Wildlife Films.

At the November meeting it was announced that the courtesy committee has suggested not to send wedding gifts because these should be a personal thing. We will, however, continue donating a book to the Public Library for deceased members.

At the December meeting Mr. West reported on the concern of many environmentalists about indiscriminate use of pesticides.

Sixty-seven birds were counted on the 26 December Christmas Count.

1965

At the January meeting it was suggested and approved that the treasurer transfer \$1,000 to a savings account. A letter was received from Arab Pest Control requesting approval of their new starling control methods. The consensus was that it was not proper for us to endorse a company.

Officers elected at the April meeting were: President, Gerald Dryer; Vice-President, Emma Schlender; Secretary, Virginia Dilts; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer.

Wildlife Film speakers included Karl Maslowski, Charles Hotchkiss, John Bulger, Walter Berlet, and Mary Jane Dockeray.

Dorothy White became editor of the *Audubonews* when Charles Berriman asked to be relieved due to illness at home. There

was a total of \$3,024.68 in the treasury as of 8 October. Seventy species were counted on the Christmas Count

1966

The Wildlife Film tickets were increased to \$5 adult with student tickets remaining at \$1.50.

The treasurer, Calvin Clymer, announced at the March meeting that the National Audubon Society mailing list was now computerized. Ralph Pierson reported that the Nature Study Cabin in Woollen's Gardens was to be removed and rebuilt near the footbridge over Fall Creek.

Officers elected were: President, Emma Schlender; Vice-President, Mrs. Howard F. Wright; Secretary, Mrs. J. W. Van Briggie; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer. There was \$2,535.83 in the treasury as of 1 May.

At the September pitch-in at the Riviera Club, Mildred Campbell and Howard Wright talked about Amos W. Butler. Miss Campbell met Dr. Butler in 1917 at an Irvington church. Students from Shortridge used to go to Dr. Butler's home to look at specimens. Butler had one of the original folio paintings of Audubon's Baltimore Orioles hanging on the east wall of his home. Mr. Wright reported on the birds listed in Butler's book.

There was a total of \$4,263.30 in the treasury as of 14 October.

At the December general meeting Henry C. West reported that the area for the annual Christmas Count had been changed to conform to guidelines set up by the National Audubon Society.

Wildlife Film speakers were Howard Orians, Allan Cruickshank, John Bulger, Walter Berlet, and John Taft.

A new Christmas Count was taken at Big Eagle Creek with 38 species, while the Indianapolis Count produced 65 species.

1967

At the February meeting William Barnes gave a talk on the first state fish and game laws.

Howard Wright made a motion to send \$1,000 to the National Audubon Society with no stipulation as to its use. The motion passed.

Officers elected at the April meeting: President, Howard F. Wright; Vice-President, Charles Keller; Secretary, Mrs. Robert Meredith; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer.

At the May meeting, John Satter became editor of the *Audubonews*.

It was agreed that bills would be presented at board meetings in the future and that a resume of the minutes be published in the *Audubonews*.

Speakers for the Wildlife Film season were Robert Davison, D. J. Nelson, Edgar Jones, Earl Hilfiker, and Roger Tory Peterson.

There was \$2,434.07 in the treasury as of 8 October.

Fifty-three species were counted on the 26 December Christmas Count.

1968

At the April meeting the following officers were elected: President, Dorothy White; Vice-President, Charles Keller; Secretary, Evelyn Meredith; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer; Honorary Vice-President, Earl Woodard. This meeting was held at the Indianapolis Zoo, where the members were taken on a tour of the facilities and given a train ride. At a previous board meeting a \$700 contribution had been donated to the zoo.

At the September board meeting Robert Meredith was appointed editor of *Audubonews*. It was agreed that official business of the society would be conducted at the board meetings instead of the general meetings to give more time for speakers.

Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season included John Bulger, Charles Hotchkiss, Walter Berlet, Buzz Moss, and William Anderson.

Christmas Count results for 21 December produced 67 species.

1969

At the February meeting efforts to stop fox trapping were discussed.

Officers elected at the April meeting were: President, Charles Moulin; Vice-President, Robert Bender; Secretary, Elfrieda

Schmidt; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer. There was a balance of \$3,295.71 in the treasury as of 17 April.

During May, \$1,000 was given to the Rachel Carson fund of the National Audubon Society to help in the fight against the indiscriminate use of pesticides.

At the July board meeting Edward V. Hathaway was appointed editor of the *Audubonews*. Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season included Barbara Steward, Kent Douglass, Doris Boyd, Robert Davison, and Harry Pederson.

In August the decision was made to allot funds to retain speakers for the programs at our general meetings. The sum of \$300 was set aside to use in that capacity. Some of the upcoming speakers included Dr. Sherman Minton and Dr. William Summers. In attendance at this meeting was and that, because of action in the national group, the word branch is obsolete; the word to be used is chapter. (Over the years, the minutes and the officers often seem confused about whether to say branch, district, or chapter.)

A field trip to Pine Hills was taken 20 September and another was scheduled to Big Walnut Creek on 4 October. At the local level, Ed Hathaway and Al Starling published some field notes in the *Audubonews*.

At an October board meeting the president said that he had received some complaints about not reading the minutes at the general meeting; specifically mentioned was the \$300 that was voted upon to help pay expenses of future speakers. Revision of the by-laws substituted the word "chapter" for "branch" and deleted mention of local dues.

At the November board meeting it was suggested as a tribute to the late Howard F. Wright that a sum of money might be set aside to send someone to an Audubon Camp. Finalization of the plan was set for a later date.

At the general meeting in November Charles Keller read a tribute to Howard Wright which was filed in the minutes of the chapter. It read, in part:

As a young man of fifteen, I was fortunate to become interested in natural history under the kind and thoughtful tutelage of Scott Calvert, Mildred Campbell, Dorothy White, and Howard Wright. It was in the wonder and the joy of being out-of-doors that each contributed in his or her own special way, and it was in the

knowledge gained by their close association and friendship, that my love for nature continued to this day. More than anything else, however, they gave freely and often of their time, not only to me, but all young people interested in nature. Time passes, and the memories of a youth are enriched with other associations and other events. The original friendships broaden in some cases, lessen in others. My friendship with Howard Wright had remained rich by renewed acquaintance at work and in our club ... he will not only be missed by his many friends, and this organization, but also by the once-fifteen year old idealistic young man who still remembers.

The 27 December Christmas Count at Eagle Creek produced 61 species, while that for Indianapolis held on the same day reported 66 species.

1970

At the February board meeting it was decided to send two students to the Audubon Camp in Wisconsin in memory of Howard F. Wright.

A special bus was chartered to take members of the society, city management, park board, and garden clubs to Alwood Nature Center on 25 April.

Elected at the April meeting were: President, Charles Moulin; Vice-President, John Tacoma; Secretary, Kenneth Okken; Treasurer, Calvin Clymer.

Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season included John Moyer, Robert Fultz, William Anderson, Bower Rudrud, and Harry Pederson.

At the October board meeting the president told of receiving a call from Marian College concerning the construction of an ecological garden on its grounds. The college wanted someone from the chapter to advise them, and a committee was appointed. It was mentioned that the by-laws needed to be reconstructed to coincide with recommendations from the National Audubon Society. There was a balance of \$4,723.34 in the treasury as of 1 October.

At the general meeting in October postcards were available to send to Senators Vance Hartke and Birch Bayh urging them to vote against supersonic transport. Also to be mailed was a suggestion to

find a new site for the proposed Northern Indiana Public Service Commission's power plant on Lake Michigan. Charles Moulin, Dorothy White, Al Starling, and William Barnes agreed to give programs for the inner-city children at Bradford Woods. Two hundred and sixty dollars was allocated to purchase memberships in the National Audubon Society for all the library branches in Indianapolis.

The following list of requirements was read at the December board meeting. To retain our status in the National Audubon Society the chapter must demonstrate: (1) a steady membership increase; (2) attendance at meetings and conventions concerning conservation; (3) activities such as field trips and wildlife films, (4) publishing at least six issues of the newsletter per year, and (5) having at least six public chapter meetings per year.

The Indianapolis Christmas Count tallied 60 species and Eagle Creek 50 species.

1971

At the January meeting Dorothy White asked for volunteers to help tend a booth at Glendale Shopping Center.

The constitution and by-laws of the organization were amended at the February board meeting. Of the 11 articles, six were approved as stated, and the other five were approved as amended. Under the new by-laws new committees will be appointed. There will now be five directors.

The recipient of the Howard F. Wright Scholarship, Peggy Harger, reported on her experiences at the Audubon Camp of the West at the March meeting.

Officers elected at the April meeting included: President, Ed Hathaway; Vice-President, Terry Knickerbocker; Secretary, Kenneth Okken; Treasurer, John Tacoma. Charles Keller was appointed editor of the *Audubonews*.

At the May board meeting \$1,000 was donated to the National Audubon Society.

At the July board meeting the following Wildlife Film speakers were announced: Fran Hall, Charles Hotchkiss, Grave McMillan, Tom Sterling, and Walter Berlet. New committees appointed included: Membership, Program, Conservation, Field Trip, Social, Publicity, Education, Publications, and Finance.

At the September meeting, Tim Keller and Kenneth Okken gave reports on the National Audubon Convention in Milwaukee, which they had attended as our representatives.

At the October meeting it was announced that the first three Wildlife Films would be at Stouffer's Inn because the World War memorial was being refurbished. Also reported was the founding of a new organization called White River Inc. whose aim was to clean up White River.

Margaret R. Knox, former president, secretary, and director, passed away. A book was donated to the Indianapolis Public Library in her honor.

The Indianapolis Christmas Count produced 65 species.

No treasury report for the year was on file in the minutes.

1972

At the January meeting, Mr. Moulin introduced John Weber and Jim Jontz, registered lobbyists for the Izaak Walton League, who explained some of the environmental bills in the Indiana Congress: Phosphate Bill, Environmental Policy Act, Non-returnable Bottle and Can Ordinance, and Environmental Management Act.

Mr. Hathaway announced at the March meeting that speed boat races for Eagle Creek Reservoir had been postponed through the efforts of Charles Moulin. Other announcements: (1) bounties on red fox have been discontinued; (2) the federal government has withdrawn more funds from the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Project.

At the May meeting, Charles Keller announced the winner of the Howard F. Wright scholarship, Jack Stephenson. Officers elected: President, Edward Hathaway; Vice-President, Robert Meredith; Secretary, Dorcas Bush; Treasurer, John Tacoma. Three directors were also elected. Wildlife Film speakers were Steve Maslowski, Peter Maslowski, Howard Boyd, Robert Fultz, and Albert J. Wool.

Membership was estimated to be between 420 and 500 in June. The president suggested at the June board meeting that the by-laws should be amended to state that the membership list remain confidential. The suggestion was to be voted upon at the September meeting. Harry Feldman asked for volunteer guides for Eagle Creek

Park in late summer and early fall. Mr. Moulin suggested that Indianapolis needs a nature center, preferably at Eagle Creek. He believed that Audubon could get it started.

At the October board meeting the president announced that Birch Bayh was able to get the proposed Highland Dam project at Geist deleted from an Appropriations Bill. Mr. Franson wrote that we should get some wildlife biologists to speak at some of our meetings.

Jack Stephenson gave an interesting slide program on his trip to the Audubon Camp of the West at the November meeting.

The December meeting was postponed because of bad weather.

Christmas Counts were not made available to the editor and no treasury report was filed with the minutes.

1973

The society donated \$100 to Joe Wright at the January meeting for purchasing recycled paper to print a brochure about environmental education. Also, the president thanked Charles Moulin and Dorothy White for their work with inner-city children at Bradford Woods.

At the January board meeting a letter was read from John L. Franson proposing a Council of Indiana Audubon Societies. No action was taken. A letter was sent to Birch Bayh stating that the chapter had withdrawn its objection to the proposed Highland Dam Project provided that there would be no private use of the surrounding land.

At the February general meeting it was announced that an advisory council member was requested for Eagle Creek Park. Charles Marks was appointed to the Eagle Creek Park Advisory Council at the March board meeting. It was suggested that the *Audubonews* editorial staff be increased.

At the March general meeting Kenneth Okken was named as recipient of the Howard F. Wright Scholarship for 1973.

Officers elected at the April meeting were: President, Edward Hathaway; Vice-President, Charles Moulin; Secretary, Dorcas Bush; Treasurer, John Tacoma.

At a May pitch-in meeting at Eagle Creek, Harry Feldman gave a talk on the history of the park and the building in which the

Nature Center is housed. J. K. Lilly once used the building to store his collection of rare coins, stamps, and books.

Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season were to be Peter Maslowski, Roy Coy, Jeane and John Goodman, Martin Bruce, and Tom Sterling.

Articles of incorporation were discussed at a July board meeting. It was decided not to pursue this issue at the present time. John Tacoma was to see about obtaining a non-profit mailing permit for the organization. Al Starling agreed to become an associate editor to assist Charles Keller.

At the September general meeting it was announced that the *Audubonews* would be published monthly, omitting June, July, and August issues. Section 1, article 2 of the Constitution was amended to read: "The purpose and objectives of this society shall be to engage in any such educational, scientific, investigative, literary, and charitable pursuits as may be part of the stated purposes of the National Audubon Society, of which this society shall function as a chapter."

At the October board meeting, assistant editors for the *Audubonews* were suggested, Ed Hathaway suggested that a room in the Maennerchor Building be used as the society's archive. Al Starling requested that the board take action on revision of the Marsh and Shorebird hunting regulations. He further stated that he would look into the continuing excavations at Eagle Creek Reservoir. Jack Cushman asked that the chapter underwrite the printing of a finding guide to birds of Indiana. No action was taken.

At the November general meeting it was moved to send not more than \$0.25 per member to the Indiana Advisory Council to help defray expenses of mailing, etc. Al Starling distributed copies of the Indiana Migratory Gamebird Hunting Seasons and Regulations. He moved that the board should go on record to proceed with the proper action to eliminate rails, gallinules, and snipes from the migratory gamebird list. The motion was passed. Balance in the treasury was \$6,777.21 as of 19 November. Dorothy White reported that the Wildlife Film project was in the red but that she would sell stationery to make up the difference. Possible financing of the proposed finding guide by Jack Cushman was discussed, with no action taken. Myron Swenson became the new Audubon representative for the Central District.

The December *Audubonews* featured a new column by Ethel Bock, called "Pen Feathers," and field notes by Nelle Bell.

At the December general meeting, Henry West announced plans for the upcoming Christmas Counts and reported that there would be a one-dollar charge for participants. Fifty-five species were seen on the Indianapolis Christmas Count.

1974

At the January board meeting Charles Keller announced that he was co-authoring a book on Indiana birds and had not known about the proposed Jack Cushman book. Ed Hathaway noted that this would affect our consideration of financing the latter. Six hundred and seventy-two copies of the *Audubonews* were mailed. It was moved and passed that we consider three scholarships to Audubon Camps. The board agreed that speakers would be given a \$12 membership in lieu of payment. It was also suggested and passed that we give a State Audubon Society membership as a door prize at each of this season's meetings. The possibility of obtaining land near Fort Harrison as a sanctuary was discussed. An arm patch design of a Nuthatch was submitted by Brace Loomis and was accepted.

At a special board meeting in March it was decided to issue funds in the amount of \$240.16 to Eagle Creek Park for the purchase of books and instructional materials. A motion was made and passed that we fund two delegates to the National Convention.

Officers elected at the April general meeting included: President, Evelyn Meredith; Vice-President, Charles Moulin; Secretary, Dorcas Bush; Treasurer, John Tacoma. It was agreed to have arm patches made.

Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season were Kent Durden, Edgar Jones, John Bulger, Sam Schipper, and Hank Kegel.

At a pitch-in dinner held at Stuart Mansion in May, Myron Swenson, Midwest Regional Director, gave a short talk. He urged members to monitor legislation in the state. Workshops at the First Midwest Regional Conferences were announced.

At the July board meeting there was a discussion about the "Dirty Dozen," twelve Congressmen whose pro-environment voting score has been consistently low. Three of the dozen—Hudnut, Landgrebe, and Zion—are from Indiana. One hundred dollars was

given to the Nature Conservancy for upkeep of Effroymsen Woods at Spring Mill. The secretary displayed a citation from Mayor Lugar acknowledging our services on behalf of Eagle Creek Park. Daniel Tomkins of John Marshall High School received an Audubon Scholarship.

In September an invitation was extended to the Wabash Valley Audubon Society to meet our group at the Indianapolis Sewage Disposal Plant for a field trip led by Charles Keller. Our delegates to the National Convention, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Meredith, gave a report. Evelyn Meredith resigned her position as president and Charles Moulin assumed the presidency. Michael Eoff was elected Vice-President to fill Mr. Moulin's place. It was announced that the Indianapolis Museum of Art had asked for assistance in the building of nature trails; the board voted for same plus the construction of birdhouses and feeders.

It was announced at the October board meeting that the Indianapolis Museum of Art had a two-story garage behind the Lilly Pavillion where we could store our records.

The main purpose of the November board meeting was to discuss participation of the chapter in development of a sanctuary on the Museum of Art grounds in a 220-acre tract, adjacent to and west of the Lilly Pavillion. Two hundred dollars was allocated to Eagle Creek Park for additional books and educational material.

Christmas Count results for Indianapolis and Eagle Creek produced 70 and 50 species respectively. No treasury reports were on file in the minutes. We began selling bird seed at the Museum in conjunction with the Horticultural Society. Prices were: Thistle—\$0.75/lb; Sunflower—\$0.25; Mixed—\$0.15.

1975

In January \$400 was given to the Nature Conservancy to aid them in their purchases. Al Starling reported on his talks with Dr. Charles Meyers regarding 70 acres of land south of Eagle Creek Dam. There is an additional 30-40 acres of adjacent land owned by the state. Mr. Starling said that he would contact Lilly Endowment to see if they were interested. A petition was circulated advocating the banning of throwaway beverage containers. Mr. Starling announced that his bird walks would continue during the winter at Eagle Creek.

In February, —especially monitoring legislative activity—and a letter from Myron Swenson advocating a strong conservation committee; Swenson further complained that the chapter was not keeping him sufficiently informed on conservation issues, and criticized the *Audubonews* in particular. He proposed dividing the chapter into two separate chapters. Membership was set at approximately 788. A treasury report did not include our invested funds. A Goshawk design was suggested as the club logo. Volunteers were asked to assist in monitoring some bills before the state congress. The Wildlife Film speaker, John Bulger, became ill and was sent to General Hospital the night before the lecture. Thanks to last-minute heroics by Dorothy White, Peter Maslowski gave a substitute program.

In March it was decided to send Dorcas Bush to the Audubon Convention as our delegate. A letter had been sent in answer to the criticism received from Mr. Swenson. .

The following officers were elected: President, Michael Eoff; President-Elect, Al Starling; Vice-President, Kathryn Sage; Secretary, Dorcas Bush; Treasurer, Fred Bock. In addition six directors were elected. Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season were Walter Berlet, Tom Sterling, John Bulger, Greg and Linda McMillan, and Stefan King.

At the May meeting it was announced that a revised annotated listing of birds of Indiana by Russ Mumford and Charles Keller would appear in the *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*. Society members, especially Dorothy White, were again assisting in the Bradford Woods project of the Indianapolis School District. The Nebo Ridge wildlife project was discussed by Marc Riddle.

In September, Cynthia Tabbert reported on activities for the coming year at a meeting of her Education Committee. Dr. Eoff resigned as president with Mrs. Sage automatically succeeding to that office, but she resigned immediately. President-Elect Al Starling was then voted in as president. Tom Potter was appointed Field Trip Chairman.

A book was donated to the Public Library in memory of Willard Morlan, an ex-president, who had died recently. Field trips to Jasper-Pulaski, Geist Reservoir, Indiana Dunes, Atterbury, Eagle Creek Park, Willow Slough, and Shades-Pine Hills were announced. Charles Moulin announced that help was needed to sell seed at the Museum.

The treasurer's report for November gave a balance of \$4,573.76. Dorothy White and Charles Moulin manned a booth at the Science Teachers' Convention. The editor of the *Audubonews* asked that field notes be sent directly to Sallie Potter. Ed Wagner gave a talk on Muscatatuck. Harold Jensen, a student at John Marshall High School, received a complimentary membership. In December it was decided to give speakers an honorarium of up to \$25 in addition to a membership. Any increase in an honorarium was to be approved by the board. It was agreed to assemble a permanent set of bird slides to be used for various occasions. Five gift memberships were awarded to students in the Indianapolis area. Dorcas Bush announced her resignation as secretary. Dorothy White became acting secretary.

The 20 December Indianapolis Christmas Count produced 79 species.

1976

In January, Peggy Harger was elected secretary to replace Dorcas Bush. The question came up of a permanent home for the chapter at the Art Museum, and a committee was appointed to investigate. Two identification programs were set up at the museum with Tom Potter, Charles Keller, and Peggy Harger. An updated field checklist was being prepared by Mr. Keller, and 3,000 copies were to be printed. A rare bird alert was put into operation. A bird sanctuary was to be established near Geist Reservoir with students from John Marshall High School in charge. Our chapter was to furnish management advice. The total newsletter mailing reached 1,095.

In April there was a reported balance of \$10,094.09 in the treasury. Officers elected were: President, Al Starling; President-Elect, Tom Potter; Vice-President, Larry Peavler; Secretary, Cynthia Tabbert; Treasurer, Fred Bock. Six directors were also elected. Two scholarships were announced: Mark Rhoades and Jerry Sweeten. It was suggested that we had too much money to be considered a non-profit organization, and monies should be allocated for additional projects.

In August the board members examined several different potential locations for the storage of bird seed at the IMA. We

obtained an office at Stuart Mansion which was to be staffed by students of Marian College. Mike Eoff was to act as coordinator.

Membership was 1,025 as of 7 September. A possible contribution was discussed for the Indiana Audubon Society.

In October it was decided to allot \$0.16/mile for mileage for Bradford Woods volunteers. Audubon Scholarships were awarded to Ricky Kress, Scott Starling, Tim Keller, Jan Hathaway, and William Greathouse. Mike Eoff's motion that we adopt \$500,000 insurance coverage on the office and all our activities was passed. A remote device was purchased for \$300 for the office. Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season were: Alvah Sandborn, Doris Boyd, C. P. Lyons, and Walter Berlet.

In December, Charlie Moulin reported that bird seed sales were booming. The chapter had 1,062 members. The board designated \$75 for the purchase of materials to construct bluebird houses.

The 18 December Indianapolis Christmas Count revealed 80 species, while Eagle Creek produced 67.

1977

Thirty-three gift memberships for young students were approved in January. A book was donated to the Public Library in memory of Phoebe Marks. A motion was made and passed that every time we donate a book to the Public Library, a like copy be placed in our library housed in Stuart Mansion. Five hundred dollars was donated to the general fund of the Indiana Audubon Society.

In March, \$200 was allocated for two members to attend the National Convention. Subscriptions to various journals were ordered, to be stored eventually in the library. There was a question as to whether our field trips should be open to the public. Since they are educational, the board voted unanimously to keep them open. Judges appointed for the science fair were Jo Davidson, Peggy Harger, and Peggy Graham. A speakers' bureau was formed with the suggested contribution set at \$25. Mr. Moulin resigned as chairman of bird seed sales with thanks from the board for a job well done. Fifty dollars was donated to the Nature Center at Eagle Creek to help defray expenses in bird feeding.

In April, Dr. Palmer Ecker was appointed bird seed chairman. *Audubonews* had a circulation of 1600. Officers elected included;

President, Tom Potter; President-Elect, Larry Peavler; Vice-President, Cynthia Tabbert; Secretary, Shirley Keller; Treasurer, Fred Bock. Six directors were elected.

In July it was decided to hold the board meetings on the Thursday prior to the regular meetings. It was also decided to dispense with reading the secretary's and treasurer's reports at the meetings. *Audubonews* editor Charles Keller suggested that we consider a name change for the newsletter. Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season were named: Tom Sterling, Burdette White, Bernard Nathanson, Robert Fultz, and Allen King.

The cost of the newsletter was a topic of discussion at the October meeting with no decision reached. Membership was 1,250. No one was available to man the office and it was suggested to offer a \$50 scholarship to a student at Marian College in return for that service. The board paid \$86 to Stan Stevens for mileage to Bradford Woods. Six hundred dollars was allotted to Charles Moulin and Ed Hathaway to construct a lean-to at the IMA for bird seed. A letter was read from one of the members urging that the society cut down on frivolous expenses and concentrate on buying some land.

Balance in the treasury was \$12,447.54 as of 3 November. George Bell was appointed to head the Speakers' Bureau. It was decided to sell bird seed from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. the first two Saturdays in November and the first Saturday of each month thereafter until April. Jan Pruden was appointed the new chairperson of the "Bird Seed Program."

In December it was announced that over 100 acres of Nature Conservancy land adjoining the airport on Allisonville Road in Hamilton County might be available to the society for \$1 a year. This was to be investigated. It was suggested that Tanya Beyer and Dan Mosier be sent to an Audubon Camp, with Becky McKenna and Charles Keller as alternates. The remote disappeared from the office and a replacement was needed. Announcement was made of the deaths of Margaret Clymer and Edna Banta. The Christmas Counts produced 71 species for Indianapolis and 59 for Eagle Creek.

1978

Student memberships should be given to those who were interested in nature, not necessarily those with high academic standings, it was urged at the January board meeting. . A debate arose as

to whether we could loan money to the committee which was trying to restore Stuart Mansion, with no decision taken. The January Wildlife Film was canceled because of the blizzard.

It was decided not to loan money for the Stuart Mansion Feasibility Study.

A telephone recording is being used at the office to announce meetings, rare bird sightings, etc. The board opposed use of the canal towpath as a paved bicycle path. There was some dissension about paying an out-of-town speaker \$75 for a program. Some members thought it unfair to pay that price when local members received nothing for their programs. The board voted to pay the \$75 fee with eight ayes and three nays. Approximately \$1,000 profit was derived from bird seed sales.

Officers elected at the April meeting were: President, Larry Peavler; President-Elect, Cynthia Tabbert; Vice-President, John Munshower; Secretary, Shirley Keller; Treasurer, Fred Bock. Six directors were elected. A budget was adopted. Wildlife Film speakers for the year were: John Taft, Charles Hotchkiss, Dennis Holt, Earl Hilfiker, and Stephen Kress.

At the August meeting it was announced that Jo Davidson would take over the Speakers' Bureau. In memory of Mrs. Katherine Sage, who had died during the summer, a memorial gift to the Nature Center was suggested. Memorial gifts amounting to about \$860 were earmarked for a scholarship fund. An autograph party for Al Starling's new book *Enjoying Indiana Birds* was held at the regular November meeting. Six hundred and fifty dollars was allocated to the program chairman for the coming year. Dorothy White was given approval to sell the society's projector and screen.

There was \$15,397.54 in the treasury as of 6 October. A martin house with a telescoping pole was ordered in Katy Sage's memory to be installed at Eagle Creek Park. Charles and Shirley Keller were awarded Audubon Camp scholarships. Stan Stephens was also suggested as an awardee. One thousand dollars was given to the Indiana Audubon Society with no strings attached. Dorothy White sold Audubon Calendars to make up the deficit in the Wildlife Films budget.

There were 69 and 65 species counted on the Indianapolis and Eagle Creek Counts respectively.

In January, Peggy Harger made arrangements for the board to tour the proposed 145-acre sanctuary near Castleton. President Larry Peavler stated that the major portion of all funds received by the chapter should be set aside for the future purchase of a wildlife sanctuary. It was agreed to invest the major portion of the money at a higher rate of interest. A memorial fund for Lois Tabbert was set up to help defray the cost of the Wildlife Films. . A discussion was held with regard to office security. Dorothy White's name was submitted to the Holcomb Research Institute for the purpose of supplying technical information for the Indiana State Museum.

In February, Peggy Harger and Becky McKenna reported on the cataloging of the books in the office. Our regional representative, Marshall Case, was transferred to the main office. Two hundred and fifty dollars was .

Featured at the March meeting was a program by William Zimmerman, well-known nature artist. A proposal was to be drafted to tell the Nature Conservancy that we were definitely interested in obtaining the site near Castleton for a sanctuary. (The other candidate was the Children's Museum.) The treasury balance as of 1 March was \$12,604.27. Office security was again discussed. The science department at John Marshall High School received a \$100 donation in memory of Robert Weaver.

The leg-hold trap bill was amended to state that it was illegal to trap as such on public land. Two hundred and fifty dollars was allocated to send Dorothy White to the National meeting. Officers elected included: President, Cynthia Tabbert; President-Elect, Charles E. Keller; Vice-President, Donna McCarty; Secretary, Shirley Keller; Treasurer, Fred Bock. Six directors were elected.

In September it was decided to hold annual bird seed sales at both the Art Museum and Southern Plaza. Wildlife Film speakers for the coming year were: Walter Berlet, Steve Maslowski, Burdette White, Stephen Kress, and Tom Sterling. Dorothy White announced that the National planned to discontinue the films next season. The movie screen and projector we were unable to sell were donated to the Children's Museum.

The October *Audubonews* paid tribute to Dr. Forest K. Paul who died this year. Chapter meetings were transferred to Nora Public Library for December and January on a trial basis. Two copies of *Indiana Birds and Their Haunts* were donated to the Public Library in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Paul Loomis. Memorial

contributions from Eve Palmer and Florence Loomis were donated to the society. The president asked Ethel Bock to head a committee to decide on a logo for the society.

In November an autographing party was held at Cropsey Hall in the Public Library for the Kellers' new book, *Indiana Birds and Their Haunts*. The seed sale produced a profit of nearly \$1,000. Vivian Dye reported on the Broad Ripple property and the board suggested that we support keeping this area a natural one. Jay Reed was the new regional Audubon representative. One hundred dollars was given to the Nature Conservancy. A special mailing concerning the gravel operations at Eagle Creek Park was sent to all members.

In December the board authorized an Audubon camp scholarship for Lori Bernadine. There was a total of \$15,422.40 in the treasury as of 6 December. A discussion was held concerning proofreading of the newsletter; however, the board decided it was not necessary. A committee was formed to keep abreast of the gravel company's threatened incursions into the Eagle Creek marsh area. One hundred and fifty dollars was allocated for "Save Eagle Creek" bumper stickers. The society purchased a bluebird slide presentation for \$50. A copy of *Indiana Birds and Their Haunts* was donated to the Mooresville Public Library in honor of former president and long-time member Mildred Thompson.

Seventy-five and sixty-two species were reported on the Indianapolis and Eagle Creek Christmas Counts respectively.

1980

As of January the phone was put on a metered rate with a special code number for long-distance calls. The sanctuary project was still in limbo due to inability to meet with the donor. Attorney Karl Stipher met with the board to discuss elimination of all gravel operations at Eagle Creek. Fifteen hundred dollars was set aside for possible legal fees. It was moved and passed that the *Audubonews* should be printed on better quality paper. The subject of the logo was brought up and it was voted to submit sketches of the Cedar Waxwing. An additional \$500 was allocated for attorney fees.

Sample drawings of the Cedar Waxwing logo were submitted by Donna McCarty for consideration.

As of April some \$1,500 had been spent on legal fees; John Schlechte reported that the gravel company would be out of Eagle

Creek by January. The Cedar Waxwing logo was formally adopted. The name *Audubon Life Lines* was suggested for the newsletter.

In May it was reported that seed sales had earned approximately \$1,000. New by-laws were adopted. *Audubon Life Lines* was adopted as the new name for the newsletter. National Audubon recommended that our society incorporate. A motion to that effect was made and passed. The following officers were elected: President, Donna McCarty; Vice-President, Arleen Armstrong; Secretary, Sandra Finchum; Treasurer, John Schlechte. Seven directors were elected.

The articles of incorporation were signed by Charles Keller, Donna McCarty, and John Schlechte on 3 June. Thereafter we were officially Amos W. Butler Audubon Society, Inc. At this time a new set of by-laws were instituted allowing for, among other things: thirteen directors, president, past president, program vice-president, publications vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and treasurer. The balance at the time of incorporation was listed at \$12,877.13.

In September, Lori Bemadine became the editor of *Audubon Life Lines* and Publications Vice-President. The annual seed sale was set for 25 October and \$500 was allocated for promotion of same. Dorothy White announced that we would fund four Wildlife Films. Speakers were: Albert Wool, Charles Hotchkiss, Norm Wakeman, and Tom Diez. Two hundred and fifty dollars was budgeted for gas mileage to Bradford Woods.

In October, the final legal fee of \$6,500 was paid to the firm of Baker and Daniels for the services of attorney Kari Stipher in stopping the gravel mining operation at Eagle Creek. The Eve Palmer memorial fund was estimated to be over \$1,000.

Concern was expressed about poor attendance at the Wildlife Film series. It was decided to write National Audubon and find out what type of advertising package was available. Fifty-dollar donations were made to the Eagle Creek Nature Center and the Humane Society.

In December the membership was listed at 1,193. A suggestion was made that the society “adopt” Eagle Creek Park and help them with any of their needs.

The Indianapolis Christmas Count listed 68 species and Eagle Creek 62.

1981

In January an acid rain slide show was purchased for \$75, to be shown at several area schools. Vivian Dye was given an Audubon Camp scholarship.

At the March board meeting it was decided that proceeds from the Birdathon would be used for Eagle Creek restoration. . Some concern was expressed about the survival of the bluebird; suggestions were made that a flag with two bluebirds be flown over government buildings and schools as a symbol of that concern, and that we promote the making of bluebird houses and help to establish bluebird trails. Three student memberships for the Marian College Science Fair were approved.

Elected in April were: President, Donna McCarty; Program Vice-President, Tom Potter; Publications Vice-President, Lori Bernadine; Secretary, Saundra Finchum; Corresponding Secretary, Paula Jones; and Treasurer, John Schlechte. Seven directors were also elected. Five hundred dollars was allocated to begin a spring tree planting program at Eagle Creek. A motion was entertained and passed that there be a corporate resolution for a savings account for the Eagle Creek fund. It was announced that the May meeting would be held at Easley's Winery.

In June, \$100 was donated to the Salt Creek Wilderness project.

In September, Dorothy White announced that the film series had a deficit last season, but she helped make up for it by having a yard sale. It was believed that attendance would improve at upcoming Wildlife Films because they would be held at the regular meetings. One thousand dollars was allocated for legal expenses, if necessary, for the Salt Creek Wilderness project. Five hundred dollars was also allocated for promotion of the seed sale. Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season were: Steve Maslowski, Robert Davison, Lorne Wallace, and Tom Diez. An editorial in the *Indianapolis Star* congratulated the society and others for stopping the gravel mining in Eagle Creek Park. One thousand dollars was set aside for a fund to send teachers to Audubon Ecology Camps. Saundra Finchum was appointed chairman of a committee to generate ideas for raising \$25,000 to keep the Nature Center open during the winter.

In October the committee in charge of Eagle Creek was thinking of making a small Willow Slough replica at the far north end of the reservoir. Balance in the treasury as of 29 October was \$14,525.22. Two hundred dollars was allocated in December for the printing of an Eagle Creek Park wildflower list by Peter Dilman. The December Christmas Count results were not published in *Audubon Lifelines*.

1982

In January, members of the board met with Peggy Harger to look at the proposed sanctuary land near Castleton. The board voted, subject to negotiation, on acceptance of the property. Two hundred and fifty dollars was allocated to reimburse Stan Stevens for gas mileage to Bradford Woods. It was suggested that it might be advantageous to change the by-laws to allow committee chairmen to vote. The suggestion was tabled.

In February it was announced that the Board of Trustees of the Nature Conservancy had voted to offer the property which the board had investigated in January to the Children's Museum. The Children's Museum in turn stated they would involve the A. W. Butler Chapter in the design and use of the woods to the extent that the society wanted to be involved. Six hundred and twenty dollars was allocated for tree planting at Eagle Creek. The board funded \$225 for the president's transportation to the National Audubon Convention.

In March a motion was entertained to allow committee chairmen a vote, through a change in the by-laws, on all issues. The motion passed. Lois Ann Poteet was awarded an Audubon Scholarship.

Officers elected in April were: President, Tom Potter; Vice-President Publications, Lori Bernadine; Vice-President Program, Jim Carpenter; Secretary, Saundra Finchum; Corresponding Secretary, Faye Gessing; Treasurer, Carl Weber. In addition, seven directors were elected. Balance in the treasury as of 6 May was \$18,114.59. Karl J. Stipher was voted on as the new name for the Eagle Creek Park Nature Preserve.

During the July board meeting the chapter learned that National Audubon was requesting that we list our priority concerns for review by them. In order of importance, these concerns were: (1)

wetlands, habitat, and estuary preservation; (2) clean air and acid rain; (3) clean water; (4) nuclear and hazardous waste; (5) soil erosion and agricultural problems; and (6) energy conservation. It was agreed to help finance the Hoosier Audubon Council at \$0.10 to \$0.15 per member, not to exceed \$250.

Dorothy White announced that the cost of four Wildlife Films is now \$3,500. The board decided that the films were worth the increase. Speakers for the year were: Herman Kitchen, Tom Sterling, Richard Kern, and Ken Creed.

In November it was decided to fund at \$0.25/member the mailing of a brochure explaining the non-game fund proposal to tax preparers. An additional \$20 was allocated to the Hoosier Audubon Council. Profit from the annual bird seed sale was \$1,536.85.

In December, . Forty-seven species were recorded on the Eagle Creek Christmas Count.

1983

At the January board meeting \$100 was given to the Indiana Clean Air Coalition. One thousand dollars was set aside for the Audubon Camp scholarship fund. Wildlife Film ticket prices were to be discussed and set at a later date. Interest from certificate of deposit was to be set aside to make up for the deficit in the Wildlife Films.

Jim Carpenter became acting president in February due to the resignation of Tom Potter.

In March, \$350 was donated to the Nature Center Fund, and the former motion that interest from the certificate of deposit be used for Eagle Creek Park was amended to read that it be used to help preserve the natural areas of Eagle Creek and any related activity. Twenty-five dollars was allocated in order to remain on the mailing list of the Midwest Clean Water Campaign.

Balance in the treasury as of 7 April was \$19,172.48. Officers elected were: President, Tim Keller; Vice-President Publications, Charles Keller; Vice-President Program, Faye Gessing; Recording Secretary, Sandra Finchum; Corresponding Secretary, Mary Lu Spencer; Treasurer, Carl Weber. Six directors were also elected. A project involving *Bird Watchers Digest* would allow the society to keep \$5 of every \$11 membership that it sold. The project was approved.

Special congratulations were extended to Donna McCarty, who was named “Environmentalist of the Year for 1982” at the May meeting. It was suggested a policy regarding advertising in the *Audubon Life Lines* be set by next fall. The Audubon Ark visit produced thirteen new members and the Audubon Camp scholarship went to Mrs. Libby Stanton, a school teacher.

In September, Peggy Harger reported that the Nature Conservancy had 33 acres of land in Marion County between Lantern and Sargent Roads for us to look at. Wildlife Film speakers for the coming season were Charles Hotchkiss, Fran Hall, Robert Fultz, and Grant Foster. Season ticket prices were set at \$9 a person or \$2.50 single admission.

In October it was voted upon to accept the property between Lantern and Sargent Roads, and the president read a letter from a prospective donor of another 300 acres.

At the November meeting, books were donated in memory of Calvin Clymer (former treasurer) and Clara Alma Moore (former president) to the Indianapolis Public Library. Profit from the annual seed sale was \$1,050.

Sixty-five species of birds were seen on the Eagle Creek Christmas Count.

1984

At the January board meeting it was decided to notify the National Audubon Society that we would be using “Outdoor Film Adventures” instead of the Wildlife Films next season because of problems with the latter. . She gave a brief report on some current issues.

In February, two new board members, Bob Ballard and Jack Stephenson, were introduced. The society voted to put on record its opposition to the hunting of Mourning Doves in Indiana.

The society donated \$500 toward publication expenses for *Birds of Indiana* in March, and voted in opposition to the proposed timber cutting in Eagle Creek Park.

In April the following officers were elected: President, Tim Keller; Vice-President Publications, Charles Keller; Vice-President Program, Irene Dyke; Recording Secretary, Mary Lu Spencer; Corresponding Secretary, Faye Gessing; Treasurer, Carl Weber. Seven directors were elected. It was agreed to write a letter to Mayor

Hudnut to encourage the Parks Department to officially designate four pieces of property as nature preserves: forty-two acres in Eagle Creek Park, Eagle's Crest, Woollen's Gardens, and Marott Park.

The balance in the treasury as of 3 May was \$20,379.35. Four hundred and fifty dollars was approved for six programs on the topic, Save Our American Raptors. Marty Hamilton was introduced as the new regional representative.

In July the society went on record as opposing the use of public park land at 56th and Reed Road to build a training facility for the Indianapolis Colts. The Adventure Film series speakers included Allen King, Fran Hall, Tom Sterling, and Kent Durden.

In September it was announced that four Audubon Camp scholarships would be awarded. Timber cutting at Eagle Creek was abandoned. It was agreed to reimburse the Sierra Club \$500 for legal costs in the battle over the use of park land for the Colts. A copy of *Birds of Indiana* was to be presented to Dorothy White by the Amos W. Butler Audubon Society.

In November an autograph party for *Birds of Indiana* featuring the authors, Russ Mumford and Charlie Keller, and the artist, Bill Zimmerman, was held at Indiana University-Purdue University Lecture Hall that netted the society \$1,000. A donation of \$100 was made to the Natural Heritage Program.

Profit from the annual seed sale amounted to \$1,700. . Christmas Count results were not published in *Audubon Life Lines*.

1985

The society renewed its membership in the Hoosier Environmental Council at \$0.25/member. At least 90 percent of the desired modifications of the Eagle Creek master plan were implemented with the exception of stopping the dredging for the rowing course.

In March, Ken Finch, curator of Natural Science of the Children's Museum, was introduced, Mr. Finch was interested in possible cooperative programs between the Children's Museum and the Audubon Society. A \$200 donation was made to the Indiana Audubon Society to help in funding its membership drive. At least 35 people helped with tree planting day at Eagle Creek.

In April, \$200 was donated for the Breeding Bird Atlas. A motion was passed to change the bylaws to read: "Exclude the Treasurer from all limitations of term of service subject to election

of office every year.” New officers elected were: President, Bob Baker; Vice-President Publications, Greg Oskay; Vice-President Program, Irene Dyke; Corresponding Secretary, Nancy Carpenter; Recording Secretary, Mary Lu Spencer. Eight directors were elected. Treasury balance was \$21,085.63.

Audubon Camp scholarships were awarded to Joni James, Sara Ann Wells, and Denise Wilkins in May. The property at Lantern Road is no longer available to the society. Concern was expressed about Shorewood Corporation’s operations at Morse Reservoir. There were 1,240 members.

In September the conservation committee gave a report on the Pan Am Games Rowing Course and its impact on the surrounding area at Eagle Creek. The following Adventure Film speakers were scheduled at the Children’s Museum under the direction of Ken Finch: Herman Kitchen, Doug Wood, Larry Battson, and Allen King.

It was agreed to increase the fee for typesetting the newsletter to \$40 per issue in October.

Profit from the bird seed sale amounted to \$1,920. . There were 48 species seen on the Eagle Creek Christmas Count.

1986

In January the death of Faye Gessing was announced and a suitable memorial to Broad Ripple Library was discussed. Bob Ballard and Tom Huvershorn completed a list of trees, shrubs, and woody vines of Eagle Creek Park; the board allocated \$200 for 2,000 copies of this list.

In February, \$320 was allocated for newspaper ads promoting the Adventure Film series. A beginners’ birding walk and program were put together by Rob and Reta Rutledge. Carl Weber will lead a beginners’ wildfowl walk in March at Eagle Creek. Starting in April, Larry Peavler will lead walks in University Park for six Mondays.

Officers elected in April included: President, Bob Baker; Vice-President Publications, Greg Oskay; Vice-President Programs, Ken Finch; Corresponding Secretary, Mary Ellen Gadski; Recording Secretary, Reta Rutledge; Treasurer, Carl Weber. Eleven directors were elected. The Midwest regional office has been moved to 7 N. Meridian Street.

The . Because of the decrease in attendance the Wildlife (Adventure Film) series had only one speaker: John Wilson. Treasury balance was \$27,153.12.

In August, Fowl Play requested a volunteer to come one hour a day for 25 days to teach basic birdwatching. It was suggested that we explore the possibility of a 50/50 grant between the society (not to exceed \$1,200) and IPS Foundation to fund this program, which aims to teach school children about birds.

Tim Keller was authorized to write the water company asking that the water level at Eagle Creek Reservoir be lowered for the fall shorebird migration in September. We voted to match a \$312 school board grant for Fowl Play. Ken Finch was to be one of the teachers. Doris Manger will do two programs on Eagles, Hawks, etc. at \$75/each.

In October a committee was formed to investigate the impact of an increase in dues on the local society.

Carl Weber reported that the society was spending more than it took in over a year's period. A possible Nature Center was discussed for Woollen's Gardens or Marott Park. The board reluctantly decided against continuing the Wildlife (Adventure Film) series; instead it would devote its energies to sponsoring programs like Doris Manger's.

There were 579 students from 22 classes involved in the Fowl Play program. Ken Finch and Denise Wilkins were asked to do the program the following year. , for the coming year. . This was being investigated. Christmas Count results were not published in *Audubon Life Lines*.

1987

In the January issue of *Audubon Life Lines*, there appeared an essay on the demise of the Wildlife Films, part of which I quote here:

Of great importance in our early financial independence was the success of these films. Indeed, they sent many a worthy young adult to Audubon Camp and insured the films the following year. But time passes on and new methods of media presentation occur. Now, with the advent of television, we are given intimate and detailed analysis of nature as never before seen—all of this

in the comfortable surroundings of our homes. The subsequent fall in attendance at the Wildlife Films with this new form of presentation could only lead to the unfortunate demise of the other. And so, with the consequent drain on our treasury, the Board reluctantly decided to omit the films from next year's itinerary. Such a course is understandable but it is appropriate, I believe, to remember the Wildlife Films, to the people who insured their former success, and to the many young school children who benefited from this unique visual presentation.

A non-chapter member outside of our area can now subscribe to *Audubon Life Lines* for \$5.

It was announced at the February board meeting that as long as Mayor Hudnut remains in office there would be no lodge at Eagle Creek. Sunshine Promotions asked us to endorse a new amphitheater at 86th Street in exchange for access to a contiguous wooded area. We decided not to get involved. An offer of eight acres of land was made to the chapter, which was to be investigated.

In March it was decided to decline the offer of land because of difficulty of access. It was suggested that perhaps the owner would allow us to sell it and use the profits for some other venture. This was to be looked into. Our request to have the water level of Eagle Creek Reservoir lowered during the fall shorebird migration was still under consideration. A chapter patch was to be designed. The idea of a 24-hour Birdathon to raise money from pledges was suggested, with Bud Starling, Carl Weber, Ted Test, and Bill Brink members of the team.

In April the patches were ordered. Money raised from the Birdathon would be used, in part, to pay for rain forest habitat. The following officers were elected: President, Lee Casebere; Vice-President Publications, Sue Arnold; Vice-President Program, Denise Wilkins; Corresponding Secretary, Mary Ellen Gadski; Recording Secretary, Reta Rutledge; Treasurer, Carl Weber. Twelve directors were elected.

In May, Ruth Peters addressed the board with regard to a resolution eliminating funding through the Agency for International Development for abortion in foreign countries. The board declined to give an official position. A letter was to be drafted opposing any hunting in state parks.

National Audubon granted our request to pull from its membership list zip codes in our jurisdiction, which would add quite a few potential members. The Hoosier Environmental Council was permitted use of our membership list for their membership drive. Shorewood Development offered to donate some wetlands to our chapter; this was to be investigated. . Four areas in three city parks were to be classified as nature preserves. The park director acknowledged that the chapter had given the Parks Department a conscience and they hoped to use it.

During September an article appeared in the *Indianapolis Star* about the possible creation of mudflats at Eagle Creek Reservoir. Birdathon money sent to the Monteverde Rain Forest was returned with the request that we route funds through the World Wildlife Fund. It was decided to use one-fourth of the \$1,800 for the Great Lakes regional office; the remainder would be sent to the World Wildlife Fund after the October meeting. In order to maintain unity in the organization, the National will permit the nine regionals to elect nine of the twelve available positions on its board of directors. Bob Baker was selected as our candidate. A new two-color brochure about the chapter was ready for printing. A resolution concerning the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge was drafted.

It was announced at the October board meeting that 31 classes had signed up for Audubon Adventures. There was a balance of \$19,139.85 in the treasury as of 1 October.

Nine-plus acres called Hinkle Creek Morse Wetland is the area offered to us by Shorewood Development. A committee arranged to tour the area. One board member was opposed to any dealings with Shorewood. The chapter has lost its office space in Stuart Mansion; the house will become a decorator home. The telephone answering service will be moved.

In December, two payments of \$1,800 and \$966 were made for acquisition of land in the Monteverde Rain Forest of Costa Rica. . The Hinkle Creek Morse Wetland area was toured; the board wished not to assume any liability with the property. A resolution was adopted supporting the Patoka Wildlife Refuge. David Newhouse is the regional vice president of National Audubon and the office will stay in Indianapolis. Christmas Count results were not published in *Audubon Life Lines*.

In January, 2,000 newsletters were printed, reflecting the increase in membership due to transfers from surrounding counties. The Hinkle Creek property was still being investigated. There was a suggestion that we take it to William Weeks of the Nature Conservancy and ask for an endowment from Shorewood for maintenance. Future proposals will be submitted to Shorewood. Plans for the were abandoned because of high cost.

The chapter asked for an additional gift of six acres from Shorewood to make the total acreage large enough to be designated as a classified wildlife habitat for tax liability purposes. We will continue to consider the pros and cons to preserve the wetlands. Balance in the treasury was \$23,859.18.

In March it was announced that seed sale profits were \$3,252.45. A chapter member who lives near the Hinkle Creek wetland area agreed to oversee it if the chapter accepts same. A committee was formed to investigate the possibility of building a world-class nature center at Eagle Creek Park. The board was reminded of the chapter's fiftieth anniversary and a committee was appointed. Part of that committee's project was this history of the Amos W. Butler Audubon Society. A 102-house project is planned for 72 acres on Fall Creek Road at 6301 near the Radio Tower and adjacent to Woollen's Gardens. Metropolitan Development wants trees and wetland saved but gave approval to begin development. Several of the board members will investigate. Our new telephone-answering machine had been installed at the Nature Conservancy Office.

The following officers were elected in April: President, Dick Van Frank; Vice-President Publications, Sue Arnold; Vice-President Program, Scott Jackson; Corresponding Secretary, Mary Ellen Gadski; Recording Secretary, Reta Rutledge; Treasurer, Carl Weber. Eleven directors were also elected.

EPILOGUE

We have come a long way over the last fifty years. From its inception as a district of the Indiana Audubon Society to its eventual affiliation with the National, your chapter has spearheaded many environmentally sound initiatives and at the same time been a cornucopia of expertise in the world of natural history and related subjects. While it is true that we have lost (or overlooked) some battles (Bacon's Swamp, Geist Reservoir, Lake Sullivan, Maywood Bottoms, and Woollen's Gardens), we have won some others, such as Eagle Creek Park; gained some respect for our ideals; and through our efforts interested many individuals in birding and conservation. As the city continues to grow we must continue our vigilance, and at the same time provide leadership in all areas of natural history. The importance of our participation in environmental decisions facing natural areas, not only locally but worldwide, cannot be overemphasized.

Some of the more interesting statistics from the preceding minutes include:

Major Donations (over \$500)

National Audubon Society	\$3,300
Indiana Audubon Society	\$2,850
Monteverde Rain Forest.....	\$2,766 (exclusive of 1988)
Eagle Creek Park.....	\$2,460
Lobbyists.....	\$2,275
The Nature Conservancy.....	\$800
Indianapolis Zoo	\$700

Major Expenditures (over \$500, exclusive of normal expenses)

Attorneys' Fees (Eagle Creek)...	\$6,500
Projector and Screen	\$550

In addition, twenty-six Audubon Camp scholarships were awarded. Major funding for the society in its early days was primarily through the Screen Tours and later through the National Audubon Society membership rebate, seed sales, Birdathon, etc.

It is apparent that certain names have appeared over and over in the Amos Butler minutes. Those who introduced their students and/or friends to birding, to name a few: Scott Calvert, Mildred Campbell, Max Forsyth, Joel Hadley, Alfred (Bud) Starling, Robert Weaver, Henry West, Dorothy White, and Howard F. Wright. In the area of conservation, one should not forget Ed Hathaway, Donna McCarty, and Charles Moulin. Finally, if I had to name one person who provided a steering course through the years it would be Dorothy White. Her impact on the society, in its early days and since, should not be forgotten.



The author on a birding trip near Riverside Park in 1947.

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