

MOS MEETING - NATCHEZ - APRIL 16, 1965

The Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Ornithological Society was held at the Carriage House Restaurant, Natchez, Mississippi, Friday, April 16, 1965. Mrs. C. Hal Cleveland, President, presided.

Mrs. Cleveland suggested that a change be made in the By-laws reducing the number of members present to form a quorum. Under the present By-laws it is never possible to secure a quorum at a meeting and all official business has to be conducted by correspondence at a later date. This recommendation was approved by those present and recommended to the membership.

Mrs. Cleveland announced that it was her intention to encourage the formation of local societies throughout the State. The J. W. Tucker, Sr., award was presented to Mrs. T. H. Hannah and Mrs. Lucy Earl Hastings, sisters of the late Miss Frances A. Cook attending the meeting, as a token of appreciation and in memory of the outstanding work done in Mississippi by Miss Cook.

The meeting was concluded with a program of slides given by Dr. Clifford Tillman of Natchez, showing pictures taken by him of birds found in the Natchez area. Dr. Tillman spent a great deal of time and artistic ability in the taking and arrangement of these slides.

The meeting was attended by Mr. and Mrs. David Aldridge, Mrs. Edna W. Campbell, Miss Clara Chamberlain, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Greer, Mr. and Mrs. Graham H. Hicks, Bazile, Jr., Rene and Rose Lanneau, Mr. and Mrs. Orrick Metcalfe, Mr. and Mrs. Albert W. Metcalfe, Dr. Orrick Metcalfe, Mr. and Mrs. D. G. McLaurin, Mr. Norman Stattman, Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Tillman, all of Natchez; Mrs. C. Hal Cleveland and her two sons from Mississippi City; Mrs. T. H. Hannah from Forest, and Mrs. Lucy Earl Hastings of Crystal Springs; Mrs. W. G. Wills, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Turcotte and their daughter, Terry, and Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Johnson and two sons, all of Jackson.

On Saturday morning the members were given an opportunity to have a choice of two field trips; one trip was north of Natchez on the Natchez Trace to the Emerald Mound area, conducted by Mrs. David Aldridge, with emphasis on land birds. The other trip, conducted by Orrick Metcalfe, crossed over into Louisiana, followed the Mississippi River levee past the Whitehall Lake several miles down to Lucerne Plantation, then

THE MISSISSIPPI KITE

crossed by a circuitous country road over to Ferriday, Louisiana. A few of the members later circled to Lake St. John and then followed the levee back to Vidalia, Louisiana.

In Ferriday the group visited the wood-duck breeding cages which for a number of years have been operated by Mr. A. E. Torres, a MOS member. Mr. Torres has nearly 200 breeding wood-ducks and combined with them a smattering of other ducks including hybrids and several varieties of wild geese. Mr. Torres releases some of these ducks locally and has on occasion furnished them to the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission of the State of Louisiana in the hope of developing the wood-duck population in other areas of the state.

Eighty-seven (87) species were identified by the two party trips; besides the ordinary birds which we see daily there were included in this list the Little Blue Heron, Cattle and Common Egret, White-faced Ibis, Blue-wing Teal and Wood Duck, the Sharpshinned, Red Shouldered, Red Tailed and Broad Winged Hawks, Coot, Killdeer, Upland and Golden Plovers, the Common Snipe, the Spotted and Solitary Sandpipers, the Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, the Pectoral and Semi-palmated Sandpipers, the Great Crested and Acadian Flycatchers, the Rough Winged and Barn Swallows, the Purple Martin, the Carolina Chickadees, the Tufted Titmouse, the Hermit Thrush, the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, the Ruby Crowned Kinglet, the Cedar Waxwing, White-eyed, Yellow-throated, Red-eyed and Warbling Vireos, the Prothonotary, Parula, Yellow and Myrtle Warblers, the Louisiana Waterthrush, the Yellow-breasted Chat, the Hooded Warbler, the Bobo-link, Orchard and Baltimore Orioles, the Summer Tanager, the Blue Grosbeak, the Indigo and Painted Buntings, the Rufous Towhee, and the Savannah, Chipping, White Crowned and White-throated Sparrows.
