

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

TO: Georgia Ornithological Society  
P.O. Box 5825  
Valdosta, GA 31603-5825  
E-mail: [information@gos.org](mailto:information@gos.org)

**Current Members:**  
*Annual membership dues have been paid through the year shown adjacent to your name on the mailing label below.*

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Regular \$20.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining \$30.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ Patron \$50.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Student \$10.00

(The above are annual rates for individuals or families.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Life Membership \$300.00

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

NAME(S)

MAILING ADDRESS:

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE SEND ADDRESS, PHONE OR E-MAIL CHANGES TO:**  
Stacy Zarpentine, Membership Chair, 1736 Wood Creek Trail, Roswell, GA 30076  
<nuthatch3@aol.com>

# GOShawk



Newsletter of the Georgia Ornithological Society  
P.O. Box 5825  
Valdosta, GA 31603-5825

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
VALDOSTA, GA  
PERMIT NO. 271



a member of Earth Share  
OF GEORGIA



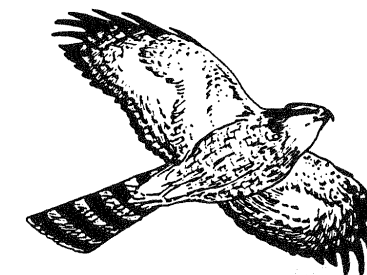
Printed on Recycled Paper

Vol. 29 No. 2

June 2002

# GOShawk

Newsletter of the Georgia Ornithological Society



Georgia Rare Bird Alert: (770) 493-8862

GOS on the web: [www.gos.org](http://www.gos.org)

## President's Message

### INPUT ON FORESTS NEEDED

By Gail Russell

Georgia is fortunate to have forested lands in the north Georgia mountains. Many of these are in the Chattahoochee National Forest. The U.S. Forest Service is currently in the process of revising the management plan for the Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests. Many of us participated in the "rolling alternatives" plan, which was presented at a number of public hearings and was modified as the process went along. After a long hiatus, the planning process is being activated again. The Forest Service plans to release a draft management plan by the end of this year and a final plan by the end of 2003.

Currently, I am aware of interest in three bird species. The Forest Service identified two small sections of the forest to have as priority the provision of habitat for Golden Winged Warblers as part of their "rolling alternative" plan. Recently the Ruffed Grouse Society has solicited support for Ruffed Grouse and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources has proposed a study of the Cerulean Warbler to be conducted in the Chattahoochee National Forest. Are there other bird species of interest?

Other issues pertaining to forest planning include protection of roadless areas, the addition of Mountain Town, Kelly Ridge and Rabun Bald as wilderness areas, and the management of off-road vehicles (ORV). Timber harvests were not a dominant theme at previous public hearings with minimal comments made (at

least publicly) by the timber industry. This may be due to the reduction/cessation of harvests by the Forest Service in recent years. However, the Forest Service remains a part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and commodity production probably remains part of its mission. I am not up-to-date on the issue of payments made to counties (due to forest lands not being in the tax base), although I am aware that many of the counties in North Georgia have been strapped for funds lately.

One of the issues related to the aforementioned concerns for bird species is the maintenance of some of the forest in an early successional state, meaning forested areas that are 0-10 years old. Often rotational schedules are proposed to maintain forested areas of varying ages. Thus, a certain number of acres will be cut (either clearcut, seed tree cut, selective cut etc.) to maintain areas of different ages. There is concern that not enough of the forest is currently early successional. I've seen the figure of 3 percent given, which would be approximately 22,000 acres (the total acreage for the Chattahoochee national forest is in the vicinity of 750,000). However, some of the early successional may be deemed not to be at the right elevation, location, etc. for certain purposes (e.g., Golden-winged warbler habitat). Thus, questions arise as to how much is needed as early successional, what kind of rotation would be required, where would the timber cuts be made, would it be done in patches, etc. I have heard it suggested that 10 percent early successional is desirable, that is 75,000 acres. Comments or input of any kind on these questions from the membership are welcome.

I welcome input from the membership regarding these issues.



## CONTENTS

President's Message	1
Member News	2 & 3
Awards	3
Spring Meeting	4 & 5
Book Review (AL Birding)	6
Pindar Memorial	7
Underbirded Areas	7

## Fall 2002 Meeting—Mark Your Calendars

The Fall 2002 Meeting will be October 4-6 on Jekyll Island at the Clarion Hotel



**Georgia  
Ornithological  
Society**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President	Gail Russell 770-956-8469
1st Vice President	Bob Sargent
2nd Vice President	Anne Mursch
Secretary	Nancy Gobris
Treasurer	Jeannie Wright
Business Mgr. (Acting)	John Swiderski
Historian	Ken Clark
Past President	John Swiderski
The Oriole, Editors	Ray Chandler John Parrish
GOShawk, Editor	Ted Reissing
Webmaster	Jim Flynn www.gos.org

**Committee Chairs:**

Checklist & Records:	Chuck Hunter 770-923-4742
Conservation:	Steve Livingston 404-315-6911
Earl Greene Award:	John Swiderski 229-242-8382
Editorial:	Georgann Schmalz 404-633-1527
Earth Share of Georgia:	Bill Lotz 404-261-1906
Membership:	Stacy Zarpentine 770-587-4073
Howe Research Grant	Bill Van Eseltine 706-543-3072

**Special Projects:**

Georgia Rare Bird Alert 770-493-8862  
Jeff Sewell, Compiler  
Joel Hitt, Internet Transcriber

GOShawk is published quarterly  
(March, June, September, December)

Ted Reissing, Editor  
5102 Hidden Branches Dr  
Dunwoody, GA 30338-3912  
770-393-1853  
<Tcreissing@aol.com>

Deadline for article submission is the 1st  
of the month prior to publication.  
Text by e-mail (arial) is appreciated.

**Welcome New Members!**

Angie M. L. Allman, *Dahlonega*  
Alan J. Ashley, *Albany*  
John & Sherry Boyer, *Fayetteville*  
Vicki & Harry DeLoach, *Marietta*  
Nannette Dooley, *Morrow*  
Stephen & Janice Freneire, *Gainesville*  
Jim Gilreath, *Bonaire*  
Mrs. Anne Greenwald, *Barnesville*  
John H. Hintermister, *Gainesville, FL*  
Carroll S. Kerr, *Loganville*  
Ann D. Mc Allister, *Pine Lake*  
Lisa McNamara & Steve Altom, *Decatur*  
Kathy Miller, *Decatur*  
Tom & Jenny Michaels, *Boxborough, MA*  
Kay & Edwin Poole, *Highlands, NC*  
Chris Skelton, *Watkinsville*  
Frankie Snow, *Douglas*  
Eric C. Soehren, *Auburn, AL*

**GOS LOSES TWO PAST PRESIDENTS**

By John Swiderski

WALLACE (Wally) D. DREYFOOS - a long-time member of GOS who maintained an active interest in birds and the environment throughout his life, passed away at age 78 on March 9, 2002 in Atlanta. Wally joined GOS in 1939 when he was a teenager and maintained his membership for 63 years. He was willing to help administer organizations to which he belonged and served as GOS President from 1973 to 1975. During his term in office GOS initiated a newsletter, the *GOShawk*. In conjunction with Terry Moore, Wally also started the Earle R. Greene Memorial Award to recognize achievement in ornithology as well as outstanding service to GOS.

He also served as President of Atlanta Audubon Society in the early 1970s when it was making the transition to being a chapter of National Audubon Society. He made his career with the Lockheed Company as an engineer and manager. His interest and abilities in the field of assembly line robotics took him literally all over the world.

Looking back at his 1974 President's Message in *The Oriole*, V39: p50, Wally stated in part that "that to have birds to see, study, and enjoy, the proper habitat must be present. To assure the continuation of this habitat requires that each of us support his or her local conservation organization. It is just this simple: tomorrow's birding depends on your actions today." Being one to put his advice into action, Wally supported the Georgia Conservancy as a Board Member and other capacities and played a part in the protection of the Chattahoochee River corridor in Atlanta.

He is survived by his wife, Jeanne, and two sons, William and Dale.

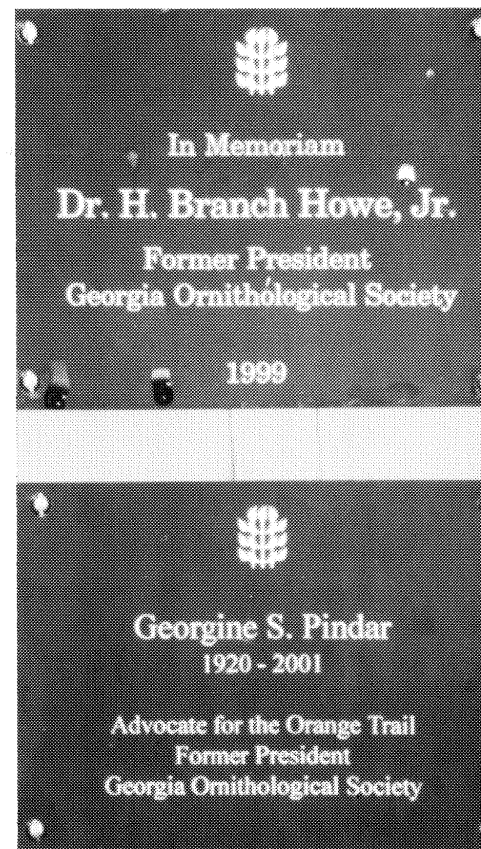
Cont. Pg. 3

**Georgine Pindar Memorial**

By Ted Reissing

The cool rain could not dampen the spirits of the group assembled to pay tribute to Georgine Pindar on Saturday May 18. The tribute was held in Athens, GA at the entrance of the Orange Trail in the State Botanical Garden. Georgine, GOS President from 1977-79, was instrumental in having our organization adopt the Trail. She proposed the adoption, got it approved and gained donations to help in its financing. Contributions are still being made in her memory (she passed away on 8/7/01).

Jane Kidd, Garden PR and Communications Director, Gail Russell and John Swiderski all spoke of what Georgine meant to the Garden, GOS and life in general. Her indomitable spirit lives on through a plaque that was placed at the trailhead as a memorial along with the one for Dr. H. Branch Howe, Jr. that was dedicated at an earlier date.



Plaques

Note: all photos in this issue courtesy of Ken Clark

**Featured Bird Site of the Quarter  
Lake Horton**

Ever see Orchard and Baltimore Orioles sitting on the same branch, Common Loons spending an entire summer, as many as 20 Blue Grosbeaks sitting in a row on telephone wires? Chances are if you have done this and weren't more than about 25 miles from downtown Atlanta, you were at Lake Horton. This large body of water was formed in the mid-90's to supply water for Fayette County. The damming up of 2 creeks, Antioch and Woolsey, created a neat new birding area.

Grebes, ducks and shorebirds stop here during migration. Yellow-breasted Chats breed in substantial numbers. On the road leading into the site, Grasshopper Sparrows as well as the Grosbeaks have been seen. Much more attention needs to be given to the grasslands surrounding the Lake. At least one LeConte's Sparrow was noted there last winter.

Next time you visit Huie, why not drive about 15 more miles to see this site. To get there go west from Huie until you hit GA 54. Turn left and travel a short distance into Fayetteville. Turn left at the first light, Jeff Davis Blvd. Head south and when this road veers left, continue straight and the road eventually becomes GA 92. At 3.4 miles from GA 54 turn right on Antioch Rd (just past Harps Crossing Church) and follow this road until it ends (5.1 miles) at the Lake. (*Birding GA, Beaton-map pg #87*).



Current President, Gail Russell and immediate Past President, John Swiderski spoke at memorial

## Book Review

## A Birder's Guide to Alabama

By John F. Porter, Jr.

University of Alabama Press with the Alabama Ornithological Society, Forward by Thomas A. Imhof. 27 black-and-white illustrations, 53 maps, field checklist. Spiral bound, 368 pp. \$24.95.

*Analysis by Giff Beaton, as first appeared in the February, 2002 issue of Birding, the magazine of the American Birding Assn., with permission from the publisher (excerpts).*

The much anticipated *A Birder's Guide to Alabama* was worth the wait. The book is comprehensive and full of excellent bird-finding information, and should be owned by anyone who wishes to bird in or understand the avifauna of Alabama. Though not perfect, it is an exponential leap beyond the previously available information for birding this diverse and interesting state.

A major portion of the book is dedicated to directions and maps. The state is divided into four geographical areas: the Gulf Coast, South Central, North Central and Tennessee Valley Regions. All sections have an overall reference map and a variety of detailed maps to the areas described. The Selected Species of Interest segment and Frequency of Occurrence Charts (DFO) are alone worth the price of the book. A list of additional species not covered by the charts is followed by a fairly thorough index, and, finally, a Field Checklist of Alabama Birds that is more suited to home rather than field use. Excellent illustrations are used throughout with drawings by Bill Summerour. There are a few photos, mostly by Ann Miller.

The forward is by the late T. A. Imhof, author of *Alabama birds* and the grand dean of Alabama birding. Alabama's migrant and vagrant hummingbirds are covered in a short essay by Bob Sargent.

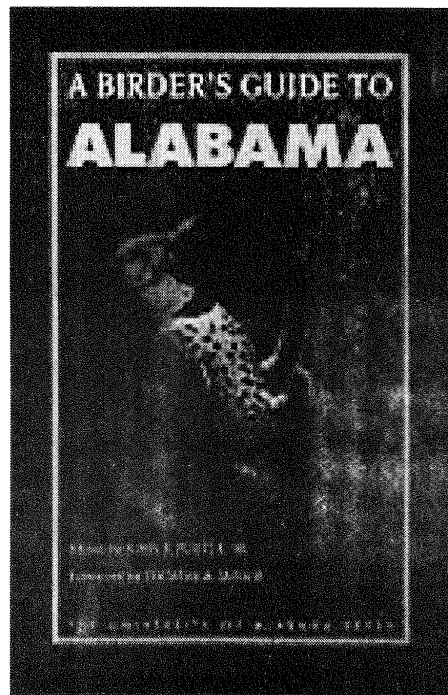
The main part of the book is devoted to birding the four regions of the state. One of the problems with the book stems from the fact that there are a large number of sites with many different authors. As a result, the style of writing and directions are not consistent and sometimes inaccurate. The distance I measured while test-driving several sections were generally close but a couple were unacceptably far off, requiring extra hunting just to get back on track. Some of the authors load their sites with wonderful natural history and seasonal bird-finding information while others are content with a dry set of directions. On the plus side, there are both large- and small-scale maps for virtually every area. However, many of the maps include only the main roads, leaving the user trying to figure out which crossroads are which or how to accomplish less than a full loop (in fact, many of the loops as presented can only be run in the exact order given). One surprising omission is in the Shoal Creek section of the Talladega National Forest where there are no specific directions to the Red

Crossbills of the Coleman Lake area and the lake is not on any map. These complaints aside, birding sites are thorough and generally well described.

Selected Species of Interest is by Greg Jackson, the best known of current Alabama birders and generally considered the most knowledgeable. This section offers concise and accurate information on exactly where and when to find most of the rarer or more uncommon Alabama birds, and will be invaluable to both residents and visitors. The 357 DFO Charts, also by Jackson, give birders an exact visual portrayal of each species' dates and occurrence by region. One thing to keep in mind, however, is that the boundaries of the four regions used for the charts do not exactly coincide with those of the geographic birding sections. (The differences are explained in the chart section). The study of these two segments can tell you when or where to plan a trip, and will educate you about the seasonal and regional differences in Alabama birds.

The Index includes page references for the Selected Species of Interest section but not for the DFO charts; however, it does cover locations as well as species. The Field Checklist of Alabama Birds at the end is pretty much just a taxonomic list of Alabama's bird species, and unless you make field copies, this will be a one-time-use only. Incidentally, this book's continuous loop binding makes it very easy to handle.

Overall, John Porter has done a good job of pulling together information from all over the state and massaging it into a comprehensive and extremely valuable book. Despite a couple of minor drawbacks, it is highly recommended for residents, visitors and Alabama bird students.



Loses cont. from pg. 2

By Georgann Schmaltz

WILLIAM (Bill) WELCOME GRIFFIN - another outstanding member of our birding family passed away on May 10, 2002. Bill was a skilled and diligent field ornithologist and contributed greatly to the history and records of birds in the north Georgia and Atlanta area. He was President of the Atlanta Bird Club in 1946. He also was a charter member of GOS founded in Atlanta in December, 1936, editor of the Oriole in 1941&42, co-editor (with Dick Parks) in 1950 and President of GOS from 1947-1949. He received the Earle R. Greene award in 1985.

From 1939 until 1953, Bill contributed over 43 articles to the Oriole including numerous seasonal notes from Atlanta. These notes included nesting records (e.g. American Woodcock) and Atlanta winter records (e.g. Saw-whet Owl).

He had a collection of about 800 bird skins, mostly from the Atlanta area, that provided valuable study material for taxonomic data presented in Thomas Burleigh's *Georgia Birds*. Perhaps his most distinguishing writing is the introductory chapter "History of Ornithology in Georgia" which appears in this book published in 1958.

He was also instrumental in the founding of the Georgia Conservancy and was the founding president of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation in 1972.

## Nominations for the Earle R. Greene Memorial Award

The Earle R. Greene Memorial Award has been presented annually since 1975 by GOS at our Fall Meeting in recognition of either outstanding achievement in ornithology or for service to GOS. Mr. Greene was active in GOS at the time of our founding in 1936 and served as the second President, 1938-1940. He worked as refuge manager for the US Biological Survey (now Fish & Wildlife Service) at the Okefenokee and other refuges. He was also an avid birder and lister. When he passed away in 1975, this award was established in his memory.

The selection committee will be reviewing nominations this summer for the 2002 award. The committee consists of John Swiderski, Chair, Milton Hopkins and Terry Moore.

These awards depend on nominations, your nominations, of individuals you think deserve consideration for the award. The nomination parameters are quite simple. A person may be nominated for service to GOS either over a long period or for a specific project or accomplishment.

cont.

A person may also be nominated for outstanding achievement in ornithology with the additional stipulation that the person has a "Georgia ions, connection." That might be membership in GOS, a Georgia native, working in Georgia, etc. In addition, their achievement in ornithology can be as a professional ornithologist or as a non-professional field ornithologist.

You may send a nomination to the committee at GOS, P O Box 5825, Valdosta, GA, 31603 or by email to me as committee chair <information@gos.org>. Your nomination should include your reasons for considering the person you are nominating.

## Earle R. Greene Memorial Award Recipients

1975	Harriett DiGioia	1989	Joseph Greenberg
1976	Richard A. Parks	1990	Don and Doris Cohrs
1977	J. Fred Denton	1991	No Award
1978	Milton N. Hopkins, Jr.	1992	Terry S. Moore
1979	No Award	1993	H. Branch Howe, Jr.
1980	Leslie B. Davenport, Jr.	1994	John C. Avise
1981	No Award	1995	H. Ronald Pulliam
1982	Anne B. Hamilton	1996	I. Lehr Brisbin
1983	George A. Dorsey	1997	Emil K. Urban
1984	Eugene P. Odum	1998	John M. Swiderski
1985	William W. Griffin	1999	David W. Johnston
1986	Norman H. Giles & Roger Tory Peterson	2000	Chandler S. Robbins and Georgine S. Pindar
1987	T. McRae Williams	2001	Kenneth B. Clark
1988	Franklin McCamey		

## Howe Grants Awarded - 2002

GOS has awarded the following three H. Branch Howe, Jr. Graduate Student Research Grants:

Brady J. Mattsson, Warnell School of Forest Resources, University of Georgia, (Advisor: Dr. Robert J. Cooper) "Survival and Habitat Use of Louisiana Waterthrush Fledglings in the Georgia Piedmont"

Angela B. McMellen, Warnell School of Forest Resources, University of Georgia, (Advisor: Dr. Sara H. Schweitzer) "Avian Response to the Establishment of Native Warm Season Grasses within Various Landscapes of Central Georgia, U.S.A."

Gina M. Zimmerman, Department of Biology, Georgia Southern University, (Advisor: Dr. C. Ray Chandler) "Cuba's Role as a Stopover Site during the Migration of Swallow-tailed Kites (*Elanoides forficatus*)"

We thank the committee for their work in reviewing and making recommendations regarding these grants: Bill Van Eseltine, Chair, Les Davenport and Bill Lovejoy. Two of the awards were in the amount of \$1500 and one was for \$1220. We look forward to hearing presentations from the students on the findings from their research.

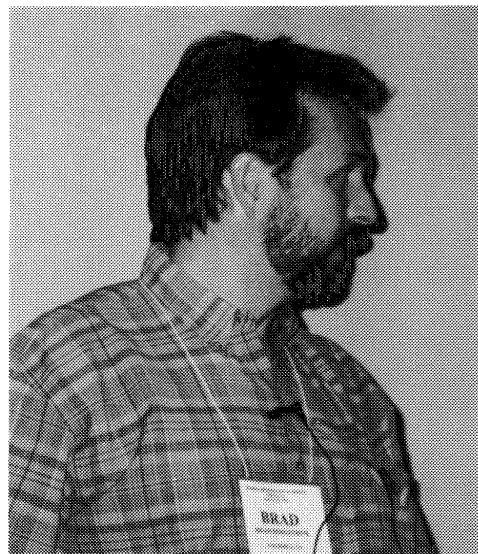
**SPRING MEETING REPORT**

*By Ken Clark*

One of the great attractions, it seems to me, of our semi-annual meetings is the opportunity they afford for folks, regardless of their birding skills, to meet, mingle and spend a day in the field with some of the top birders in Georgia, guided by volunteers who really know the interesting birding areas in the neighborhood. This was certainly the case at our spring meeting in Valdosta 26-28 April this year.

**Brad Bergstrom** planned and organized field trips led by himself, **Michael Bell, Kristi Avera, Ken George, John & Kate Swiderski, Malcolm Hodges, and Barbara Passmore** that produced 141 species of birds for our edification and enjoyment. Notables in Georgia included Horned Grebe, Prothonotary and Swainson's Warblers, and Bachman's Sparrow, while a trip to phosphate mines in north Florida revealed Common and Red-throated Loons, Eared Grebe, American White Pelican and Black-bellied Whistling Ducks. Georgia sites visited included Reed Bingham State Park, Grassy Pond, North Lowndes County and Grand Bay. Even though we missed migration, a total of 17 warbler species were found.

This was John & Kate Swiderski's first opportunity to play host to a GOS gathering since they moved to Valdosta from Cartersville a few years ago. They teamed with the GOS president **Gail Russell**, and meeting planners **Bob Sargent** and **Anne Mursch** to provide a really great weekend for the more than 90 GOS members and guests who participated. The ambitious program began with a smooth check in with Anne Mursch on the registration desk, aided by **Helen Ogren, Barbara Brigham** and **Pat Sully**.

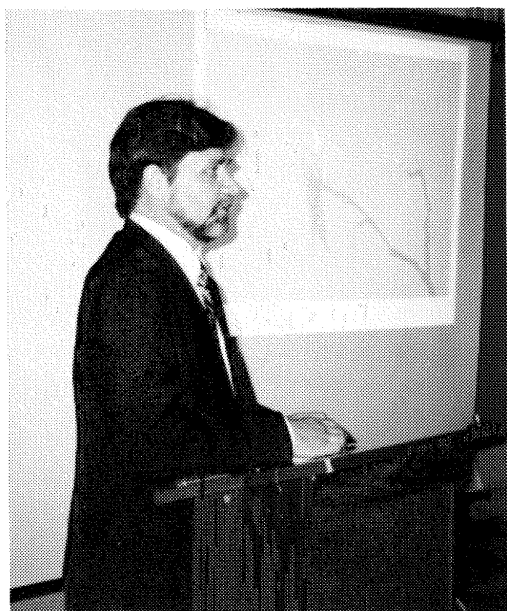


*Brad*

**Brad Bergstrom** presented the Friday evening program on "From Jamaica to Belize: Birds of Winter in the Hand and in the Bush," well supported with beautiful color slides of his own making. Especially impressive were the number of endemic birds (31) on Jamaica. John Swiderski followed with an appetizing description of the Saturday and Sunday field trips to such hot spots as the PSC phosphate mines in Hamilton County, Florida; the Grand Bay WMA; Reed Bingham State Park; Grassy Pond; private property in north Lowndes County; Broxton Rocks; Langdale Park; and the Blackwater nesting stork colony in Brooks County. The weather was kind and the birds cooperative, as the species count shows.

Saturday afternoon members were invited to the dedication of Grand Bay/Banks Lake Ecosystem as an **Important Bird Area**, then returned to the Holiday Inn for a poster session organized by Bob Sargent (six exhibitors), and an exhibition of paintings done during WW II by Charter Member Dick Parks. A "Backyard Barbeque" banquet preceded the Saturday evening presentation by **Dr. Ken Meyer** of the Avian Research and Conservation Institute, Gainesville, Florida, on "The Trans-equatorial Migration and Conservation Biology of Swallow-tailed Kites," illustrated with dramatic photographs of the birds and explanatory charts.

The day's countdown by Brad Bergstrom and Bob Sargent closed the evening and prepared the group for another half-day of birding Sunday. The 90 or so attendees felt it was a well planned and executed meeting with a full agenda of very interesting and informative programs, quite a feather in the caps of our Valdosta hosts and volunteers. I hope we'll be going there again before too long.

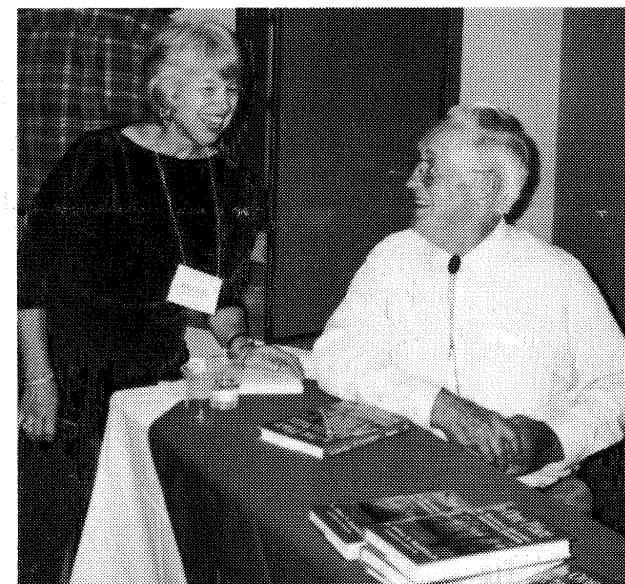


*Dr. Meyer*



*Helen Ogren, Ann Murch & Barbara Brigham*

Registration was a Pleasure!



*Helen & Milton Hopkins*

Lots of Books, Art and Posters



*Dick Parks*



Viewing one of 141