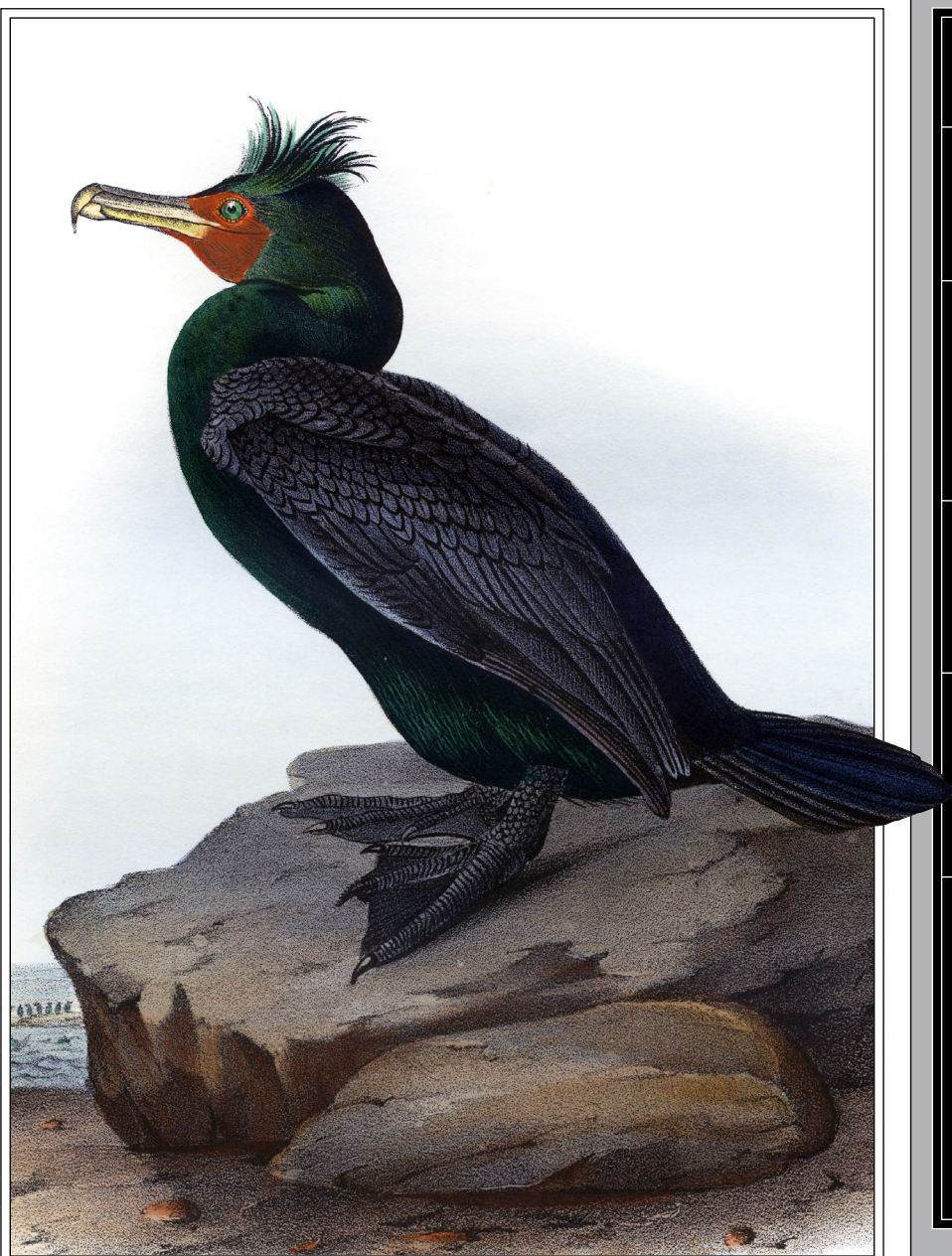


THE YELLOWHAMMER

VOLUME 34, NO. 1 THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY SPRING 2014

...to foster a greater knowledge of birds and to promote conservation of all natural resources

FOUNDED 1952



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ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1325, DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL 36528-1325

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 Scot Duncan, Catherine Rideout,
 Eric Soehren

MEETINGS

Anne Miller, Maureen Schaffer
 Charlotte Fanz, Priscilla Tubbs, Mike Wilson

HI EVERYBODY! HOPE Y'ALL have gotten through all the snow, ice and frigid temperatures in reasonably good shape. It has been an interesting winter, to say the least. Temperatures in single digits on three separate occasions, especially fairly early in the season, is a rare event in North Alabama, especially these days. The last time I remember such cold around here would have been back in the early 90s, when it dipped below zero at least a couple of times. I have been around long enough to remember a couple of blizzards in our area, one in 1964 the other in 1966. I have vivid

memories of the second one, occurring in early January. I was pretty small but remember being out in snow drifts up to my waist; seems like we had about a foot of snow. That was also a winter for historically low temperatures. Toward the end of January, New Market, in northeastern Madison County, recorded a low of -27° F, which remains the all-time low recorded temperature for the state of Alabama.

As an entomologist, I have always wondered about the impact of very low temperatures on insect populations. You hear a lot about mild winters being followed by high populations of pest species the following growing season; I am not sure I believe there is a consistent pattern. On the other hand, hard freezes, especially over a several-day period and on multiple occasions, I do believe can knock populations of some insects down, especially those that remain active in winter when temperatures are warmer. I remember visiting southern pine beetle (our well-known killer of pines in the southeast) infestations in the winter following severe cold snaps that closely followed a warm period and finding the larvae dead in their galleries. Well, I digress; before this becomes a treatise on population dynamics, we better move on.

First, I'd like to express my appreciation to all of you who attended the AOS winter meeting this past January at the Wildwood Resort near Crawfordville, in the Florida Panhandle, as well as those of you who helped with arrangements/planning. Attendance was excellent, especially considering how far some of you had to travel to be there. Things seemed to go quite well; highlights including the Wakulla Springs



boat rides and the St. Marks field trip, led by guide Don Morrow. Rufina and I missed the boat ride (but have done it before); the St. Marks trip was wonderful. Mr. Morrow was exceptional, leading a well-timed trip through the refuge, picking up a variety of nice birds. I do want to thank Linda Reynolds and Sandra Kendall again for making that trip possible by securing Mr. Morrow's services. Thanks also to the excellent Wildwood staff in accommodating us, including especially the banquet; nice facility, good food and efficient operations, with special thanks to Randi Dodson, for her coordination. Finally, too, I want to express my appreciation

to Julie Wraithmell for an excellent and engaging presentation at our banquet, one of the best I have seen since becoming an AOS member. I suspect we'll be headed back down there for another meeting in a few years; in the meantime, for those of you who have not birded down in that area, I would encourage you to take a trip in that direction, especially during the late fall and early winter, as it is a truly remarkable and birdy place (food is pretty exceptional, too, especially if you are into seafood).

Next, I'd like to take the opportunity to announce our Dan C. Holliman Research Fund Award winners. The AOS Board of Directors voted at the winter meeting to accept the recommendations of the Research Fund Committee to provide funding in support of three worthy projects:

"Estimating breeding origins and sex-related stopover patterns of four migrant songbird species during fall migration in northern Alabama using stable isotope and molecular methods."—Mercedes M. Bartkovich, Master of Science student, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Alabama A&M University—\$800

"Availability and nutrient content of fruit used by Gray Catbirds during fall migration."—T. J. Zenzal, Doctoral Student, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Southern Mississippi—\$700

"Characterization of sub-seasonal fluctuations in the innate immune system of Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*)."—

Chloe Josefson, Doctoral student, Department of Biological Sciences, Auburn University—\$500

Congratulations, Mercedes, T.J., and Chloe! We wish you the best in the successful completion of your research projects.

The spring AOS meeting will be held April 18-20, on Dauphin Island. Easter falls on the same weekend as our meeting; this does not happen often. Unfortunately, we are not in a position to change the date, as some have suggested, because of the complexity of getting accommodations set up for lodging, banquet and other activities associated with the meeting. It should be mentioned too that Discovery Day, which normally brings a lot of kids and educators to Dauphin Island Sea Lab on the same weekend as the AOS meeting, will in fact be held the weekend of April 12 to avoid the Easter conflict.

If you plan to stay at DISL, please do not try to check in before the published time; please wait for the Treasurer to arrive and check in through her.

There will be a silent auction held at our meeting this year. Donations and volunteers are needed to help out; if you are interested please contact me or David Pylant (contact information on AOS website). One final thing I should mention is that the Board voted to close the merchandise store associated with AOS, due to the complexities and costs of operation for an organization such as ours. We do have a plan for the future however, and more information is forthcoming.

Finally, our speaker this spring will be Keith Pardieck (National Coordinator, North American Breeding Bird Survey or BBS, US Geological Survey), who will give us an overview of the BBS program. I thought this would be an especially interesting subject, given the significant numbers of AOS members who have or have had BBS routes over the years.

Well, I think that about wraps things up. Really looking forward to seeing you in April. Happy Birding.

Deadlines for Yellowhammer Submissions

Summer 2014	June 10, 2014
Fall 2014	August 1, 2014
Winter 2014	November 10, 2014

International Shorebird Count

ON 6-7 SEPTEMBER AN INTERNATIONAL SHOREBIRD COUNT will be held as a part of the event series of the World Shorebirds Day. We'd be thrilled if Alabama birders would support this idea and would join this global event, supported by eBird.

Please help us to make it a worldwide event. More details can be found in the blog of the special day: <http://worldshorebirdsday.wordpress.com/2014/02/13/shorebirds-unite-us/>. Related contest is here: <http://worldshorebirdsday.wordpress.com/2014/02/14/the-first-mini-contest/>.

Don't worry about the early announcement. At this point we'd like to see the sites booked on the map.

Thanks for your support and happy birding.

—Gyorgy Szimuly

Coordinator of the World Shorebirds Day Event Series

Dan C. Holliman Scholarship Fund

The following donations were made to the Dan C. Holliman Scholarship Fund:

Dick and Linda Reynolds *in memory of* Nick Holler

BJ Allen *in memory of* Clyde Garmon

New Members

Bonnie Beasley

Anne Paine

Rocky Baker

Joseph H. and Rachel B. Richardson

Frances P. and Roy A. Brown

Frances J. Menapace

Carolyn Faye and Jack Edward Eidson

Brian O. Hill

Life Members

Barbara H. Stedman

Brian Hill

A O S W I N T E R M E E T I N G , J A N U A R Y 2 4 - 2 6 , 2 0 1 4

Winter Meeting Report

By BOB REED



HERE WERE FOUR MAIN DESTINATIONS FOR THE weekend. The first, and most important, was St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, one of the best refuges around, with a wonderful combination of fresh- and salt-water marshes, open beach, longleaf pines, and swamps. Don Morrow led a field trip to St. Marks Saturday morning. A sparrow stomp on the beach at the lighthouse gave everybody excellent looks at Nelson's Sparrow, and a very accommodating Sora dining on the trail was cool. A select few saw an American Bittern that flew right over their heads and lit in the sawgrass on the other side of the freshwater pond. Bald Eagles soared over us all morning. Two early risers escorted a Bobcat down the road; when they stopped to get a few pictures, the cat came back for a better look, allowing some incredible shots. Another, coming out of the restroom at Headquarters Pond, found a Wild Pig in the tiny "yard." When the pig eventually saw her, it left in a hurry.

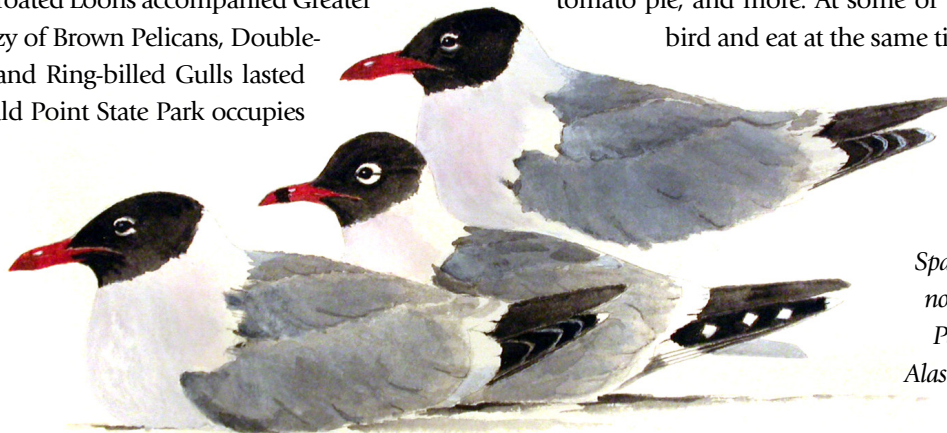
The west end of Alligator Point, where Ochlockonee Bay meets Apalachee Bay just west of Panacea, Florida, was a goldmine of ducks and loons. The beach there has eroded to the point that part of the road and the entire beachside sidewalk has been barricaded to protect the pavement. Beyond the barricade the Gulf offered a wide range of birds. Red-breasted Mergansers, some in breeding plumage, were close to shore. Common and Red-throated Loons accompanied Greater Scaup. A feeding frenzy of Brown Pelicans, Double-crested Cormorants, and Ring-billed Gulls lasted for many minutes. Bald Point State Park occupies

the east end of Alligator Point. Shorebirds worked the water's edge and exposed oyster beds, gulls and pelicans lounged on the sandbars, and Bald Eagles surveyed their domain.

Wakulla Springs was very cold, so cold in fact that the boats did not start running in the morning until the temperature reached 40° F, which was almost lunch time both days. Common Gallinule, the most world's most widespread rail, and White Ibises were the most common birds seen there. Other notables were a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron and the wonderfully people-tolerant Anhingas that posed throughout the boat ride. However, the star of the springs were the more than half a dozen Manatees that had discovered the warm waters and decided to winter in the Wakulla River. Even if you got there before the boats left, they were readily observable from the diving tower.

Two members shared their slides Friday night. All of the slides were made Friday, and prepared for sharing at the last minute. Ahh, the wonders of digital photography. Julie Wraithmell, the Saturday night speaker, gave us a glimpse of what a handful of dedicated conservationists can do when they put their minds to it.

The fourth destination was seafood restaurants. When birders met, we of course discussed the birds we'd seen, but the next topic was invariably food. There were many to choose from, offering shrimp, grouper, catfish, oysters, tomato pie, and more. At some of them you could bird and eat at the same time.



EDITOR'S NOTE:
Space limitations did not permit us to run Part 2 of "North to Alaska." Look for it in the summer issue.

AOS WINTER MEETING, JANUARY 24-26, 2014

Minutes of the AOS Board Meeting

By PAT REED, *Secretary*

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WAS HELD IN the Conference Room at Wildwood Resort in Crawfordville, Florida, on Saturday, January 25, 2014. President Ken Ward called the meeting to order and it was determined that a quorum was present.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President's Report

Ken Ward stated the speaker for the spring meeting will be Keith Pardeick, Program Coordinator of the Breeding Bird Survey, and as a federal employee cannot accept an honorarium. He stated this is also true for Julie Wraithmell, speaker for the winter meeting, who had requested a donation be made to the Florida Audubon Society. He stated the guide from the refuge, Don Morrow, did an outstanding job on the field trip and requested a donation be made to St. Mark's National Wildlife Refuge in this honor. Bob Reed moved that St. Marks be given \$100 in recognition of Don Morrow and Stan Hamilton seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Rufina Ward stated Tech Links is hosting the AOS website with payment made quarterly. She requested the Board's permission to change this to an annual payment. The request was approved. Mrs. Ward then commended Mary Frances Stayton for the excellent job she performed as Treasurer. The Board agreed that she had done a superb job for the past seven years. Mrs. Ward reported the AOS checking account total as \$19,164.37 and a CD in the amount of \$26,254.38 at December 31, 2013. She stated expenses for the winter meeting have not been paid.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dan C. Holliman Research Fund Committee

Gregory Harber reported the committee received three applications requesting funds for proposed research. Mer-

cedes Bartkovich requested \$800 for laboratory supplies to cover costs of isotype analysis to study the breeding-ground origins and stopover patterns in the Walls of Jericho Management Area of the Wood Thrush, Eastern Wood Pewee, Gray Catbird and Ovenbird. Theodore Zenzal requested \$770 to cover costs for protein assays to study the nutritive value of fruit eaten by Gray Catbirds at Fort Morgan, a major stopover site. Chloe Josefson requested assistance for laboratory supplies to measure changes in the immune system of Eastern Bluebirds over the course of the breeding season.

After discussing each application Mr. Harber stated the committee's recommendation was to provide funds to each applicant in the following amounts:

Mercedes Bartkovich	\$800
Theodore Zenzal	\$700
Chloe Josefson	\$500

The committee's recommendation was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Harber stated each applicant had also applied to the Walter F. Coxe Research Fund sponsored by the Birmingham Audubon Society and would be receiving funds from that source as well.

Conservation Committee

Gregory Harber reported there are plans for a bill to be presented before the Legislature pertaining to regulation of wind farms in Alabama. He reported the Birmingham Audubon Society is working on a policy statement regarding this matter. He further stated he would secure more information pertaining to this matter and have something prepared for the spring meeting.

Bob Reed stated he would like for the record to show the Board's appreciation to Dana Hamilton for her superb job as secretary over the past several years. This met with a resounding round of applause.

Membership Committee

Larry Gardella stated being on Facebook is getting new people but stated a current membership list would be very helpful with an updated list furnished every couple of months noting those who have not renewed. Bob Reed stated this would also be very helpful for use with the *Yellowhammer*.

The Yellowhammer Committee

Bob Reed stated he needed more articles for the *Yellowhammer* from members on road trips taken, nature books read, backyard birding experiences, etc. for the *Yellowhammer*, and asked the president to make this request at the meeting. He stated the deadline for the spring *Yellowhammer* is February 14.

Education Committee

Ken Ward reported Shirley Farrell had sent a report stating there will be a silent auction at the spring meeting as that committee is in dire need of funding. The committee will also participate in Discovery Day at the spring meeting.

Meetings Committee

Maureen Shaffer reported she had talked with a Sea Lab employee and was informed deposits had been made for AOS through the fall 2015 meeting. She reported all events for the spring meeting will be held in the Shelby Center. She further reported she had not discussed the tables or the catering with anyone. A request was made that the caterer not be changed. In discussing configuration of tables, it was noted that we can accommodate only 120, therefore, only the first 120 reservations are accepted. Ms. Shaffer stated she can pick up keys from Sea Lab at 3 p.m. and registration can begin at 4 p.m.

Alabama Bird Records Committee

No report.

Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuary Committee

The board did not meet in January.

NEW BUSINESS

A discussion was held regarding the importance of attending Board meetings now that a quorum is required. It was suggested that email reminders be sent. Also discussed was the fact that resignations and appointments can be

made; however, this now requires Board approval. It was noted that Lucy Duncan had agreed to serve as Regional Director for Northwest Florida but no official action had been taken. Bob Reed moved to approve Lucy Duncan as Regional Director for Northwest Florida and Stan Hamilton seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bianca J. Allen stated that as an official incorporated non-profit we are obligated to file sales tax reports. This includes city, county and state and for AOS would be quite expensive. Bob Reed moved to close the AOS store and Stan Hamilton seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bianca Allen also reported that with the articles of incorporation filed other legal matters will come into play. After discussion it was suggested the list be sent to Board members and maybe someone will have the expertise to make the necessary filing.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Electronic Yellowhammer?

IT COSTS WELL OVER A DOLLAR AND A HALF TO PRINT AND MAIL THE *Yellowhammer*. We are delivering, on a totally voluntary basis, The *Yellowhammer* via the Internet. If you would like to receive your *Yellowhammer*, in color, electronically, as a PDF file, please email the editor at BobReed1987@gmail.com.

Thanks for the Stories

THE *YELLOWHAMMER* MUST BE PRINTED IN FOUR-PAGE increments. Thus we are always in need of your articles, both short and longer, to make the pages come out right. We have been using input from the editor only because those are all we have at the moment.

If you have an article, story, or amusing incident you would like to share, *please* send it to the editor. Electronic versions are much easier to copy and paste, but send them by snail mail or paper airplane if you need to. The addresses are on the back cover.

Please send other articles about your birding adventures, trips, yard sightings, or just short vignettes that were interesting, different, or amusing.

2014 AOS Winter Meeting Compilation List St. Marks NWR and Vicinity, January 24–26

NOTEWORTHY BIRDS OF THE WEEKEND INCLUDED COMMON Merganser, Red-throated Loon, and Pacific Loon. The total for the meeting count period was 142.

Wood Duck
American Widgeon
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal
Canvasback
Redhead
Ring-necked Duck
Greater Scaup
Lesser Scaup
Surf Scoter
White-winged Scoter
Black Scoter
Bufflehead
Common Goldeneye
Hooded Merganser
Common Merganser
Red-breasted Merganser
Ruddy Duck
Northern Bobwhite
Wild Turkey
Red-throated Loon
Pacific Loon
Common Loon
Pied-billed Grebe
Horned Grebe
Double-crested Cormorant
Anhinga
American White Pelican
Brown Pelican
American Bittern
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Snowy Egret
Little Blue Heron

Tricolored Heron
Reddish Egret
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
White Ibis
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Osprey
Bald Eagle
Northern Harrier
Cooper's hawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Clapper Rail
Virginia Rail
Sora
Common Gallinule
American Coot
American Avocet
American Oystercatcher
Black-bellied Plover
Semipalmated Plover
Killdeer
Spotted Sandpiper
Greater Yellowlegs
Willet
Lesser Yellowlegs
Marbled Godwit
Ruddy Turnstone
Stilt Sandpiper
Sanderling
Dunlin
Least Sandpiper
Semipalmated Sandpiper
Western Sandpiper
Short-billed Dowitcher
Long-billed Dowitcher

Wilson's Snipe
Bonaparte's Gull
Laughing Gull
Ring-billed Gull
Herring Gull
Least Tern
Caspian Tern
Forster's Tern
Royal Tern
Rock Pigeon
Eurasian Collared-Dove
Mourning Dove
Common Ground-Dove
Great Horned Owl
Belted Kingfisher
Red-headed Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
American Kestrel
Merlin
Eastern Phoebe
Eastern Kingbird
White-eyed Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Fish Crow
Tree Swallow
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
Brown-headed Nuthatch
House Wren
Sedge Wren
Marsh Wren
Carolina Wren
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Eastern Bluebird
Hermit Thrush
American Robin

Gray Catbird
Brown Thrasher
Northern Mockingbird
European Starling
Northern Waterthrush
Black-and-white Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Palm Warbler
Pine Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Eastern Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Nelson's Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Common Grackle
Boat-tailed Grackle
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow

All reported sightings will be accepted and published in *The Yellowhammer*. However, the meeting compilation list in *The Yellowhammer* is not an official record. Species that are **boldfaced**, or listed in the Hypothetical section of the AOS Field Card, must be supported by complete written details and submitted to, and accepted by, the Records Committee to become an official AOS record. *Italicized species* usually need written details but these may be brief. Out of season and locally rare birds should also be documented. Refer to the front page of the AOS Field Card for additional details.

A O S P R I N G M E E T I N G , A P R I L 1 8 - 2 4 , 2 0 1 4 , 2 0 1 4

Meet the Speaker: Keith Pardieck

KEITH PARDIECK is a wildlife biologist with U.S. Geological Survey's Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. He began his federal service with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over 20 years ago working toward the recovery of the endangered Puerto Rican Parrot. In the time since, he has authored numerous articles on various aspects of Caribbean and North American Birdlife and now serves as the National Coordinator of the North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS). Keith is known for having a strong

interest in partnering to achieve science and conservation goals. Through this, and in addition to other improvements made to the BBS during his tenure, he has fostered a multinational collaborative effort which has expanded the survey into northern Mexico, now making it a truly North American program. Keith lives in Maryland with his two children on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay, where they enjoy canoeing, collecting fossilized shark teeth and oyster gardening.

North American Breeding Bird Survey— A Survey to Count On

By KEITH PARDIECK



YEAR AFTER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD launched a massive spraying program against the fire ant, an Alabama woman wrote: "Our place has been a veritable bird sanctuary for over a half century. Last July we all remarked, 'There are more birds than ever.' Then, suddenly, in the second week of August, they all disappeared. I was used to rising early to care for my favorite mare that had a young filly. There was not a sound of a song of a bird. It was eerie, terrifying." (Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring*, 1962, p.104)

This excerpt from Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* well captures a sentiment that echoed throughout the country in the mid-1950s, as rural campaigns arose to target spruce budworms, agricultural pests, urban mosquitoes, and Dutch elm disease using powerful new synthetic pesticides. Residential areas and college campuses witnessed scores of dead and dying birds, and this prompted one concerned mid-westerner to ask a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist, Chandler S. Robbins, if the continental robin population was in decline. Robbins lamented in his reply that no one could be sure of the American Robin's continental population trend since there were no scientifically rigorous programs monitoring songbirds at such ambitious scales. This reply sat uneas-

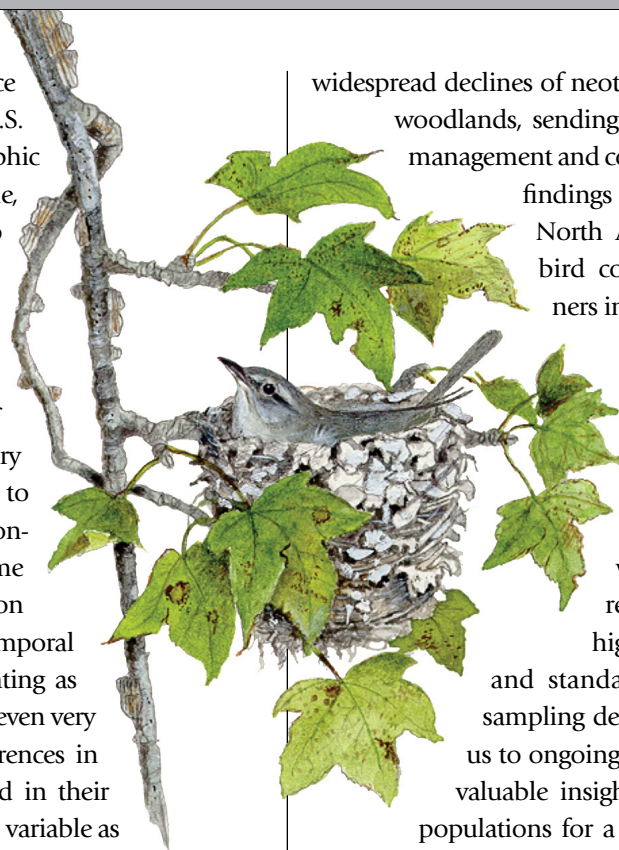
ily with Robbins in the months that followed and, together with the evolving story of the effects of DDT on birds of prey, it served to solidify his conviction that the creation of a continental monitoring program was of vital need. In the years that followed, he set out to develop a bird monitoring program that was effective, efficient and logistically feasible.

Robbins focused on how best to survey the landscape to effectively measure changes in bird populations across such large geographic areas. One thing that had concerned him about earlier bird count efforts was that there had been little standardization between observers and they were essentially free to choose where and how long to survey. This practice is problematic when collecting monitoring data because observers typically count near habitats that they believe are best suited for birds and birding. But because these areas are often afforded protection as local, state, or federal parklands, they do not necessarily represent bird populations in the landscape as a whole. Instead, less attractive habitats—those experiencing, or susceptible to, greater human-caused disturbance—are usually where landscape-level population changes are actually occurring, and it was important that these be well sampled too. For a national monitoring program to work, it would be essential that all habitats be sampled in

proportion to their actual occurrence in the landscape. So armed with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps and a random number table, Robbins partitioned states into blocks of one degree of latitude and longitude and then randomly selected a uniform number of sample locations for each block.

Birders have always known of the tendency of populations to vary from place to place and from year to year, but Robbins' single greatest contribution to bird monitoring came by way of his stubborn insistence on removing as much spatial and temporal variation from the process of counting as possible. He was well aware that, at even very large scales, seemingly subtle differences in the ways observers collect data and in their abilities in the field can yield data so variable as to mask all but the most pronounced of population changes. To reduce "measurement error" and ensure that all survey participants, most of whom are volunteers, have equal opportunity to see or hear the same proportions of individuals, Robbins insisted on strict adherence to a standardized methodology. This included establishing well-defined observer quality standards and deploying sampling protocols developed via an intensive series of experimental counts performed across the continent by Robbins and his colleagues, resulting in the formation of the international bird monitoring program known as the North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS).

Since its inception in 1966, the BBS has become the primary source of long-term, large-scale population data for more than 400 of North America's breeding bird species. This volunteer-based program continues its fruitful legacy in North America under the joint coordination of staff from the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and the Mexican National Committee for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity. No other single resource provides as much scientifically defensible data regarding the continent's breeding bird populations as the BBS. It was the analysis of BBS data in the late 1980s that revealed



widespread declines of neotropical migrant birds in eastern woodlands, sending a shockwave through the bird management and conservation communities. These findings even led to the formation of North America's most comprehensive bird conservation organization, Partners in Flight.

The BBS has measured the remarkable recoveries of Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, and Bald Eagle populations, to name a few, since the time in 1972 when the use of DDT was banned in the U.S. With its relatively simple field protocol, highly skilled volunteer workforce, and standardized, scientifically rigorous sampling design, the BBS continues to alert us to ongoing threats and is perched to make valuable insights into the plight of our bird populations for a long time to come. I look forward to sharing more on how the BBS, and birders like you, continue to count for the birds!

Have You Read a Good Bird Book Lately?

IF YOU HAVE READ A GOOD BIRD BOOK LATELY, PLEASE TELL US about it. It doesn't have to be about birds exclusively, but about conservation, nature in general, or other related topics. I'm not looking for a review, necessarily, but just recommendations of good books you've run across. Let the rest of us know, so we can read them too.

Important Dates

THIRD FRIDAY—April 18–20, 2014
Spring Meeting, Dauphin Island, Alabama

SECOND FRIDAY—October 10–12, 2014
Fall Meeting, Dauphin Island, Alabama

FOURTH FRIDAY—January 23–25, 2015
Winter Meeting, TBA

AOS SPRING MEETING 2014

Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Alabama, April 18–20, 2014

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

- 3:00 p.m. Registration at Shelby Center
 6:00 p.m. Social Hour and Pot Luck at Shelby Center
 7:00 p.m. Members Slide Show

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

- 7:00 a.m. Field Trips—meet at DISL
 11:30 a.m. Lunch at the Stowers' house, 1618 Cadillac Ave.
 1:30 p.m. Board meeting—Galathea Hall
 6:00 p.m. Open bar social at Shelby Center
 6:45 p.m. Banquet at Sea Lab
 7:45 p.m. Program—Keith Pardieck

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

- 12:00 p.m. Compilation—Goat Tree

ACCOMMODATIONS AND INFORMATION

Motels

Gulf Breeze and Harbor Lights Motel: (800) 286-0296

Rentals

Boardwalk Realty, Inc: (877) 861-3992
 Dauphin Island Real Estate: (888) 707-6444
 Tyson Real Estate: (251) 861-8312
 Pickett Real Estate: (800) 861-3646
 Island Real Estate: (877) 219-7392
 ACP Real Estate, Inc.: (866) 861-3311

Websites

www.gulfinfo.com and www.dauphinisland.cc

FRIDAY NIGHT POT LUCK IS BACK!!!

Don't forget to bring your favorite appetizer, snack, dessert, etc. for the social hour.

NOTE: Until further notice, spring and fall banquets are limited to the first 120 people.

AOS SPRING MEETING 2014 REGISTRATION FORM

Complete and return to:

Rufina Ward, 1689 Longleaf Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35806

Telephone: (256) 837-5646 • E-mail: phinken@wowway.com

Please make checks payable to AOS. Checks must be received by April 9, 2014.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

AOS DUES Student: \$10 • Individual: \$25 • Family: \$40 • Sustaining: \$50

Life (individual): \$350 • Life (family): \$550

SEA LAB

Friday Night

How Many _____ Amount \$ _____

Saturday Night

How Many _____ Amount \$ _____

Do not contact SeaLab directly

Registration @ \$25 per person	\$
Banquet @ \$21 per person	\$
Sea Lab @ \$20 per person per night	\$
AOS 2014 Dues	\$
DIBS Land Purchase Fund Contribution	\$
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$

ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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1689 Longleaf Drive NW,
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e-mail: phinken@wowway.com

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Sustaining: \$50 • Life (individual): \$350
Life (family): \$550



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TELEPHONE HOTLINE:
256-773-8560

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