

News of AOS

"All sperm whales both large and small, have some method of communication by signals to each other, by which they become apprised of the approach of danger, and this they do, although the distance may be very considerable between them, sometimes amounting to four, five or even seven miles. The mode by which this is effected, remains a curious secret."

---Thomas Beale

DAUPHIN ISLAND '70 MEETING

The Spring meeting of A.O.S. at Dauphin Island attracted a large number of members and guests. A total of 150 people from as far away as Utah, Connecticut, and Massachusetts registered for an enjoyable week-end of good food, good fellowship and challenging birding.

Early arrivals to the 3-day meeting saw an excellent film on Friday night. This film, which shows and describes predators, has been purchased by B.A.S. for educational use in Alabama schools.

Days of birding at the shell mounds, the Audubon Sanctuary and on the shores of Dauphin Island are never long enough. Although the number and variety of migratory warblers was less than anticipated, there were interesting compensations for some of us, such as bobo-links, gannets and painted buntings.

A large and enthusiastic group of people enjoyed the traditional seafood dinner Saturday night at the Civic Building. The evening's program was highlighted by Bob Reid's paper on barn swallow nestings in Alabama. After seeing the slides made by Bob and his colleagues, one is tempted to stop and look under every bridge for nests. We're glad to hear that barn swallows are increasing their territory southward in this state. Helen Kittinger showed slides of Alabama birds from the A.O.S. film library. This collection comprises selections of the work of our expert photographers such as Helen, Harriett Wright, and Fairly Chandler.

Tom Imhof talked to A.O.S. members about the Bankhead National Forest, where the Alabama Conservancy has requested that 11,000 acres be set aside as wilderness under the Wilderness Preservation Act of 1964. Tom leads the A.O.S. team conducting an ornithological survey of the proposed wilderness area. Current "even-age" timber management policies in our National Forests will not leave suitable habitats for many of the birds and other wildlife. National Forests belong to everyone. Let's all support the Conservancy Wilderness Proposal!

A.O.S. members and especially the bird-banders among the group will want to attend the Inland Bird Banding Association meeting August 28-31 at Birmingham-Southern College. Registrants will be able to exchange information at paper sessions and workshops. There will be field trips to Lake Purdy, and to banding areas at Samford University and Thomas Creek, and a show at the planetarium.

Officers of A.O.S. for 1970-71 will be; Mr. Walter F. Coxe, President; Dr. Eugene Sledge, Vice-President; Mrs. T. E. Hanks, Treasurer; Miss Wilma Lindberg, Secretary; Dr. Dan Holliman, Alabama Birdlife Editor.

Next Year's Spring meeting is planned for April 22-25 when A.O.S. will meet with the Wilson Ornithological Society at Dauphin Island. Don't miss this one!

---Gussie Arnett

MINUTES OF SPRING MEETING

ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
April 25 & 26, 1970
Dauphin Island

The regular spring meeting of AOS was held at Dauphin Island on the week-end of April 25 and 26. Field trips were conducted on Saturday and Sunday to the Shell Mounds, Causeway, west end, and the Bird Sanctuary. The compilation of the birds seen during the meeting was held in front of the Storey Apartments on Sunday morning by Fairly Chandler.

Executive Council Meeting

The Executive Council meeting was held at noon on Saturday at the Holiday Inn restaurant with the President, Walter Coxe, presiding. The following officers and directors were present: D. Holliman, F. Chandler, M. Gaillard, T. Imhof, S. Hanks, E. Sledge, J. Keeler and W. Lindberg; and R. Reid as special guest.

The minutes of the winter meeting were read and accepted.

The Treasurer, Sybil Hanks, submitted a report on the current finances which show a slight gain.

Mr. R. Reid commented on the excellent two page news coverage of the winter meeting by the Andulusia Sun.

Sybil Hanks asked the council for a decision on the legacy left to AOS by Blanche Chapman. R. Reid recommended that the money be held as unearmarked funds to be used for special projects. The council accepted this recommendation and directed that the money be placed in the savings account in Birmingham.

The President reported that Gussie Arnett will edit the newsletter for the next year, while he will continue to do the printing.

D. Holliman reported on the costs of publishing Alabama Birdlife. Each past issue has cost \$200 but increases are to be expected. In order to stay within the current budget it may be necessary to consider publishing only two issues per year. Also the council should be aware that he will not be available as an editor after the next issue.

Considerable discussions about Alabama Birdlife followed Dr. Holliman's comments. Members of the council expressed concern about how to cut costs but maintain quality of each issue. The President appointed a committee of E. Sledge (Chairman), S. Hanks, and R. Reid to study the problem with D. Holliman and make recommendation at the next meeting.

A report on the Bankhead Forest Project was made by T. Imhof. The census will continue until December when the study is completed. The field work will be done by July 31st. The future of the project will have to be determined later.

Minutes of Spring Meeting

Dr. Gaillard moved to hold the next spring meeting of AOS at the same time as the Wilson Ornithological Society (April 22 - 25). Motion seconded by D. Holliman. Motion carried.

R. Reid presented his report of the slide collection.

T. Imhof moved that AOS adopt a button for members to wear, similar to the emblem from Alabama Birdlife. D. Holliman amended the motion to have each button personalized with member's name. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned by the President.

Banquet

A seafood supper was served on Saturday evening by the Dauphin Island Business Men's Association. Guest included representatives from Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida and Utah.

The program consisted of a slide report on the Cedar Valley Barn Swallow project by R. Reid and part of the AOS Bird Slide Collection by H. Kittenger.

A slate of officers was presented by D. Holliman, Chairman of Nominating Committee. This slate of President, Walter Coxe; Vice-President, E. Sledge; Sybil Hanks, Treasurer, were elected by acclamation.

- Wilma J. Lindberg

Alabama Ornithological Society

Founded May 17, 1952

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

1970-71

President—Walter F. Coxe, P. O. Box 1448, Birmingham 35201

Vice-President—Dr. Eugene B. Sledge, Biology Dept., University of Montevallo, Montevallo 35115

Treasurer—Sybil Hanks, 4152 LaRose Drive, Mobile 36609

Secretary—Linda J. Lindberg, 2712 Millbrook Rd., Birmingham 35243

Immediate Past President—Helen H. Kittinger, 1612 Colesbury Circle, Birmingham 35226

Editor, Alabama Birdlife—Dr. Dan C. Holliman, Biology Dept., Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham 35204

Editor, Newsletter—Gussie Arnett, Apt. 2, 1513-9th Avenue South, Birmingham 35205

Librarian—Clustie McTyeire, 1804 Arlington Avenue, Bessemer 35020

Directors:

State-at-Large (Reporter for Audubon Field Notes and Coordinator for Breeding Bird Survey)—Thomas A. Imhof, 1036 Pike Road, Birmingham 35218

Gulf Coast Region—

P. Fairly Chandler, P.O. Box 142, Magnolia Springs 36555
Dr. M. Wilson Gaillard, 3919 South Sage Avenue, Mobile 36609

Coastal Plains Region—

James E. Keeler, 3576 North Georgetown Drive, Montgomery 36109
Robert W. Skinner, Route 4, Box 46, Montgomery 36106

Piedmont and Eastern Mountains Region—

Dr. William J. Calvert, Jr., Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville 36265
Rosemary T. Dusi, P.O. Box 742 Auburn 36830

Central Mountains Region—

Dr. Dan C. Holliman, Biology Dept., Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham 35204
Harriett H. Wright, 2749 Millbrook Road, Birmingham 35243

Tennessee Valley Region—

Thomas Z. Atkeson, Jr., Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 1643, Decatur 35601
Margaret L. Robinson, Ryland 35767