

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from your president! Thank you for your excellent cooperation and help. Many of you have sent in worthwhile suggestions and ideas that would aid our organization. A.O.S. is as good as each member makes it. We are a growing organization, and to remain so, each one must continue to be a useful and responsive member.

When there is a bill in Congress to protect, e.g. . . . the Golden Eagle, let's voice our written approval to our Senators and Congressmen. We shall have occasion for such action over the year to endorse similar conservation measures.

Continue to send in your articles on birds to the editor. Send other bird news and news about yourself to the president for inclusion in the next newsletter.

A.O.S. needs chapters over the state. A committee is working on the idea that present nature and conservation groups may be affiliated with the Alabama Ornithological Society. A chapter does not have to be large. Where even two or three are interested in "birds," a chapter could be formed.

The fall meeting will be at that "best birding spot in Alabama," Dauphin Island. The date is October 28, 29. The birding will be good. The meeting has been planned, and the success of the weekend depends upon your participation. Come and bring a friend.

—HARRIET H. WRIGHT

MINUTES OF A. O. S. SPRING MEETING

The semi-annual meeting of the Alabama Ornithological Society was held on April 21-23, 1961, at DeSoto State Park. Tom Imhof presided at the business meeting which was held Saturday night. In the absence of the secretary, no minutes were read, but these had previously been published in Alabama Birdlife. Clustie McTyeire was appointed to serve as secretary for the meeting.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$142.11. Opportunity was given to pay dues. There were twenty-one members present.

Under **old business** came a discussion of ways to increase our membership. There was also discussion concerning our publication. Suggestions were offered relative to a change in the number of issues per year, type of the issues, type of printing, etc. No action was taken at this time.

New business decided that the next issue of Birdlife would probably be published in September, since the Editor would leave on June 1 for Europe. A motion was made by Clustie McTyeire that a committee be appointed to study the constitution and any necessary improvements be recommended for adoption by the membership. The motion was seconded by Blanche Chapman and the vote carried. The committee appointed is as follows: Clustie McTyeire, chairman; Margaret Robinson and Tom Imhof.

A motion was made by Tom Atkeson that no specific locations for meetings be set. The motion was seconded by Jim Robinson. The vote carried. A discussion followed. The general feeling was to have the spring meeting in the central part of the state and the autumn meeting to alternate between the northern and southern parts of the state. This will be considered further by the committee to study the constitution.

The report of the nominating committee was read as follows: President—Harriett (Mrs. D. O.) Wright; Vice President—Bob Skinner; Treasurer—Margaret (Mrs. James C.) Robinson. The nominating committee consisted of Clustie McTyeire, chairman; Blanche Dean and Idalene Snead.

The president requested nominations from the floor, but none were made. A motion was made by Clustie McTyeire and seconded by Blanche Chapman to approve the report as read.

Following the business meeting, Mr. George Kyle, now with the U.S. Forest Service, discussed the role of the National Forest Service and showed how it affects every citizen. After his interesting and informative talk, slides were shown by Jim and Margaret Robinson of some interesting birds they had netted and banded.

A compilation of the birds observed by the various groups concluded the program. A report of 105 species was made.

Respectfully submitted,
CLUSTIE McTYEIRE, Acting Secretary

SOME INTERESTING NESTING RETURNS

While many species of passerine birds are "permanent residents" throughout the state, others, perhaps the majority of species which nest here, are only "summer residents." This is particularly true of the warblers and vireos, most of which winter in Central and/or South America. During the past seven years I have had the opportunity to band a small number of these "summer residents" and to retrap some of them in later years. Below is presented a list of such returns (warblers and vireos) with one exception. Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) returns have been omitted since I consider those birds which have been retrapped to be "permanent residents." This list includes all birds captured before September 7, 1961. They are listed by band number, date of banding, and date of recapture, in that order.

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*):

61-39008—June 20, 1958; July 16, 1960.

Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*):

52-67693—July 5, 1957; June 12, 1958.
61-39009—June 20, 1958; June 10, 1959.
61-39086—June 10, 1959; July 2, 1960.
61-39088—June 10, 1959; July 20, 1960.
61-39088—June 10, 1959; June 14, 1961.
64-18135—July 16, 1960; June 13, 1961.

Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*):

61-39004—June 12, 1958; July 13, 1960.
61-39022—July 4, 1958; September 14, 1959.
61-39024—July 8, 1958; July 27, 1960.
61-39038—September 5, 1958; September 16, 1959.
61-39095—September 2, 1959; July 2, 1960.
61-41505—September 12, 1959; September 14, 1960.
61-41508—September 14, 1959; July 18, 1960.
61-41508—September 14, 1959; September 6, 1961.
64-18121—July 2, 1960; June 12, 1961.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*):

54-140072—May 10, 1955; September 12, 1959.
56-112617—July 2, 1957; June 10, 1959.
57-136108—June 18, 1958; June 14, 1961.
57-136124—June 28, 1958; July 2, 1960.
57-136145—July 11, 1958; June 14, 1961.
57-136155—July 27, 1958; July 2, 1960.
58-172610—July 7, 1960; June 13, 1961.

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*):

55-82567—May 12, 1955; July 5, 1957.
61-39005—June 18, 1958; June 12, 1959.
61-39087—June 10, 1959; July 18, 1960.
61-39094—September 2, 1959; July 13, 1960.
61-41509—September 14, 1959; September 6, 1961.
61-41512—September 14, 1959; September 13, 1960.

Since individuals of all these species have been captured during migration, as well as during the nesting season, one must be careful in drawing conclusions about percent of banded birds returning. Migrating birds are seldom if ever retrapped in subsequent years, while the "summer resident" birds are often recaptured. At the time of capture it is often possible to determine whether or not the bird is a migrant. In some cases it is not possible. Thus, I am listing total birds banded (through 1960) separately and not with the returns. These figures must be used merely to indicate percent returning, and one must not draw any definite conclusions with respect to actual percent returning. The totals are: Black-and-white Warbler, 12; Kentucky Warbler, 24; Hooded Warbler, 36; Yellow-breasted Chat, 29; and White-eyed Vireo, 37.