

THE GOSHAWK NEWSLETTER IS
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE
GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL
SOCIETY.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

TO: Georgia Ornithological Society
P. Box 1684
Cartersville, GA 30120

Please enroll the undersigned as a member of the Georgia Ornithological Society for the calendar year. Dues are enclosed as follows:

_____ Regular	\$12.00	_____ Sustaining	\$20.00
_____ Patron	\$50.00		
(The above are annual rates for individuals or families.)			
_____ Life Membership	\$150.00	_____ Student	\$ 8.00/per year

Please send me a list of the publications available from the GOS.

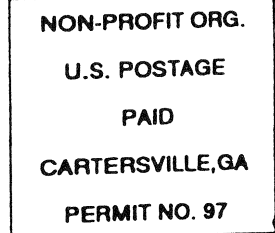
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NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1684
Cartersville, GA 30120



NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 20 NO. 3

SEPTEMBER 1993

RARE BIRD ALERT PHONE NUMBER: 404 509-0204

FALL GOS MEETING
RAMADA INN, JEKYLL ISLAND
October 8-10

We return to our favorite haunt - Jekyll Island, for the fall meeting. Rooms (\$39 single or double) may be reserved by contacting RAMADA INN on Jekyll; 150 South Beachview Drive; Jekyll Island, GA 31527; phone (800) 835-2110. You may register for the meeting (\$8.00 per person over 16), and make reservations for the Saturday night banquet (\$13.50) by sending your check to Ken Clark; Route 2, 8247 Lower Thomaston Road; Macon, GA 31210, or call him at (912) 935-2178.

Friday's speaker will be Ph.D candidate Sara Robertson Morris, who will discuss *Patterns of Migration on Appledore Island, Maine*. Saturday afternoon, Sara will give an Advanced Bird Identification Workshop (or Taking the Sexism out of Birding). Designed for birders of any level. This workshop uses close-up slides of birds in the hand.

The Saturday banquet speaker is Bruce Hallett, professional bird tour guide, who's topic is *Springtime in the Dry Tortugas*. Through slides, he covers this unique area, the birds of the Tortugas, their distribution and natural history. Since his first trip there in 1980, Bruce's enthusiasm for the Dry Tortugas has not diminished.

Field trip coordinator, Phyllis Bowen, has lined up some excellent field trip leaders: Mike Chapman, Loraine Deusenberry, Malcolm Hodges, Gary Drury, Paul Raney, and Lydia Thompson, who will conduct trips to all of the great birding spots in the area.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I wish to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to the membership for the privilege of serving as president of the GOS since 1989. I am also grateful for the strong support that I received from the Executive Committee, which sets policy and manages the affairs of the Society. The election at the meeting next month on Jekyll Island will provide us new leadership as indicated by the slate elsewhere in this issue.

Another agenda item at that meeting will be a vote on revised bylaws, updated by a committee seeking a better fit to our current needs. I urge you to read your copy of the revision when you receive it so as to renew your understanding of how the GOS is organized and administered.

During the past four years, the GOS has moved ahead both by building on the past accomplishments of others as well as by starting some new initiatives. The GOS is involved in many activities, considerably more, in fact, than holding semiannual meetings and publishing our journal and newsletter. I should like to mention some of those activities briefly, to remind you of the breadth of our involvement.

The GOS began a modest annual Graduate Student Research Grant Program in 1991, with Funds from the sale of prints of the Orchard Oriole painted by Charter Member Roger Tory Peterson for the cover of our journal. Grants have now been made to three promising graduate students in ornithology, one of whom will speak at the meeting next month. Meanwhile, Peterson's original painting, which he donated to the Society, is on loan for public display at the Fernbank Science Center in Atlanta.

The GOS acquired its first computer and printer in 1991, to improve the format of our newsletter, GOShawk, and to meet other increasing needs. The fourth edition of A Birder’s Guide to Georgia was published in 1992, in our ongoing Occasional Publications series. The Oriole continues its valuable service as our scientific journal.

The GOS joined the Environmental Fund for Georgia, Inc. in 1992, along with a number of other organizations concerned with wildlife and the environment. The EFG will attempt to raise money for its member organizations by seeking access to workplaces for the purpose of soliciting employee contributions through payroll deductions. This is a bold new move for the GOS; however, Funds of this kind have been formed already in a dozen other states.

The GOS adopted the 1.2 mile Orange Nature Trail at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, in Athens, in 1991, as a program of service to the environment. Funds for the enhancement and upkeep of this appropriately marked trail come from donations in honor of, or in memory of, family and friends.

Pelagic birding trips leaving from Savannah and proceeding either to the Snapper Banks (50 miles offshore) or to the Gulf Stream (80-100 miles offshore) are offered through the GOS several time annually. A Rare Bird Alert telephone service is available under GOS auspices to keep interested persons informed of current rare bird sightings.

Participation by the GOS in the New North American Migration Count, based on countywide counts on second Saturdays in May, began with five counties in 1992. A GOS member began serving this year as the state coordinator. Increased participation is anticipated as this new program attracts wider interest.

The Nongame Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources asked for GOS assistance in the authentication of unusual sightings and in developing bird checklists for Georgia Wildlife Management Areas. The Nature Conservancy of Georgia asked the GOS to census birds on several of its preserves and easements.

The GOS is an institutional, dues-paying member of the Georgia Environmental Council and the Georgia Conservancy and makes donations from Peterson print sales to the new Peterson Institute in his hometown, Jamestown, NY. The Society has contributed financially to the annual Weekend for Wildlife of the Nongame Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and has also contributed to the Jekyll Island Banding Station, the Southeast Land Preservation Trust, the Big Trees Preserve in North Fulton County, and the establishment of the new American Birding Association Youth Education Program.

I hope that you will see sufficient merit in our activities throughout the state and beyond to warrant maintaining your continued support of the GOS. We also need to enlarge our membership, including attracting more young people. We should strive to be the kind of statewide ornithological society to which individuals and some dozen local bird clubs in the state look for membership, coordination, and guidance. With continued diligent effort, we can be.

H. Branch Howe, Jr.

VULTURE INFORMATION WANTED

Shane Keating, an independent filmmaker, is working on a project about North American Turkey and Black Vultures and is in search of vulture roosts. He would appreciate being informed of roosts anywhere, but especially in Georgia. He will be filming eating habits, soaring displays, courtship, mating, rearing of young, etc. Also, anyone who is knowledgeable about vultures, or people having strong opinions (negative or positive), are encouraged to contact Mr. Keating.

Since the film will be generally light and somewhat tongue-in-cheek, yet biologically informative, he needs, in addition to behavioral footage, amusing stories, anecdotes, jokes, songs, myths, and any sort of folk tales you may happen to know about vultures. Contact Shane Keating; 124 Arbor Circle; Tucker, GA 30084.

SPRING ON DAUPHIN ISLAND
COMBINED 1994 GOS-AOS MEETING

Mark your calendars now for April 15-17, 1994. The Alabama Ornithological Society (AOS) and GOS are planning a combined meeting on Dauphin Island, Alabama. Two floors at Sea Lab (the old Air Force barracks) have been reserved. They feature dormitory style rooms at \$12.50 per person, two to a room, with a bath down the hall. A banquet will be catered there. Island motels provide alternate choices if this is too much togetherness for some folks. This Gulf island meeting usually results in over 150 species excitedly sighted and shared as migrants make their first landfall. Join GOS now to get more details, or call Helen Ogren (404) 475-7218, or Ken Clark (912) 935-2178.

a WINTER WREN between 3,650-3,850 feet along the old firetower access road on the north side of Rabun Bald. In Georgia, the species is known to breed only at Brasstown Bald. This wren may well have nested at this relatively low altitude with extensive ideal habitat.

An unusual sighting was a WARBLING VIREO seen by JS,CL,BD& RR at Kennesaw Mountain on 5/15. An excellent yard species in Atlanta for JS&CL was CERULEAN WARBLER with two on 7/24 and one on 7/25 and 7/31. DF&BY found a new breeding location for the CANADA WARBLER on Slaughter Mountain in Union County, elevation 4,100 ft. where one male was seen carrying three worms in its beak for the young (6/23). WORM-EATING WARBLERS were seen and heard at Ft. Stewart: 2 on 4/27, 1 on 4/28, and 1 on 5/3 (SW). DF,HO,&BB had BLACKBURNIAN WARBLERS at Testnatee Gap, and two locations at Neel’s Gap during May with one on 5/14 at Neel’s Gap carrying nest material. GOLD and BLUE-WINGED WARBLERS were observed on a 5/2 field trip by DF,AW,TC,EC,& MJ in Union County. CGAS reported a HENSLOW’s SPARROW with all the field marks on 4/10 at Paulks Pasture.

CE had 5 male and 8 female PURPLE FINCHES at her feeder in Augusta all of March.A&VW had one in their yard there on 3/19, and 1 female at Merry Ponds on 3/26. Six were observed near the dam at Clarks Hill on 3/29 and a late individual was studied by GR along the Augusta canal on 5/8. Nine RED CROSSBILLS on 4/21 at Lake Chatuge recreation Area in Townes County was a good find by DF and class. One was observed in April in Fannin County by NS. PINE SISKIN appeared on 4/4, 5/8 & 5/15, with 20 individuals being reported by DF&JH.

SW worked at Ft. Stewart 4/13-5/7, doing a bird survey for the Army Corps of Engineers checking plots on the base. Species noted on a regular basis include ACADIAN FLYCATCHER, WOOD THRUSH, PRAIRIE WARBLER, HOODED WARBLER, and BACHMAN’s SPARROW. Unfortunately, often cowbirds were noted in the vicinity. The base also had a remarkable number of RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER colonies. She also observed the young BALD EAGLE which hatched this year on the base which was still in the nest but had grown quite a bit. Also, on 5/3, a SWALLOW-TAILED KITE flying over the Canoochee River there was a special treat.

CONTRIBUTORS: Beverly Bradley, Patrick Brisse, Jim Buckley, Coastal Georgia Audubon Society, Ellen Cowgill, Tess Cumbie, Bruce Dralle, Carol Edgridge, Barbara Edwards, Mary Elfner, Virginia & Steve Felker, Dot Freeman, Georgia Ornithological Society, Jim Hendrix, Joel Hitt (JHi), Malcolm Hodges, Dorothy Hollis, Brock Hutchins, Paul Johnson, Mary Jones, Carol Lambert, Bob Loftin, Mark Oberle, Helen Ogren, Okefenokee Bird Club, Robert Rafael, George Reeves, Nedra Sekera, Joel Volpi, Anne & Vernon Waters, Sheila Willis, Anne Wyand, and Ben Young.

DR. ROGER TORY PETERSON PRINT "ORCHARD ORIOLE"

Georgia Ornithological Society has available a limited number of "Orchard Oriole prints produced from the original painting by Dr. Roger Tory Peterson. Each print is numbered and has been personally signed by Dr. Peterson.

You may be interested in the events which led up to the production of this special print. Dr. Peterson is a founding member of the society and his monochrome sketch of the Orchard Oriole graced the cover of our journal THE ORIOLE for fifty years. As part of the Society’s 50th anniversary celebration in 1986, Dr. Peterson agreed to paint the Orchard Oriole in color to be used to prepare a full color cover for our journal. In addition, he allowed the Society to prepare a limited number of prints from the original painting.

Our resident Georgia artist, Richard A. Parks, closely monitored the production of the print to assure that it is of the highest quality and it is truly a beautiful print done on 11" by 14" heavy stock.

The Society will send you this unique print for a fully paid donation of \$125.00. Your check should be made payable to GOS. Print numbers will be assigned in the order received, and your print will be sent promptly to you flat in a heavy mailing box. The mailing address is GOS, P.O. Box 1278, Cartersville, GA 30120.

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

_____PRINTS @ \$125.00 each

TOTAL ENCLOSED_____Payable to GOS

Fiend Sparrow data needed for the Birds of North America project. Especially needed is information on migration, winter molts, weights, and measurements. Contact Michael Carey; Dept. of Biology; Univ. of Scranton; Scranton, PA 18510-4625.

Cooper’s Hawk nesting sites are sought in Georgia. Doug Howell is interested in any information on active or inactive nesting sites for inclusion in a study of the ecology of this species in Georgia. He is also interested in obtaining taped vocalizations of the Cooper’s Hawk, as well as the Great Horned Owl to aid in locating specific nesting sites. Contact Doug at Warnell School of Forest Resources; Univ. of Georgia; Athens, GA 30602-2152; (706-542-2686).

WANTED: Constructive criticism: **HAWKS**, the Peterson series raptor field guide is being revised and constructive criticism on the original edition is welcomed. Send to Bill Clark; 4554 Shetland Green Road; Alexandria, VA 22312.

A nation-wide network of population monitoring sites for the Swainson’s Warbler is being developed for the USFWS. Initial efforts will focus on locating relatively large breeding populations (> 10 males per day, on foot). However, locations of all territorial birds are needed to document the current range. Contact Gary Graves; Division of Birds; National Museum of Natural History; Smithsonian Institution; Washington, DC 20560.

The Center for Field Research invites proposals for ornithological field research to be conducted in 1994. CFR recommends projects to the funding organization, EarthWatch. EarthWatch recruits nonspecialist, English-speaking volunteers to assist scientists with data collection. Field grants average \$15,000 when 20 Earthwatch volunteers are utilized over the course of a field research session. Proposals should be received one year in advance of anticipated field dates. Contact Dee Robbins; Program Director; The Center for Field Research; 680 Mt. Auburn Street; Watertown, MA 02172.

A symposium entitled **Adaptations of Raptors to Human-Altered Environments** will be held at the annual meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation in Charlotte, NC on November 3-7, 1993.

FIELD NOTES

Unusual at Merry Ponds, Augusta, was one COMMON LOON on 4/21 still in winter plumage (A&VW). BL, on a GOS field trip, saw one DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT on 5/15 at Lake Chatuge, Townes County. JS&CL found three adult, two nest, and four young YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERONS in a residential area off Cheshire Bridge Road in Atlanta.

On 6/25, MO observed about 20 immature WHITE IBIS flying overhead at tree-top level on DeKalb County, Atlanta. The birds were on an East-Southeast heading. On 6/20, JB was bicycling near Douglasville and saw 5 adult WHITE IBIS flying overhead. These may be the earliest summer records of ibis in the Atlanta area. Speculation is they may have been searching for feeding grounds earlier than usual in 1993 because south Georgia has been hit by drought after several relatively wet years, as compared with north Georgia which has had near-average rainfall levels.

AMERICAN BITTERN on 3/17 and LEAST BITTERN on 6/6 were seen on OBC field trips. SW observed one adult MISSISSIPPI KITE at Altamaha Wildlife Management Area (6/6). MISSISSIPPI KITES nest in Augusta but the two adults seen over the levee on 4/17 pushed back the arrival date by 8 days (A&VW). Two OSPREY were seen at Lake Blalock, Clayton County, on 7/3 and 7/10 (JS,CL,BD). JS&CL report one BALD EAGLE on 7/18 at E.L. Huie Land Application Facility.

One pair of LEAST BITTERN (4/30) were nesting at Merry Ponds, Augusta and at least two KING RAIL were calling there on 4/24 where they also nest (A&VW). Brasstown Bald yielded one RUFFED GROUSE 5/8 and 5/16 (DF,JH, JHi,GOS), and one was also seen on 5/24 at Blue Ridge Gap, Rabun County. JS&CL saw eight WILSON’s PLOVERS and 60-70 SEMIPALMATED PLOVERS at the old marina on Jekyll Island (6/19-20). An estimated 250 pairs of BLACK-NECKED STILTS were nesting on Rhetts Island, Altamaha State Waterfowl Management Area, McIntosh County 6/15 (MH), with 20 pairs of GULL-BILLED TERNS and 80 GLOSSY IBIS at the same location. FORSTER’s TERNS are rare in the interior; therefore, noteworthy was one adult in breeding plumage seen 3/27 (A&VW).

A BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO was heard at Ft. Stewart on 5/6 (SW&ME). While birding the Blue Ridge Parkway 5/29&30, PJ, BE&DH fount two SAW-WHET OWLS! A GRAY KINGBIRD was at the Convention Center, Jekyll Island again this year 6/20 (JS&CL). CLIFF SWALLOWS are extending their range south toward the fall line, with A&VW finding 2-3 nests under highway 378 bridge over the Savannah River on the Georgia side. This is the second year they have been there. Twenty BANK SWALLOWS were at E.L. Huie Land Application Facility Ponds on 5/22 (JS,PB,BH).

DF had a WINTER WREN on 4/23 at 3,200 ft. in Sosbe Cove, Union County heard and seen. On 6/18, JV heard and saw

FRIENDS OF DAUPHIN ISLAND AUDUBON SANCTUARY

P.O. BOX 848
DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA 36528

The Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuary was originally a project of the Mobile Bird Club. Under the leadership of Dr. Wilson M. Gaillard, the property was leased from the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board for a nominal amount. In 1967, in the belief that it would be better protected from the pressures of real estate development, the sanctuary was placed under the aegis of the National Audubon Society as a functional part of their nationwide system of wildlife sanctuaries.

Twenty-five years later, in 1992, the National Audubon Society decided that they could no longer support the Sanctuary. The Alabama Audubon Council provided the necessary leadership in organizing the Friends of the Dauphin Island Audubon Sanctuary, Inc., a non-profit Alabama corporation, to assume the lease and take responsibility for the support and management of the Sanctuary. The **Friends** have joined with the Dauphin Island Sea Lab in designing a management plan for the Sanctuary and to provide for maintenance. With these two organizations and the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board working together, this 164 acres of woods, lake, marsh, dunes and beach will be preserved and continue to be a sanctuary for bird and man alike.

You may become a member of **Friends of the Dauphin Island Audubon Sanctuary** by making your check payable to FODIAS and sending it to the above address, c/o Charles Kennedy, Treasurer. Membership categories include Student - \$5, Adult - \$10, Family - \$15, Donor - \$50, Contributing - \$75, Supporting - \$100, Sustaining \$200, Life \$500, Family Life \$750. For further information, call John Porter (205) 861-2120.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE

At the October 9, 1993 business meeting of the Society, members will be asked to consider and vote on a change in the bylaws of the Society pertaining to dues. The proposed amendment would change the dues for the following categories of membership:

CATEGORY	PRESENT	PROPOSED
Regular	\$ 12.00	\$ 16.00
Sustaining	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00
Life	\$150.00	\$250.00

The executive Committee of the Society has proposed this amendment due to rising publication costs including printing and postage. It should be noted that GOS last increased dues in 1982, over 10 years ago.

GOS ELECTION OF OFFICERS AT FALL MEETING

Committee members, Ruth Shepler, Joel Hitt and chair, John Swiderski, have nominated the following slate to serve as officers for a two year term beginning this October:

President	-	Helen Ogren, Atlanta
First Vice-president	-	Jack Cooper, Augusta
Second Vice-president	-	Eugenia Thompson, Athens
Secretary	-	Didi Manns, Atlanta
Treasurer	-	Doug Phillips, Atlanta

☺ NEW MEMBERS ☺

Jan & Norm Bennett	Hiawassee, GA	Steve Holzman	Atlanta, GA
Pat Davis	Valdosta, GA	Charles & Ina James	Athens, GA
Ricky Davis	Zebulon, NC	Charles Lockwood	Douglas, GA
Richard Ellenberg	Atlanta, GA	Todd Schneider	Forsyth, GA
James Harrell, MD	Valdosta, GA	Donald O. Sheppard	Sylvaina, GA
Paige Harvey	Atlanta, GA	Louise Schriber	Lithonia, GA
Kevin Hennings	Charlotte, NC	Dr. Thomas Simpson	Baltimore, MD
Malcolm F. Hodges	Darien, GA	Jim & Janet Throne	Savannah, GA

PELAGIC TRIP

The last pelagic trip for 1993 will be November 14th. For further information, contact Bill Blakeslee at 1722 Noble Drive, N.E.; Atlanta, GA 30306-3142; (404) 881-6570.

UPDATE ON OUR AFFILIATION WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL FUND FOR GEORGIA

So far, the Environmental Fund for Georgia has 13 affiliate members and one associate member:
Affiliates: Atlanta Audubon, Campaign for a Prosperous Georgia, Elachee Nature Science Center, Environmental Community Action (Eco-Action), Georgia Ornithological society, Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation, Museum of Arts and Sciences (Macon), the Nature Conservancy of Georgia, Outdoor Activity Center, Sautee-Nacoochee Community Association, Sierra Club Foundation, Southface Energy Institute, and Trust for Public Land.
Associate: Southern Environmental Law Center.

The organization name, **ENVIRONMENTAL FUND FOR GEORGIA**, will appear on the pledge cards of all federal employees in the several-county Atlanta, Columbus, Macon, and Savannah areas, so that employees will have the opportunity to commit a portion of their income each pay period to the Environmental Fund for Georgia, of which GOS will get its proportional share.

But you see the challenge, don't you? How are all these federal employees going to be encouraged to notice that they have this new opportunity to give to the environment? In some situations there may be meetings to which EFG can send a representative who will make a short presentation. There may also be opportunities to distribute brochures or display a poster. However, most of the information will have to be passed by work of mouth. If you yourself, or friends or family are federal employees, won't you sign up for a modest payroll deduction for the environment and persuade others to do so, too?

The EFG Board is in touch with many private companies and entities such as city governments and school systems (with more than 100 employees) to arrange to be included in their giving campaigns. As of August 4th, EFG is certain of Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta. We will try to keep you informed of other employers throughout the state to whom we have gained access.

Could you yourself make a contact with your employer or with a large employer in your area to make him/her aware of this new opportunity for employees in Georgia? Please call Alice Rolls, EFG Director, (404) 873-3173, for more information; or call your conservation chairman, Georgine Pindar (404) 355-8454.

Let's all help to make this new venture a success!
 Georgine Pindar, Nancy Iha, and Ruth Shepler

Dr. Robert W. Loftin who was the Saturday evening speaker for the spring GOS meeting in Hiawassee, died on August 13 after an extended illness. Dr. Loftin was Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at University of North Florida at Jacksonville, where he also taught Field Ornithology. A life GOS member, Dr. Loftin published several articles on Georgia birds as well as compiled the Georgia index to *American Birds* published by GOS, and was currently working on an annotated bibliography of Georgia ornithology. Condolences may be sent to Dr. Loftin's wife, Penny, at 8039 Hilsdale Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32216. Donations in Dr. Loftin's memory may be sent to the Nature Conservancy.

GOS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ABSTRACTS
FEBRUARY 20, 1993

A description of GOS's research grant will be included in the 3rd edition of *Grants, Awards and Prizes in Ornithology*, published by the AOU in hopes of increasing the number of applications that GOS receives for this grant.

The **State Board of Natural Resources** approved, on October 28, 1992, additional plants and animals for the Georgia protected species list. These additions were from recommendations made by Georgia scientists at the request of the Georgia DNR. These were the first additions of plants and animals to the list since 1974. Species added include 26 endangered (most at risk) and 135 threatened, rare or unusual.

GOS had 237 dues paying members, 143 life members and 33 organizations/library members for a total of 413 members.

Ways to encourage birding among youngsters was discussed. AOU has published *Career Opportunities in Ornithology* which Branch has a supply of for interested persons.

MAY 15, 1993

Georgine distributed copies of Atlanta Audubon Society's monthly *Armchair Activist* to the committee. She recommends it to help keep current on environmental legislation and on which political representatives to contact.

Branch urged GOS to continue to pay attention to the State Botanical Garden of GA, which will have a chapel there soon donated by Dean Day Smith. There was discussion of a possible bird checklist for the entire garden.

The committee approved the adoption of Ken Clark's **Handbook for 1st and 2nd Vice-presidents - Planning and Conducting GOS Meetings**.

The GOS Graduate Student Research Grant appeared on page 36-37 in the third edition of *Grants, Awards, and Prizes in Ornithology*.

Dick Parks prepared three proposed mock-ups of the word "goshawk" for the newsletter title to emphasize its play on words. The committee chose one of them to use on the June 1993 newsletter.

A letter was received on 4/10/93 thanking GOS for a \$100 donation to the Joseph W. Taylor Memorial Fund for Youth Education, and a letter on 5/12/93 announcing the immediate start of the ABA Youth Education Program funded by the Taylor Fund.

John Swiderski mentioned that four teenagers were members of the Roger Tory Peterson team for ABA's upcoming World Series of Birding.

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER ABSTRACTS
(AOU; ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS; COOPER AND WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETIES)

The American Ornithologists' Union, the Cooper Ornithological Society, and the Wilson Ornithological Society will hold their 1994 annual meetings jointly at the University of Montana; Missoula, MT; June 21-26, 1994.

Fourteen Whooping Cranes were transported to Florida in January 1993, as part of a cooperative reintroduction effort by the USFWS, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. The reintroduction is part of an endangered species recovery program to establish a second, self-sustaining wild flock. The birds were fitted with leg-band-mounted radio telemetry transmitters and released within the State's Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area in south-central Florida, part of the nearly 260,000-acre Kissimmee Prairie.

The Eastern Bird Banding Association invites all licensed banders to participate in Operation Wing Chord during 1993 to test the hypothesis that the sex of birds of six species currently considered sexually monomorphic is correlated with wing chord. The species to be studied are: Blue Jay, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Northern Waterthrush, Northern Mockingbird, Wood Thrush and Veery. Wing chord data on birds of known sex are needed. Contact Susannah K. Graedel; 3 Talmadge Road; Mendham, NJ 07945.

A session on the ecology, habitats and conservation of *Picidae* is planned at the 21st International Ornithologist's Congress in Vienna, Austria, August 1994. Invited papers will be presented that discuss current research on woodpeckers worldwide.

One of the largest raptor migrations in the world, 2.5 million birds, was documented in Veracruz, Mexico last fall by a team from Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, HawkWatch International and the Mexican conservation Ecosfera. The astounding migration included more than 900,000 Broad-winged Hawks, 400,000 Swainson's Hawks, and one million Turkey Vultures, putting Veracruz on the map with Eilat, Israel as a major migratory corridor.

The US Forest Service has issued guidelines that eliminate clear-cutting and old-growth harvest in the Sierra Nevada Mountain range of the California Spotted Owl. The service will cut no trees more than 30 inches in diameter, reducing timber harvest about 50 percent.