October 1980

Changing of the guard

President Larry Gates left Mississippi a few weeks ago to take a job in Maine. We wish him the best of luck and know we'll be hearing more from him through American Birds and other birding journals. Larry made many fine contributions to MOS and we will all miss his enthusiasm and leadership. Larry's vice-president, Nona Herbert, has assumed the presidency and has been active in arranging for our Fall meeting. Please show her your support and interest by attending our Fall meeting on 7-8 November.

M.O.S. Fall Meeting

President Nona Herbert has made arrangements for our annual Fall meeting to be held 7-8 November 1980 at Delta State University with a field trip to Archer Island. The meeting will convene at 7:30 P.M. in the Caylor Building at Delta State University in Cleveland. To reach the building, leave highway 61 in Cleveland going west on highway 8 (a sign there points to Delta State University). Turn left from highway 8 onto 4th Avenue. The Caylor Building is the third building on the right (Nona thinks!). There is good parking behind the building and you should enter from the rear of the building. The evening program will be at the planetarium in the Caylor Building. No arrangements have been made for supper. Motels in Cleveland include a Holiday Inn and the Colonial Inn. Some people may wish to stay in Greenville.

Weather permitting, Nona will lead the group to Archer Island on Saturday. Bring a picnic lunch. There is no running water and there are no bathrooms (there are outhouses) on the island. Deer hunters will be gathering on the island this weekend, but hunting season doesn't open until Monday. Nona will give details for reaching Archer Island at the meeting on Friday night. If you stay in Greenville or if you can't make it Friday night, travel north from Greenville on highway 1 until you reach a concrete bridge, turn left, go to the
levee, go north on the levee following signs Nona will put up. If you stay in Cleveland, go south on highway 61 to highway 450 (4 miles south of Shaw) turn right one mile to Nona's store in Choctaw - she will lead the way from there.

It sounds like an exciting weekend. I've seen so many of Nona's bird records from Archer Island that I can't help but think the birding will be excellent - unfortunately I will have to attend the annual meeting of the Inland Bird Banding Association which is the same weekend in Michigan. Someone take good notes for a newsletter report.

In memoriam: Burton S. Webster

We recently lost Burton S. Webster of Starkville. Burt was a past president of the MOS and for many years was manager at Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge. He had a lifelong commitment to protecting the natural environment. We have all been touched by his contributions to Noxubee Refuge, to the Audubon Societies of the state, and to the Mississippi Ornithological Society.