
Mississippi Ornithological Society



Volume 54 Number 1

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2009

**2009 MOS SPRING MEETING
April 24-26
STARKVILLE/NOXUBEE NWR**

The spring meeting is being hosted by the Oktibbeha Audubon Society and MOS members in the Starkville-Columbus area. The Friday night meeting will be held in one of the meeting rooms at the Holiday Inn Express in Starkville (see directions below). The Saturday evening banquet will actually be a picnic under a pavilion at Noxubee Refuge (in the back part of the residential area - directions will be given at the Friday night meeting). Advance reservations will be required because the picnic will be catered and we will need to know the number attending two weeks ahead of time. There will be plenty of BBQ chicken and pork with all of the trimmings catered by the same group that served the banquet back in the fall of 2006 that everyone enjoyed so much. Please fill out the registration form on the last page and mail it, along with your registration and banquet fees, to Jan Dubuisson in time to reach her no later than April 10.

ACCOMMODATIONS - A block of rooms under the name of MOS has been reserved at the following hotel, but will be held only until April 3 (advance reservations are recommended because of limited availability and better rates):

Holiday Inn Express - 110-B Hwy. 12 West (behind Ruby Tuesday Restaurant) - 662-324-0076

Rooms available: Double Queens - \$89 plus 9% tax, total of \$97.01

DIRECTIONS: Driving east on Hwy. 82 from Winona, take Hwy. 25 South exit, then Hwy. 12 exit. Go east on Hwy. 12 through several lights to intersection of Hwy. 12 and Old Hwy. 25/Louisville Street (Walgreens); then continue on Hwy. 12 east and watch for Piggly Wiggly, then Ruby Tuesday Restaurant on your left. Hotel is behind Ruby Tuesday. Driving west on Hwy. 82 from Columbus or Hwy. 45, take Hwy. 12 exit. Go south, then west on Hwy. 12 until you come to the intersection of Hwy. 12 and Jackson Street (Wendy's); then continue west and turn in at Ruby Tuesday on your right just past Wendy's. Coming from Jackson north on Hwy. 25, take the Hwy. 12 exit and continue with directions given above driving east on Hwy. 12.

FRIDAY EVENING – APRIL 24

- 6:00-7:00 p.m. Holiday Inn Express meeting room, Starkville (see directions above) - Social Hour – light refreshments - discussion of Saturday and Sunday field trips
7:00-8:00 p.m. Program: Jan Dubuisson – Least Terns on the Mississippi Coast
8:00 p.m. Board Meeting

SATURDAY – APRIL 25

- 7:00 a.m. Field trips - All field trips will meet in the back parking lot of the Holiday Inn Express (there are no places to eat near the refuge, so bring your lunch or snacks)
7:00 p.m. Picnic at Noxubee NWR, Species Tally and bird sightings reports
11:00 am-2:00 pm Pontoon boat trip on the Tombigbee Waterway leaving from Plymouth Bluff- **FREE**- Only 16 seats-1st come, 1st serve. Check slot on Registration Page if interested.

SUNDAY – APRIL 26

- 7:00 a.m. Field trips - meet in the back parking lot of the Holiday Inn Express

MOS OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Sarajane Smith
VICE-PRESIDENT: Nancy Madden
SECRETARY: Martha Swan
TREASURER: Jan Dubuisson
PAST PRESIDENT: Bill McGehee
MISSISSIPPI KITE EDITORS: Margaret Copeland, Marion Schiefer, and Nick Winstead
MOS NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Gene and Shannon Knight

MOS ON THE WEB

MISSBIRD@olemiss.edu
www.msstate.edu/org/mos

ATTENTION ALL MOS MEMBERS
ELECTRONIC MOS NEWSLETTER

In order to cut down on our printing and mailing costs of the Newsletter, we are asking any of you who would be willing to receive your Newsletter by email to please contact us at:
gsknight@dixie-net.com
Thanks for your help

MOS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

RENEWAL _____ NEW MEMBER _____

DUES:

___ Individual \$15 yr.
___ Family \$25 yr.
___ Student/Senior Citizen \$10 yr.
___ Subscribing (Libraries) \$15 yr.
___ Sustaining \$30 yr.
___ Life \$300 yr.

DUES ARE DUE

And payable in January of each year. Send check to: Jan Dubuisson, 22410 Glad Acres, Pass Christian, MS 39571

President's Corner

By Sarajane Smith
MOS President

I want to thank M.O.S. for electing me as president and also thank Bill McGehee for serving as president before me. Bill served M.O.S. with great dedication.

I have enjoyed belonging to M.O.S. and always look forward to our biannual meetings. It has been great making new friendships and birding with some of Mississippi's greatest birders.

In 1991 I began birding with the Mississippi Gulf Coast Audubon Society and later joined Judy Toup's birding classes. From then on I have been hooked on birding.

My husband Jack and I have birded most of the fifty states but my favorite place to bird is the eighty acres we live on in Saucier.

I am looking forward to serving as president. All suggestions would be appreciated. Please come and join us in Starkville for the Spring Meeting.

Submitting Articles For the MOS Newsletter

The MOS Newsletter is published biannually to inform members of upcoming meetings and birding events. The editors invite you to participate by submitting articles for possible publication in the newsletter. Some suggestions for articles might be:

- *Birding trips—in-state, out-of-state, or out-of-country
- * Life bird experiences
- *Bird locales
- * Special birding events
- *Any interesting story about birds or bird behavior

Please submit neatly handwritten or typed articles, not to exceed two single-spaced typed pages. You may contribute as many articles as you would like. Articles may be sent in any time of the year, but if you would like it to appear in a specific issue then it must be sent in on the following deadline dates.

Summer Issue - June 30
Spring Issue - December 31

Please mail or e-mail your articles to: Gene and Shannon Knight, 79 Hwy 9W, Oxford, MS 38655
662-236-2413 or gsknight@dixie-net.com

**Minutes of the MOS Board and Business Meetings
October 3-4, 2008**

In the absence of President Bill McGehee, the MOS Board Meeting was called to order by Vice-President Sarajane Smith. Also present were Marion Schiefer, Frances Henne, Jan Dubuisson and Gene and Shannon Knight.

The possible place and date for the 2009 spring meeting was discussed. Wall Doxey State Park was suggested and Valerie Smith as the possible speaker.

KITE Co-Editor Marion Schiefer stated that the bill to print 50 copies of the KITE was presented to Treasurer Jan Dubuisson for payment. She also announced that two issues of the KITE will be distributed to members at the business meeting.

Aspects of the officer's duties were discussed. It was proposed to have a notebook for the Board Meeting minutes or just print the minutes in the newsletter along with the business meeting minutes so that a consistent record of the Board meetings is maintained.

The Business Meeting of the MOS was called to order by Vice-President Sarajane Smith. The Secretary's minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as written. The Treasurer's report was given by Jan Dubuisson. It was approved as read.

Terry Schiefer, Nominating Committee Chairman, presented the slate of officers as follows: President – Sarajane Smith; Vice-President – Nancy Madden; Secretary – Martha Swan; Treasurer – Jan Dubuisson. There were no nominations from the floor. The new slate of officers was accepted by acclamation.

The Vice-President announced that the suggested place for the MOS spring meeting was Wall Doxey State Park the last weekend in February, 2009. Another state park was suggested since we had recently been to Wall Doxey. Plans will be finalized later.

Two issues of the KITE were distributed.

Ron Blackwell was the speaker for the evening. He writes a weekly column on birding for the Biloxi/Gulfport Sun Herald and the Hattiesburg American newspapers. He is an author, storyteller, and bird tour guide. He spoke on "Birding in South Mississippi."

The species tally for the weekend was 127.

Submitted by Frances Henne,
MOS Secretary

KITE EDITORS SOLICIT ARTICLES

The KITE editors need articles for inclusion in the Mississippi Kite. The articles could be about bird sightings or studies from previous years if the information has never been published. These articles could also be about any bird sighting or bird study that would advance the study of birdlife in the state of Mississippi. Submission of articles describing species occurrence and distribution, descriptions of behaviors, notes on the identification of Mississippi birds, as well as scientific studies from all fields of ornithology are encouraged.

All articles should be submitted to Marion Schiefer, P. O. Box 1505, Starkville, MS 39760-1505, or via e-mail to Marion at marion_schiefer@hotmail.com. For more information about the format of articles, please see the MOS website at <http://www.msstate.edu/org/mos/Officers.htm> and click on the link [information for authors](#).

MOS Fall 2008 Meeting Species List

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Sanderling	Carolina Wren
Canada Goose	Semipalmated Sandpiper	House Wren
Mottled Duck	Least Sandpiper	Marsh Wren
Blue-winged Teal	Pectoral Sandpiper	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Northern Shoveler	Dunlin	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Green-winged Teal	Stilt Sandpiper	Eastern Bluebird
Pied-billed Grebe	Dowitcher sp.	Wood Thrush
Eared Grebe	Wilson's Snipe	Gray Catbird
Brown Pelican	Wilson's Phalarope	Northern Mockingbird
Double-crested Cormorant	Laughing Gull	Brown Thrasher
Anhinga	Ring-billed Gull	European Starling
Great Blue Heron	Herring Gull	Tennessee Warbler
Great Egret	Caspian Tern	Yellow Warbler
Snowy Egret	Forster's Tern	Magnolia Warbler
Little Blue Heron	Royal Tern	Black-throated Green Warbler
Tricolored Heron	Sandwich Tern	Yellow-throated Warbler
Cattle Egret	Black Skimmer	Pine Warbler
Black-crowned Night-Heron	Rock Pigeon	Prairie Warbler
Black Vulture	Eurasian Collared-Dove	Palm Warbler
Turkey Vulture	White-winged Dove	American Redstart
Osprey	Mourning Dove	Northern Waterthrush
Bald Eagle	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Common Yellowthroat
Northern Harrier	Great Horned Owl	Hooded Warbler
Cooper's Hawk	Chimney Swift	Wilson's Warbler
Red-shouldered Hawk	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Summer Tanager
Red-tailed Hawk	Belted Kingfisher	Eastern Towhee
Merlin	Red-headed Woodpecker	Chipping Sparrow
Peregrine Falcon	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Swamp Sparrow
Clapper Rail	Downy Woodpecker	Northern Cardinal
Virginia Rail	Northern Flicker	Blue Grosbeak
Sora	Pileated Woodpecker	Indigo Bunting
American Coot	Willow/Alder Flycatcher	Dickcissel
Sandhill Crane	Eastern Phoebe	Red-winged Blackbird
Black-bellied Plover	Loggerhead Shrike	Common Grackle
Semipalmated Plover	White-eyed Vireo	Boat-tailed Grackle
Killdeer	Blue Jay	Brown-headed Cowbird
American Oystercatcher	American Crow	House Finch
Black-necked Stilt	Fish Crow	House Sparrow
Spotted Sandpiper	Tree Swallow	Total species-127
Greater Yellowlegs	N. Rough-winged Swallow	
Willet	Barn Swallow	
Lesser Yellowlegs	Carolina Chickadee	
Marbled Godwit	Tufted Titmouse	
Ruddy Turnstone	Brown-headed Nuthatch	

MISSISSIPPI BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Gene Knight
Mississippi Bird Records Committee Chair
79 Hwy 9W
Oxford, MS 38655
gsknight@dixie-net.com

This is a report on the activity of the Bird Records Committee of the Mississippi Ornithological Society. The MBRC has not functioned since 2004 and was rejuvenated in early 2008 with a new Chair and additional Members. Current Members are: Philip Barbour, Ned Boyajian, Stephen Dinsmore, Gene Knight, and Nick Winstead. The committee has voted on dozens of Review Species since February 2008. At our annual meeting held in February 2009 at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science in Jackson the MBRC made amendments to the MBRC Bylaws, reviewed and amended the Review Species List and voted on more than 25 photographic records. I am taking this opportunity to allow MOS Members to see that we are working hard to catch up with the backlog of un-reviewed records. Thanks to these MBRC Members for their dedication and to Wayne Patterson, a non-Member, for his technical assistance. Below are the results of our voting prior to the annual meeting and are broken into accepted, still under review, and not accepted categories. The MBRC record number, species name, date of sighting, and the county where the sighting took place are listed below.

Records ACCEPTED on 1st circulation:

96-17 Black-legged Kittiwake, 11-12 Dec. 1995, Noxubee Co.
96-17 C. Merganser, 19 Dec. 1995- 23 Feb. 1996, Panola Co.
96-21 C. Merganser, 22 Dec. 1995, Grenada Co.
97-9 Roseate Spoonbill, 17-28 August 1996, Adams Co.
97-12 Little Gull, 22 Oct. 1996, Yalobusha Co.
97-13 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 15-26 Oct. 1996, DeSoto and Tate Cos.
97-16 Red Crossbill, 12 Nov. 1996, Lafayette Co.
97-23 Willow Flycatcher, 21 July- 11 August 1996, Tallahatchie Co.
97-24 Glossy Ibis, 31 August 1996, Tallahatchie Co.
97-25 White-faced Ibis, 31 August 1996, Tallahatchie Co.
97-26 Roseate Spoonbill, 18 August- 18 Nov. 1996, Noxubee Co.
97-27 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 18-24 Oct. 1996, Lafayette Co.
97-32 Western Grebe, 21 Dec. 1996, Panola Co.
97-33 Tundra Swan, 11-13 Jan. 1997, Lafayette Co.
97-34 Northern Goshawk, 21 Dec. 1996, Lafayette Co.
97-35 Prairie Falcon, 16 Feb. 1997, Yalobusha Co.
97-36 Little Gull, 19 Jan. 1997, Grenada Co.
97-38 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 12 Jan. 1997, Tate Co.
97-39 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 19 Jan. 1997, Yalobusha Co.
97-40 Black-legged Kittiwake, 16 Dec. 1996, Oktibbeha Co.
00-26 Long-tailed Jaeger, 9-10 Sep. 2000, Yalobusha Co.
04-60 Lesser Nighthawk, 28-30 Oct. 2004, Hancock Co.
04-69 Thayer's Gull, 24-25 Oct. 2004, Jackson Co.
05-6 California Gull, 15-30 Jan. 2005, Tunica Co.
05-9 Ruddy Ground-Dove, 14-20 Dec. 2004, Bolivar Co.
06-6 White-crowned Pigeon, 29 April-10 May 2006, Jackson Co.

06-14 Rock Wren, 15 Oct. 2006- 17 March 2007, Yalobusha Co.
07-3 Red-necked Grebe, 11-16 Feb. 2007, Yalobusha Co.
07-9 Willow Flycatcher, 5 May 2007, Hancock Co.
07-10 Pacific Loon, 2 March 2007, Tishomingo Co.
07-16 Swainson's Hawk, 7 Nov. 2007, Hancock Co.
07-17 Inca Dove, 1 Sep. 2007, Bolivar Co.
08-2 Western Grebe, 9 Feb. 2008, Tishomingo Co.
08-3 Ferruginous Hawk, 1 Dec. 2007, Tunica Co.
08-5 Thayer's Gull, 1 Dec. 2007, Tunica Co.
08-6 Cave Swallow, 10 Feb. 2008, Hancock Co.
08-7 Harris's Sparrow, 19 Dec. 2007, Yalobusha Co.
08-8 Cave Swallow, 13 Feb. 2008, Jackson Co.
08-12 Red-necked Grebe, 23-25 May 2008, Washington Co.
08-19 Inca Dove, 14 June 2008, Washington Co.

Records from 1st circulation to be sent for a 2nd circulation:

97-5 Thayer's Gull, 16-18 March 1996, Panola Co.
97-21 California Gull, 2-3 March 1996, Panola Co.
97-22 Willow Flycatcher, 31 May 1996, Tallahatchie Co.
97-31 Pacific Loon, 21 Dec. 1996, Panola Co.
06-3 Ferruginous Hawk, 1 Jan. 2006, Tunica Co.
07-15 Jabiru, 24-27 August 2007, Sunflower Co.
08-1 Pacific Loon, 9 Feb. 2008, Tishomingo Co.
08-11 Willow Flycatcher, 21 May 2008, Neshoba Co.

Records NOT ACCEPTED on 2nd circulation:

01-15 Glossy Ibis, 18-25 April 2001, Noxubee Co.

MOS APRIL 2009 MEETING - REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ E-Mail _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Additional Person (s):

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Pontoon Boat trip on the Tombigbee Waterway (first 16 to register get a seat) _____

Registration \$15.00 per person ___ Person (s) X \$ 15.00 = \$ _____

Banquet/Picnic \$15.00 per person ___ Person (s) X \$ 15.00 = \$ _____

Additional contribution to help with publications (\$5.00 per person suggested) \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make check payable to M.O.S. Mail check and registration form to:

Jan Dubuisson, MOS Treasurer, 22410 Glad Acres, Pass Christian, MS 39571

Mail the registration form to reach Jan no later than April 10.

Dues are payable in January of each year. Check mailing label for your dues status.

**Mississippi Ornithological Society
79 Hwy 9W
Oxford, MS 38655**

Check your expiration date >>>>>>