

The Purple Gallinule stayed with me from April 30th to September 17, 1963. One of its wings had been practically lost and it could not fly. I thought this bird would be with me the rest of its life, but when migration time came it disappeared. It would certainly be interesting to know definitely how it accomplished this. My pond is located near a creek which flows to Succarnotchie River which in turn flows to the Tombigbee River and this would give a swimming route to the Gulf Coast, which may be the means by which the bird migrated. Jenkins Jackson, Livingston, Alabama.

Pyrrhuloxia in Alabama. Herbert Brandt in his ARIZONA BIRDLIFE says, "A bird I always like to meet afield is the pyrrhuloxia. It has such an exotic air of action and appearance that one is pleasantly surprised that he is in the land of the unusual . . . . . Its high extended crest, droll, parrotlike expression and lacy film of fiery brilliance all seem to sway the mind toward fancy rather than reality." This was the feeling of the members of the Birmingham Audubon Society on a regular field trip to Marion, Alabama, March 23, 1963, when we observed the Pyrrhuloxia in Alabama.

We had explored the area of the fish hatcheries before noon and then went to Lakeland Farms for lunch. Soon thereafter, we continued birding, coming eventually to the open pasture where we usually find the White-crowned Sparrow. As we neared the farthest side of the field which is bordered with a dense growth of trees and shrubs, the birds began to move. Suddenly, we stopped dead in our tracks for we realized the birds ahead were not all cardinals! As they flew from tree to fence to tree again we knew we were looking at the Pyrrhuloxia although they were with cardinals. They were smaller, had yellow bills, not red like the cardinals, grey backs, not red of the cardinals, and they had red breasts with light color on each side of the red. We followed them as closely as they would permit, studying them with high powered binoculars, as they moved up and down the fence rows. When they flew into the adjoining field, Walter Coxe and Robert Reid routed them out of the thicker shrubs and trees. The others in our group sat quietly under a pine tree and watched with binoculars as the Pyrrhuloxia and Cardinals flew back to their former places. Without a doubt, these were Pyrrhuloxia whose nearest range is given as Southeastern Texas. After close examination from three quarters of an entire group felt convinced of their identification. They would never be sure of exactly how many, but we know there were two, and we think more, male Pyrrhuloxia in their perky hats and jaunty spring suits.

Earlier in the month there had been storms from the west. In checking with the U.S. Weather Bureau, March 19 there was a stormy day with winds 60 to 70 m.p.h.; March 20 was clear but gusty winds up to more than 40 m.p.h.; March 21 and 22, were clear with winds up to 37 m.p.h. The 23rd was a perfect day. Birmingham Audubon Society, Leader: Blanche E. Dean

Business Meeting  
Alabama Ornithological Society  
February 22, 1964

A business meeting of the Alabama Ornithological Society was called to order by the president at 1:40 PM, February 22, 1964, at the Heart of Auburn Restaurant, Auburn, Alabama.

The president introduced the following new members: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reid of Birmingham, Mr. Stanley Rhodes of Jacksonville, Alabama, and Mr. William Clark of Atlanta.

Minutes of the business meeting of November 17, 1963 and the treasurer's report were read. The treasurer reported a balance of \$244.00.

The president announced that she was going to appoint an auditor for the treasurer's books and that the auditor would make a report at the Annual Meeting on Dauphin Island, April 24-26.

The president called upon the chairman of the Cattle Egret committee for a report. Dr. Holliman reported that the committee plans to solicit cooperation from county chapters of the Alabama Cattlemen's Association as well as from individual garden clubs in getting the Cattle Egret placed on the protected list.

The president called upon Mr. C. W. Summerour, Auburn graduate student, for a report on his Cattle Egret study. Mr. Summerour reviewed his study and asked for cooperation in reporting dates on which Cattle Egrets arrive at various places within the State.

The president called upon the chairman of the summer-bird-count committee for a report. Dr. Holliman reported that the period, June 4 to July 4, had been selected for making the summer population counts and that bird groups on other states had shown an active interest in the counts.

The president announced that she had appointed a committee to nominate a treasurer and vice-president for 1964-65 year. Those appointed were: Mrs. W. H. Persons, Chairman; Mrs. Harriet Wright; and Miss Blanche Chapman.

The president asked Dr. Baker for a report on blackbird banding activities that occurred earlier in the day. He reported a total of 441 new birds banded, plus several retraps, and a good many Starlings.

The president announced that \$50.00 life membership fee had been deposited in the Society's checking account through mistake. She proposed that it be withdrawn from the checking account and deposited in the savings account where it belongs. Mrs. Margaret Robinson moved that the transaction be made. Dr. Baker seconded it. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

Robert E. Waters, Secretary  
Alabama Ornithological Society