

MISSISSIPPI ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Organized April 30, 1955

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Compiled by: W. H. TURCOTTE

FINAL PLANS FOR ANNUAL MEETING AND FIELD TRIP

Final arrangements for the annual business meeting and field trip are completed and will be as follows:

The business meeting will be held at the Bureau of Sport Fisheries Gulf Island Refuge Headquarters office in Biloxi, Mississippi at 8:30 P.M., Friday, May 10th, 1968. The Headquarters is immediately south and west of the west end of U. S. Highway 90 Back Bay Bridge. It is necessary to turn right at the last stop light before this bridge onto a parallel access road leading to the gate into the Refuge Headquarters. We plan to have a color slide program on native wild ferns and warblers and possibly some taped sound recordings of Mississippi birds.

Plans for the boat trip to Horn Island have been changed due to the fact that the Bureau's landing craft has developed mechanical trouble and may not be available. At this time it looks like we will have more people planning to go than the Skimmer (the other Bureau boat) can carry. It will be necessary to charter a boat for a one day trip to Horn Island which can carry 25 - 35 people and which will cost \$75 - \$80 or \$5.00 per person to be paid by those making the boat trip. The boat will leave from the Gulf Islands Refuge Headquarters at 7:00 A.M., Saturday, May 11th. The trip to Horn Island should take one to one one-half hours at most and will go to the Horn Island station where we will have all day for birding. The boat will return to Biloxi in the afternoon.

We repeat: bring a chest or cooler for ice and perishable food. Bring your own food for the day and plenty of bottled drinks. Adequate water supplies for drinking will be on the boat and there is a good well on the Island. You will also need insect repellent, cigarettes or tobacco, matches or lighter, sunglasses, hat and suntan lotion, towels, toilet articles, and comfortable, protective clothing.

In the event of bad weather we will have a field trip on the mainland starting from the Refuge Headquarters at Biloxi at 7:00 A.M., possibly show you a Sandhill Crane nest (two have been located) and visit marsh and shorebird areas.

In order to complete final arrangements for the boat charter, please notify Mr. Burton S. Webster, Manager, Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge, Rt. 1, Brooksville, Mississippi 39739, not later than May 8th if you plan to go and the number in your party.

We hope these new arrangements will assure a good attendance and at least 30 - 35 people for the field trip to Horn Island.

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#### CATTLE EGRET REPORTS IN LOWER DELTA

Cattle egrets are reported in the Warren-Issaquena County area north of Vicksburg. Louis P. Cashman, Jr., Vicksburg, observed 25 - 30 of these birds near Eagle Lake in Warren County on April 21, 1968. Mrs. Marion B. Bragg, Vicksburg, observed six in different groups near cattle on the Mississippi River levee about 15 miles north of Brunswick on April 18, 1968.

Last summer and early fall about 150 cattle egrets were observed on Broad Lake and Wolf Lake and with cattle in nearby pastures. They were also reported near Good Hope, Mississippi, in pastures near the junction of State Highway 12 and U. S. Highway 49 E.

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