

MOS NEWSLETTER

July 1988

Volume 33, No. 3

MOS Fall 1988 Meeting: Cleveland/Rosedale

The fall meeting will be held on 7-9 October 1988 in Bolivar County. An informal gathering will be held on Friday night, the banquet will take place on Saturday night, and birding trips as usual will be on both Saturday and Sunday. Mark your calendars!

The meeting will take place in Cleveland, where gatherings and the banquet will be held and accommodations are available. We will concentrate our birding efforts in the Rosedale area (20 mi to the west of Cleveland), where M.G. Vaiden made so many important discoveries about the state's avifauna.

Details on times and places will come in the next newsletter in early September.

Minutes of the Spring 1988 MOS Meeting
Vicksburg, Mississippi
23 April 1988

1. President Judith Toups extended thanks to the Vicksbirders for hosting the spring meeting.
2. New members and guests were acknowledged.
3. Minutes of the fall 1987 meeting were read and approved.
4. Janet Dubuisson read the treasurer's report (a summary of which follows these minutes).
5. Dr. Jerome Jackson announced that the next three issues of the Mississippi Kite are being prepared, the first of these to be mailed shortly. He also acknowledged Mal Hodges' help in their publication. Dr. Jackson noted the Kite is in need of articles for future issues, as well as good black-and-white photos for Kite covers. He suggested members use Plus-X or Tri-X film for best results.
6. Dr. Jackson also asked members to participate in the state's nest record card program by filling out standard nest record and cavity nesting cards, which were available at the meeting. Participants monitor and document the progress of the nesting activity of MS species. Dr. Jackson suggested that nests close to members' houses are especially appropriate since these nests can be monitored frequently.

(Minutes of the 1988 Spring Meeting continued)

7. Dr. Jackson announced that Birder's World was offering MOS members attending the spring meeting a one-time-only reduced subscription price. He noted MS authors and birds have been well represented in the magazine.

8. Mal Hodges noted several books and T-shirts were available for sale at the meeting.

9. Judy Toups asked that members with 1988 dues unpaid bring their memberships up to date after the meeting. She also reminded members of the need to recruit new members for the MOS.

10. Old business:

10.1 Nona Herbert, MOS historian, reported that she was still researching and asked that members send her any items of historical interest. She suggested that photos be taken during future meetings to have a pictorial history of the organization.

10.2 In response to a question by Nona Herbert, Mike McGraw reported that MS Wildlife Federation dues were not yet up for renewal.

11. New business:

11.1 Marvin Davis volunteered to host the fall 1988 meeting in either Sardis, Rosedale, or Grenada.

11.2 To simplify the selection of meeting sites, Mal Hodges suggested committees be formed for this purpose. As a result, he and Mike McGraw agreed to sit on the site committee for the spring 1989 meeting.

11.3 President Toups appointed Hal Moore as chairman of the Tucker Award Committee and asked that he choose two members to assist him in the selection of an award recipient.

11.4 Judith Toups appointed Gene Knight as Nomination Committee chairman to select two additional committee members, who will assist him in submitting a slate of officers for the 1988-90 term.

11.5 Judith Toups announced that MS Coast Audubon is offering a \$500 college scholarship to a student majoring in biological sciences or environmental studies. She asked MOS members to encourage needy students to write MCAS for information.

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(Minutes of the 1988 Spring Meeting continued)

11.6 President Toups noted that pledge sheets for MS Coast Audubon would be available after the meeting.

11.7 Though no MOS checklists were available at the meeting, Marvin Davis announced that he had brought "a few" checklists of the "Birds of Sardis Lake, MS," printed courtesy of the Corps of Engineers. Members were invited to take as many checklists as they wished.

11.8 Terrie Schiefer conducted the countdown of species, which totaled 128.

11.9 Reporting that there were no more MOS patches, Jan Dubuisson inquired if the membership wanted more made. Steve Peterson volunteered to report during the fall meeting on the cost of new patches, including correcting the design.

11.10 Noting two formerly active MOS members, Judith Toups passed along regards to the MOS from Walter Davis of Kosciusko and suggested members visit Louis Cashman in Vicksburg's Mercy Hospital or drop him a card.

12. Banquet speaker Chuck Feerick discussed the Hawk Migration Association's efforts to collect data on hawk migration and invited members to participate. He also gave the MOS an overview of hawk migration over our area and showed slides of species which might be observed during the migratory season.

Respectfully submitted, John T. Battalio, Secretary

MOS Financial Report: November 1987-April 1988

Balance, October 1987:		6781.37
Income:	970.47	
Expenses:	<u>331.82</u>	
Net profit:		<u>638.65</u>
Balance, April 1988:		7420.02
Balance sheet:		
Assets:		
Balance in checking:		2439.79
Balance in savings:		2980.23
Certificate of deposit:		<u>2000.00</u>
	Total assets:	7420.02

Janet Dubuisson, Treasurer

Birds Seen During the Spring 1988 MOS Meeting at Vicksburg

Following are birds reported by participants at the Vicksburg meeting. These include birds seen in both Mississippi and Louisiana. Most astounding were 7 Hudsonian Godwits, for the 3rd state record and highest number seen in the state.

Pied-billed Grebe	Chimney Swift	Chestnut-sided Warbler
Am. White Pelican	Ruby-th. Hummingbird	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Dbl.-cr. Cormorant	Belted Kingfisher	Yellow-th. Warbler
Anhinga	Red-h. Woodpecker	Pine Warbler
American Bittern	Red-b. Woodpecker	Cerulean Warbler
Great Blue Heron	Downy Woodpecker	Black-&-white Warbler
Great Egret	Hairy Woodpecker	American Redstart
Snowy Egret	Northern Flicker	Prothonotary Warbler
Little Blue Heron	Pileated Woodpecker	Worm-eating Warbler
Cattle Egret	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Swainson's Warbler
Green-backed Heron	Acadian Flycatcher	Ovenbird
Wood Duck	Great Cr. Flycatcher	Northern Waterthrush
Mallard	Eastern Kingbird	Louisiana Waterthrush
Blue-winged Teal	Horned Lark	Kentucky Warbler
Black Vulture	Purple Martin	Common Yellowthroat
Turkey Vulture	Tree Swallow	Hooded Warbler
Osprey	N. Rough-w. Swallow	Yellow-breasted Chat
Mississippi Kite	Barn Swallow	Summer Tanager
Bald Eagle	Blue Jay	Scarlet Tanager
Red-shouldered Hawk	American Crow	Northern Cardinal
Broad-winged Hawk	Fish Crow	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Red-tailed Hawk	Carolina Chickadee	Blue Grosbeak
American Kestrel	Tufted Titmouse	Indigo Bunting
American Coot	Carolina Wren	Painted Bunting
Semipalmated Plover	Blue-gr. Gnatcatcher	Dickcissel
Killdeer	Eastern Bluebird	Rufous-sided Towhee
Greater Yellowlegs	Veery	Field Sparrow
Lesser Yellowlegs	Gray-cheeked Thrush	Savannah Sparrow
Solitary Sandpiper	Swainson's Thrush	Song Sparrow
Spotted Sandpiper	Wood Thrush	White-throated Sparrow
Hudsonian Godwit	American Robin	Bobolink
Semipalm. Sandpiper	Gray Catbird	Red-winged Blackbird
Western Sandpiper	Northern Mockingbird	Eastern Meadowlark
Least Sandpiper	Brown Thrasher	Common Grackle
Pectoral Sandpiper	Cedar Waxwing	Brown-headed Cowbird
Stilt Sandpiper	Loggerhead Shrike	Orchard Oriole
Dowitcher species	European Starling	Northern Oriole
Common Snipe	White-eyed Vireo	Pine Siskin
Wilson's Phalarope	Yellow-th. Vireo	American Goldfinch
Ring-billed Gull	Red-eyed Vireo	House Sparrow
Rock Dove	Blue-winged Warbler	
Mourning Dove	Golden-w. Warbler	
Yellow-b. Cuckoo	Tennessee Warbler	
Barred Owl	Northern Parula	

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More Summaries of 1987-88 Christmas Bird Counts

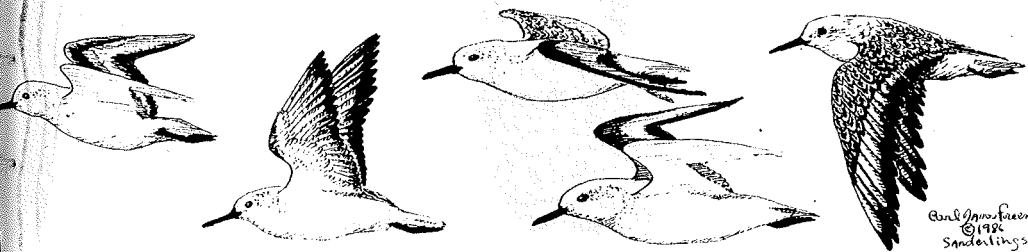
Here are two counts that didn't arrive in time for the last newsletter. I received no information on the Hattiesburg, Jackson County or Natchez counts.

Jackson (William Turcotte, compiler)---2 Jan.; 72.25 party-hours; 340 party-miles (33 on foot, 307 by car); 21 observers in 7 parties; 104 species; 51,500 individuals.

Most unusual were White Ibis (4 imm, 3 ad), a first for this count. Other standouts included 83 Great Egrets, 2 ad Bald Eagles, 283 Ring-billed Gulls, and 51 Pine Siskins (a species not always seen on this count). Singles of Merlin, White-breasted Nuthatch, Bewick's Wren and Orange-crowned Warbler rounded out one of the Jackson crew's better efforts, despite the "rather mild" weather, and having one less party than usual.

Southern Hancock County (Judith Toups, compiler)---29 Dec.; 24 observers; 161 species; 24,582 individuals.

This count exceeded all expectations, and broke the record for highest-ever species total for a MS CBC. Everything seemed to come together for S. Hancock this year, despite an only slightly better than usual number of participants. Many staked-out rarities hung around for the count, and some unexpected birds materialized. Highlights: Gannets (6!), 2 Am. Bitterns, 4 Com. Mergansers, 5 Osprey, 4 Black-shouldered Kites, Bald Eagle, Merlin, Lesser Golden-Plover (present for months), a caprimulgid species (probably a Whip), Short-eared Owl, Ruby-throated and Black-chinned hummers and a Selasphorus species (3 species of hummingbirds on a MS CBC!), Vermilion Flycatcher, 2 Western Kingbirds and Lapland Longspur. Just as important was a list of regular species with very few holes. What's next, S. Hancock? 165? Dare we think of 170?



Carol Ann Fisher
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Sandwich Islands

MISSISSIPPI ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Organized 30 April 1955

JUDITH A. TOUPS
President
4 Hartford Place
Gulfport, MS 39501

MICHAEL J. MCGRAW
Vice President
P.O. Box 6034
Jackson, MS 39213

JOHN BATTALIO
Secretary
4802 Halls Ferry Rd.
Vicksburg, MS 39180

JANET DUBUISSON
Treasurer
1 Glad Acres
Pass Christian, MS 39571

JEROME A. JACKSON
Editor: Mississippi Kite

MALCOLM F. HODGES, JR.
Editor: MOS Newsletter

Dept. of Biological Sciences
Mississippi State University
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Mr. W. H. Turcotte
240 Lowe Circle
Richland, MS 39218

Return address:
Malcolm F. Hodges, Jr.
P.O. Drawer GY
Miss. State, MS 39762

