



# Georgia Ornithological Society

FOUNDED 1936

## RESULTS OF GOS SPRING 2001 MEETING AND SPECIES COUNTDOWN

27 - 29 April 2001

Macon, GA

Eugenia Thompson and Gail Russell, Meeting Planners

81 Registered Participants



Eighty-one folks signed up for our "return to Macon," seventy of whom broke bread with us on Saturday evening. Twenty or so of those had been with us fifteen years ago for our 50th Anniversary meeting in that same Ramada Inn with Roger Tory Peterson as our honored guest. Dick Parks was observing the 55th anniversary on that very day of his first GOS meeting, making him the senior member present. The meeting space was much better than our first time there, the banquet quite tasty and the field trips and programs outstanding, but, sadly, the sleeping rooms and front desk expertise were not up to standard. That happens sometimes when you book nearly a year in advance.

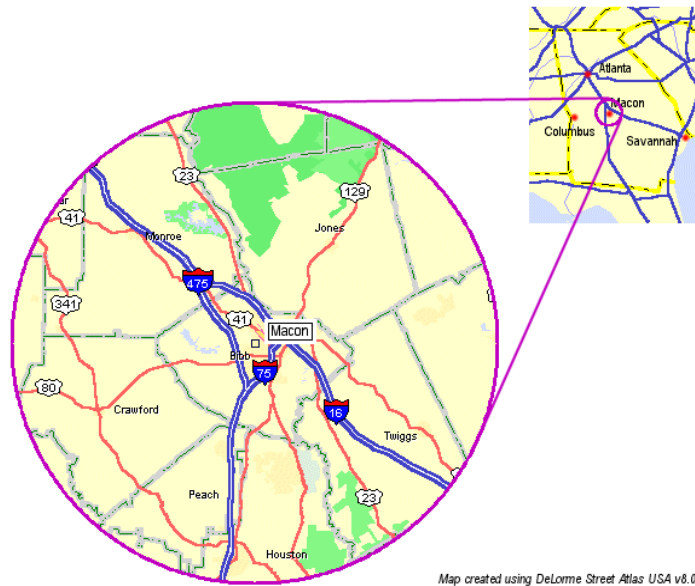
Ocmulgee Audubon President Dr. Jim Ferrari got the meeting off to a fine start Friday evening with his entertaining and informative talk on bird-plant interactions, or how the apple can fall far from the tree with a little help. Based on three year's observations on and around the Wesleyan University campus where he teaches. Jim found for one thing that more species are attracted to natural foods than to bird feeders, so plant those shrubs and trees around your homes, folks.

Field trips organized by Jerry Amerson and led by Jerry and Marie, Ty Ivey, Bob Sargent, Todd Schneider and Nancy Gobris rewarded participants with 135 species of birds in the two days of looking, including 21 species of warblers. This bested the 97 count for the anniversary weekend in 1986 by a considerable amount and there were 275 birders in the field then, including Roger Tory himself!!

A short business meeting Saturday evening gained approval for two additions to the society's by-laws creating the offices of Historian and Web-master. That taken care of, we reached the high point of the week-end with the presentation by Bob and Martha Sargent of Clay, Alabama, well known and highly regarded for their work as founders of The Hummer/Bird Study Group (HBSG). Since the group began the serious study and observation of hummers in the early '90's they have banded over 20,000 individuals and documented eleven species east of the Mississippi in addition to the Ruby-throat, which was once thought to be our only eastern species. Eight of those species have been found in Georgia. Capturing our rapt attention with spectacular color slides of his subjects, Bob made the additional point that hummers are genetically imprinted with their migratory behavior and will not overstay their time at Georgia feeders, so leave the feeders up by all means and keep an eye out for unusual visitors. The vital work of HBSG is entirely supported by members, and membership is open to all interested persons at \$15 a year mailed to P.O. Box 250, Clay, AL, 35048-0250. Nuff said.

Silent and live auctions of prints and other items of interest and value to birders following the meeting raised over \$1,000 for the H. Branch Howe, Jr., Graduate Student Research Grant program. The success of this first effort encourages us to repeat the event from time to time.

Submitted by Kenneth B. (Ken) Clark



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## FIELD TRIPS AND LEADERS

### Jerry Amerson, Field Trip Coordinator

#### Saturday, 28 April 2001

Bond Swamp Trails  
(Bob Sargent)

Macon Industrial Area  
(Ty Ivey)

Piedmont National Monument  
(Nancy Gobris)

Levee & Ocmulgee National Monument  
(Jerry Amerson)

Rum Creek WMA  
(Todd Schneider)

#### Sunday, 29 April 2001

Bond Swamp Trails  
(Bob Sargent)

Macon Industrial Area  
(Ty Ivey)

Levee & Lower Poplar St  
(Jerry Amerson)

Rum Creek WMA  
(Todd Schneider)

## SPECIES COUNTDOWN

### Jerry Amerson, Compiler

*138 species observed*

The following table contains a list of the species reported from the various field trips:

Pied-billed Grebe	Least Sandpiper	American Crow	American Redstart
Double-crested Cormorant	Pectoral Sandpiper	Fish Crow	Prothonotary Warbler
Anhinga	Long-billed Dowitcher	Purple Martin	Swainson's Warbler
American Bittern	Common Snipe	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Northern Waterthrush
Least Bittern	Ring-billed Gull	Cliff Swallow	Louisiana Waterthrush
Great Blue Heron	Rock Dove	Barn Swallow	Kentucky Warbler

Great Egret	Eurasian Collared-Dove	Carolina Chickadee	Common Yellowthroat
Little Blue Heron	Mourning Dove	Tufted Titmouse	Hooded Warbler
Cattle Egret	Common Ground-Dove	Brown-headed Nuthatch	Yellow-breasted Chat
Green Heron	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Carolina Wren	Summer Tanager
Black Vulture	Eastern Screech-Owl	Sedge Wren	Scarlet Tanager
Turkey Vulture	Barred Owl	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Eastern Towhee
Canada Goose	Common Nighthawk	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Bachman's Sparrow
Wood Duck	Chuck-will's-widow	Eastern Bluebird	Chipping Sparrow
Mallard	Whip-poor-will	Wood Thrush	Field Sparrow
Blue-winged Teal	Chimney Swift	American Robin	Savannah Sparrow
Lesser Scaup	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Gray Catbird	Song Sparrow
Osprey	Belted Kingfisher	Northern Mockingbird	Swamp Sparrow
Mississippi Kite	Red-headed Woodpecker	Brown Thrasher	White-throated Sparrow
Bald Eagle	Red-bellied Woodpecker	European Starling	White-crowned Sparrow
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Downy Woodpecker	Cedar Waxwing	Northern Cardinal
Cooper's Hawk	Red-cockaded Woodpecker	Blue-winged Warbler	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Red-shouldered Hawk	Northern Flicker	Northern Parula	Blue Grosbeak
Broad-winged Hawk	Pileated Woodpecker	Yellow Warbler	Indigo Bunting
Red-tailed Hawk	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Cape May Warbler	Painted Bunting
Wild Turkey	Acadian Flycatcher	Black-throated Blue Warbler	Red-winged Blackbird
Northern Bobwhite	Eastern Phoebe	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Eastern Meadowlark
Virginia Rail	Great Crested Flycatcher	Blackburnian Warbler	Common Grackle
Common Moorhen	Eastern Kingbird	Yellow-throated Warbler	Brown-headed Cowbird
American Coot	Loggerhead Shrike	Pine Warbler	Orchard Oriole
Semipalmated Plover	White-eyed Vireo	Prairie Warbler	Baltimore Oriole
Killdeer	Yellow-throated Vireo	Palm Warbler	House Finch
Lesser Yellowlegs	Blue-headed Vireo	Blackpoll Warbler	American Goldfinch
Solitary Sandpiper	Red-eyed Vireo	Black-and-white Warbler	House Sparrow
Spotted Sandpiper	Blue Jay		

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8/2013