
**MISSISSIPPI
ORNITHOLOGICAL
SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER**

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LOOKING AHEAD:

MOS SPRING MEETING--JACKSON AREA, APRIL 22-24

The meeting is being hosted by the JACKSON AUDUBON SOCIETY and the MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Jeff Wilson of Bartlett, Tenn. (near Memphis), one of the most knowledgeable field birders in the Southeast and a fellow MOS member, with whom many of you have had an opportunity to bird in the past few years, will be our featured speaker at the Saturday night banquet. Jeff is an accomplished bird photographer and has been responsible for documenting many of the unusual species he has found in Mississippi and neighboring states. Shorebirds are one of Jeff's special interests, and he has spent countless hours studying their plumages and behavior. Aided by a presentation of some of the many slides he has taken during his studies, he will be sharing with us some of the insight he has developed into shorebird identification. So NOW'S YOUR CHANCE to learn some additional things to help you identify all those impossible sandpipers!

MEETING PLACE: The Museum of Natural Science, 111 N. Jefferson Street in Jackson, is the site for the Friday night registration and hospitality time and the Saturday night banquet. To get there, take the High Street exit off I-55 N. (Coliseum-Fairgrounds exit). Go west on High Street to the second traffic light and turn left onto Jefferson. Go through the traffic light at the intersection with Amite, and the Museum will be on the right about half way down the block.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Rooms have been reserved under MOS' name at the Red Roof Inn on County Line Road at I-55 North in the Ridgeland area. The rooms have two double beds and will be \$36.99 for one person and \$42.99 for two. Call 1-800-874-9000 and be sure to refer to Reservation Block #B128000033 for the special rate. YOU MUST MAKE RESERVATIONS NO LATER THAN APRIL 10. There are some other large conventions in the Jackson area this same weekend, and there may be a shortage of rooms; so don't delay making your reservation. They will be saved for us only until April 10.

The local number for the hotel is 956-7707. You will be able to check in anytime after 1:00 p.m. If you cannot check in until after 6:00 p.m., be sure to guarantee the room reservation with your credit card.

FIELD TRIPS: A variety of birding trips are planned for Saturday. We'll have groups going to the Bovina area, a prime spring migration area not far from the Mississippi River; the Tara Wildlife Management Area along the

Mississippi River north of Vicksburg (privately owned); LeFleur's Bluff State Park along the Pearl River in Jackson; and, of course, the Barnett Reservoir area. All trips will depart from the hotel parking lot at 6:45 a.m.

Leaders of the groups will be reporting any unusual bird sightings to the Rare Bird Alert line (982-2850) by noon, and the report will be updated by approximately 1:00 p.m. so others can call in for information about what birds are being seen where.

Anyone arriving in Jackson by 1:00 p.m. on Friday who is interested in an organized field trip that afternoon (or receiving maps of the various areas for individual exploration) should call Marion Hutto at 845-7259 or Mary Stevens at the Museum (354-7303) by Thursday evening. Sunday morning field trips will be planned Saturday evening according to the interest in seeing particular areas.

REGISTRATION AND BANQUET: A \$15.00 registration fee will cover the costs of the Saturday night banquet and miscellaneous expenses for both the Friday and Saturday night meetings. The banquet will be a buffet catered by RED HOT & BLUE (Memphis Pit Barbecue) which will include chicken, ribs, beef brisket, vegetables and a dessert. (See the reservation form below.) Please send your reservation form and check NOW to help in estimating the numbers for both the Fri. night hospitality time and the banquet. Checks will be held until weekend of the meeting; cancellation can be made as late as April 12 by calling Marion Hutto at 845-7259/ Mary Stevens at 354-7303.

DETAILED MEETING SCHEDULE:

<u>Friday, April 22</u>	1:00 p.m.--'til	Arrival and check-in at motel. If interested in an organized field trip on Friday p.m., call Marion Hutto at 845-7259 by Thursday evening.
	6:30 p.m.	Hospitality time with light refreshments at the Natural Science Museum; sign up for Sat. field trips and get maps for the birding areas.
	7:30 p.m.	Mark Woodrey, ornithologist at the museum, will discuss the bird skin collection there, some of which will be on exhibit during the hospitality time.
	7:45-8:30 p.m.	Brief meeting for questions and answers about the field trips and other business to be presented by the President.
<u>Sat., April 23</u>	6:00 a.m.	Breakfast on your own--restaurants, including Shoney's breakfast bar, near the motel.
	6:45 a.m.	Field trips depart from motel parking lot.

Noon	Lunch on your own. Those going on Tara and Bovina field trips should take snacks to tide you over to a possibly late lunch. Reservoir and LeFleur's Bluff areas are closer to restaurants and fast food places.
After 1:00 p.m.	Check Rare Bird Alert line for reports on unusual sightings.
Afternoon	Birding on your own or continuation of group field trips, as desired.
6:30 p.m.	Banquet at the museum (casual dress please); list compilation and program.
<u>Sun., April 24</u>	6:00 a.m. Breakfast on your own.
	7:00 a.m. Meet in motel parking lot if interested in organized field trip for the morning.

****TURN NOW TO PAGE 9, TO FILL OUT YOUR REGISTRATION FORM AND MAIL TODAY****

LOOKING BACK:

FROM THE FIELD--Winter Season

Reminder! As stated before, news item in "From the Field" do not comprise definitive publication, as they seldom reach the Editor with supporting details. This includes CBCs, for which appropriate rare species reports are reviewed by the Regional Editor. The definitive site of publication for CBCs is the CBC issue of *American Birds*, and for other records, "Birds Around the State" in *The Miss. Kite*, or regional summaries in *Am. Birds*.

RAPTORS: From N. Miss., in early Jan. '94, comes word of an adult **N. Goshawk** in the general locale of the 1st Miss. specimen, 1993 in Lafayette Co. [two prior sight records and another injured bird were also from that county]. Mr. & Mrs. Keith Meals of Oxford spotted a perched bird near the highway that they took to be a goshawk in W. Union Co. at the Tallahatchie R. crossing on MS 30. Keith has "in-the-hand" familiarity with the species as the capturer of the injured bird that later died, and thus became a specimen, now housed at the Miss. Museum of Natural Science. Also, 1 (or 2) imm. **Golden Eagles** appeared several times in December and January at the waterfowl refuge on Sardis Lake.

PELICANS, GULLS: Before during and after the Christmas Bird Counts, a species change that particularly caught attention of your Editor for breadth was the inland **Am. White Pelicans**; CBC firsts for the species were established at 4 counts: Arkabutla (13), Grenada (152), Hattiesburg (1) and Noxubee NWR (10). Sardis Lake (140) also went to triple digits after having its CBC 1st, a single, only last year. Vicksburg (98) and S Washington Co. (1) also had them again. For more CBC highlights see section below. Grenada Dam was the site for two rare gull sightings, one in early

December--an adult **Com. Black-headed Gull**--by Gene Knight. Then, on 16 January Jeff Wilson reported identifying a 1st year **Thayer's Gull** there. Photographic or specimen documentation of both species is still desirable, despite one blurry flight photo of the former species.

HUMMINGBIRDS: Early winter '93-'94 was a good "Rare Hummer Season," being marked by yet another new species confirmed in the hand by the Sargents from Birmingham. They captured and ID'ed a young male **Broad-tailed Hummer** visiting a yard north of Picayune before mid-January. At that time there was an ad. male **Rufous Hummingbird** at Louisville (which stayed from 18 August to 1 February!), another (or more) in Jackson, plus on the Coast 3 more species: **Black-chinned, Calliope and Allen's!** [The latter two were new additions as of December 1992.] A novelty of this season is that an Allen's that the Sargents banded at Chattanooga, TN left and later was retrapped at a feeder somewhere to the south of there in Alabama!

PASSERINES: Although Julia Broyles had a two-day visit from Evening Grosbeaks at her feeder south of Starkville in the last week of January, Carolyn Jarnagin reported from Corinth that none had arrived there. However, she was overrun in Jan. by about 500 Pine Siskins [that many of the "Little Huns" might chase away even grosbeaks!], and had 8 Rufous-sided Towhees at once plus 25 Mourning Doves attracted by her new tray feeders on the ground. A friend from that area reported counting **38 male Cardinals in one tree!!** Can anyone top that array? What a sight it must have been.

OTHERS: Four Ladybirders from the Gulf Coast did their Northland Visit thing in the first week of Feb. Highlights included 11 Tundra Swan at Starkville WWTP lagoons and 3 Short-eared Owls performing at dusk over a rice stubble-field in Tunica Co., supplying a Lifer for Gerry Morgan, plus lots of Horned Larks and Lapland Longspurs.

THE BIG FREEZE: Effects of the record-breaking Central U.S.A. cold wave of 18-21 January were evident at N. Miss. reservoirs. By 1/19 there had been an influx of Ring-billed and Herring Gulls and divers (Canvasback, Hooded Merganser) and "cold weather ducks," i.e., Common Goldeneyes, which had scarcely appeared earlier, and **Common Mergansers**, which do not turn up every winter. Lakes to the north had probably frozen solid. By the 21st a record number of 39 Common Mergs were at Sardis Lake. However, another night below 20 degrees caused the near-complete closing up of Sardis, Enid and Grenada Lakes by Saturday a.m. the 22nd. It was great for spotting Bald Eagles, which seem to love standing about on the ice (see below). The ducks remaining were confined to far-off, scattered openings, but by the next p.m. ice was opened much at Sardis, and some more arrivals from elsewhere--loads of Ring-necked Ducks--could be noted.

THE GREAT ICE STORM OF '94: One might hope that the impact of The Ice Storm of 9-10 February '94 were not so great on the birdlife as it was on human life in northern Mississippi, with days stretching into weeks of powerless living. However, several pine-loving species--especially Pine Warblers, Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Red-breasted and Brown-headed Nuthatches--certainly were deprived of a great portion of the North Mississippi pine foliage that they glean for a living, as those were the trees decimated severely. Many 40- to 60-footers survived but with no tops and few if any side branches remaining. This is to say nothing of the immediate effects before thawing set in, when every branch and twig of

whatever type tree was coated with ice that thwarted food-searchers. Now a report is in that considerable clear-cutting has begun for salvaging pines on timber company lands S of Oxford, and no doubt many other places.

M-633
A Red Nut. and a G-c. Kinglet seen from a 2- or 3-foot range on a.m. of 11 Feb. seemed unduly quiet and tame, almost bewildered, while searching vainly through an evergreen that was coated and bowed down by a load of ice. At the seed feeder, meanwhile, finches (House, gold- and pine siskins) were jostling one another to get on, while numerous sparrows (juncos, White-throats and Field Sp.) were crowding the patio where mixed seed had been broadcast. [They brought to mind the human food-seekers who were soon to be in line at the darkened grocery stores, waiting for a turn at combing the aisles, with aid of merely a flashlight, to locate for the family some foods that would require no cooking!] A Fox Sparrow, a seldom-seen species in the neighborhood previously--only during big snows--skulked around the patio, while a Song Sparrow ventured in from its normal place in the weed-grown vacant backyard of a neighbor. Pine Siskins & House Finches gathered in numbers eclipsing those seen all season. Not so welcome were two male Brown-headed Cowbirds not usually seen in the yard until springtime comes. However, after a few days--when the morning dawned sunny--the patio was no longer a bird magnet. Like some of the more fortunate of humankind, their crisis was past, and life could get back to more normal feeding patterns. But for many folks, and surely for many of the North Mississippi birds, the impact of arboreal damage will continue to linger a long time.

Highlights of CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS for 1993:

[We regret that not all CBCs were available for highlighting]

Arkabutla: 16 obs., 4-6 parties-- 626 Great Blue Herons; 17 species of waterfowl, including 1 male Oldsquaw, 256 Buffleheads, 922 Hooded Mergansers and 1123 Ruddy Ducks; 1 Fish Crow; 11 Red-br. Nuthatches; 1 Palm Warbler; 2 Lincoln's Sparrows, among 10 sparrow sp.; and 1 female Northern [Bullock's] Oriole. TOTAL SPECIES, 102.

Grenada: 13 obs., 5-6 parties-- 1st time species were Sora, Black-bellied and Semipalmated Plovers and Palm Warbler; 91 Forster's Terns (3X prior high!); 17 spp. waterfowl; 15 Red-br. Nuthatch. TOTAL SPECIES, 109 (+3 in Count Week), equalling previous high species count.

Hattiesburg: # obs., parties?-- 1 Green Heron, 2 White Ibis; 600 Ring-necked Duck, 500 N. Shoveler; 2 Merlin; 1 White-eyed and 2 Solitary Vireos; 831 Am. Goldfinch, a ratio of 97 to 25 on Purple vs. House Finches; total nos. birds up from prior 2 years. TOTAL SPECIES, 107.

Jackson: 20 obs., 7 parties-- 76 Red-breasted Merganser, 64 Pintail (+ CW Redheads); 3 rail spp.; 1 Rufous Hummingbird, one other Selasphorus at same feeder; 484 Cedar Waxwings; "lowlights" were lack of T. Vult., Bobwhite and Brown Creeper, 1 only Pileated. TOTAL SPECIES, 103.

Jackson County: # obs., parties?-- 147 White Pelicans; 21 spp of waterfowl; 7 Am. Oystercatcher, 1 Whimbrel among 18 spp. of shorebirds; 67 Sandhill Crane; 3 Eurasian Collared Dove (1st for Miss. CBC), (CW Wht.-winged Dove); (CW Archilocus hummer); 1 Ash-throated Flycatcher (1st for a Miss. CBC); 2 Barn Swallow; 7 Bachman's Sparrow, among 14 sparrows. TOTAL SPECIES, 153.

Noxubee NWR: 27 obs., 9 parties-- 10 White Pelicans, 1 Tundra Swan, 1252 Green-winged Teal, 4174 Hooded Merganser, 3 Sandhill Cranes; 9 Red-breasted

Nuthatch, 8 Sedge Wren, 10 Solitary Vireo, 1 Lincoln's Sparrow, 82 House Finch. TOTAL SPECIES, 107 (+3 CW).

Sardis Lake: 16 obs., 6-7 parties-- 458 Great Blue Herons; 16 waterfowl; firsts for the count were 1 **Golden Eagle** and 2 Western Sandpiper; 1030 Bonaparte's Gull; 12 Red-breasted Nuthatch; **263** House Finches were 7X prior high in only their 3rd year. TOTAL SPECIES, 105(+2 CW), new high # species.

Southern Hancock Co.: 16 obs., 6-9 parties-- no Wht. Pelicans; 4 *Plegadis* sp.; 20 spp. of waterfowl; 4 rail spp.; 10 only spp. shorebirds; 1 Rufous only hummer; 1 **Connecticut Warbler**; 11 sparrow spp. TOTAL SPECIES, 142.

Vicksburg: 17 obs., 10 parties-- 1 Anhinga; 10 spp waterfowl; 2 Osprey; both Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs; 2 Common Ground-Dove; **1 E. Kingbird**, 1 Vermilion Flycatcher; Lincoln's Sparrow. TOTAL SPECIES, 101, ties prior high count; a "lowlight"--Am. Robins fell from 21,000 in '92 to only 51!

Washington Co. (South): 18 obs., #? parties-- 1 Com. Loon; 1 Bald Eagle; 3 dowitcher sp.; 5 Common Ground-Dove; 1 Vermilion Flycatcher (10th time out of 23 years!); 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch; 1 **Prairie Warbler**; 1 Lark Sparrow; 307 Lapland Longspur. TOTAL SPECIES, 109 (+3 CW), equals prior high # spp.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF MOS: JoRee Pennell reports that the revisions of the Constitution and By-laws were approved unanimously by the membership on the mail ballot. She is hoping to announce appointments to the reconstituted Bird Records Committee by the April MOS meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE EDITOR OF THE MISSISSIPPI KITE: Dr. Jerome Jackson has forwarded a notice to the MOS members that he needs material to fill out the MS Kite issues pending, 1991 through 1993. Consider whether you have some appropriate observations to send him.

SARDIS LAKE EAGLE TALES by Marvin Davis

I. BLOOD AND SAND

Raptor [From Latin, "raptor, plunderer; past participle of raper, to snatch"-- Webster's New World Dictionary]

It was 4:30 on a dark and rainy January afternoon as I arrived and parked my car at the outlet channel of Sardis Dam to scope the area. My attention went to the north beach of Lower Lake 150-200 yards to the west, beyond the channel-mouth. The flock of gulls usually found resting there was absent, having already left for the night to rest on the waters of Sardis Lake. The beach appeared vacant with only two exceptions. One occupant was obviously a Ring-billed Gull. The other, clearly a smaller bird, required a bit of squinting before I could conclude that it was not a Forster's Tern, but only one of numerous Bonaparte's Gulls then present.

My focus had just begun to shift elsewhere from the beach when into my visual field came a large, all-dark form swooping rapidly toward the beach from over the waters of Lower Lake. My instant thought was "immature Bald Eagle--probably coming to check the shoreline for dead fish," as I'd seen them do before. Nonetheless, while my identification was correct, my second analysis quickly proved thoroughly wrong. Rather than gliding in for a landing on the broad sandy beach, the eagle flared abruptly in its rapid glide, and then dropped instantly on one of the hapless gulls that

was its target! Hardly believing what I had seen in that split second, I was further surprised by the eagle's settling into the shallow water a few feet from the beach, below the fateful and fatal spot where its course had intersected with that of the Bonaparte's Gull. I saw that the eagle was standing and *holding its prey under the water* in what seemed a patient, purposeful pose.

After a minute or two of seemingly allowing its prey to succumb by drowning (*as I interpreted, or misinterpreted, it*), the young eagle walked onto the beach with the gull held in one talon. After a brief pause, it lowered its huge beak to begin tearing at the body of its prey. Some wing feathers flew out; it appeared to me, probably in error, that it might have pulled off a wing. Several jabs may have been directed at the neck, or perhaps the chest. Despite there being no sign of cause for disturbance, the huge bird abruptly took flight with the gull in its right talon, and flew directly away from my vantage point. It was soon lost from my sight, although I strained to see where it might alight to eat its bedtime snack.

What I was felt--was a truly scientific, not morbid, curiosity caused me to drive to the nearest approach to the beach, and then to walk along the shoreline of Lower Lake. As I expected, I was able to find a small array of feathers left by the plucking activity of the eagle. Their arrangement made them easily separable from the random array of stray feathers lost by the several hundred gulls using that beach as their daily loafing and digesting spot. In the wet sand were the sharp impressions of the eagle's talons. And midst them was a ruddy stain upon the sand--the victim's blood.

In that brief episode, a rare experience for me, was displayed the full meaning for our calling certain birds "raptors." Capable of efficiently "snatching" and devouring their prey, they are by nature "plunderers," who *must* continually fulfill their carnivorous nature or die. Nevertheless, I couldn't enjoy seeing even a single member of my favorite gull species--the beautiful, delicate little Bonaparte's--becoming a pre-bedtime, quick-food snack for an eagle! Yet, without many more such meals that plain, dark brown first-winter eagle would never survive to become a great black-bodied adult with its strikingly contrasting white head and tail--a sight that I also very much enjoy.

Happily, there is no shortage here of the graceful Bonaparte's Gulls for five months each year; I must not begrudge an occasional one to the eagles to fulfill their destiny. Besides, from the viewpoint of the many fish eaten daily, after their being *snatched* from the water of the outlet channel, the Bonaparte's Gulls do themselves fill the role of seriously carnivorous raptors!

[**Note:** If any reader has witnessed comparable behavior by a raptor--holding a prey under water--the author would appreciate greatly hearing about it.]

II. THE PERILS OF PAULOON

Daylight on Friday faded with Sardis Lake still about 60% open in the first 4 miles above the dam. Further up the lake it was indeed already frozen solid from shore to shore by The Great Freeze of January 1994. We can hardly imagine what it was like that night as the air temperature fell from slightly above the freezing point to 15 degrees below freezing. That was all it took for the remaining surface waters to begin congealing in the curious process of liquid water converting to ice. We can wonder whether (or how) the many waterbirds must have had some realization of their peril if they were to become frozen into that newly-forming ice. At least they

had the light of a first quarter moon to aid their escape from that peril--escape to somewhere--but how to know where to find safety?

The dabbling ducks have the advantage at such times; they can be safe standing on the ice, as their taking flight does not depend on running across the water to gain flying speed. The diving ducks and various other waterbirds are the ones at great risk if they are caught by surprise during such a freeze. If only a small opening should remain at dawning of the new day, they may be trapped by the lack of a sufficient length of watery "runway" to permit a takeoff.

This was the predicament in which I discovered a single Common Loon at 8:30 on a cold January Saturday morning. It was alone in an ice-rimmed opening about 30 feet long by 5-10 feet wide, far out from shore and far up-lake from my observation point at the dam. Its probable loneliness for its own kind was soon accentuated as "company" arrived--unwanted company! Bald Eagles are opportunists--scavenging or capturing their food as circumstances dictate. Early a.m. means hungry eagles are on the prowl like winged tigers, seeking whatever edible items the day might bring them. Thus, soon after sunrise Mr. Loon was being surveyed by a Bald Eagle as a promising breakfast prospect.

Being lazy opportunists, according to Ben Franklin, one eagle's fortune may quickly attract the attention of others who would hope to share, i.e., steal it. Thus, I found five Bald Eagles, soon joined by a sixth, and briefly even a seventh, watching the loon as it swam rapidly about its icy confines. Perhaps that frenetic behavior had been going on for hours; it may have been all that had kept the loon from being held tightly in the clutches of the ice at dawn. While cruising rapidly back-and-forth, the loon made repeated dives beneath the water. At my great distance from the scene I could detect no sign that it was being successful in catching its breakfast, which might be crucial in keeping it from becoming the eagles' breakfast. Several of those dives were especially precipitous, being provoked by an eagle taking a short flight across the open water only a few feet above the surface. Those appeared not to be whole-hearted efforts to attack the loon. I took them to be a testing of the potential prey to see if there were any signs of weakness--to determine whether fatigue might have lowered the loon's alertness and quickness of response to such feints.

Upon several occasions, there was evidence that the gathering of eagles was not all sociable or "chummy." One would raise its wings to flap and jump from the ice in the direction of a nearby eagle, seemingly brandishing its talons at its offending peer. I interpreted such behavior as being intended to communicate to the other bird, "Get away--I saw him first!"

After making further rounds of other nearby observation sites, I returned at 10:00 to recheck the dramatic tableau of loon versus weather and eagles. Nothing had apparently changed in the interim, so I reluctantly left to pursue a survey of two other North Mississippi reservoirs for conditions there. However, curiosity motivated a return again at 2:30 p.m.

There was the loon--still moving steadily, and seemingly too healthy to keep the eagles' attention, none being around "keeping him company." While I watched, it made one attempt to take flight from its confinement, running across the length of the opening, and onto the ice without gaining take-off airspeed! Apparently quite conscious of its vulnerability out of its watery element, the loon immediately turned about and scrambled quickly back to the refuge of the open water. As I headed for home the temperature had risen to nearly 50 degrees, and was not expected to fall below freezing again for a week more. Tomorrow would indeed be warm enough for significant melting and the release of the ice-bound. Adios, Mr. Loon!

MOS NEWSLETTERS
BOUND BACK-ISSUES
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\$20.00

"At the November 1993 MOS meeting, it was suggested that members might be interested in purchasing a bound volume of our historically important MOS Newsletters. The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Library has archival copies on file, and I will be willing to have them reprinted and spiral bound. However, PREPAYMENT WILL BE REQUIRED. Checks must be received at the Museum before I can go to the printer."--Mary Stevens

(Cut here and mail to Mary Stevens)

PRE-PUBLICATION ORDER FORM

To order, please indicate the desired quantity and your name and mailing address on this form. Make checks payable to MOS and send to:

Mary Stevens
Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
111 N. Jefferson Street
Jackson, MS 39202

Please send _____ copy/ies of the MOS NEWSLETTERS, VOL. 1-21, 1956-76 (spiral bound) at a cost of \$20.00 each to:

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ADDRESS: _____

(cut here & mail to Marion Hutto)

REGISTRATION FORM--MOS SPRING MEETING--APRIL 22-24, 1994

Reservations must be received no later than April 12....PLEASE!! So fill this out and mail it **NOW** so you won't forget it, or at least by April 10.

NAME _____ PHONE NO. _____

ADDRESS _____

Please make a reservation for _____ person(s) at \$15.00 each.

Total enclosed: \$ _____

MAKE CHECK OUT TO: MOS

MAIL THIS FORM NO LATER THAN APRIL 10, OR CALL BY APRIL 12, TO:

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All persons interested in Mississippi bird life are invited to join the MOS. Annual dues: Sustaining, \$20; Individual (regular), \$10; Family, \$15; Student, \$5; Senior, \$5; Subscribing, \$10. Life Membership, \$200. All classes of members receive the Mississippi Kite semi-annually, and the MOS Newsletter on a quarterly schedule each season. Please send '94 dues, or address changes, to Treas. Janet Dubuisson, 22410 Glad Acres, Pass Christian, MS 39571.

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FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:

Reports on the winter season and CBCs;
Spring '94 MOS Meeting Plans
Notice: Red dates on mailing label are
your reminder for unpaid dues!