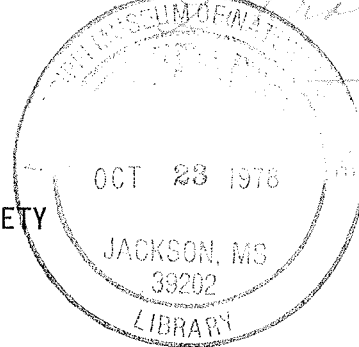


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Organized April 30, 1955



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MOS NEWSLETTER

September 1978

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At our annual spring meeting someone suggested to me that it would be good to have more "newsy" newsletters. I have delayed publishing one in hopes of getting some definite word on our fall meeting, but since arrangements apparently are not complete, have decided to issue this newsletter now and another as the meeting approaches. Please send me your bird news for the next newsletter as well as your important records and manuscripts for the Kite. I have had several manuscripts submitted for the Kite and we should have an issue out within the next month and another in December.

News from our Members

Bill Turcotte reports that he and his wife toured England in late May and had an opportunity to do some birding with a member of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. They visited two RSBP preserves in East Anglia and saw a pair of Stone Curlews that were nesting. Bill added about 50 new species to his life list.

Ben and Lula Coffey spent 30 days in Peru again this summer. They have been making important collections of the calls of Peruvian birds and we all are looking forward to hearing of their adventures.

Martha Hays spent another summer studying the Least Terns in Gulfport and found a pair of Snowy Plovers nesting in her tern colony. She has written a brief article about the plovers which will appear in the Kite.

Judy Touns has continued her efforts on behalf of the Least Terns and has been conducting bird-watching classes on the coast. She and her students have come up with some good records which will be detailed in the Kite - including a Hudsonian Godwit near Pascagoula.

Wayne Weber and John Theberge shared the Edward's Prize of the Wilson Ornithological Society for the second-best paper published in the Wilson Bulletin during 1977. Their paper was a study of the effect of date and other variables on the results of breeding bird surveys. The award was made at the annual

meeting of the Wilson Society which was held in West Virginia this year.

Bette Schardien has continued her studies of Killdeer and has color-banded nearly 100 in the Starkville area. If you see any with colored bands above the "knee", please contact her. Dwight Cooley has been color-banding Loggerhead Shrikes near Starkville and would also like reports of his marked birds if you see them. We marked only one Black Vulture chick this year but hope to have others from previous years still flying. Each of our vultures has a white tag on the wing. The tags have a letter and number combination printed on them that can be read with binoculars. To report sightings of any of these birds, please write to: J.A. Jackson, Box Z, Mississippi State, Ms. 39762 and to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bird-Banding Laboratory, Laurel, Md. 20810.

Green or Blue-breasted Sandpipers?

From early July through October migrant Semipalmated Sandpipers will be breast-dyed green or blue at Grand Forks, North Dakota. The researchers marking these birds are interested in their movements and would appreciate reports of any sightings. Some birds will also carry unique wing tags. If you spot a bird wearing a tag, please note: (1) wing tagged (left or right); (2) tag color; (3) number, letter, or symbol marked on the tag; (4) color of symbol. Please send reports of dyed or tagged birds to: Shorebird Survey-David Lank, Langmuir Laboratory, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853.

Publications

From time to time I hear about publications which might be of interest to MOS members. Some of these publications are free. I have included a few below. If you know of other such publications, please let me know and I will pass the word on to our members.

ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY REPORTS.-- This publication is usually 4 pages long and includes brief articles describing the results of recent natural history studies in Illinois. It likely would not be of interest to many Mississippians but should be of interest to some. A recent issue included articles on vegetation on bluffs and ravines, the Illinois River, and pesticides in Fox Squirrels. Natural History Survey Reports is free and can be obtained by writing to George Sprugel, Jr., Chief, Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, IL 61801.

SAVING OILED SEABIRDS.-- This 35-page booklet is a manual for cleaning and rehabilitating oiled waterfowl. It also includes some information on how to handle birds, how to keep them in captivity, how much food to give various species of waterfowl, and some medical problems that birds have. The booklet is free of charge and can be obtained from Distribution Services, American Petroleum Institute, 2101 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

WILDLIFE REVIEW.-- This is a regularly published review of the scientific literature dealing with conservation, ecology, mammals, birds, amphibians, and reptiles. It provides bibliographic references and occasionally short summaries of articles. Wildlife Review would be of primary interest to those who read and use the scientific literature and would not be of general interest. It is, however, free and you can get on the mailing list for it by writing to U.S. Dept. of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Editorial Office, Aylesworth Hall, CSU, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523.

OSPREY CONFERENCE BOOK.-- In 1977 a conference was held on Ospreys in North America. The transactions of that conference have been published as a paperback book which can be obtained free-of-charge as long as supplies last from the following address: National Park Service, Research and Science Services Division, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. If you are really interested in Ospreys, you might enjoy this volume. If you are only mildly interested, it might be worth ordering a copy of this book for your library. When ordering, ask for Transactions of the North American Research Conference, Transactions and Proceedings Series Number 2, National Park Service.

KEY TO NORTH AMERICAN WATERFOWL.-- 1978 (by Stephen R. Wylie & Stewart S. Furlong; illustrated by Jack R. Schroeder). This unique booklet is printed in color on plastic for in-the-field abuse. It is advertised to be waterproof, greaseproof, and washable. The booklet is 31 pages long and illustrates 46 species of North American ducks, geese, and swans. There are two species per page with both males and females painted in color sitting on the water and with small black and white sketches of the birds as they take off and as they would appear in flight. Brief notes on the status and habits of each species are included. At \$4.95 this guide would make a nice gift for a duck-hunting friend. The booklet may be ordered from Schroeder Prints, Inc., P.O. Drawer 580, Chestertown, Md. 21620.

Inland Bird Banding Association Meeting

The 1978 annual meeting of the Inland Bird Banding Association will be held October 20-22 at the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary, Connersville, Indiana. This organization is primarily for bird banders but it is largely made up of amateurs and their meetings are always well worth attending. If you have an interest in bird banding and would like to attend, please contact Jerome Jackson at Mississippi State. We will be sending a contingent to the meeting and would welcome other MOS members.

Raptor Research Foundation

The annual conference for the Raptor Research Foundation will be held November 3-6, Americus Hotel, Allentown, Pennsylvania. For information concerning this organization and their annual meeting write to: Pennsylvania Raptor Rescue Association, Inc., R.D.1, Box 150A, Mt. Bethel, Pa. 18343.