

INSECT COLLECTION CONTEST NOTICE.

The following persons volunteered on November 2, 1929, to prepare entrants for the 1930 Contest: Dorothy A. Boyer, H. C. Irish, R. C. Lange, Edwin P. Meiners, Arthur E. Mueller, Harold I. O'Byrne, Stuart L. O'Byrne, L. F. Pinkus, P. A. Vogel and the Chairman.

These and any other members who are willing to give a portion of their attention to this interesting and fruitful project are invited to meet at the U. S. Entomological laboratory, Thursday evening, January 29, 1931, to plan and carry through a more fascinating and, if possible, more educational contest than any in the past. Let us add to the single Order and Multi-Order collections, and phases of Lepidoptera collections, phases of collections of other Orders, life histories, collections of insects known to have been the food of the hoptoad or of any other one species of insect feeder, or a collection of seeds of trees, shrubs and herbs with the insects bred therefrom, or the insects collected from one log or one particular pond or from the giant ragweed. Mrs. Pickens, Miss Marty, Miss Heising, Miss Cutter, Miss Rabenau, Mrs. Berkemeyer and more of the ladies and gentlemen are invited to and wanted at the conference at the Laboratory, 8 PM, January 29, 1931.

A. F. Satterthwait,
Chairman of the
Entrants Committee.

WOODLAND NIGHTS.

The sun is sinking in the west,
The swallow sails on high,
The insects hum with awakening life,
All know that life is nigh.

The whippoorwill's plaintive notes
are heard
As he wakes at the close of day.
An owl comes circling through the
trees
All grows still, he is after his
prey.

His majesty the owl is king,
His reign- the long night hours,
He silently glides upon his prey,
His reign is one of horrors.

- Albert Heinze.

CONGRATULATIONS --

AMERICAN NATURE-STUDY SOCIETY!!

At the Annual Convention of the American Nature-Study Society, of which the Webster Groves Nature Study Society is a branch, held at Cleveland, Ohio, late last December our own Alfred F. Satterthwait of Webster Groves was elected President of the parent organization. Miss Jennie Hall of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was elected Secretary--Treasurer.

Mr. Satterthwait has served at different times in the Webster Groves branch as Director, President, Secretary and Chairman of the Entomology Group. He organized the Insect Collection Contests for boys and girls of St. Louis and St. Louis County, of which he is Chairman. Recently he was made President of the Academy of Science of St. Louis.

* You - just - simply - can't -
keep - a - good - man - down.

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'' WRITE ''

'' SOME NEWS ''

'' FOR ''

'' NATURE NOTES ''

'' TO ''

'' PUBLISH ''

'' '' '' '' '' '' '' '' '' ''

LIST OF CELESTIAL OBJECTS

PUBLISHED BY THE ASTRONOMY GROUP.

A list of nearly one hundred interesting objects to be seen in the sky, either with or without ~~modest~~ optical means, was published in December by the Astronomy Group. It is a compilation in the form of lists, each of a different kind of object, with the necessary data to enable one to pick them out in the sky and to recognize them. The lists are accompanied by charts of twenty nine constellations showing the relative positions of the listed objects within each constellation. It will be welcomed by any one who cares to do a little star-gazing now and then. It will guide you to many of the "out of the ordinary" objects of special interest. These lists can be obtained from Mr. S. D. Jones or from the Secretary of the Astronomy Group, for the small sum of twenty-five cents.

NATURE NOTES

Published by the WEBSTER GROVES NATURE STUDY-SOCIETY Webster Groves, Mo. Stuart L. O'Byrne, Editor 501 Pacific Ave. Webster 2498W

GROUP TO OBSERVE METEORS

The Astronomy Group's Committee on Observations met at Miss Nellie Matlock's apartment on January 10, in accordance with plans formulated at the group's November meeting. It was decided to take up the study and observations of meteors, setting aside the Zodiacal Light and variable stars. The group decided at the meeting of January 17, on hearing of the committee's report by Mr. Jones its chairman, that the next group meeting would be held out-of-doors and that meteors would be observed under the direction of the committee on observations. This meeting will be held February 10; the group to meet at the Mueller residence and from there to proceed to some place as yet undecided, having a "wide" horizon.

All persons interested in aiding in this new project are urged to be present. Remember, it is of great scientific and cultural value.

CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS REPORT.

List of birds seen on the "Bird Census" Trip sponsored by the Webster Groves Nature-Study Society, December 21 1930:

Table with 2 columns: Bird species and count. Includes Junco (108), Hairy Woodpecker (10), Crow (748), American Goldfinch (5), Cardinal (28), Tufted Titmouse (19), Red Bellied Woodpecker (4), Chickadee (28), White Breasted Nuthatch (4), Tree Sparrow (80), Downy Woodpecker (10), Song Sparrow (1), Carolina Wren (3), Flicker (7), Brown Creeper (2), Sparrow Hawk (1), Marsh Hawk (1), Total (1059).

JUNIOR TRIP TO THE NEW BIRD HOUSE

We arrived at two o'clock and met Mr. Kennon, the ornithologist who was going to show us around. First we saw the Mynah Bird, a talker; he can speak Malay, Chinese and English. He sang a Chinese song and said "Hello, Jocko". Mr. Kennon asked him how much money he had at home. The bird said "Don't be foolish!" in Chinese. Then we saw the Cock of the Rock. Mr. Kennon said that in the spring they gather by the thousands and the males clear away the underbrush. Then the females sit in the bushes near by. Each male takes a turn and dances and lowers his wings and the females squawk their approval.

After a while we came to a big cage full of little birds. There were the Himalaya Tits, a Skylark and Goldfinches. He then took out a young Toucan and let us stroke his feathers. Then the big Hornbills ate grapes and took them from Mr. Kennon's mouth. We then saw the Andean Condor. Mr. Kennon made him make his full wing spread. His one wing was very big. We got some plumes from the Emu bird. Last we saw the Secretary bird. He was very shy and wanted to go to the back room where they put him after a large crowd has been, or else he would get sick and die, because he is so nervous. Then we went to the cars and drove home.

-Katherine Pickens.

BIRD CENSUS REPORT - continued

This trip took in the Creve Coeur district, Boschartown, Black Walnut and Bonfils, Mo. Day mostly clear with a few scattered clouds in the afternoon. Very little wind in the open and none in the valleys. Observations started at approximately 9.30 AM and ended at 3.45 pm. Left Creve Coeur district at 12.45 PM. The temperature was about 22 degrees at start and about 27 degrees at finish. The largest flock of Crows was estimated at 500; the largest flock of Tree Sparrows at 26. The Marsh Hawk was identified while in flight.

Webster Groves Nature-Study Society

A BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN NATURE-STUDY SOCIETY

(Organized in 1920)

Webster Groves, Mo.

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NATURE NOTES

INSECT COLLECTION CONTEST:::

Call for a Committee Meeting. Mr. Satterthwait, Chairman of the Insect Collection Contest requests all of the volunteers to prepare entrants in previous insect collection contests whose names are listed in "Nature Notes", to meet with him at the U. S. Entomological Laboratory, 527 Ivanhoe Place on Thursday evening January 29, 1931, - to plan and carry thru a more fascinating and more educational contest than any in the past. He also extends this invitation to others who are willing to assist. See more complete information in February "Nature Notes".

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY - 1931

GENERAL MEETING

Friday February 6, 8 PM, at the U.S. Entomological Laboratory, 527 Ivanhoe Place, Webster Groves.

Reports of the Cleveland Meeting: Dorothy A. Boyer, "My first look at the sessions of the A.A.A.S., the American Nature-Study Society and Affiliated Societies; Dr. Edgar Anderson, "What proved of interest to me at the Cleveland meetings"; Elizabeth Allen Satterthwait, "The spirit of the Cleveland sessions"; Julian Steyermark, "How I summarize the value of attendance at the Cleveland sessions"; A. F. Satterthwait, "Supplementary Remarks".

GROUP MEETINGS.

Photography: Monday February 2, 8 PM, at the Mueller residence, 12 Armin Avenue, Glendale Heights. "Printing of photographs and making of lantern slides". Members to bring negatives.

Nature Melody: Monday February 9, 8 PM, at the Laboratory. "Winter winds, sleet and snow", Mrs. Edgar Anderson; "Observations on habitats of frogs", Albert Heinze; "Batrachians of Missouri which give forth sounds", Dorothy Boyer; "Cricket Frog", A. F. Satterthwait; "Bluebird", A. E. Mueller; "Robin", Dr. Julius Gross.

Field Trip at the edge of Webster for first night of observed Batrachian music. All persons desiring to go please notify Chairman at once. The Chairman will attempt to call up each person registering such request. Each person going on trip must be prepared for mud and carry a flash light.

Astronomy: Tuesday February 10, 8 PM. "Original meteor observations" at the Mueller residence, 12 Armin Avenue, Glendale Heights. The date was changed from the usual meeting night because of meteors to be seen on that night. The early part of the evening will be indoors, outlining proper methods to record any meteors observed later in the evening.

Microscopy: Friday February 13, 8 PM, at the Laboratory. "Epidermal appendages, (hair, scales, spines etc.)". Any one having slides of such specimens please bring them along. Bring microscopes.

Botany: Monday February 16, 8 PM, at the Laboratory "The flora of the kettle holes and kames of the Wisconsin Drift area, as studied at Lake Okoboji, Iowa". A. F. Ewers, assistant principal of Harris Teachers' College.

Geology: Friday February 20, 8 PM, at the Laboratory. Miss Marty, Chairman.

Entomology: Monday February 23, 8 PM, at the Laboratory. Harold O'Byrne, Chairman. "Insects of the past".

Ornithology: Friday February 27, 8 PM, at the Laboratory. An interesting program has been prepared for this meeting.

Juniors will spend Saturday afternoon, January 28 at the Snake house in the Zoo. Time and place of meeting will be arranged by phone.

Anne A. Jones, Secretary.