The 1982 fall meeting of the Mississippi Ornithological Society will be held on the Mississippi coast, in Hancock County, with Judith Toups as hostess.

Arrangements have been made with the Waveland Resort Inn for a block of rooms to be reserved for MOS members, and the business meeting and banquet will be held at the Captain's Table Restaurant, in the inn, at 7:00 P.M. on Saturday, October 23.

Larry and Terrie Gates have agreed to present a program on birding in Arizona. Those who have birded Arizona will bask in warm memories; those who have yet to visit that fabled birding place will find further incentive to plan a trip west.

The following informal discourse, will, I hope, encourage a record turn-out of MOS members...there are too many of us who have never met, and what better time and place than fall on the Mississippi coast?

Lacking any local confederates, I have appointed myself official greeter for this assemblage. On Friday evening, at bullbat time, I will bid you welcome to the coast in my room at the Waveland Resort Inn (ask the desk clerk for my room #), where a weary traveler may partake of coffee and refreshments and a word of good cheer. I will be on duty in that capacity from 5:00 P.M., Friday, October 22 until the last rag-tail birder to arrive has been greeted,(provided it's before my 10:00 P.M. roosting time.)
On Saturday morning, we will assemble at the northernmost entrance to Buccaneer State Park in Waveland at 7:30 P.M., for a day of Hancock County birding. Reach the park by travelling east on Highway 90 and turning south, just before the Bay St. Louis bridge, to South Beach Boulevard...or follow the route provided with Waveland map.

Those who wish to eat breakfast should know that Hancock County does not have abundant eateries, but the restaurant at the Waveland Resort Inn begins serving at 5:30 A.M. and is probably your best bet.

The birding day in Hancock County should be exciting. During this same weekend in October of last year, Larry and Terrie Gates and I led Jackson Audubon Society members on field trips, the composite total of which was 121 species...including...Osprey, White-winged Dove, Ground Dove, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (at least 6 of them), and Lark Sparrow, in addition to a good variety of birds which normally occur on the coast in October.

The plan is to keep birding groups small and provided with leaders who know their way around Hancock County. Those who join this Saturday outing will be with their leaders until late afternoon and should arrive at Buccaneer prepared for that...bring your lunch and other necessities with you.

Every effort will be made to allow at least two hours for recuperation before the banquet at the inn on Saturday night. Members, please pay strict attention to the notice concerning the banquet, and help me to make this banquet memorable by getting your reservations back to me in time to make final changes.

The banquet will begin at 7:00 P.M., followed by a business meeting and the program. The banquet room is ours until 10:30 p.m., and from a personal standpoint, I'd like to see us utilize this time for some socializing. Speaking of social things...there is a bar adjacent to the restaurant...and wine is available for those who wish to order it at serving time...at 7:00 A.M.

On Sunday morning, we will assemble in the parking lot outside of the restaurant at the inn. Those wishing to do some field birding in Jackson County (Pascagoula River Marsh or some such equally exciting place) should be prepared to follow me to Jackson County, a distance of approximately thirty miles. This distance will preclude returning to the inn before check-out time, so it is suggested that birders be prepared to leave for home after the end of Sunday birding.

Again...the timetable...
Friday, Oct. 22nd, 5-10 P.M...informal reception...Toups' room at the inn.

Saturday...Oct. 23rd, 7:30 A.M...assemble Buccaneer State Park for all day birding...bring lunch...back to inn by 5:00 P.M.

Saturday...Oct. 23rd, 7:00 P.M...banquet and meeting...until 10:30 P.M.

Sunday...Oct. 24th...7:00 A.M...meet in front of restaurant for field trip to Jackson County...or "goodbye...it's been good to see ya!"
BANQUET INFORMATION

Every effort was made to arrange for a substantial meal at a price which seems reasonable. The banquet and meeting will be held at the Captain's Table Restaurant at the Waveland Resort Inn.

The menu:  Sauteed (in wine) Sirloin Tips  
Served with Rice  
Green Bean Almondine  
Homemade Rolls  
Full Salad Bar (you name it, you'll find it)  
Coffee or Tea  
Choice of Cheesecake or Apple Pie

The Price:  $9.00  tax and gratuities included

From what has transpired at many recent meetings, it seems there's a great lack of consideration on the part of some MOS members for the problems which beset those who host a meeting. Our membership is so scattered around the state that communication is not easy... but it is not impossible.

The host, who signs his name and pays up-front money to a catering establishment, should not be put in the position of word-of-mouth notice that so-and-so is coming, yet no check or cash has arrived to save a place at the banquet. Many a recent host has dug deeply into his own pocket to pay for those who forgot that nothing is free these days. I don't think any of us can afford to do that.

I have signed my name and given over my personal check to reserve banquet facilities for up to 60 MOS members. I did that with full confidence that MOS members will not let me down. Therefore, please note that the enclosed banquet reservation should be filled out and in my hands NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER FOURTEENTH, along with check made out to me, Judith Toups (not MOS or the Waveland Inn).

Many thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you and to a wonderful weekend of birds, birds, birds!!!

Judy

P.S. The coast's tourist facilities, even those in Hancock County, are often filled to capacity... therefore, please make reservations early. There is virtually nothing else in the way of lodging in the Waveland area.