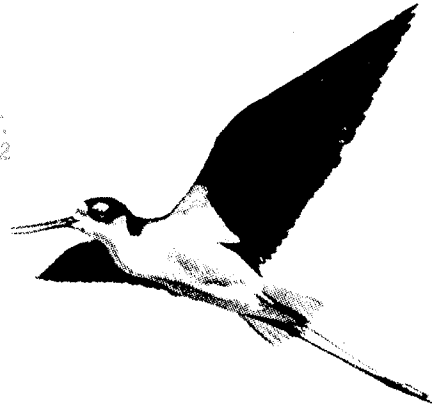

Mississippi
Ornithological
Society
NEWSLETTER

Vol. 43, No. 3
Fall (1 September) 1998

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LOOKING AHEAD:

Fall 1998 M.O.S. Meeting, 25-27 September 1998

MEETING PLACE: Plymouth Bluff Environmental Center, located just west of Columbus on the west bank of one of the few remaining sections of the former Tombigbee River. Southwest of the Stennis Lock & Dam, the environmental center is on Old West Point Road, less than 10 minutes from the Highway 45 & 82 interchange in Columbus. The environmental center has 2 miles of paved, and in excess of 2 miles of unpaved, trails as well as a pavilion for our use.

ACCOMMODATIONS: The Plymouth Bluff Environmental Center has available on-site lodging. Twenty-four cabins are available at \$40.00 per night single, \$50.00 double, and \$60.00 triple. These rooms are comparable to those found at any major hotel chain. All rooms have two beds, cable TV, coffee maker, and telephone wake-up service. Additional lodging is available at numerous hotels in Columbus, most within 10 minutes of the nature center.

PLACES TO EAT: Numerous restaurants and fast-food establishments are also available within 10 minutes of the nature center. Some of these include Ryan's Steakhouse, Barnhill's Country Buffet, the Old Hickory Steak House* and La Fiesta Brava* (* highly recommended). A list and map will be available at the meeting.

AGENDA OF ACTIVITIES:

FRIDAY, SEPT 25:

- 7:00 am Initial Bird Survey for the meeting
- 5:00 pm Registration
- 6:00 pm Social Hour (refreshments and snacks)
- 7:00 pm Welcome and Field Trip Itinerary
- 7:30 pm Members Slide Show

SUNDAY, SEPT 27:

- 6:30 am Breakfast (coffee, juice, danish rolls)
- 6:45 am Posting of preliminary survey list
- 7:00 am Local Bird Surveys (Red-cockaded Woodpeckers at Noxubee NWR)

SATURDAY, SEPT 26:

- 6:30 am Breakfast (coffee, juice, danish, rolls)
- 7:00 am Local Bird Surveys
- 2:00 pm Hummingbird presentation by the Sargents
- 4:00 pm MOS Board Meeting
- 6:30 pm Banquet and Compilation of Saturday's Surveys
- 7:30 pm Program--"*Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Hummingbirds, but Didn't Know Who to Ask*"

BANQUET SPEAKERS: **Bob & Martha Sargent**, Hummingbird Specialists from Birmingham Alabama, will speak on their pioneering work with hummingbirds in the southeastern United States. Widely recognized within their field as hummingbird experts, the Sargents travel over 20,000 miles each fall and winter to document such overwintering hummingbirds. Since 1987, the Sargents have captured, identified and banded more than 500 overwintering hummingbirds, representing 11 of the 16 North American hummingbird species found in the U.S. They have been responsible for the identification and documentation of some 25 first state records. Also, the Sargents are founders and directors of the "**Hummer/Bird Study Group, Inc.**" Each spring and fall the study group hosts a banding station at Fort Morgan Alabama, that annually bands over 5,000 Neotropical migrants, including 150 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. Their banding operation is always open to the public.

BIRD SURVEYS: Bird surveys for the meeting will be to several different locations within Lowndes and Oktibbeha County, including a Sunday morning trip to the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge for the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. MOS members who would like to help with bird surveys on Friday or before, in preparation for the meeting, should contact Keith Kimmerle **prior to September 18th.**

REGISTRATION & RESERVATIONS: If you have not already sent the Registration/Reservation Form from prior issues, it will be necessary to contact by telephone immediately.

DIRECTIONS TO PLYMOUTH BLUFF: Access to the environmental center is via either U.S. Highways 45 or 82. From the Meridian/Starkville highway interchange west of Columbus, proceed north on the two lane road that continues northward from the interchange. If arriving via Highway 82, this exit is prominently marked with signs for "Stennis Lock & Dam West Bank Access Area" next right. After turning/continuing north, take a left at the T-intersection onto Old West Point Road, and the environmental center is about 0.6 mi. on the right. Total distance from the Highway 45/82 interchange is 2.0 mi.

LOCAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Local coordinators:

Dianne Patterson
195 Autumn Trail
Columbus, MS 39701
(601) 327-4777

Keith Kimmerle
128 North Chestnut
Columbus, MS 39701
internet: <progne@ebicom.net>

Meeting reservations:

Mildred Stennis
2300 24th Avenue
Meridian, MS 39301

THE UNIVERSAL LAWS OF BIRDING--These are the basic laws of the universe as they apply to birding, seen on the Internet at: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/jimfrazier/rules.htm>

To suggest new laws, rules or theorems, please E-mail **Jim Frazier** -- jfrazier@elnet.com

SAMPLES: (1) *Sacrificial Lamb Law:* The bird will be seen by others only after you, as the sacrificial lamb, depart. (2) *Theorem of Diminishing Returns:* The longer you look for a bird, the less likely you will find it. (3) *Hoffman's Law:* You may look for a particular bird for 20 years without finding it, but once you DO find it you find them everywhere! They turn up in your driveway, on your porch, EVERYwhere. They suddenly become robin-like in their numbers. (Carolyn Hoffman). (4) *Bangma's Observation* will learn more about the variation in 1st year Herring Gulls in 30 minutes looking for a Thayer's Gull than you will in a lifetime of looking at Herrings (Jim Bangma)

LOOKING BACK: ON SPRING-SUMMER, 1998

WATCHING BIRDS NEAR THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

(at Donaldson Point Hunt Club, Concordia Island [inside the levee], N of Gunnison, Bolivar Co.)

by **Nona Herbert**, Shaw (Choctaw), MS

Recently, J.C. and I have enjoyed retreating together for a while to our "lake home"-- a plain old trailer on stilts at Old River Lake. Our retreat was encouraged by J.C.'s having an eye infection and being ordered by his (Ole Miss alum) physician to take two weeks off, drive only his lawn mower and rest his eyes. We have especially enjoyed looking down on our bird feeders from our screened-in porch. We watched the hummingbirds fight over their three feeders when they first arrived, but now they have settled down to peacefully feeding, each at one. I've looked and looked vainly to find a hummer nest-- not so lucky as formerly at Archer Island.

The Mississippi River's rise only kept us out for two weeks this year; the water never reached the island, but the entry road was cut. We came in by boat to spend one weekend; it was VERY quiet, with few people around. We had a disaster with the Tree Swallows nesting again. When the pair came, they didn't even examine the bluebird houses this time; they came directly to the gourds, choosing the gourd next to the empty space for the one they used last year (that was taken down to preserve the nest). The male was very aggressive toward any Purple Martins alighting on the wire holding the gourds.

Also, a pair of Prothonotary Warblers nested in the gourd next to the swallows. Curiously, it appeared that the female was taking nest material into that gourd while TWO males were taking nest material to two other gourds adjacent to the one she had chosen! The swallows were nesting for two weeks before we had to leave. When we returned, the martins had started bringing mud to all the gourds on a line west of our trailer. And they were MEAN--they would poke their heads half way into the gourds occupied by the swallows and warblers, with the Prothonotary male zapping and buzzing them ferociously. We only saw the swallows a couple of days before they were gone. We also don't know how many warblers fledged. There was a constant in-and-out traffic of the parents feeding young one day, and then by later in the day they were all gone!

The Baltimore Oriole seen out the west window seemed as if it kept up a constant singing in the midst of feeding babies in mid-morning. Then the two babies were strong flyers when they left the nest and were seen in the Angel Trumpet bush and on the ground. Their nest was in a Cottonwood tree, and not far from it was a Hackberry tree that held a nest of Orchard Orioles. That male would often perch on a piece of brush left by the flood, about two feet off the ground, and would sing and sing. With the two species of orioles competing, it was music all the time. The mosquitos have calmed down by the 11th of June; earlier we had hordes to cover us. They were so bad that they would take the can of OFF® spray right out of our hands!

Also visible to us when looking down from our porch 12 feet off the ground is a literal feeding table, which is constantly frequented by a young Red-bellied Woodpecker; evidently we're raising him! Seldom is an adult seen around. When first seen, he had full plumage below his shoulders, but his head was so peculiarly colored. We thought it was going to be a female, but the longer we watch it, the more its gray on the head has turned red. When the sunlight gets really hot, he clings to a table

leg in the shade below the top. He doesn't peck, just looks around, and then surprises the other birds on the top when he creeps back up over the edge.

Down on the lower ground where it was so muddy, all kinds of birds fed--Killdeers, bluebirds, grackles, redwings, cardinals, woodpeckers and cowbirds. One day I saw a Yellow-billed Cuckoo sitting and feeding low to the ground on a broken, rotten limb. He would bend over toward the ground with his tail way up in the air. All of a sudden, a Fox Squirrel came running by on the ground; it scared the cuckoo so much, it nearly fell head-over-heels off its perch, and its fluttering scared the squirrel, which seemingly hadn't noticed the cuckoo. He sped off like a red blur fleeing to the closest tree--must have thought the cuckoo was a raptor!

We have never seen so many martins on the ground before. J.C. has made two sets of gourds, 16 to each pole hanging from crossed arms. Back in the spring, they would sit on the ground in the sun to get warm. At home at Choctaw we seldom see them on the ground. A martin colony is a constant sea of activity and noise. Before the lake rose with the river, the martins were preparing to nest, the females would go to find mud. Her mate would fly with her, sit on the ground watching her get a beakful of mud, then would escort her back to the selected gourd and sit on the bar above and twitter to his fellow males, who were doing the same thing. It was rather amusing to observe and wonder what the conversation was all about.

I think that I told you last year about the Eastern Kingbird building a nest in a bare shrub out in the lake. I had never seen a kingbird build in the open before. The same couple came back and she's sitting on the same refurbished nest. Fishermen come close to her shrub, but she lies flat on the nest and doesn't seem to be bothered when they are close.

One thing I wrote for was to tell about Scissor-tailed Flycatchers near the Mississippi River. They are rather common there after a big storm from the west. Almost always after a storm, when riding the levee, we would see them on Archer Island and on the levee from Winterville. During spring migration, we would see them from MS 1 at Scott to the levee, along the pasture fence. This year on the 9 May N. Am. Migration Count day, J.C. and I saw one near Beulah. It was a female with some kingbirds seen as we rode the levee tallying kingbirds or whatever. It was so exciting to me that I couldn't get out the name of the bird! We seldom see a scissor-tail more than one day. I guess when the weather settles they fly back to Arkansas.

The Bald Eagle nest that I'm monitoring at Lake Bolivar County has two eaglets this year. On the first nesting there two years ago, they raised only one eaglet. I went by the nest a few days ago and saw that very few limbs except in the cup are still there. The eaglets are now practicing flapping their wings; they go out on a limb of the nest tree where the adults usually sit. The adults never make any effort to repair the nest except at the first of the year, as they did in January to begin nesting. That's the last time I've seen them carrying a stick. The lake was closed the first two years that they came, but this year it was opened after the eaglets hatched. I notice the fishermen getting closer and closer to the nest tree. The adults take off. There was less hanging around the nest tree this time. The eaglets had to learn quickly to feed them-selves. Food is always left in the nest; it must be pretty smelly and bad, attracting the many flies seen. (12 June 1998)

A BIRD ATLAS EXPERIENCE

by Terri Jacobson, Pocahontas
(terri_jacobson@mail.fws.gov)

I really enjoy working on a bird atlas block (my third one). It gives you a chance to do more relaxed birding and to become more familiar with an area and its birds (plus it helped me to learn bird songs and calls). I had a total of 71 species found on this summer's atlas block with confirmed breeding (found nest or saw fledglings) of 20 species and probable breeding (pairs or territory) for 22 species. On my "miniroute" (similar to a BBS route but much shorter) I had 47 species.

On my first real birding day (after a scouting trip) I said a prayer asking for help to find some bird nests. I parked my vehicle, got out and started to walk down a rural road. Looking up at an overhanging branch, I spotted a female Ruby-throated Hummingbird building a nest. WOW! My 1st confirmed breeding bird!! Now, if that doesn't get you hooked on atlas work, I don't know what will.

Further down the road, I found a dead (run over) fledgling Blue Jay; saw a pair of Wood Ducks by a nestbox; watched a pair of Great Crested Flycatchers check out 2 possible nesting holes in a telephone pole; I found a pair of Blue Grosbeaks; and observed a pair of Barn Swallows building a nest on a very nice lady's porch. And 2 days later, I found an active Eastern Kingbirds' nest in a tall sweetgum tree and then saw fledgling Eastern Bluebirds begging for food. In all, I enjoyed my atlas work (but it did get mighty HOT out there this summer!).

And now I am sad that the neotropicals are leaving us. "My" male Summer Tanager has recently stopped singing in my yard. He sang so much everyday it was starting to get on my nerves, but now I miss hearing him. Such is life. (18 August 1998)

GREAT-CRESTED FLYCATCHER: MORE MYSTERY ABOUT DUMP-NESTING

by William H Turcotte, Richland

In May and June of 1995, I reported "dump-nesting" and a double brood of young that fledged 8 days apart from the same nest box (MOS Newsletter, vol. 40, No.3) of a pair of Great-crested Flycatchers. In 1996 one pair occupied a martin gourd and raised a brood. In 1997 two pairs of Great-crested Flycatchers occupied two plastic gourds on opposite sides of our martin gourd-pole, and both pairs fledged young without any apparent conflict.

On May 11-12, 1998 I watched a pair of Great-crested Flycatchers carrying nest material and building their nest in a large gourd on a trumpet vine trellis and pole with martin gourds. During the incubation period I did not disturb the nest but saw the adult enter or leave the nest several times. During early stages of incubation, another pair of flycatchers appeared; both male and female of the original pair were seen trying to drive away the new pair from the nest gourd and surrounding area.

On June 7 I observed what I thought to be both adults feeding young in the large nest gourd. On the following evening I watched the pair feeding young and discovered that both adults were carrying food and entering each of two adjacent gourds--the large nest gourd and a much smaller one near to

it (only 1-2 inches away). I thought this rather strange behavior, so I continued to watch the feeding, apparently by the same pair, in a like manner on the next day.

On June 18 the young in the large gourd fledged and I distinctly heard the calls of at least three fledglings in a nearby pine tree and a crepe myrtle for the time I was working in the garden and later in the day. On June 23 I reached up to the large gourd nest and, since it was cracked open, pulled out the front and emptied the nest onto the ground. It consisted of the usual trash and hair from a dead cat that I had thrown in our back pasture. At the same time, when I started to remove the adjacent small gourd, which was also cracked, a feathered but not yet mature fledgling jumped out onto the ground. There was *no nest material of any kind* in the empty gourd. I replaced the young bird in the gourd; two days later it had left the gourd. We had no rainfall during the incubation period, and daytime temperatures had highs in the 90s F and lows in the 70s.

Were the egg(s) in the second gourd incubated by the original pair? By the female of the second pair? Or, could the egg have hatched with no incubation at all, considering the high temperatures? Whatever the reason, it appears that Great-crested Flycatchers are experiencing trouble the same as other cavity nesters that may be a root cause for "dump-nesting."

SAMPLES FROM THE FIELD

Surely you have identified the "masthead species" on the front page as the **Black-necked Stilt**. This was chosen because of this summer's June to August records of these Stilts in northern counties of the Mississippi Delta--especially those from Tallahatchie NWR's Black Bayou Unit that includes the former catfish ponds 5 miles south of Crowder. Not only were there many occurrence dates of this species this summer, with a high maximum of **40** on 8 July, but also there was a *1st local nesting record*. Four eggs were found by Fred Broerman, USFWS biologist, and G. and S. Knight on 5 July, but had disappeared a few days later. The pattern of dates and numbers of Stilts present a puzzling picture of the species' status, considering that only one pair seemed to have actually been nesting.

The shorebird migration records proved again that active observation at good habitat leaves little gap between the last northbound migrants and the (apparent) first southbound ones. The gap for **Lesser Yellowlegs**, for example, was merely between 6 June and 23 June! Similarly, the small gap for **Least Sandpipers** was only between 12 June and 3 July. A remarkable late date for so large a number was the **225 Semipalmated Sandpipers** on 5 June at Black Bayou (BB).

On the contrary, northward post-breeding movement by the long-legged waders--storks, ibises and herons--has been of interest. St. Catherine's NWR near Natchez has again attracted many hundreds of **Wood Storks**, plus **13 Roseate Spoonbills** and 1,000 Great Egrets. Much farther NE, Noxubee NWR had ca. 400 storks and a lone spoonbill in early August. A single stork was sighted several times at BB, along with one **Tricolored Heron** and up to 550 Great Egrets. A **White-faced Ibis** there on 11 July was remarkable, especially for so early a date. In Issaquena Co., ca. 150 Wood Storks were spotted in mid-August by a birder just traveling through. White Ibises made a good normal post-breeding dispersal, mostly of immature birds, with a maximum of 26 at BB in mid-July.

On the landbird scene, the only real excitement was for a quite prolific pair of **Gray Kingbirds**

that Keith Kimmerle found on 23 July at easternmost Biloxi, just off US 90. This pair had apparently fledged four juveniles from a nearby nesting site on the Mississippi mainland. Prior recorded nests had been found only on Horn Island. Online updates to MISSBIRD and LABIRD, e-mail birding newlines, by Stacy Peterson of Biloxi kept birders from both Mississippi and Louisiana encouraged so that many managed to list the Gray Kingbird as Lifer, State First or at least a special Year Bird. If you managed to miss out on **all** of these good happenings--very sorry, and get active next summer! And you might also wish to join in the atlasing enjoyment that Terri has shared with us above.

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY, SHOREBIRD MIGRATION EVENT,
ST. CATHERINE CREEK NWR -- by Mary Stevens, Jackson**

Twenty folks enjoyed his event near Natchez, again proving that St Catherine's National Wildlife Refuge is a great hot spot for shorebird and waterbird migrants. The staff at the Refuge is not only very cooperative but also quite interested in nonconsumptive activities. Shorebird migration reaches a peak in about mid-August; thus, the annual IMBD Shorebird Migration Event sponsored by Partners in Flight, Jackson Audubon Society and the Refuge on August 15th was a great success, as can be seen by the list that follows. Nearly 14,000 birds were seen! Join us next year!! -- M. S.

Pied-billed Grebe 2	Greater Yellowlegs ++	Fish Crow x
Anhinga 35 (w/ nestlings)	Lesser Yellowlegs ++	Carolina Chickadee 1
Am. White Pelican 500	Solitary Sandpiper 1	Tufted Titmouse 1
Double-cr. Cormorant 75	Spotted Sandpiper 45	Carolina Wren 1
Great Blue Heron 7	Pectoral Sandpiper 15+	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 1
Great Egret 1,000	Semipalmated Sand. 6+	Eastern Bluebird 5
Snowy Egret 30	Least Sandpiper 1,000	Northern Mockingbird 1
Little Blue Heron 300	Western Sandpiper 3	Brown Thrasher 1
Tricolored Heron 6	dowitcher, sp. 4	Loggerhead Shrike 1
Cattle Egret 5,000	Least Tern 10	White-eyed Vireo 1
Green Heron 2	Black Tern 6	Yellow-throated Vireo 1
Yel.-crn. Night-Heron 1	Mourning Dove 2	Red-eyed Vireo 1
Roseate Spoonbill 13	Yellow-billed Cuckoo 4	Yellow Warbler 1
White Ibis 3,000	Ruby-thr. Hummingbird 2	Prothonotary Warbler 1
dark (<i>plegadis</i>) ibis 8	Belted Kingfisher 1	Kentucky Warbler 1
Wood Stork 1,000	Red-head. Woodpecker 2	Common Yellowthroat 1
Wood Duck 5	Red-bellied Woodpecker 1	Hooded Warbler 1
Mallard 15	Downy Woodpecker x	Northern Cardinal 1
Mottled Duck 3	Pileated Woodpecker 2	Blue Grosbeak 2
Blue-winged Teal 15	Eastern Wood-Pewee 1	Indigo Bunting 1
Black Vulture 75	Acadian Flycatcher 1	Dickcissel 1
Turkey Vulture ++	Great-crested Flycatcher 1	Eastern Towhee 1
Mississippi Kite 15	Eastern Kingbird 3	Field Sparrow 1
Red-tailed Hawk 2	Purple Martin 3	Red-winged Blackbird x
Wild Turkey 1	N. Rough-wing. Swallow 1	Eastern Meadowlark x
Killdeer 200	Barn Swallow +++	Brn-headed Cowbird 25
Semipalmated Plover 15	Blue Jay x	Orchard Oriole 1
Black-necked Stilts 300	Am. Crow x	

1998 MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST LEAST TERN REPORT

by Janet T. Dubuisson <JAND@prodigy.net>

August 24, 1998

As our Least Terns anticipate migration soon (can it be that time already?), I'd like to bring everyone up to date on this years nesting. At the time of the May newsletter, we were putting out stakes to mark the nests and things were getting into full swing. Charlie Brenke headed the group doing this work marking the nests. He reports that there were 1802 stakes put out in the Gulfport Sanctuary and 150 were used to mark nests in a new colony in front of the Seashore Methodist Assembly. Luckily, we had a dry late Spring and early Summer, which worked out great for the Little Guys. I did my census on June 23rd, with the help of biologist Stacy Peterson from Biloxi (Thanks, Stacy!) and Patsi Spinks. Our numbers were as follows:

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly--6 nests	Gulfport Sanctuary (West Section)--1107 nests
Henderson Point--100 nests	Gulfport Sanctuary (East Section)--520 nests
Pass Christian Sanctuary--0 nests	Seashore Methodist Assembly--133 nests

This comes to a total of 1866 nests, or pairs, counted. Although this total is down considerably from 1997, there are several factors involved that could explain some of the difference. The first is the fact that this year's census was done ten days later than the one last year. This, plus the fact that we had a lot of rain early in the nesting season last year, would make the numbers seem down if the chicks had fledged earlier this year. (We count birds on nests or tending recently-hatched young. It is hard to count an adult caring for a mobile chick.) I have discussed this theory with Judy Toups and Jerry Jackson, our tern experts, and they agree this could explain the lower numbers. The general consensus is that the numbers of birds were essentially stable this year compared to 1997. A lot of rain early in the nesting season means many of the birds have to renest as many eggs are washed away. In the future, we will try to do the census when the primary nesting stage is eggs rather than chicks, so that the figures from one year to the next can be compared more accurately.

We have had wonderful cooperation from the Harrison County Board of Supervisors and, most especially, the Sand Beach Department. They worked closely with us and responded to our requests, leaving work on another project to put up rope barriers and signs on short notice to protect the birds during Memorial Day weekend. The Board agreed to hire off duty Harrison County deputies to patrol the Gulfport Sanctuary over the 4th of July weekend. We had an additional setback when an out-of-control car drove through the observation deck, destroying our education sign and the railing. However, Chuck Loftis with the Sand Beach Dept. says they have received an insurance check for the damage and hope to have everything repaired by early September.

In other terns (I couldn't resist!) of events, the Bureau of Marine Resources approved a resolution by the Harrison County Board of Supervisors to declare the areas of the Mississippi Sound adjacent to the Sanctuaries as a "No Wake Zone." This passed without opposition on June 16, 1998. We hope to have buoys placed in these areas next summer mainly to keep the Jet Skis from disturbing the waters that the terns use for fishing.

All in all, it has been a very busy season, and I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish. We can only hope that if we remain vigilant and involved, we can keep the population from dropping any further and possibly even turn the numbers around.

Bird Records Comm. Lists & Forms: Please note, on p. 10, lists of species for which submission of field data is especially desirable. PLEASE USE Rare Bird Report Form and Cards, which are available from T. Schiefer.

REVIEW LIST SPECIES: All sightings of the following species require full details that will be reviewed by the MOS Bird Records Committee (please complete the Rare Bird Documentation Form):

Pacific Loon	Ruff	Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
Red-necked Grebe	Red-necked Phalarope	Cassin's Kingbird
Western Grebe	Red Phalarope	Gray Kingbird
Sooty Shearwater	Pomarine Jaeger	Cave Swallow
Audubon's Shearwater	Parasitic Jaeger	Mountain Bluebird
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	Little Gull	Townsend's Solitaire
Masked Booby	Common Black-headed Gull	Citrine Wagtail
Great Cormorant	California Gull	Sprague's Pipit
Neotropic Cormorant	Thayer's Gull	Bell's Vireo
Glossy Ibis	Lesser Black-backed Gull	Black-capped Vireo
White-faced Ibis	Slaty-backed Gull	Black-whiskered Vireo
Roseate Spoonbill	Glaucous Gull	Bachman's Warbler
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Great Black-backed Gull	Tropical Parula
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Black-legged Kittiwake	Black-throated Gray Warbler
Tundra Swan	Sabine's Gull	Townsend's Warbler
Trumpeter Swan	Roseate Tern	Connecticut Warbler
Brant	Bridled Tern	Painted Redstart
Cinnamon Teal	Sooty Tern	Western Tanager
Eurasian Wigeon	Brown Noddy	Black-headed Grosbeak
King Eider	Band-tailed Pigeon	Lazuli Bunting
Common Merganser	Snowy Owl	Green-tailed Towhee
White-tailed Kite	Burrowing Owl	Spotted Towhee
Northern Goshawk	Long-eared Owl	American Tree Sparrow
Harris' Hawk	Northern Saw-whet Owl	Lark Bunting
Swainson's Hawk	White-eared Hummingbird	Harris' Sparrow
Ferruginous Hawk	Anna's Hummingbird	McCown's Longspur
Rough-legged Hawk	Calliope Hummingbird	Smith's Longspur
Crested Caracara	Broad-tailed Hummingbird	Chestnut-collared Longspur
Prairie Falcon	Allen's Hummingbird	Snow Bunting
Yellow Rail	Ivory-billed Woodpecker	Western Meadowlark
Black Rail	Western Wood-Pewee	Shiny Cowbird
Limpkin	Alder Flycatcher	Erized Cowbird
Mountain Plover	Willow Flycatcher	Bullock's Oriole
Hudsonian Godwit	Say's Phoebe	Red Crossbill
Purple Sandpiper	Ash-throated Flycatcher	Any species new to Mississippi

OTHER RARE OR UNCOMMON BIRDS: MOS solicits reports of all sightings of the following species whose status in Mississippi is poorly documented (please use an MOS Bird Record Card). Distinguishing features seen should be noted for species that are easily misidentified.

<u>Statewide</u>	Rufous Hummingbird	<u>Inland Only</u>
Red-throated Loon	Olive-sided Flycatcher	King Rail
American Bittern	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Virginia Rail
Least Bittern	Least Flycatcher	Sora
Wood Stork	Vermillion Flycatcher	Purple Gallinule
Ross' Goose	Western Kingbird	Common Moorhen
Oldsquaw	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Sandhill Crane
Black Scoter	Bewick's Wren	Black-necked Stilt
Surf Scoter	Golden-winged Warbler	American Avocet
White-winged Scoter	Nashville Warbler	Willet
Am. Swallow-tailed Kite	Cape May Warbler	Whimbrel
Golden Eagle	Black-throated Blue Warbler	Ruddy Turnstone
Snowy Plover	Cerulean Warbler	Red Knot
Piping Plover	Mourning Warbler	Wilson's Phalarope
Upland Sandpiper	Wilson's Warbler	Laughing Gull
Long-billed Curlew	Painted Bunting	Franklin's Gull
Marbled Godwit	Clay-colored Sparrow	Least Tern
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Lark Sparrow	White-winged Dove
Common Tern	Grasshopper Sparrow	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	Henslow's Sparrow	<u>Coastal Only</u>
Common Ground-Dove	LeConte's Sparrow	American Black Duck
Black-billed Cuckoo	Sharp-tailed Sparrow	Horned Lark
Groove-billed Ani	Lincoln's Sparrow	White-breasted Nuthatch
Short-eared Owl	Yellow-headed Blackbird	Winter Wren
Buff-bellied Hummingbird	Evening Grosbeak	Lapland Longspur
Black-chinned Hummingbird		

Mississippi Ornithological Society Rare Bird Documentation Form

1. Species _____ 2. No. of birds _____
3. Age _____ 4. Sex _____ 5. Date observed _____ 6. Hour _____
7. Duration of observation _____ 8. Sky _____
9. Exact location (include county) _____

10. Habitat _____ 11. Distance from bird _____
12. Optical equipment used _____
13. Relationship of sun/observer/bird _____

14. Others with you who saw the bird...

Name	Address	Phone

15. Others who have independently identified the bird...

Name	Address	Phone

16. Anyone who disagreed with this ID? _____
17. Vocalizations _____
18. Behavior _____

19. Describe in detail the features YOU noted. Attach drawings made during observation. Were features noted before ___ or after ___ consulting field guides? _____

20. What similar species did you consider? _____
21. Why did you eliminate them? _____

22. Previous experience with this species _____
23. Did you identify the bird prior to consulting field guides? _____
24. List additional materials submitted (photos, tapes, etc.) _____

25. _____

Name	Address	Phone

26. _____

Signature	Date

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Organized 30 April 1955

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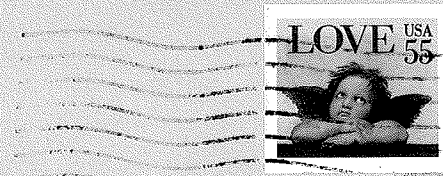
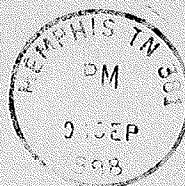
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