

MISSISSIPPI ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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TV Tower Casualties

"On September 15 I visited the TV tower of WJTV on Robinson Road Extension in Jackson and picked up two sora rails, one yellow-breasted chat, and one red-eyed vireo. Two more chats were identified and the wing of another red-eyed vireo was found.

"On September 26 I saw in my yard (in Jackson) one magnolia warbler, the first seen this fall." Erskine Gandy.

"On November 1 I visited the WJTV tower. The few nights previous had been misty or foggy with low visibility. The following birds were found on the ground about the tower and under the guy lines:

Magnolia warbler - 1
Indigo bunting - 2
Savannah sparrow - 1
Golden-crowned
knight - 2
Long-billed
marsh wren 1
Myrtle warbler - 1
Swamp sparrow - 1. - - W. H. Turcotte.

White-throated Sparrow and Phoebe Arrival Dates:

"On the Sunflower WMA in Sharkey County on October 17 I saw and heard white-throated sparrows and one phoebe, the first of this season." WHT.

Swallow Notes

Aug. 25 - Observed large concentrations of rough wing swallows in Holly Bluff, Miss. (Yazoo County) area congregating on wires and a few barn swallows feeding over hayfields and pastures.

Aug. 29 - Large numbers of rough winged swallows resting in dead trees and feeding over Wolf Lake in Yazoo County. Also, barn swallows in small numbers feeding over lake. WHT.

Nighthawks Flocking

On the Sunflower WMA in Sharkey County while walking through woods about 75 nighthawks were observed flying in a loose flock in a northeasterly direction at an altitude of 200 - 300 feet. I have never before observed nighthawks moving together as a flock. The time was about mid-afternoon on August 25. WHT.

Mississippi Kite

On June 30, 1959 one kite was observed circling low over Strong River in Simpson County near its junction with Pearl River immediately southeast of Georgetown. St. Clair Thompson and John H. Phares.

White Ibis

On July 25, 1959 one immature bird was observed near the mouth of Pelahatchie Creek, Rankin County by Commission employees Joe Sills, Billy Joe Grantham, Robert Wesley and Walter Simmons.

Roseate Spoonbills

On Sep't. 5, 1959 seven birds were observed feeding on mud flats at Round Lake about one and one-fourth miles west of Lake Karnac or near the indeterminate line between Claiborne County, Miss. and Tensas Parish Louisiana. The birds were observed by Mr. Longstreet Minor and a friend while they were being carried on a tour of the Togo Island Hunting Club property and described in considerable detail several days later by Mr. Minor to J. H. Phares. Phares and Erskine Gandy made a trip into the area in an attempt to confirm the observations but were unable to get to Round Lake and did not find anything other than American egrets and a few blue wing teal on water areas in the vicinity.

Swallow-tailed Kite

On September 24, 1959 one bird was observed by Phares about one mile south of the Jackson city limits on Highway 51. The bird was soaring above the highway and after several circles it folded its wings and made a shallow dive to tree-top level at which altitude it continued in lazy circles and gradually drifted out of sight over a wooded area to the west.

Ground Dove

On October 7, 1959 one bird was observed on the edge of a gravel road between Lawrence and Roberts in the southwest corner of Newton County. The bird flew about 75 to 100 feet to a railroad right-of-way paralleling the road and could not be found again. B. C. Johnson and J. H. Phares.

Out-of-state Observations - October 29, 1959

Blackwater National Waterfowl Refuge, Maryland:

On a recent trip to Blackwater Refuge great numbers of Canada Geese, American Brant, Black Ducks, and Whistling Swans were seen. Other large birds seen on the area were Green wing teals, Great blue herons and American Egrets. B. C. Johnson and J. H. Phares.

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