

The Scissortail

NEWSLETTER OF THE

Oklahoma Ornithological Society

Affiliated with the National Audubon Society

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December 2018

President's Message

This will be my last message as President of OOS. Bill Diffin will take over as of January 1, 2019. I will transition to Past President and still be on the OOS board.

I would like to thank the board members who served during my two year tenure. You have been very helpful, supportive and patient. I would also like to express my appreciation to all our members and anyone who has attended OOS meetings and events during the past two years. Birders are, by and large, a very open and welcoming group and Oklahoma birders have been nothing but kind to me while I've been in office.

With winter coming, my birding thoughts turn to Whooping Crane migration, waterfowl, winter sparrows and hawks, and longspurs. I am excited to visit all my old haunts to check out the waterfowl on the lakes and ponds to perhaps find a scoter or Long-tailed Duck. A trip to the panhandle is in order to see lots of Ferruginous and Rough-legged Hawks. Southwest OK is a must visit trip to search for the elusive longspurs, Prairie Falcon, Golden Eagle and Short-eared Owls. Salt Plains is the best place to search for endangered Whooping Cranes in migration. No matter where you go this winter, please let the local business owners and public know you are there to look for birds and that birds are important to this state both economically and environmentally.

By the way, Jeff Tibbits of ODWC, is the new OOS President-elect. He is in charge of the Oklahoma Land Access Program (OLAP). The goal of this program is to increase access for wildlife viewing, in addition to hunting and fishing access, by paying landowners to allow entry to their land. Please contact Jeff if you have suggestions for properties to be added to the OLAP program. His

email is jeff.tibbits@odwc.ok.gov. His phone is 405-535-7382.

Also, ODWC will be sending out an online survey specifically directed to birders to elicit more feedback and get more information about birders and birding in Oklahoma. This survey should be coming out in either November or December of this year.

Finally, I would again like to say thank you to all birders in Oklahoma and OOS. Please continue to enjoy birds and promote and support conservation and wildlife and the environment in this state. Please also consider joining OOS and other birding/environmental groups and participating in these groups to make your voices heard for the birds.

Take care and good birding. See you out and about on the trail looking for birds!

Respectfully,

Jimmy Woodard

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**OOS Spring Meeting – Lake Wister State Park
weekend of May 11, 2019
Look for complete details in the Spring Issue**

O.O.S. Officers and Chairpersons

The Oklahoma Ornithological Society, affiliated with the National Audubon Society, is a member of the Oklahoma Wildlife Federation. It was founded in 1950 and has more than 225 members. It is incorporated as a non-profit organization under the laws of the State of Oklahoma and the Internal Revenue Code. Membership is open to anyone interested in birds and their welfare.

The OKLAHOMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY is dedicated to the observation, study, and conservation of birds in Oklahoma. The Society conducts meetings and field trips, publishes a quarterly newsletter and scientific bulletin, participates in nationally sponsored projects such as the Breeding Bird Survey and the Christmas Bird Count, encourages conservation, cooperates with the State Department of Wildlife and offers assistance to local groups organized for the study and enjoyment of nature

OOS MEMBERSHIP DUES

OOS members receive the newsletter, *The Scissortail*, as well as *The Bulletin*, a professional ornithological publication.

Regular	\$25.00	Includes publication of the Society
Family	\$35.00	One set of publications per family.
Student	\$15.00	Same as regular membership allowing students to participate at reduced fee.
Sustaining	\$40.00 or more.	In addition to membership, gives extra support to the Society.
Life	\$500.00	In addition to membership, provides long range income for the Society through the Endowment Fund.

Libraries and other institutions may subscribe to the publications of the Society for a \$25.00/year fee.

Add \$1.00 to each category if paid after February 15 of the membership year.

Make all checks payable to: Oklahoma Ornithological Society or O.O.S. and mail to: OOS Membership Chair, P.O. Box 2931, Claremore, OK 74018

New members who have joined before December 1 join for that year and receive the preceding March, June, and September issues of publication. New members who join after December 1 become members for the upcoming year and will receive the first publication in March. Membership runs from January 1 to December 31.

Both renewing and new members should enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope to receive their membership card.

Please send notification of change of address to the Membership Chairman promptly as any returned mail from the Post Office is extra expense to the Society.

Notes for the OOS *Bulletin* are being sought. Articles should pertain to early sighting dates, late sighting dates, unusual behavior, unusual anatomical features, or summary papers of rare or accidental birds. Please send items for consideration to the editor of the *Bulletin* by email. Should you have questions regarding the process, please contact the *Bulletin* editor.

OOS GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Have you considered giving an annual OOS membership as a gift to a birding friend. Or someone always curious about our birds? We hope you will consider giving an annual OOS membership to a friend or family member this year! An OOS membership is a great gateway for people that are new to birds, birding, or interested in ornithological research. Perhaps you know a young birder that could use a membership that might inspire them to pursue their interests in birds? Please consider giving an OOS membership this year and help us grow our organization!

President -- Jimmy Woodard — 7845 NE 18th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73141 J.woodard@cox.net {'17-'18}

Past-president-- Mia Revels — Professor of Biology, Northeastern State University, 622 Grand Ave., Tahlequah, OK 74464 (918) 444-3824, e-mail: revels@nsuok.edu {'17-'18}

President-elect -- William Diffin, 7380 NW 199th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73162 WilliamDiffin@aol.com (405)722-3778 (home); 405-596-3890 (Cell) {'17-18}

Secretary -- Doug Wood — PMB 4068, 1405 N 4th Ave, Durant, OK 74701 -0609 (580) 74502272; dwood@SE.edu {'18}

Treasurer -- Nadine Varner -- 7845 NE 18th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73141 (405) 370-5076 gallinuleofpurple@yahoo.com {'18}

Business Manager -- Mickle Duggan — P.O. Box 2209, Ada, OK 74820, (580) 332-5837, e-mail: mdd@cableone.net {'18}

Membership/Circulation -- Linda Adams, 1915 W. Oak, Duncan, OK 74533; Home (580) 252-0326; cell (580) 656-3883; lindafay@cableone.net {'17-18}

Awards — Jim Deming — 524 Tamarack, Broken Arrow, OK 74012 (918)864-4707; email: birdbrain.jim@gmail.com {'17-18}

Activities -- Rebecca Renfro -- 6024 Cornell Dr., Bartlesville, OK 74006, (918)333-4875, email: relore7@aol.com {'16-'18}

Conservation -- Mark Howery -- 801 Heatherhill Ct., Norman, OK 73072 home (405) 447-3641, office (405) 521-4619, email: mhowery@odwc.state.ok.us {'17-'19}}

Archivist -- Claudia Glass -14805 E. 500 Rd. Unit D, Claremore, OK 74017 home(918) 230-2404, office(918)343-7697 email: cglass@rsu.edu{'16-'18}

Special Projects—Donald Glass — 14805 E. 500 Rd. Unit D, Claremore, OK 74017 home(918) 230-2404, office (918)343-7710, email: dglass@rsu.edu' {'16-'18}

OOS Bulletin Editor -- Eugene A. Young — Northern Oklahoma College, 1220 E. Grand, Post Office Box 310, Tonkawa, OK 74653-0310; Phone: 580-628-6482; Fax: 580-628-6209; eugene.young@north-ok.edu {unspecified}

The Scissortail Editor --Suzy Harris -- 1803 Harned Dr., Bartlesville, OK 74006 (918) 440-2117; email: mbhsuzy@cableone.net {unspecified}

OBRC Chairman -- Joe Grzybowski -- 715 Elmwood Drive, Norman, OK 73072 (405) 360-0182 email: j_grzybowski@sbcglobal.net {unspecified}

Webmaster -- Chris Butler — Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Central Okla., 100 N University Dr., Edmond, OK 73034 405-974-5782 (phone); 405-974-5726 (fax); email: cbutler11@uco.edu {unspecified}

Other positions:

Coordinator for Breeding Bird Survey & Winter Bird Atlas -- Dan Reinking --Sutton Avian Research Center, P.O. Box 2007, Bartlesville, OK 74005-2007, (918) 336-7778, dan@suttoncenter.org {unspecified}

Publications are issued in March, June, September, and December. Send articles and items that you wish to have included in *The Scissortail* newsletter to Suzy Harris by e-mail: mbhsuzy@cableone.net by **March 1st, June 1st, August 15th, and December 1st** for the following issue. Any readable format is acceptable.

OOS SALES BY MAIL

- Oklahoma Bird Records Committee, Date Guide to the Occurrences of Birds in Oklahoma, 6th Edition. 2012. \$6.00 each in person; \$7 via mail or internet
- OOS Field Checklist. 2005. Tri-fold card. 1-5 cards, \$0.50 each. Packet of 10 checklists, \$3.00

For volume sales and information contact: Nadine Varner, (405) 370-5076; gallinuleofpurple@yahoo.com

For purchase, send order and check to: OOS Sales, 1117 West Griggs, Mustang, OK 73064 **Make check payable to "OOS."** You may now purchase these publications online at our website **www.okbirds.com** Look for the publications link.

Welcome New Members

Eli Bridge	Norman, OK
Nathan R. Kuhnert	Norman, OK
Krisangel Lopez	New York City, NY
Deanne McKinney	Oklahoma City, OK
Josh Smith	Inola, OK
Nancy Vicars	Oklahoma City, OK

\$\$\$\$ Treasurer's Report \$\$\$\$ By Nadine Varner

General fund = \$14,442; Special Projects Fund = \$10,761 in Bulletin Fund = \$39,337; Memorial Fund = \$35,731

Fall Meeting Income = \$1,488 meals and registration; Sales = \$284; Silent Auction = \$333. Expenses for the fall meeting totaled \$1,209 for room rental and meals.

On November 15th we transferred the combined bulletin and memorial funds to a CD through MidFirst Bank.

Minutes — OOS Business Meeting University of Oklahoma Biological Station Willis, OK Saturday October 14, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 1:03 PM by President Jimmy Woodard

Members in attendance: 25 members present at start of meeting.

Minutes from the 2016 Annual Business Meeting of the OOS were distributed and accepted (Motion – J. Cox, Second – J. Deming).

Treasurer: Nadine Varner -- Year to Date Account = \$15,759; Savings Account = \$83,793

Membership: L. Adams -- 224 Members, up from 217 in 2016.

Conservation: Mark Howery – Report Submitted

Elections

J. Cox moved to accept the slate of nominations for officers and M. Duggan seconded the motion. Officers nominated included:

- Secretary – Doug Wood (1 year)
- Treasurer – Nadine Varner (1 year)
- Business Manager – Mickle Duggan (1 year)
- Awards – Jim Deming (2 years)
- Membership – Linda Adams (2 years)

Nominations approved by unanimous voice vote.

New Business

1. J. Woodard raised prospect of open carry at meetings and what would our policy be for this event. Meeting sites may have specific rules on this.
2. Spring meeting will tentatively be scheduled for the Dwight Mission near Vian, Oklahoma. B. Diffin and J. Woodard will scout the site soon and study logistics and accommodations. Discussion about costs and cheaper camping options nearby at Lake Tenkiller State Park.
3. Winter board meeting tentatively scheduled for January 20 at the Sam Noble Museum. J. Grzybowski will look into meeting room availability.

Old Business

1. Still missing two years of Bulletin scans according to Gene Young. Discussion about allocating funds for student worker to scan them.
2. Special Projects grant for fishing line removal has not been completed yet.
3. Awards – no nominations this year.

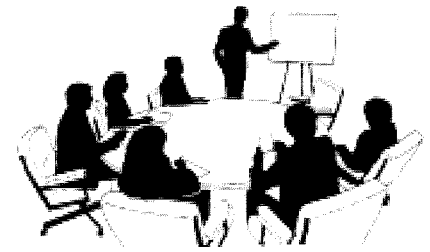
Motion to adjourn business meeting by M. Duggan, seconded by Bill Diffin. Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Minutes

OOS Executive Board Meeting

Rogers State University, OK

July 18, 2018



Meeting was called to order at 12:06 PM by President Jimmy Woodard. J. Woodard provided greetings and salutations.

Members in attendance: Jim Deming, Joe Grzybowski, Bill Diffin, Mickle Duggan, Claudia Glass, Don Glass, Joe Grzybowski, Suzy Harris, Mark Howery, Mia Revels, Doug Wood, Jimmy Woodard
Absent: Linda Adams, Chris Butler, Rebecca Renfro, Nadine Varner, Gene Young
Guest: Rance Kingfisher – graduate student at Northeastern State University and TA at Rogers State University.

Secretary: D. Wood-- Minutes for the April 28, 2018 executive board meeting were read and accepted (Motion: J. Deming, Second: S. Harris).

Membership: L. Adams, absent, provided report: Membership = 196. June Bulletin not received yet for mailing. Sought clarification on life memberships for married couples related to membership count.

Treasurer: N. Varner, absent, but provided report: General Fund = \$10,862; Bulletin Fund = \$33,333; Special Projects Fund = \$10,760; Memorial Fund = \$35,728

Business Manager: M. Duggan: Discussed CD interest rates. Chase Bank is giving very low rates. Should consider moving back to CDs and you 3-year ladder approach.

Committee Reports

Activities: R. Renfro, absent. No report. BioBlitz will be held this fall at Greenleaf State Park from October 5-7. Volunteers needed to help lead bird walks. Oklahoma Academy of Science Fall Field meeting will be at Beavers Bend State Park, September 21-23. Volunteers needed to help lead bird walks.

Archivist: C. Glass -- Sought photos, either print or digital on flash drive, for the archives. Many people post to the OOS Facebook page, but doesn't go to Archive. M. Revels suggested giving out Polaroid cameras at meetings/events for people to take print photos for the Archive. J. Woodard notified board that Jo Lloyd donated a nearly complete set of Bulletins and Scissortails back to OOS. Will go into Archive.

Awards: J. Deming -- Received two nominations for Certificate of Merit for the fall meeting. M. Duggan and J. Deming will collaborate on certificates. J. Woodard has a partial nomination in progress for 2019.

Bulletin: G. Young absent, but provided report. March issue is ready for printer. June issue has two edits necessary then will be printed. Will send to L. Adams as soon as possible. September issue is already at the printer. Currently has manuscripts out for review and two are accepted and in revision. More manuscripts expected soon.

Conservation: M. Howery -- ODWC will likely add a 7,000-10,000 acre WMA in the near future. Legislative updates regarding the Farm Bill with wording that would prevent listing the Lesser Prairie-Chicken for 5 years. CRP funding will increase from previous version. ESA "modernization" bill proposed. M. Howery feels it is likely benign; mostly codification of previous actions. Recovering America's Wildlife bill proposed. Similar to CARA, which uses revenue from offshore oil drilling to fund wildlife conservation projects. Black-capped Vireo was de-listed by US Fish and Wildlife Service. Black Rail 12-month finding for listing is expected soon. Oklahoma Natural Resources Conference will be held again in February in Tulsa. Board discussed OOS role with this conference.

OBRC: J. Grzybowski -- 2017 records summary in progress with Jeff Cox. Discussed streamlining record submission thresholds for review by OBRC. J. Grzybowski is working on manuscripts for first records for the Bulletin. Extensive discussion about eBird issues.

President-Elect: B. Diffin -- Fall Technical Meeting will be held at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond on October 19-21. Local contact will be Dr. Chris Butler. Banquet speaker will be Dr. Michael Patten from OU; title to be announced soon. Discussed food options for meeting. B. Diffin discussed the nomination committee's choices for President-elect. Need to obtain a commitment for this position by mid-September.

Scissortail: S. Harris -- Declared this year, her 11th as Editor of the Scissortail, to be her last. She requested the board assist her in finding a suitable, qualified replacement. New editor should have experience with publishing software, editing, formatting, and keeping people notified of deadlines. August 15 deadline for next Scissortail.

Special Projects: D. Glass -- Nothing to report until next cycle of grant requests.

Webmaster: C. Butler – absent. No report.

Board Minutes — Continued

Old Business

J. Woodard raised the issue of a membership drive. N. Varner has been spearheading a membership drive with prizes for members that recruit the most new members.

Nominating committee update. For 1-year reappointment positions, M. Duggan (Business Manager), N. Varner (Treasurer), and D. Wood (Secretary) agreed to serve in their current positions for next year. For 3-year reappointment positions, R. Renfro (Activities) and C. Glass (Archivist) agreed to serve in their current positions again.

Board revisited the Audubon Council's plan to revive the Important Bird Areas project. The project has guidance from Jeremy Ross from OU and a student of his (Chase Green) will work on getting the IBA project moving again. The focus will be on getting state and regional designations for IBAs in Oklahoma. OOS will help provide members for the technical committee that reviews data prior to submission to National Audubon.

New Business

D. Wood encouraged others to submit more OOS-centric content to the OOS Facebook page.

J. Deming broached the subject that Tulsa is considering a new wildlife area. This 200-acre area could benefit from bird surveys conducted by OOS members. Perhaps help get this area designated for protection?

Motion to adjourn by M. Duggan and seconded by S. Harris; passed unanimously at 2:18 PM.

Oklahoma Ornithological Society Conservation Report December 2018 Submitted by Mark Howery, Conservation Chair, December 1, 2018

Whooping Crane Update 2018

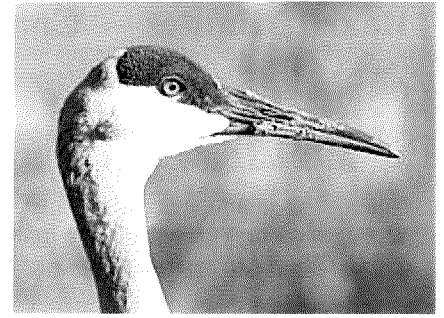
The endangered Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*) continues its slow, but steady, recovery. In the summer of 2017, the original wild population that migrates annually between northwestern Canada and the Texas Coast surpassed the 500-bird mark for the first in over a century. In 2017, the Canadian population experienced a record reproduction year with 49 chicks surviving to migrate south that fall. At least 505 Whooping Cranes spent the winter of 2017/2018 along the Texas Coast and at a few inland sites in south Texas. Unfortunately, the 2018 breeding season was less kind to the cranes. A three-week period of cool, wet weather persisted across the region in June at the time with chicks were hatching and most vulnerable to the cold. Despite a near record number of nests (87), only 24 chicks survived the summer to fledge. Although this fledgling count is low, it is still within the normal range of variation and should be sufficient to balance the number of adult birds that would be expected to die in a typical year. Whooping Cranes experience their highest mortality during their first two years, but many of the birds that survive to the age of three, continue to survive for another 15 to 25 years, with a few of the oldest living into their early 30s. This winter, biologists expect 500 to 510 Whooping Cranes to arrive in south Texas.

In addition to this wild flock, another 360 Whooping Cranes exist in two experimental populations and in a captive population. All of these birds are descendants of chicks that were hatched from eggs that were collected from wild population and brought into captivity to establish a breeding program as a safety net against the extinction of the birds in the wild. Over 100 birds are distributed among nearly two dozen facilities, with the largest being at the Calgary Zoo, the International Crane Foundation in Wisconsin, and the New Orleans Zoo. Until recently, 29 pairs were kept at the U.S. Geological Survey's Patuxent Research Center, but many of those birds have been moved to larger breeding spaces at zoos across the U.S. and Canada where it is hoped that the birds will be able to parent-rear their chicks rather than depend upon human rearing. As part of this move, a pair of Whooping Cranes was moved to the Oklahoma City Zoo in September and now resides in their Oklahoma Trails exhibit in a space once occupied by Red Wolves. Both members of this pair are captive-bred birds in their mid-20s that are nearing the end of their reproductive period. They had been part of the captive breeding program at the New Orleans Zoo's off-site Species Survival Center but were moved to OKC to free-up space for a younger and more genetically valuable pair from Patuxent.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

Conservation Report Continued from Page 29

The captive population produces 20 to 30 chicks each year that are being used to establish two new wild populations – an eastern U.S. migratory population and a non-migratory population in coastal Louisiana. The establishment of the eastern migratory population began in the early 2000s and gained a lot of attention because ultra-light planes were used to train the nearly released birds to migrate between their wintering area in Florida and their prospective breeding area in Wisconsin. During the past 18 years, nearly 250 captive-bred cranes have been released to establish the population, which now numbers 101 birds, including five chicks that hatched and fledged in the wild in 2018. Beginning in 2010, ten to fifteen captive-bred cranes have been released each year into marshes on public conservation lands in Louisiana in the hopes of establishing a non-migratory population there. There are currently 108 Whooping Cranes in the wild in Louisiana including five fledglings that were reared in the wild in 2018, and a new cohort of 12 captive-bred cranes is currently living in an acclimation pen awaiting release.



Both the migratory and the non-migratory introduced populations are classified as “experimental populations” meaning that they are protected, they can be trapped or hazed to move them out of dangerous situations and they are not protected from unintentional, indirect take. Both programs will continue to be augmented by captive bred birds for at least another four (Wisconsin) to seven (Louisiana) years. Many of the birds released in the first few years of these reintroduction programs were human-reared as chicks. Many of these birds have proven to be poor parents, so there has been a dramatic shift toward parent-rearing of chicks in captivity. This has resulted in fewer chicks being reared in captivity in recent years, but the hope is that these birds will have better parenting abilities upon release.

Black Rail Listed as a Threatened Species

In October 2018, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services published a proposal to list the Eastern subspecies of the Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis*) as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. Along with this listing action, the USFWS is proposing species “4(d) rules that prescribe the incidental take activities that will be prohibited to conserve rail populations. They declined to designate critical habitat because it was unlikely to convey any substantial benefit to birds in known breeding or wintering areas. The Eastern Black Rail is a secretive and primarily nocturnal species that occupies coastal marshes along the Atlantic coast from Chesapeake Bay to northern Florida, coastal marshes around the Gulf of Mexico from the central Texas coast to Florida, and freshwater marshes at a few inland sites in Kansas and eastern Colorado. Because of their behavior, Black Rails are difficult to detect. Some recent research suggests that even in habitats occupied by Black Rails, biologists have only a 20% probability of detecting them on any given night. In addition to this, they often occupy the edges of remote marshes that are difficult for people to access, further increasing the difficulty of monitoring their populations. A number of information gaps exist in the basic biology of this species, but it is apparent that populations along the Atlantic Coast have declined during the past 60 years and it is this decline that has driven the decision to list this species as a threatened species. The information needed to generate an accurate population estimate is limited, but a conservation population estimate is in the range of 3,000 pairs, of which over a third occur in coastal Texas. Although the south Atlantic Coast was once considered the stronghold for this species, this has shifted to the south-central U.S. (Texas, Louisiana, Colorado and Kansas) during the past half-century.



2019 OOS Special Projects Applications

The Oklahoma Ornithological Society's Special Projects awards provide funding to students at any level, faculty researchers, and individuals or civic groups proposing to do work that aligns with our general mission to promote the "observation, study, and conservation" of birds in Oklahoma.

Proposals will be judged by a committee of OOS members that will rank overall merit based on financial need explained by the researcher, professionalism of presentation, articulation of the question or need the proposal addresses, and significance of the work to Oklahoma ornithology. To apply, prepare a written proposal in MS Word, double-spaced, using 11-pt or larger font, and with a maximum length of 3 pages (not including lit cited and budget). Present the information in the following order:

- name, institution, and contact information for the applicant
- project title
- introduction and justification
- clear statement of objectives
- study area and methods description
- anticipated results
- literature cited
- itemized budget of expenses for which the funds will be used

Finally, to better illustrate the need for OOS support, please indicate the approximate amount of funding from all sources that has already been secured to conduct the proposed research in one of the four following categories:

- 0% - there is no funding currently available to do the proposed research
- more than 0% but less than 50%
- more than 50% but less than 100%
- 100% - support from the OOS would be supplemental

Applicants may request support in any amount up to \$500. The deadline for submission is 5 pm on Friday, 1 March 2019. All applicants will be notified of the committee's decision by April 1 (Monday) 2019.

Proposals should be sent as an email attachment to Mr. Don Glass: dglass@rsu.edu
Applicants for whom email submission is impracticable should contact Mr. Don Glass via telephone at 918-343-7701.

The membership of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society invests a significant proportion of the annual budget in its commitment to fund Special Projects. Applicants who receive Special Projects funding for research projects are expected to prepare a manuscript of the work for publication in the Society's journal, the *Bulletin of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society* and/or deliver a presentation of the work as part of the scientific program at our Fall Annual Meeting, usually held in October. Recipients of funding for non-research projects are expected to summarize their projects in a submission to our newsletter, *The Scissortail*, and are also invited to deliver a presentation at an annual fall meeting.

Fall 2018 Meeting Report

The OOS Fall Meeting was held October 19-21 at the University of Central Oklahoma. The meeting opened Friday evening with a challenging ID quiz organized by Dr. Chris Butler from specimens in UCO's museum collection. The meeting concluded on Sunday morning with field trips to the Myriad Gardens and the NW OKC Sludge Lagoon. In between Friday and Sunday participants recorded incidental sightings on the meeting's bulletin board checklist. Birds of note were a late Wilson's Warbler and a first surge of winter residents including Eared Grebe, Hermit Thrush, waterfowl and sparrows. 50 species were listed in all.

Canada Goose
Northern Shoveler
Gadwall
Redhead
Lesser Scaup
Bufflehead
Ruddy Duck
Eared Grebe
Pied-billed Grebe
Double-crested Cormorant
Turkey Vulture
Cooper's Hawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
American Coot
Killdeer
Least Sandpiper
Franklin's Gull
Ring-billed Gull
Forster's Tern
Rock Pigeon
Eurasian Collared Dove
Mourning Dove
Great Horned Owl
Red-bellied WP

Downy WP
Eastern Phoebe
Scissortail Flycatcher
Blue Jay
American Crow
Carolina Chickadee
Brown Creeper
Carolina Wren
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Hermit Thrush
Eastern Bluebird
American Robin
European Starling
Orange-crowned Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
White-throated Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
Spotted Towhee
Dark-eyed Junco
Great-tailed Grackle
Red-winged Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow



Editor's Note

Some time ago, in fact while I was still Past President of OOS, there was a need for a new editor for our quarterly newsletter, *The Scissortail*. Thinking that I'd hold the position for three or four years, five at most, I volunteered. I'd learned a lot about OOS during my tenure as President and wanted to continue being involved in the inner workings of the organization. Little did I know how long I would hold the position.

In 2017, I began thinking of stepping down as editor of this newsletter, not having given much thought to how much time had gone by with me at the helm. I thought it was about seven years. In January of 2018, I formally announced to the executive board that this year would be my last. Shortly afterwards, I discovered that this was my *eleventh* year to do the newsletter! My, how time has flown.

I've had lots of fun getting to know people and learning new things about birds, birding, and a host of other things, while doing the newsletter. Now it's time to step back and get some new blood, and perhaps a new perspective, in the mix. Deanne McKinney of Oklahoma City graciously said yes when then President-Elect, Bill Diffin approached her about becoming editor. Many thanks to her! I feel confident I'm leaving things in good hands. Please give her all the support and encouragement you've given me over the years.