

MINUTES OF SPRING MEETING  
ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
APRIL 23-25, 1965

The regular spring meeting of the Alabama Ornithological Society was held at Dauphin Island, Alabama, on April 23-25, 1965. Headquarters motel was the Holiday House, and 75 members and guests registered for the meeting.

Field Trips

Field trips were held on Saturday morning and afternoon and Sunday morning and included the following locations: Indian Shell Mounds (Leader, Blanche Dean); Alabama Port to Pelican Point, Dauphin Island (Leaders, Father J. L. Dorn, Father Matt Turk and Bob Waters); West End of Dauphin Island (Leader, Fairly Chandler); and the Bird Sanctuary and Bellingrath Gardens (Leader, Dr. Wilson Gaillard). In addition, Jim and Margaret Robinson, Julian and Rosmary Dusi and Tom Imhof set up netting and banding stations, which could be visited by the members and guests. Some of the Indigo Buntings netting were shipped via air express to the University of Michigan for some migration studies being conducted there.

Meeting of Executive Council

The Executive Council at 12:10 P.M., April 24, at the LeMoyne Restaurant on Dauphin Island. Those present were: Dr. Dan Holliman, President; Mr. Robert E. Waters, Vice-President; Mr. Robert R. Reid, Jr., Secretary; Mr. Frank D. Huttlinger, Treasurer; Mrs. Rosmary T. Dusi, Immediate Past President; Dr. Maurice F. Baker, Editor, Alabama Birdlife; and Dr. Julian L. Dusi, Director and Librarian. Upon motion, the reading of the minutes of the January 30, 1965, meeting of the executive council was dispensed with and the same were approved. The business to be brought before the Society at the business meeting that afternoon was discussed, particularly the North American Nest Record Program, the nomination of Blanche Dean for the Alabama Wildlife Federation Conservation Award, and the proposed resolution on blackbird control. Upon motion, the meeting was duly adjourned at 12:50 P.M.

Business Meeting

The business meeting of the membership was called to order by the President at 1:25 P.M. at the Alabama Marine Resources Laboratory on Dauphin Island. Thirty-six members attended the meeting. The President complimented the members of the Mobile Bird Club for their excellent work in acting as hosts for the meeting and stated that the Society would like to encourage the establishment of local chapters which could perform valuable work in conservation programs and the study of ornithology. He also urged the continuation and expansion of seasonal bird censuses -- the Christmas, Summer, and Spring and Fall Migration counts. The minutes of the fall business meeting held on October 10, 1964, were read, and the figure for membership of the Society contained in those minutes was corrected to read 160 members. The minutes as so corrected were then approved.

Alabama Wildlife Federation Conservation Award

The Secretary stated that the Alabama Wildlife Federation gives annually an award of "Conservationist of the Year" to an outstanding conservationist in the state and that Mrs. Blanche E. Dean had been nominated for that award by the Birmingham Audubon Society. He further stated that the members of the executive council at its meeting held earlier today had agreed it was desirable for AOS to second and support her nomination. The following resolution was then, upon motion duly made and seconded, unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Mrs. Blanche E. Dean had been nominated by the Birmingham Audubon Society for the award of "Conservationist of the Year" given by the Alabama Wildlife Federation;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Dean has contributed greatly to the knowledge of natural history and advancement of the cause of conservation through her authorship of a number of books, including Trees and Shrubs in the Heart of Dixie, The Ferns of Alabama and Let's Learn the Birds in Alabama, through her twelve years of work in organizing and leading the Alabama State Nature Camp, and through the introduction to Birmingham of the Audubon Wildlife Film Lectures, while serving as President of the Birmingham Audubon Society;

WHEREAS, during her many years as a teacher of biology in the Birmingham city schools and for the American Youth Foundation, she has instilled in her students an interest in conservation and natural history;

WHEREAS, she has been a member of many other clubs and organizations and has very generously given of her time and efforts in support of conservation and natural history programs; and

WHEREAS, the members of this Society feel that Mrs. Dean has made an outstanding contribution to the cause of conservation in the State of Alabama and desire to support her nomination for the award of "Conservationist of the Year" in 1965;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Alabama Ornithological Society, at its annual spring meeting held on April 24, 1965, that this Society does hereby second and fully support the nomination by the Birmingham Audubon Society of Mrs. Blanche E. Dean for the 1965 award of "Conservationist of the Year" to be given by the Alabama Wildlife Federation, and that in evidence thereof a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to said federation.

Constitutional Amendment

The Secretary then stated that the executive council at its mid-winter meeting had approved an amendment to the constitution of the AOS and that notice of the amendment had been given on March 18 in the Newsletter sent to all members of the Society. The following resolution was then, upon motion duly made and seconded, unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Alabama Ornithological Society to make it clear that the assets and receipts of the Society will always be devoted to charitable, scientific or educational purposes and will not inure to the benefit of any private individual or group; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Society on March 18, 1965, in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Society, cause notice to be given to all voting members of the Society of the following amendment to the Constitution of the Society providing for the distribution of such assets and receipts in the event of its dissolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Alabama Ornithological Society that the Constitution of the Alabama Ornithological Society be amended by adding thereto a new Article IX reading as follows:

Article IX. Dissolution

The Society may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at any meeting, regular or special, provided that 30 days' written notice of the proposed dissolution be given to each voting member. Upon dissolution of the Society, all of its assets and accrued receipts shall be distributed by the Executive Council to one or more organizations formed and then being operated for charitable, scientific or educational purposes and eligible for qualification as taxexempt organizations under the United States Internal Revenue Code.

North American Nest Record Program

Dr. Dusi reported on the nest record program being administered by the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology. He stated that in order to accumulate a sufficient amount of data over a reasonably small period of time, the cooperation of large numbers of competent observers was necessary. He stressed the necessity for accuracy and stated that although continuous nest observations were preferable, single observations would provide desirable information. Observers were cautioned not to disturb the nests in the course of their observations. Dr. Baker added that nesting failures were to be reported as well as successful nestings. Dr. Dusi is in charge of coordination the distribution and collection of the record cards in Alabama.

Membership Committee

Mr. Huttlinger, co-chairman of the Membership committee, reported that 41 new members had joined the Society since September 1, 1964, twenty-seven of them from Mobile and seven from Anniston. The present total membership is 201. Mr. Huttlinger urged that local groups establish drives for membership in the Society.

Auditing and Nominating Committees

Mr. Reid, chairman of the committee to audit the Treasurer's books for the current year, reported that the books were found to be in order, and the report of the auditing committee was unanimously approved.

The President stated that under the By-laws of the Society, Mr. Robert E. Waters, its present Vice-President would automatically succeed to the presidency for the coming year. In the absence of Miss Blanche Chapman, chairman of the committee to nominate other officers, Mrs. Blanche Dean presented the report of the nominating committee proposing the following to serve as officers of the Society for the year 1965-66: Robert R. Reid, Jr. - Vice-President; and Frank D. Huttlinger - Treasurer. The President asked if there were any other nominations from the floor, and there were none. Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the report of the nominating committee was approved and the persons so nominated were declared elected.

Blackbird Control

Discussion was had of the administration of any blackbird control program that might be found necessary, after which the following resolution was, upon motion duly made and seconded, unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, it is understood that a program of blackbird control is under consideration by the United States Department of the Interior; and

WHEREAS, it is the considered opinion of the Alabama Ornithological Society that the only effective means of administration and supervision of any such program would be through the use of qualified technical personnel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Alabama Ornithological Society, at its annual spring meeting held on April 24, 1965, that this Society does hereby recommend and state its unanimous opinion that, if any control program of blackbirds be found necessary, it be administered under the supervision of qualified technical personnel and not be the distribution of avicides to members of the general public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior of the United States.

Dr. Baker mentioned that it would be desirable to have the names of the officers of local ornithological groups in the state published in either Alabama Birdlife or the Newsletter so that persons visiting the areas where those local groups operate might be able to contact the appropriate persons in those areas. A representative of the Mobile Bird Club welcomed the members of the Society to the Mobile area and invited all members to join the Mobile Bird Club. Dr. Holliman was then commended for his excellent and energetic service to the Society as its President for the past year. Upon motion, the meeting was duly adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

#### Dinner and Paper Session

Dinner was held Saturday evening at Bayley's on the Bay Road. Mr. Huttlinger supervised the drawing of several fine door prizes: Dr. Oliver L. Austin's Birds of the World; Tom Imhof's Alabama Birds; Blanche Dean's The Ferns of Alabama and Let's Learn the Birds in Alabama; and a Martin house and two Bluebird houses of handsome and sturdy construction made by Mr. Joe Friendhoff. After the dinner the following papers were presented:

Hurricane Hilda and an Unusual Fall Migration--  
Fairly Chandler

Our Present Knowledge of the Cattle Egret in  
Alabama -- Dr. Julian L. Dusi

The Scarlet Ibis in Alabama -- Rosmary T. Dusi

Changes in Status of Birds in Alabama since  
Publication of Alabama Birds (May 1962) --  
Thomas A. Imhof

Status of Wintering Blackbirds in Alabama --  
James E. Keeler

Summering Waterfowl in Birmingham -- Robert R.  
Reid, Jr.

Following the field trips on Sunday morning, Mr. Robert Waters conducted at the headquarters motel a compilation of the birds observed during the meeting. A total of 159 species was recorded.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Reid, Jr., Secretary

#### BIRDS SEEN DURING SPRING MEETING DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA APRIL 23-25, 1965

Common Loon, Horned Grebe, Pied-b. Grebe, Brown Pelican, Double-cr. Cormorant, Anhinga, Magnif. Frigate-bird, Great Blue Heron, Common Egret, Snowy Egret, Louisiana Heron, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Green Heron, American Bittern, Least Bittern, White Ibis, Blue-w. Teal, Wood Duck, Lesser Scaup, Red-br. Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Broad-w. Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Bobwhite, King Rail, Clapper Rail, Virginia Rail, Sora, Purple Gallinule, Common Gallinule, American Coot, Piping Plover, Semipalm. Plover, Wilson's Plover, Killdeer, Black-b. Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, American Woodcock, Common Snipe, Wimbrel, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Short-b. Dowitcher, Semipalm. Sandpiper, Sanderling, Black-n. Stilt, Herring Gull, Ring-b. Gull, Laughing Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Gull-b. Tern, Forster's Tern, Common Tern, Least Tern, Royal Tern, Sandwich Tern, Caspian Tern, Black Skimmer, Mourning Dove, Yellow-b. Cuckoo, Black-b. Cuckoo, Chuck-will's widow, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-thr. Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-s. Flicker, Red-bell. Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yell.-b. Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker.

Eastern Kingbird, Gray Kingbird, G. Crested Flycatcher, E. Wood Pewee, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Rough-w. Swallow, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Fish Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Short-b. Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Wood Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheek Thrush, Veery, E. Bluebird, B.-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-cr. Kinglet, Logger head Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-thr. Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black-and-White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Blue-w. Warbler, Parula Warbler, Yellow-Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Audubon's Warbler, Bl-th. Green Warbler, Yellow-thr. Warbler, Bay-br. Warbler, Black-pollled Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellowthroat, Yellow-br. Chat, Hooded Warbler, Am. Redstart, House Sparrow, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Redwing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Common Grackle, Br.-hd. Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-br. Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Painted Bunting, Dickcissel, Eastern Goldfinch, Rufous-s. Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Sharp-t. Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-thr. Sparrow, and Swamp Sparrow.

#### ATTRACTING BIRDS

Conservation Bulletin No. 1, ATTRACTING BIRDS, is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C., for fifteen cents. It includes many useful ideas for attracting birds about the house, but does not include instructions for building nest boxes.