

MOS NEWSLETTER

July 1987

Volume 32, No. 3

1987 Fall Meeting

There has been a change of date and venue for the fall 1987 MOS meeting. Rather than Hattiesburg in October, the meeting will take place on the Mississippi coast during the weekend of 6-8 November, 1987. The location of the banquet has not yet been determined, but will be announced in the next number of this newsletter, which should arrive in late September/early October. Thus, the spring 1988 meeting will not take place on the coast, and its location will be decided at the fall meeting.

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Broad-winged Hawk reports needed

The Hawk Migration Association (HMANA), established in 1974, is attempting to chart the migratory path of diurnal birds of prey across the United States. Consequently, HMANA would like to receive Broad-winged Hawk counts from Mississippi during the fall migration for the next few years.

Here are some aids in locating them:

Identification: Broad-wings circle together in a group, kettle, ranging from a few to several hundred hawks. When they reach the top of the thermal, often cloud-covered, the broad-wings will stream off the top, creating a looge formation. The best count can be made during this gliding formation.

Peak migratory period: 15-30 September.

Best weather conditions: following a cold front (though not essential).

Best times of day: 9-11am and 4-5pm (CDT).

MOS members seeing any migratory flocks while birding, or those interested in watching a few days in your backyards, are asked to send to John Battalio, 4802 Halls Ferry Road, Vicksburg, MS 39180, the following data: date of sighting; location of sighting; time (if sighted at 9:23am CDT, write 9am); number of birds sighted; direction in which headed. Example: 23 Sept. 87, Vicksburg, 10am, 23 headed SW. Any reports would be greatly appreciated.

Minutes of the Spring 1987 Meeting: Oxford, Mississippi  
2 May 1987

## AGENDA

1. Recognition of hosts
2. Introduction of new members and officers
3. Reading of minutes of 18 October 1986 meeting
4. Treasurer and membership report
5. Old business
  - 5.1. MOS membership in the MS Wildlife Federation
  - 5.2. Places and dates of next two meetings
6. New business
  - 6.1. Request for information on breeding bird atlas
  - 6.2. MOS goals during next two years
  - 6.3. Least tern nesting program
  - 6.4. MOS checklists
  - 6.5. Announcement of Records Committee members
  - 6.6. Nomination of MOS historian
  - 6.7. Species countdown
7. Announcements
8. Banquet speaker
9. Additional recognition of hosts

1. President Judith Toups extended thanks to the Oxford Bird Club, who hosted the meeting, and especially to Marvin Davis for his assistance.

2. Introduced individually were new MOS members, as well as the newly elected officers.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

4. Treasurer Janet Dubuisson read the treasurer's report and announced MOS membership now at 166. Mrs. Dubuisson reported that the organization is carrying an additional 54 delinquent members, who will soon be dropped from the mailing list if dues are not received.

## 5. Old business:

5.1. Nona Herbert proposed that the MOS join the MS Wildlife Federation, whose group membership dues are \$50. After discussion, the consensus was that such membership would aid in recognition for the MOS since supporting groups are listed in the MWF's publications. Such publicity might increase MOS membership, as well as enable members to more easily obtain permission to enter otherwise inaccessible areas around the state during the breeding bird atlas. A motion was made and seconded to vote on the proposal. The motion carried unanimously. Mrs.

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Herbert then noted that the MOS would need to be represented at MWF fall meetings. Mike McGraw volunteered to be the MOS representative.

5.2. Judith Toups announced that Larry and Terrie Gates would host the autumn meeting in Hattiesburg at a date to be determined later, probably during the third or last weekend in October. After a request for volunteers to host the spring 1988 meeting, Mrs. Toups volunteered Mississippi Coast Audubon as host during the third weekend of April.

#### 6. New business:

6.1. On request from Hal Moore concerning further information on the state's breeding bird atlas project, President Toups stated that she had no further information at this time.

6.2. Judith Toups noted that one of her goals as MOS president during the next two years is to complete the preliminary work on the breeding bird atlas. She suggested that members who keep preliminary checklists of birds in their birding areas during the next two years will be in a good position to begin atlasing. Also, since the MOS is in need of money, Mrs. Toups believes the MOS' second goal should be to double membership. She suggested mailing lists be obtained from The Vicksbirders and state Audubon societies for this purpose. It was noted that MOS T-shirts are still available for \$10, as are back sets of the Mississippi Kite. Purchase of these items will benefit the MOS treasury.

6.3. The President told members that brochures on the Least Tern nesting program were available and noted that MS Coast Audubon Society would appreciate donations from members to help continue the program.

6.4. Nona Herbert asked about MOS checklists. Though none were available at the meeting, members were assured that checklists would be brought to the fall meeting.

6.5. Judith Toups announced the names of those on the Records Committee, which reviews the state's bird records. The members are: Ed Alexander, Marvin Davis, Larry Gates, Malcolm Hodges, Jerome Jackson, Joe McGee, Judy Toups, and Bill Turcotte. A meeting of this committee will be held this fall.

6.6. Stating the need for an MOS historian, Mrs. Toups nominated Nona Herbert. As part of the project, Mrs. Herbert noted the need to obtain pictures of every MOS past president.

6.7. Gene Knight conducted a countdown of species seen during the day's field trips. The total was 122 species.

7. Upon a call for announcements, Malcolm Hodges indicated that he had brought Mississippi Kite back issues, which sell for \$2.50 each. He stated that the December 1986 issue should be completed this summer.

8. Malcolm Hodges introduced the banquet speaker, Marvin Davis, who spoke on north Mississippi birds and birding. First state records in north Mississippi and birds unique to the northern third of the state were highlighted.

9. Thanks were also extended to John Crews, who was responsible for the sack lunches and banquet, and Colleen Wilkes for the Friday night activities.

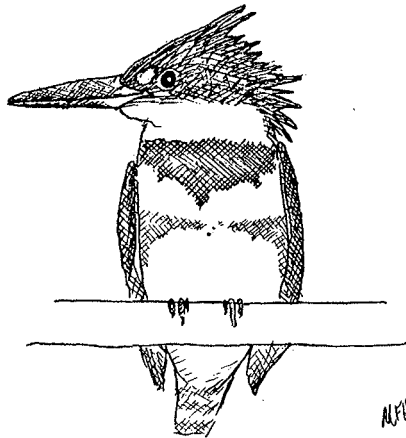
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
John T. Battalio  
Secretary

From the editor:

On my desk are data from four of last year's MS Christmas Bird Counts: Grenada, Jackson, Sardis, and S. Hancock Co. I would appreciate other compilers sending me data from their counts; if I have data from several, I will publish brief summaries of counts in the next newsletter.

MS birders broke three state Big Day records this spring (but not Mississippi's; Toups & Co.'s coastal count of 172 still stands). I'll leave it to them to announce themselves at the fall meeting.



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1987 MOS Spring Meeting Bird List  
2-3 May 1987, Lafayette, Panola, and Marshall counties, MS

Pied-billed Grebe	Hairy Woodpecker	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Double-cr. Cormorant	N. Flicker	Black-thr. Grn. Warbler
Am. Bittern	Pileated Woodpecker	Backburnian Warbler
Least Bittern	E. Wood-Pewee	Yellow-throated Warbler
Great Blue Heron	Acadian Flycatcher	Pine Warbler
Cattle Egret	E. Phoebe	Prairie Warbler
Green-backed Heron	Great Cr. Flycatcher	Bay-breasted Warbler
Canada Goose	E. Kingbird	Blackpoll Warbler
Wood Duck	Horned Lark	Cerulean Warbler
Mallard	Purple Martin	Black-&-white Warbler
Blue-winged Teal	N. Rough-w. Swallow	Am. Redstart
Gadwall	Barn Swallow	Prothonotary Warbler
Black Vulture	Blue Jay	Worm-eating Warbler
Turkey Vulture	Am. Crow	Swainson's Warbler
<u>Swallow-t. Kite</u>	Fish Crow	N. Waterthrush
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Carolina Chickadee	La. Waterthrush
Cooper's Hawk	Tufted Titmouse	Kentucky Warbler
Red-shouldered Hawk	White-br. Nuthatch	Com. Yellowthroat
Broad-winged Hawk	Brown-h. Nuthatch	Hooded Warbler
Red-tailed Hawk	Carolina Wren	Yellow-breasted Chat
Am. Kestrel	House Wren	Summer Tanager
<u>Peregrine Falcon</u>	Sedge Wren	Scarlet Tanager
N. Bobwhite	Marsh Wren	N. Cardinal
Sora	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Killdeer	Blue-gr. Gnatcatcher	Blue Grosbeak
Greater Yellowlegs	E. Bluebird	Indigo Bunting
Solitary Sandpiper	Swainson's Thrush	Rufous-sided Towhee
Spotted Sandpiper	Wood Thrush	Chipping Sparrow
Pectoral Sandpiper	Am. Robin	Field Sparrow
Com. Snipe	Gray Catbird	Savannah Sparrow
Bonaparte's Gull	N. Mockingbird	Lincoln's Sparrow
Ring-billed Gull	Brown Thrasher	Swamp Sparrow
Forster's Tern	Cedar Waxwing	White-throated Sparrow
Rock Dove	Loggerhead Shrike	White-crowned Sparrow
Mourning Dove	European Starling	Bobolink
Black-billed Cuckoo	White-eyed Vireo	Red-winged Blackbird
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Solitary Vireo	E. Meadowlark
Barred Owl	Yellow-thr. Vireo	Com. Grackle
Com. Nighthawk	Warbling Vireo	Brown-headed Cowbird
Chuck-will's-widow	Philadelphia Vireo	Orchard Oriole
Whip-poor-will	Red-eyed Vireo	N. Oriole
Chimney Swift	Blue-winged Warbler	Pine Siskin
R.-thr. Hummingbird	Tennessee Warbler	Am. Goldfinch
Belted Kingfisher	N. Parula	Evening Grosbeak
Red-h. Woodpecker	Yellow Warbler	House Sparrow
Red-b. Woodpecker	Chestnut-s. Warbler	
Downy Woodpecker	Magnolia Warbler	TOTAL: 139 species

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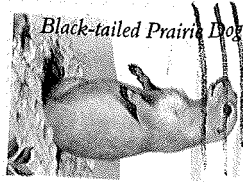
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