

# BURROWING OWL



CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY, Albuquerque, N.M.

February-March, 1973

## CALENDAR -- FEBRUARY AND MARCH

- Thursday  
February 2  
(299-5384).  
BOARD MEETING at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Dot DeLollis, 3600 Piermont Drive NE,
- Saturday  
February 4  
Bob Jost (292-3625) who plans to go as high up in the mountains as possible without encountering deep snow. This trip is planned for birders who enjoy winter hiking.  
FIELD TRIP in the Sandias. Meet at Western Skies at 8:00 a.m. Trip leader is
- Tuesday  
February 7  
AND BY NIGHT will be shown by Steve Maslowski, picturing diurnal and nocturnal animals of the midwest. While many creatures bed down at dusk, others are just awakening. Steve has filmed both types.  
AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM at Popejoy Hall at 7:30 p.m. The film WILDLIFE BY DAY
- Thursday  
February 16  
Lutheran Church, Copper & Jefferson NE, 7:30 p.m. The program will be a slide show presentation of New Mexico's Natural Heritage by a group which has inventoried the state's natural wonders.  
REGULAR MEETING of the CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY at St. Timothy's
- Saturday  
February 18  
Andrews (881-9487). Meet at the north parking lot of the University of Albuquerque at 8:00 a.m. If time permits, the group will also visit nearby Petroglyphs State Park.  
FIELD TRIP to the Oxbow on the west side of the Rio Grande. Trip leader: Craig
- Thursday  
March 2  
Drive NE (881-9487).  
BOARD MEETING at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Craig and Alice Andrews, 3416 Sierra
- Sunday  
March 5  
(266-4420). Meet at Fidelity Bank, San Mateo and Montgomery NE, at 9:00 a.m. Participants must bring their own skiing equipment.  
FIELD TRIP on cross-country skis in the Jemez Mountains. Trip leader: Dave Lange
- Thursday  
March 16  
Lutheran Church, Copper & Jefferson NE, 7:30 p.m. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service film DEATH OF A LEGEND will be shown. It depicts the life of the Wolf in Alaska.  
REGULAR MEETING of the CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY at St. Timothy's
- Saturday  
March 18  
at the UNM Physics & Astronomy Building, Lomas & Yale NE, at 7:00 a.m.  
FIELD TRIP to Shady Lakes in Alameda. Trip leader: Mary Lou Arthur (256-7359). Meet
- Saturday  
April 1  
at the park gate at 6:30 a.m. Trip leader: Granger Ward (243-3189).  
FIELD TRIP to San Gabriel State Park at the west end of Mountain Road NW. Meet
- Tuesday  
April 4  
show their film LAND OF THE RIO GRANDE. It follows the Rio Grande 1900 miles from its beginnings in the San Juan Mountains of Colorado until it enters the Gulf of Mexico, with special attention to the plants, birds, and mammals along the banks.  
AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM at Popejoy Hall at 7:30 p.m. Ty and Julie Hotchkiss will
- Thursday  
April 6  
Meeting place to be announced.  
BOARD MEETING at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday  
& Sunday  
April 8/9  
Annual meeting and field trip of the N.M. ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY in Roswell, open to non-members. For further details, contact Dot DeLollis (299-5384) or Ross Teuber (265-8962) after March 1.
- Saturday  
April 15  
Further details in next issue  
Any interested Audubon members are welcome to attend.  
NEW MEXICO AUDUBON COUNCIL BOARD MEETING in Santa Fe.

### BAILEY BOOK FOR SALE

Pat Turner (Mrs. Ellis Turner), tel. 344-7082, has a copy of Florence Merriam Bailey's BIRDS OF NEW MEXICO which she wants to sell. The book is in very good condition and it is a collector's item.

Wednesday  
March 15  
Lionel Hudson will show his film KANGAROOS CAN'T BE CORNERED. It presents the spirit of the Australian outback and its wildlife, especially the lives of the Red Kangaroo and the Dingo.  
AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM at Popejoy Hall at 7:30 p.m.

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

-2-

The Sandia Mountain count was held December 17th. 18 birders in the field and 7 at feeders counted 46 species and a total of 4051 birds. By far the most unusual bird for this count was a Rivoli's Hummingbird. Others included Williamson & Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and Northern Shrike. Surprisingly, no Bushtit or Horned Larks were seen.

On December 18th 9 birders participated in the Albuquerque-Corrales count. They found 50 species and 4205 birds. Most interesting were Prairie Falcon, Wood Duck, Vesper & Sage Sparrows, and Chestnut-collared Longspurs.

The Bosque del Apache count was held in the rain on December 28th with 9 hardy birders finding 85 species among the 103,639 birds counted. Highlights were a Bald Eagle, Harris Sparrow, Hooded Merganser, Pyrrhuloxia, and 2 Whooping Cranes.

TIME magazine devoted a page in their 1/16/78 issue to the Audubon Christmas counts and stated "With the figures the volunteers provide, ornithologists are able not only to check the health and vigor of different avian species but also to detect changes in their habitats, set up wildlife sanctuaries and even help airlines reroute their planes to avoid dangerous collisions with migrating birds. The bird count also acts as an environmental early-warning system....birds are usually quicker than man to react to changes about them. One example: the decline of many species --peregrine falcons, osprey, brown pelicans--because of wide-spread use of insecticides."

The article estimated that some 33,000 birders from Alaska to Venezuela were involved in the 1977 Christmas counts. Plan now to participate in one of the counts next December.

## COUNT SUPPER

After the Sandia Mountain Christmas count there was a green chili stew supper for count participants. Mary Alice Root prepared the stew and others supplied complementary side dishes, all of which were so delicious that we were asked to print the recipes.

### Green Chili Stew

Mary Alice says she makes the stew differently each time and the only two essential ingredients are green chili and barley. These can be added to most beef stew recipes with satisfactory results. For the count supper stew, which was made to serve 15 to 20 people, she used:

5 lbs. of Stew Beef

3 small cans of Green Chili

Place in large pot and add water to cover. Start simmering in the early morning before you leave to count birds. Return about 1:00 p.m. and add

2 or 3 large bags of frozen Stew Vegetables

1 small package of frozen Corn

1 cup of Barley

Coarse-ground Pepper.

Allow stew to simmer another three to four hours. If the stew is not thick enough, add rice. If you are not counting birds the day you make the stew, use fresh potatoes and carrots (scrubbed and chopped but not peeled) instead of the frozen vegetables.

Beer Bread, brought by Clara Teuber - makes one loaf

3 cups of Self-rising Flour

2 Tbsp. Sugar

12 oz. can of Beer (not Lite Beer)

Stir ingredients together with 17 strokes (22 also worked)

Pour into greased 9 X 5 bread pan. Bake at 350° one hour.

Allow pan to cool ten minutes before turning out bread.

Zucchini Bread, brought by Dave Lange - makes two loaves

4 Eggs, beaten until fluffy in large mixing bowl. Then add

2-1/2 cups Sugar

1-1/4 cups Oil

1 Tbsp. & 1 tsp. Vanilla

4 cups Zucchini coarsely grated

1 cup chopped Nuts (optional)

Mix together the following dry ingredients and then add to above.

3 cups sifted Flour

1 Tbsp. Cinnamon

1-1/2 tsp. Salt

1-1/2 tsp. Baking Soda

1/2 tsp. Baking Powder.

Divide between two 9 X 5 greased bread pans. Bake at 325° for 50 to 60 minutes.

Spinach Salad, brought by Alice Andrews

Dissolve one 3-oz. pkg. Lemon Jello in 1 cup boiling water.  
Add 1/2 cup cold water and let set until almost jellied.  
Whip Jello with 1/3 cup Mayonnaise until smooth. Then add  
1/2 tsp. Salt  
2 Tbsp. Vinegar  
1 fresh Green Onion and 3/4 cup Cottage Cheese (blenderized)  
3/4 cup chopped fresh Spinach.  
Mold and serve.

JANUARY FIELD TRIPS

January 7th six people participated in the annual Hawk Caravan. 5 species of Hawks and Bald and Golden Eagles were seen along the route. The group visited the Bosque NWR before returning home and a total of 50 species of all types of birds were seen during the day.

January 19th seven people had a great time snowshoeing in good snow on Sandia Crest. Only three species of birds were seen--Brown Creeper, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and Mountain Chickadee--but they were an interesting trio.

The bus trip to the Bosque scheduled for January 28th was cancelled because reservations were not received in time.

SANDHILL CRANE SPRING MIGRATION

In a few weeks, Sandhill Cranes will once again commence their northly migration along the Rio Grande from their wintering grounds in southern New Mexico and Old Mexico. The cranes begin migrating about the middle of February and the last leave N.M. about the 7th-8th of March. The migration peaks around the end of February early March when 3000 to 4000 cranes can be seen in a single day (see summary compiled by Jim Travis below). If you would like to help count cranes as they pass over Albuquerque, please contact Dave Lange (277-3842 or 266-4420) for instructions and tally sheets. If sufficient interest is generated we will set up telephone contact with Bosque del Apache NWR and the Los Alamos counters when large flocks ar whooping cranes pass over. A few copies of a summary of the Los Alamos work prepared by Jim Travis are also available.

Summary of Sandhill Crane Spring Migration  
Over Los Alamos

Year	Total	First	Peak	Last	Flight Days	Flocks	Observers
1974	5,727	2-15	2-28 (3067)	3-4	10	61	22
1975	14,061	2-11	2-28 (7340)	3-10	10	85	20
1976	6,253	2-13	2-15 (2000)	3-7	12	45	18
1977	22,263	2-13	2-28 (3937)	3-9	21	183	40
			3-1 (3650)				
			3-3 (4215)				

OPERATION GAME THIEF

The N.M. Dept. of Game & Fish is in need of further donations for its Operation Game Thief reward fund. The original fund has been depleted by rewards paid. The operation was organized to combat illegal killing of game and other protected wildlife. It pays rewards of \$250 for information leading to arrests in big game cases and \$50 rewards in other wildlife law violations. Callers to its toll-free number--1-800-432-4263--reporting violations do not have to identify themselves or testify in court. To make a contribution, write a check to Operation Game Thief and mail it to:

N.M. Dept. of Game & Fish  
Attn: Dan Pursley  
State Capitol  
Santa Fe, N.M. 87503.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SELECTED

Mr. Kenneth Rutter, a biology instructor at Manzano High School, has been chosen as the recipient of a \$325 scholarship to attend the Audubon Camp in the West. Mr. Rutter did his master's work in ecology and has served as a seasonal park ranger for the National Park Service.

The Audubon Camp in the West is held each summer near Dubois, Wyoming with sessions lasting 12 days. This is the first year that we have sponsored a scholarship for a local teacher to attend. We hope that we can sponsor another teacher next year and perhaps make this a yearly scholarship.

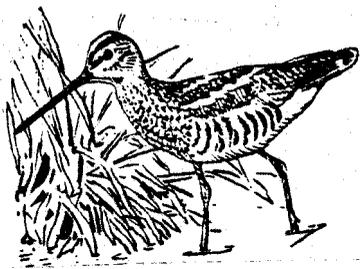
NEWMAC

The N.M. Audubon Council Board of Directors at a recent meeting adopted a list of priorities for its work:

- influence National Audubon policy
- monitor state legislation
- promote new chapters
- take a stand on environmental issues (when there is unanimous consent)
- assist with activities beyond the scope of the local chapter
- support individual chapter activities

The Board also agreed to define more precisely at the April Council meeting the boundaries of existing chapters.

The next meeting of the N.M.A.C. will be hosted by the Sangre de Cristo Chapter and details will be furnished in the next issue of the "OWL".



CONSERVATION NOTES

Two bills (S.553 and HR.5683) are presently before Congress which would change the Cibola National Forest boundary in the Sandias to include part of the Elena Gallegos Grant. The present bills would fix the National Forest boundary along dashed line A (see map below). The Open Spaces Task Force has recommended that the boundary be established along dot-dashed line B. This is also supported by the City-County Planning Department and the City Council. Justification for establishment of the NFS boundary at line B includes:

- 1) Protects key winter habitat, particularly for deer.
- 2) Protects important watershed, cutting costs of flood control.
- 3) Protects recharge area of Albuquerque aquifer. It is estimated that 30% of the recharge comes from the lands in the Grant
- 4) Provides a buffer zone for wildlife from nearby housing developments.

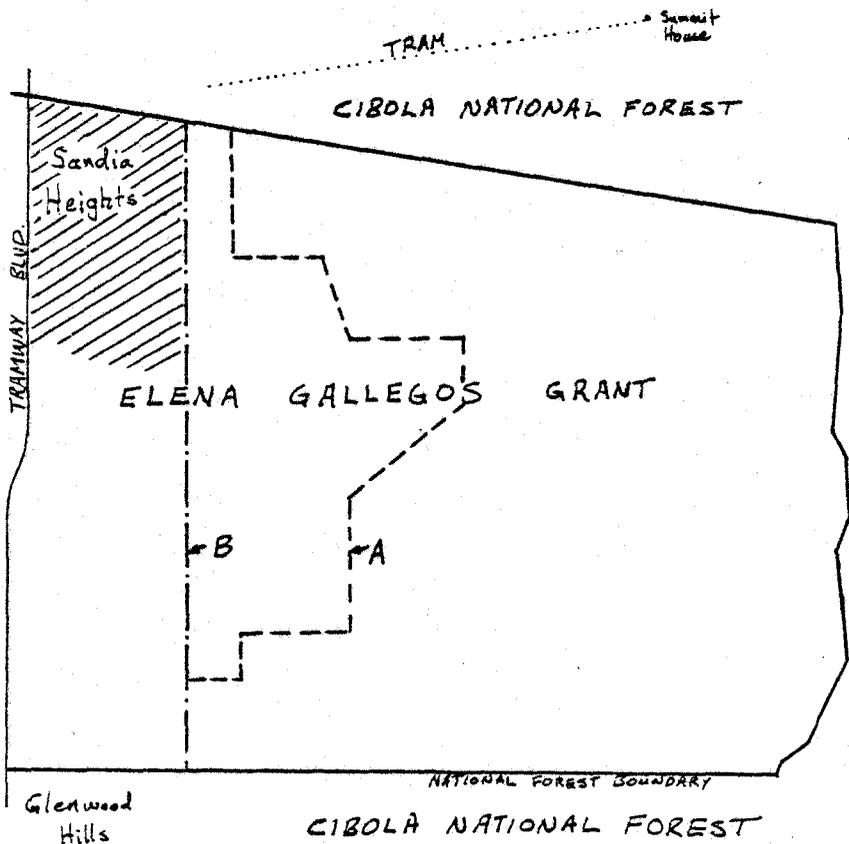
Line B approximates the 10% slope demarcation line east of which lands where slopes exceed 10% shall be preserved for flood control, recreation, and open space purposes as set forth in the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan. Write Congressman Lujan and Senators Domenici and Schmitt expressing your viewpoint. If you need more information call Dave Lange 266-4420.

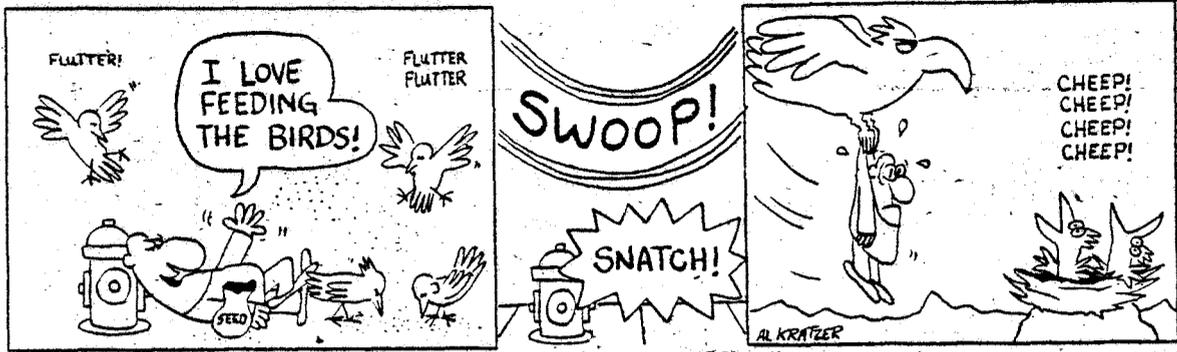
The Christmas Birds Counts proved to be as exciting to me as they have in past years. On the Albuquerque Count it particularly exciting to observe a large flock of Chestnut-collared Longspurs, a prairie falcon at 60 yards with a 30 power scope and several vesper sparrows which is the first time they have been recorded on an Albuquerque Count. Following the Sandia Count, it was very relaxing to warm up on Mary Alice's green chili stew and "Teton Tea" swapping bird stories. Those of you who missed the green chili stew and Alice Andrew's spinach salad will just have to wait til next year. We thank Mary Alice for arranging the dinner, Martin for arranging for the room and everyone who helped on the Christmas Counts.

Chuck Hundertmark has been keeping the pressure on the Bureau of Reclamation regarding Elephant Butte Marsh and on the 25th of February the Bureau is planning to install several artificial nesting trees. They need some help in installing the nesting trees and if you would like to help please contact me, we particularly need a boat and transportation for it.

Several important events are coming up in April. First, the NMOS annual meeting in Roswell (8-9 April) with a field trip to the Lesser Prairie Chicken Booming grounds. On the 15th of April the New Mexico Audobon Council will be meeting in Los Alamos or Santa Fe. The Southwest Region meeting of the National Audobon Society will be held in Baton Rouge from the 21 to 23 of April. Birding field trips are planned as well as trips to historic places, including a tour of John James Audobon's home.

And for those who enjoy birding in Southern Arizona, the Rocky Mountain Regional Conference of the National Audobon Society will be held in Sierra Vista, the 3 and 4 of June. More information regarding both these meetings will be available at the monthly meetings.





Both of these are lifted directly from the New Mexico Daily "LOBO"

## Do Your Bit in the War Against Waste

Send President Carter a used 12 ounce beer or soft drink can to show your support for mandatory beverage container deposit legislation. While a return to returnables involves both bottles and cans, NMPIRG realizes that sending a bottle is not practical. Send **cans only**, and do not flatten. Follow these simple directions.

- 1) Tear off label along perforation.
- 2) Fillout your name and return address, sign the note to the President.
- 3) Make sure the can is **clean and dry**.
- 4) Cover all openings of the can with masking tape.
- 5) Attach one end of the label to the can.
- 6) To complete your Throwingaway to Carter, wind the label around the can and fasten at the seam. Be sure the label is secure or your can may not make it to the White House!
- 7) Put 24 cents postage on the can.
- 8) Mail Friday, January 6 (or between Friday, January 6 & Friday, January 20)

NMPIRG thanks you. For further information contact NMPIRG at 139 Harvard SE or call 277-2757

Dear President Carter,

This beverage container is only one of 70 billion that contribute to the trashing of America annually. Throwaways also represent wasted energy. A national deposit law could save 81,000 barrels of oil per day.

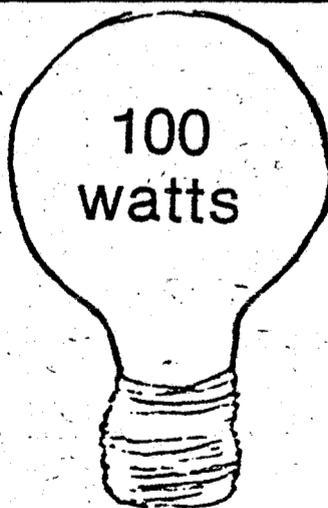
As an alternative to waste, I support a national deposit on all beer and soft drink bottles and cans. President Carter, please urge Congress to adopt deposit legislation. Let's really help keep America beautiful.

Sincerely,

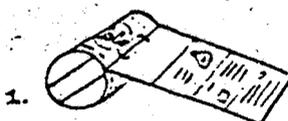
from: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

24 Cents  
postage  
1st class

to: President Carter  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500



The Energy Used To Make This Throwingaway Represents Enough Power To Keep One 100-Watt Light Bulb Burning For 20 Hours Last Year, Americans Used 70 Billion Of These Throwingaways.



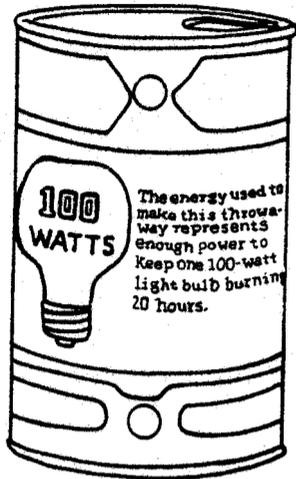
Secure this end of label to can with tape.



Wrap label around can, secure label at seam with tape.

The National Clearinghouse on Deposit Legislation is sponsoring a "Containers to Carter" campaign to encourage the Chief Executive to endorse national deposit legislation currently before the Congress. Supporters of mandatory refundable deposits stress the material savings in natural resources and energy and litter cleanup through use of returnable containers.

Campaign sponsors ask that people mail (first class cost 24¢) clean metal cans, openings taped, packaged or with a prepared label similar to that depicted here, with a return address, to: "The President, the White House, Washington, D.C. 20500." The project has been cleared with postal authorities and the cans will be picked up for recycling.



If you wish, you may also add this message:

Dear President Carter:

This beverage container is only one of 70 billion that contribute to the trashing of America annually. Throwaways also represent wasted energy. A national deposit law could save 81,000 barrels of oil per day.

As an alternative to waste, I support a national deposit on all beer and soft drink bottles and cans. President Carter, please urge Congress to adopt deposit legislation. Let's really help keep America beautiful.

Sincerely,

(see overleaf)

(Sign your name)

OFFICERS OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY

- President: Dave Lange, 1800 Vasser NE, Apt. B, 87106 -- 266-4420 (home)  
-- 277-3842 (office)
- Vice President: Maurice Mackey, 4812 Goodrich NE, 87110 -- 881-6019  
(Also Program and Publicity Chairman)
- Treasurer: Gary Parker, 1701 Zena Loma NE, Apt. A, 87112 -- 296-4754
- Recording Secretary: Melinda Ebert, 303B 12th Street NW, 87102 -- 242-6553
- Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Hussey, 2068-B Mercury Dr. SE, 87118  
-- 268-6547
- Membership: Mollie Miller, P.O. Box 195, Cedar Crest, N.M. 87008  
-- 281-3189
- Education: Craig Andrews, 3416 Sierra Dr. NE, 87112 --881-9387
- Field Trip: Robert Jost, 812 Eastridge NE, 87123 -- 292-3625
- Nominating: Mary Alice Root, 1108 Columbia Dr. NE, 87106 -- 266-0561
- Historian: Celia Mizel, 204 Madison Dr. NE, Apt. B, 87108 -- 268-0376
- "Owl" Editor: Paul Hlava, 4904 Burton SE, 87108 -- 265-4178
- Librarian: Marilyn Jackson, 10414 Towner NE, 87112 -- 296- 9150
- Board Directors: Jim Karo, 1621 Cedar Ridge Drive NE, 87112 -- 294-2777  
Martin Ruoss, 10610 Central SE, #100, 87123 -- 294-6870
- Audubon Contact: Dot DeLollis, 3600 Piermont Dr. NE, 87111 -- 299-5384
- Representatives to --  
N.M. Conservation Coordinating Council: Les Hawkins, 7532 Bear Canyon  
Dr. NE, 87109 -- 821-6989  
N.M. Audubon Council: Ross Teuber, 1612 Kentucky NE, 87110 -- 265-8962  
Martin Ruoss, 10610 Central SE, #100, 87123  
-- 294-6870

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY  
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WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS

- Take a Bus
- Ride a Train
- Join a Car Pool
- Buy a Small Car
- Ride a Bike
- Pick up a Wrapper
- Return your Empties
- Organize a Paper Drive
- Try Walking (to be Con't)

Paul & Marjorie Hlava  
4904 Burton SE  
Albuquerque 87108

4/78

NOW ISN'T THERE SOMETHING YOU CAN DO !!!