

THE I.A.S. CHAPTER SYSTEM

By *Mrs. Kenneth V. Fiske*,
Director of Extension

The **Illinois Audubon Society** has always aided and urged the formation of local bird clubs. Now it has developed a system aimed toward the organizing of local groups or individuals interested in finding fellow hobbyists. The establishment of a **System of Chapters** is a step of major importance in the I.A.S. goal of service to its affiliated clubs as well as potential clubs.

What is a Chapter? A local club which ascribes to the policies and purposes of the Illinois Audubon Society. Each member of the Chapter pays annual dues to the Society and receives all membership privileges. A fixed percentage of the dues reverts to the local club. Each Chapter sends a Representative to the I.A.S. Board. Through this especially close association, local clubs can benefit from the more extensive resources of the I.A.S., its educational and technical material, and its stature in state and national affairs.

Illinois **needs** strong leadership in affairs of nature study and conservation. The I.A.S. and its local affiliates must grow so that the Society can continue to be a vital and active force. If your local club would like to have more information about forming an I.A.S. Chapter, write to **Mrs. Kenneth V. Fiske**, Director of Extension.

9313 Bull Valley Road, Woodstock, Illinois



OUR FIRST CHAPTER: LAKE-COOK

LAKE-COOK CHAPTER claims the distinction of being the first of its kind in the I.A.S. We have enrolled our first 100 active birders, and we saw our first Golden Eagle one year ago.

In the spring of 1964 it was felt that in this Lake County and northern Cook County area, a bird club was needed to bring together people who had the same hobbies and outdoor interests. Under the leadership of **Paul Downing**, a former president of the I.A.S., announcements were circulated in March, calling for the formation of an Audubon Chapter, with a space for people to indicate their interest and support for the new club. An organizational meeting was held in April, electing our officers and appointing committee chairmen. Our membership now ranges from Winnetka on the south to Waukegan on the north and Lake Zurich on the west.

We conduct bird walks at least once a month. A monthly meeting is held in the evening at the Highland Park Library where club business, conservation goals, and field trip information are considered. This is followed by a program of speakers and movies dealing with the out-of-doors. We publish a monthly bulletin called "Wing Tips", keeping members informed about club activities.

The LAKE-COOK CHAPTER is looking constantly for new members; looking constantly for new places for bird watching; looking constantly for opportunities to sell conservation to legislators and lay people.

Roger Case, President, 1307 Woodland Lane, Deerfield, Ill.