# MOS Newsletter

Fall 1990

Volume 35, Number 3

The Mississippi Ornithological Society will hold their fall meeting in Oxford on November 9-11. Bases of operation for weekend activities will be the Best Western Oxford Inn and the University of Mississippi Student Union. The weekends agenda will be as follows:

# FRIDAY, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

An evening of socializing will be held at the Ole Miss Student Union, Rm 415. A bird identification (slides) competion will take place. Grand prizes for the winners are yet to be determined. For those who arrive early, snacks and punch will be served. Last but not least, we will spend time planning for Saturdays field trips.

# SATURDAY, 7:30 a.m.

Several field trips are planned to those Oxford hotspots. Final preparations will be completed at the Friday night social. A boating trip on Sardis Lake is tentatively being planned. We hope to provide a pontoon-boat adventure to pursue those waterbirds that lurk beyond scope range. Please indicate your interest in boat trip by adding a \$5 per person "down payment" to your meeting registration form to reserve a spot on board. Deposit will be refunded if plans do not materialize.

#### SATURDAY, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

For those interested in study skins, we will be allowed access to the M.G. Vaiden University of Mississippi Bird Collection at the Biology Department in Shoemaker Hall, Rm 225. This will be a great opportunity to get an "in hand" view of those birds that might give you fits in the field. The Records Committee may also meet in Shoemaker Hall if this turns into the most appropriate time.

# SATURDAY, 6:30 p.m.

The Saturday evening dinner, MOS business meeting, and evening program will take place at the Best Western Oxford Inn, 1101 Frontage Rd. The cost of the evenings meal and entertainment will be \$10 per person. Following dinner we will conduct a business meeting which will include election of officers. Our after dinner speaker will be Dr. James Kushlan, Chairman of the Ole Miss Department of Biology. His topic will be "Herons of the World." Dr. Kushlan co-authored The Herons Handbook, published in 1984 by Harper & Row. He has done considerable research on the long-legged waders and has also authored "Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills of the World," to be published in 1991.

# SUNDAY, 7:30 a.m.

For those die-hards among us, we'll be planning additional birding trips for Sunday morning. Final plans will be made Saturday evening.

#### MEALS

Saturday breakfast and lunch will be on your own as there are numerous eating establishments in and around the Oxford area. Saturdays dinner will be at the Best Western Oxford Inn.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

We have a block of 15 double bed rooms reserved at the Best Western at the following special rates: 1 person for \$31, 2 persons \$35, 3 persons \$39, and 4 persons \$43, all plus tax. Call Best Western at 234-9500 for reservations. This block of rooms will be held forus only until October 16. Mention the MOS meeting when making your reservations. Of course there are many other excellent motels in the Oxford area.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marion Fahnestock, 250 Lovers Lane, Ocean Springs, MS 39564 reports a healthy supply of MOS T-shirts (L, XL) and MOS Patches are still available. These items are a couple of great birding extras you should not be without. Get yours while supplies last. Mail a selfaddressed, stamped envelope and \$5.00 for patch and \$11.00 for the T-shirts to cover postage and shipping.

The 91st Christmas Bird Count will be held nation wide December 15, 1990 - January 2, 1991. Contact your local compiler to find out the exact date for your CBC: Genevieve Little - Church Hill and Summer, Marvin Davis - Grenada, Terrie and Larry Gates - Hattiesburg and Jackson County, Bill Tourcotte - Jackson, Terry Schiefer - Noxubee NWR, Marvin Davis - Sardis Lake, Judith Toups - South Hancock County, Ed Alexander - Washington County, Randy Roberts - Sidon. Other CBC will probably be held in the Arkabutla Lake, Moon Lake, Natchez, and Vicksburg circles.

The 1990 MOS Spring Meeting held in Pascagoula was a great success. Thanks to all those who served on the local organizing committee and to you that attended. As of Saturday evening, April 21, 160 bird species had been sighted. Among the really "good" finds were: Cooper's Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Purple Sandpiper, Common Ground Dove. Acadian Flycatcher, Warbling Vireo, 22 warblers (including Cape May and Swainson's), Bachman's Sparrow and Seaside Sparrow.

# Noteworthy Summer and Fall Sightings

- Nesting of Black-necked Stilt in Bolivar County was the first noncoastal record (N. Hebert)
- -Summer Red-necked Phalarope in the Delta (T. Schiefer)
- -Masked Booby, Jackson County (T. Schiefer)

-Mourning Warbler, Ash-throated Flycatcher and Cinammon Teal, Hancock County (several obs.)

# Registration Form 1990 MOS Fall Meeting

Names & Addresses of participants:

Please reserve: \_\_\_\_\_\_place(s) on the Sardis Lake boat trip @ \$5.00 per person depoist place(s) at the Saturday evening banquet @ \$10.00 per person

Send registration form and check payable to MOS by November 1 to:

Judy Burkepile 200 Pinewood Ridge Rd. Oxford, MS 38655 MISSISSIPPI ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY Organized 30 April 1955

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All those interested in Missistippi bird life are invited to join the MOS. MOS dues: Life, \$100; Sustaining, \$20; Individual, \$10; Family, \$15; Junior/Golden Age, individual \$4, family \$8; Subscribing (institutions) \$10. Send dues to the treasurer.

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