

The Scissortail

NEWSLETTER OF THE

Oklahoma Ornithological Society

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President's Message

Our website is over ten years old and needs an update. The site is nonfunctional in several important ways, including broken links and outdated pages, and gives a stale impression due to its outdated platform. Web technology has evolved a great deal over the last ten years. The current site was created by John Kennington with HTML, acronym for Hypertext Markup Language, the original language used to create web pages. The most popular platform for creating new sites currently is Wordpress. About a third of the existing websites worldwide were developed on the Wordpress platform. It was originally a blogging platform but evolved to become a website developer's tool. Wordpress is an enhancement to HTML that includes a large library of prewritten modules and stylesheets that can be combined to build websites.

A website requires a domain name, like okbirds.org, and a host computer. Dan Reinking originally reserved the okbirds.org domain name and keeps the payments up to date. The host computer for our site is owned by a hosting service on which Bill Adams has an account. In other words Bill has generously been sharing his account with OOS. Bill wants to end his subscription this summer, so we will need to find a new hosting service. It would be convenient to have the new website ready to use by the time the switch to a new host computer occurs. However if the new design is not ready, the old website could be transferred to a new host.

Our President-Elect, Jeff Tibbits, has some background in website design and operation. He has founded an ad hoc Digital Committee within the Executive Board for the purpose of handling digital projects including the current website redesign. The initial tasks the DigiCom has set for itself are to: (1) write a purchase specification for the new website and get quotes, (2) create an official design for our logo, and (3) create an official color and style guide.

In the world at large, more and more business that used to be conducted in meeting rooms is being moved to on line venues, mostly email. Within the OOS Board, there has been a lot of discussion lately about when the board should conduct business on line, and when it should be conducted in traditional meetings. The reason this has come up is that the Board has conducted some significant business on line over the past 14 months. The purchase of a CD was approved in late 2018. Then during the fall of 2019 several pressing issues were resolved: Zach Poland was approved to take over the Membership Chair vacated by Linda Adams, options for easing the quarterly mailing task of the Membership Chair were sorted through and ultimately

resulted in Sooner Mail Service being selected as mail service provider and a method of providing electronic distribution of the newsletter and bulletin was approved.

Electronic meetings are not specifically authorized by the OOS Constitution, nor are they specifically forbidden. The latest edition of Robert's Rules, the 11th edition published in 2011, states that electronic meetings cannot be used to conduct business unless specifically authorized in the bylaws. The OOS Constitution does not specify Robert's Rules as a reference for parliamentary operations the way many society constitutions do. However we have been using the parliamentary procedure in Robert's Rules to order our meetings for a long time. What gives the rules of parliamentary procedure (which General Robert published) their widespread popularity and authority for ordering meetings is the long history and tradition of their development and use in the English Parliament, in the legislatures of the United States and in government council meetings going back to Classical Greece and Rome. It can be observed that the opinion on electronic meetings given by the authors of the 11th edition is not a part of that long heritage but more of a reaction to the invasion of new technology into the space originally occupied solely by traditional meetings. To get the work of the DigiCom done on an acceptable schedule will require some on line meetings, and the Board is in support of that course of action. In the long run meetings by eMail, teleconference or video conference have the potential to allow the widely distributed board members of OOS to accomplish a lot of work without travelling long distances to meetings only to participate in discussions that may be rushed for lack of time.

William Diffin, President

Life is a travelling to the edge of knowledge, then a leap taken. – D. H. Lawrence

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O.O.S. Officers and Chairpersons

The Oklahoma Ornithological 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, 3123 E.48th St., Tulsa, OK 74105. 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 who 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 — William Diffin, 7380 NW 199th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73162 WilliamDiffin@aol.com (405)722-3778 (home); 405-596-3890 (Cell) {17-18}

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

President-elect -- Jeff Tibbits — ODWC PO Box 53465, Oklahoma City, OK 73152 jeff.tibbits@odwc.ok.gov (405)535-7382 {19-20}

Secretary -- Steve Davis — 436 NW 118th St, OKC, 73114, spdavis@lane-davis.com 405-740-2120 {20}

Treasurer – Nadine Varner -- 7845 NE 18th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73141 (405) 370-5076 gallinuleofpurple@yahoo.com {19}

Business Manager – Mickle Duggan — P.O. Box 2209, Ada, OK 74820, (580) 332-5837, e-mail: mdd@cableone.net {20}

Membership/Circulation -- Zach Poland -- 3123 E.48th St., Tulsa, OK 74105 (405)880-2014; email: zachapoland@gmail.com {20-21}

Awards — Mia Revels - Dept. of Natural Sciences, 611 N Grand Avenue, Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, 74465 revels@nsuok.edu (918) 444-3824 {20-,21}

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: mark.howery@odwc.ok.gov {17-18}

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 – Deanne McKinney—8432 NW 91st St. Oklahoma City, OK 73132 (405)820-8543 trialsz63@gmail.com {unspecified}

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

Webmaster -- Jeff Tibbits — ODWC PO Box 53465, Oklahoma City, OK 73152 jeff.tibbits@odwc.ok.gov (405)535-7382 {19}

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}

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, 7845 NE 18th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73141 **Make check payable to "OOS."**

You may also purchase these publications online at our website www.okbirds.org Look for the publications link.

**Oklahoma Ornithological Society
Financial Report - Fiscal Year 2019**

Income

Expenses

Interest

Bulletin/Endowment Fund	\$ 1,552.50
Special Projects	\$ 4.28
Total Interest	\$ 1,556.78

Printing Costs

Scissorsortail	\$ 541.75
Envelopes	\$ 215.23
2019 Date Guide	\$ 1,710.00
Total Printing Costs	\$ 2,466.98

Donations

General Fund	\$ 113.00
Endowment	\$ 25.00
Total Donations	\$ 138.00

Meeting Expense

Spring Meeting	\$ 1,050.89
Fall Meeting	\$ 1,128.63
Board Meeting at Stroud	\$ 5.00
Total Meeting Expense	\$ 2,184.52

Membership	
Membership Dues	\$ 3,526.72
Total Membership	\$ 3,526.72

Meeting Income

Spring Meeting	\$ 1,076.42
Fall Meeting	\$ 1,301.77
Total Meeting Income	\$ 2,378.19

Special Projects Funding

Grants	\$ 1,500.00
Awards	\$ 1,250.00
Total Special Projects	\$ 2,750.00

Sales

Checklists	\$ 29.28
Date Guides	\$ 400.08
Shirts	\$ 190.00
Decals	\$ 14.00
Tote Bags	\$ 24.00
Silent Auction	\$ 212.00
Total Sales	\$ 869.36

Total All Expenses

\$ 7,401.50

Total All Income \$ 8,469.05

Income Total: \$ 8,469.05
Expenses Total: -\$ 7,041.50
Profit: \$ 1,067.55

**Oklahoma Ornithological Society
Balance Sheet
End of Fiscal Year 2019**

Assets:

General Fund \$ 14,725.03

Investments:

Bulletin Fund \$ 39,338.00
 Endowment Fund \$ 35,730.00
 Special Projects Fund \$ 10,770.79

Total Investments: \$ 85,838.79

Total all Assets : \$ 100,563.82

Electronic OOS Publications Sign-up

Sign up for electronic distribution of the newsletter and bulletin at:

<https://mailchi.mp/1c1347d4c53e/oos-esubscribe>

Having access to digital copies will enable you to copy and paste links like the one above rather than having to type them. Future newsletters are likely to include increasing numbers of links to reference material and enhancements to content. Also you can create your own electronic archives of the newsletter or bulletin or print the material at home. You will continue to receive mailed printed versions of the newsletter and bulletin even if you sign up for electronic distribution unless you opt out of mailed versions at some future point when that choice is offered.

Member Information

Welcome New Members

S. Fream Terri Jo Littau
 Braden Farris Diane Larson
 Neil Garrison Brian Marra

Total Current Members: 141

**OOS Member Contributions:
January-February 2020
Thank you!**

Robin Hutchings - General Fund
 Kurt & Sharon Meisenzahl - General Fund
 Delores Isted - GMS Bulletin Fund
 Donald Turvey - General Fund
 Thomas Degaetano - General Fund
 Marilyn S. Bradford - General Fund

Dues Reminder:

For those who haven't renewed your OOS membership for 2020, please send your dues to:

OOS Membership Chair, 3123 E.48th St., Tulsa, OK 74105

You may also renew online at:
www.okbirds.org

Minutes

OOS Executive Board Meeting

University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma
October 26, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 12:31 PM by President Bill Diffin. B. Diffin provided greetings and initiated the meeting.

Attended: Jim Deming, Bill Diffin, Mickle Duggan, Joe Grzybowski, Mark Howery, Jeff Tibbits, Nadine Varner, Doug Wood, Jimmy Woodard

Absent: C. Glass, D. Glass, Rebecca Renfro, Gene Young

Guests: Linda Adams, Steve Davis, John Kennington

Board Function: Executive board greeted Zach Poland as the new Membership chair replacing L. Adams. Board voted by e-vote to approve Z. Poland previously.

Secretary: D. Wood

Minutes for the August 10, 2019 executive board meeting were read and accepted (Motion: J. Grzybowski, 2nd – M. Howery).

B. Diffin stated that under Robert's Rules of Order, minutes do not need to be voted on in future; just accepted with corrections.

Treasurer: Nadine Varner

Currently:

Checking = \$15,113

Savings = \$10,769

B. Diffin inquired about the life member rate from the past before it increased to \$500.

Business Manager: M. Duggan

M. Duggan stated he completed his portion of the audit. The rest of the audit committee has not been appointed?

M. Duggan stated he corrected the income/expense sheet and submitted to N. Varner. There was minor issue with Paypal and how income has to be moved between accounts.

Discussion regarding changing the name on our Paypal account from John Kennington to Nadine Varner. M. Duggan made motion to change this, seconded by M. Howery, unanimous vote. N. Varner and J. Kennington worked on changing this during the meeting.

Committee Reports

Activities: R. Renfro – submitted report in absentia.

OOS volunteers (R. Renfro, J. Deming, M. Howery, N. Varner) led bird counts at BioBlitz and reported it was a success.

Archivist: C. Glass – absent – submitted report via email

Nothing new to report.

Awards: J. Deming

J. Deming reported that two Certificates of Merit would be presented at the banquet to John Kennington and Susie Ruby.

Bulletin: G. Young – submitted report in absentia

Provided Bulletin report. Two revised manuscripts ready for printing in the December issue. Three manuscripts in the review process.

Gene has been soliciting other authors to submit manuscripts including interesting natural history observations of birds.

Conservation: M. Howery

M. Howery handed out the Audubon "The State of the Birds 2019" report and discussed pertinent findings including major drops in population of birds, including

commonly found species. Other bird populations, such as waterfowl, showed increases. M. Howery discussed the ongoing process of delisting the Least Tern by USFWS. ODWC supports delisting, but commented that the follow up monitoring was insufficient to detect if this species was in decline post-delisting. Update on Whooping Crane population which stands around 500 with variable reproductive success this year.

Membership: L. Adams/Z. Poland

Membership = 205 : 76 Life Members

Z. Poland obtaining PO Box in Tulsa to use for membership mailings.

OBRC: J. Grzybowski

J. Grzybowski asked the board to approve two new members to replace outgoing OBRC members. John Tharp and Tony Leukering were approved unanimously by the board (Motion: M. Duggan; Second = J. Woodard).

2017 bird records published in 2019 Bulletin.

2018-2019 records pending completion by Jeff Cox.

Transfer of historical records to SNOMNH began in September.

7th edition (2019) of Date Guide printed and available for sale.

President-Elect: J. Tibbits

The spring 2020 field meeting of the OOS will be May 8-10 at Black Mesa State Park. We will use the group camp facility. Field trips will include OLAP property.

Featured speaker will be Ally Price, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Denver. She studies the Mountain Plover in Colorado and Oklahoma.

J. Tibbits solicited help for field trip leaders.

Scissortail: D. McKinney - absent

The next submission deadline is December 1. Please submit all materials to D. McKinney.

"Affiliated with National Audubon" removed from Scissortail banner and 2nd page per vote of approval by executive board during August board meeting.

Special Projects: D. Glass

Deadline for Special Projects proposals is March 1.

Board discussed composition of committee for upcoming year.

Nominating Committee

State of Candidates for 2019:

Secretary, S. Davis

Treasurer, N. Varner

Business Manager, M. Duggan

Membership, Z. Poland

Awards, Mia Revels

Webmaster: J. Tibbits

J. Tibbits is transitioning in as new webmaster.

Old Business

Extensive discussion concerning OOS website design. Details to be worked out and then presented to board at next meeting.

Discussion related to e-distribution of the Scissortail based on opt-in procedure previously delineated.

No actions/motions received during this section of the meeting.

New Business

Meeting adjourned due to time constraints with Business meeting and resumption of the technical meeting. Motion to adjourn by M. Duggan; 2nd – N. Varner. Passed nearly unanimously at 1:48 PM.

Oklahoma Birding News & Resources

Did you know that there are several ways to keep up with Oklahoma bird news and sightings? The Oklahoma Ornithological Society hosts a **Facebook group page** where birders can learn about recent bird sightings and upcoming OOS events, read about scientific studies and get help with bird identification. See and join this group page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/18864377410/>

Another resource is the **OKbirds listserv**. This is a free email subscription service hosted by the University of Oklahoma that sends emails to its subscribers when other members post an email. This is an excellent way to get real-time updates to recent bird sightings and other news from Oklahoma birders. To subscribe, go to:

<https://lists.ou.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A0=OKBIRDS>

eBird is an application that allows birders to record and post their bird sightings that may be used by scientists to track bird populations and movements. This application is available online and can be downloaded to your phone for you to use in the field. It is hosted by The Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Find more information at:

<https://ebird.org/home>

Oklahoma Ornithological Society Conservation Report - March 2020

Federal Conservation Funding Highlights

After a series of short-term continuing resolutions, the U.S. Department of Interior appropriations bill was approved as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Action of 2020 and signed the president on December 20, 2019. Overall, funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was increased slightly over FY 2019 and several programs received small funding boosts. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was funded at the level of \$1,665,919,000, with \$70,715,000 approved from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for land acquisitions for the national wildlife refuge system. Also included in the budget were \$46 million for the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (an increase of 9%), \$67.57 million for the State Wildlife Grants Program (an increase of 4.5%), and \$54.5 million for the Cooperative Endangered Species Fund (an increase of 2%). Two international conservation programs also received small increases: \$4.9 million for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Act (increase of 25%) and \$15 million for conservation of rhinoceroses, tigers, great apes, elephants and marine turtles.

Recovering America's Wildlife Act Update

In previous reports, I've provided information about a new federal funding bill called the Recovering America's Wildlife Act, which would provide funding to states on a 75% to 25% cost-share basis for new programs for the conservation of rare and declining species through the implementation of state Wildlife Action Plans (developed in 2005 and revised in 2015). The Recovering America's Wildlife Act bill, also known by the acronym RAWA, was introduced into the House of Representatives in July 2019 by representatives Debbie Dingle (D-MI) and Rod Fortenberry (R-NE). A committee hearing was held on the bill in the House Natural Resources Committee on December 5th and passed out of committee and to the House floor on a vote of 26 to 6. This bill has received one of the strongest showing of bi-partisan support from any bill passed by the House Natural Resources Committee and it has been picking up co-sponsors each week since its introduction. Currently, the RAWA bill has 178 co-sponsors! (Remember that 218 representatives are needed to pass a bill.) Three of Oklahoma's five representatives are co-sponsors: Tom Cole, Frank Lucas and Kendra Horn. The bill is awaiting the scheduling of a full House vote and this is expected in late March or April. If passed by both houses of Congress in its current form, Oklahoma would receive just under \$18 million for conservation annually.

State Legislative Update

Relatively few wildlife related bills were introduced in the Oklahoma Legislature this year, which is a departure from last year. Most of this year's bills were carried over from the 2019 session. By in large, the bills introduced this year have been focused on deer and furbearer regulations, hunting and fishing license exemptions, game warden access restrictions, and depredation issues related to feral hogs and Pronghorn. Most (but not all) of the bills that would be considered detrimental to wildlife conservation failed to pass through committee, but a few bills to be aware of this session that may be of interest to the birding community are: Senate Bill 541 that would establish an experimental Pronghorn season that would give landowners greater flexibility to eliminate populations on their property; and Senate Bill 703 that would allow the ODWC to only purchase land adjacent to existing WMAs (no new WMAs) and require the agency to sell one acre for every acre that it purchases (no additional conservation lands).

Grassy Slough Land Acquisition

With the help of Duck Unlimited, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation was able to add a half-section of forest land to the northern boundary of Grassy Slough Wildlife Management Area in southern McCurtain County. This addition expands to the area to just over 1,300 acres. Grassy Slough WMA encompasses a natural wetland complex of approximately 200 acres along Holly Branch Creek. Grassy Slough WMA began as a 700-acre tract that was acquired by an Oklahoma electrical utility company in 1997 as a wetland mitigation site. The property was donated to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation with the goals of protecting Grassy Slough, a naturally-occurring forested wetland, and restoring additional wetland habitat in the Red River Valley. This small WMA is located approximately four miles northwest of Red Slough (Holly Branch is the next watershed to the west of Push Creek/Red Slough) and supports similar habitat. The most easily accessible part of the WMA lies half a mile south of Grassy Slough and consists of restored, seasonal wetlands from land that was formerly cropland. To the north of the entrance lies Grassy Slough and north of that is a forested sandhill habitat that grows over ancient sand dunes created by the Red River. Despite its proximity to Red Slough, Grassy Slough has not yet caught the attention of birders (perhaps because the best parts require a mile of walking along the edge of a swamp!). Typical summer-season birds include White-eyed Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-throated Warbler, Summer Tanager, Indigo Bunting, egrets, and herons.

Mark Howery

OOS Conservation Chair

Looking Ahead

Volunteers needed for second Oklahoma Breeding Bird Atlas!

Oklahoma's first Breeding Bird Atlas was completed from 1997 to 2001, and was published in 2004 (available from oupres.com). Breeding bird atlases are intensive surveys of birds across a region during the nesting season. They are designed to provide current information about bird distribution in a state (or other region), as well as to provide a baseline for comparisons in the future to see how bird distributions change over time. A typical interval between atlas projects within a region is 20-25 years, so it is time for Oklahoma birders to go forth and scour the state once again, birding with a purpose! The Sutton Avian Research Center is once again leading the effort for Oklahoma's second breeding bird atlas.

If you are new to atlasing, the process is simple. Visit the project web page at suttoncenter.org/atlas and sign up for one or more survey blocks near you. There are 583 survey blocks statewide, each about 3x3 miles in size, and each will need to be surveyed within the next five years. Once signed up, you will receive a packet of instructions, maps and data forms. Visit your block at least twice during the spring and summer for a total of at least 10 hours, and record the bird species you find, how many of each you find, and record any indications of nesting behavior that you observe for each species. All of this is explained in more detail in the instructions, but the process is mostly birdwatching, with a little record keeping going along with it.

The blocks to be surveyed were randomly selected, which helps get observers to go birding in many places they may not otherwise visit (not just parks and refuges), painting a more detailed and informative picture of where each species occurs in Oklahoma. Your help completing these surveys gives you an opportunity to contribute to ongoing, long-term monitoring of Oklahoma's nesting birds, and will help document any changes to bird populations here that have occurred over the past two decades.

Visit suttoncenter.org/atlas or contact **Dan Reinking** at dan@suttoncenter.org or **918-336-7778** for more information.

Lesser Prairie Chicken Festival

The annual Lesser Prairie Chicken Festival will be held in Woodward, Oklahoma from April 15-22, 2020. There are several opportunities to sign up to go into the field to view these rare birds, but it is recommended that participants sign up soon, as available spots are filling quickly. For more information and registration, go to:

<http://lektreks.org/>

OOS Special Projects - Deadline Extended

Great News! The OOS Special Projects deadline has been extended this year to **April 1st (Wednesday) 2020**. As a reminder, these grants are for anyone doing research or who has a project relating to Oklahoma birds. The Special Projects are judged by a committee of OOS members and when awarded can provide up to \$500.00 in funding to students, researchers, individuals, or civic groups proposing to do work that promotes the "observation, study, and conservation" of Oklahoma birds. The requirements and criteria for these projects can be found at the OOS website www.okbirds.org under the special projects tab. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at the following email or phone number.

Don Glass

OOS Special Projects Chair
dglass@rsu.edu
(918)230-1154



Photo by [Patrick Brinksma](#) on [Unsplash](#)

BioBlitz! 2020

The 2020 Oklahoma BioBlitz! will be held **October 2-4, 2020** at Roman Nose State Park. Participants at this event will explore the varied habitats at the state park that include grasslands, canyons, springs and other interesting areas in search of the different flora and fauna that call Roman Nose State Park home. Activities, tours and overnight accommodations are available and should be reserved in advance. For more information contact Rebecca Renfro, OOS Activities Chair at: relore7@aol.com or visit the following websites:

<https://biosurvey.ou.edu/bioblitzok2020/>

<https://www.facebook.com/bioblitzoklahoma/>

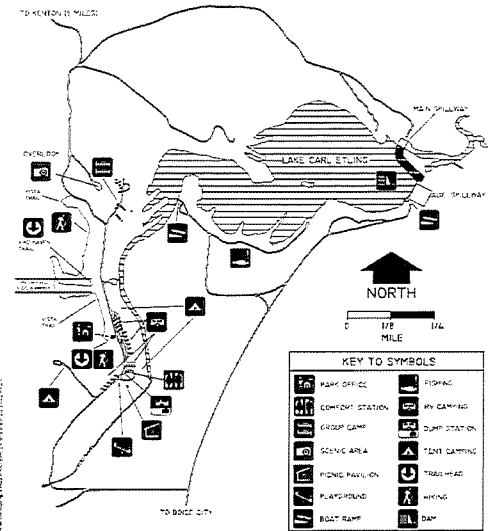
**OKLAHOMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CALL TO 2020 Spring MEETING**

Meeting Announcement

The 2020 Spring meeting of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society (OOS) will be held **May 8-10 at Black Mesa State Park near Kenton, OK**. The keynote address at the Saturday night banquet will be given by Allison Pierce and is entitled, *“Shorebirds without a shore: new insights into the ecology of Mountain Plovers”*. Allison Pierce is a PhD student at the University of Colorado Denver, and her broad research interests include animal population dynamics and behavioral ecology. Currently, her research focuses on migratory ecology and demography of an inland breeding shorebird of conservation interest, the Mountain Plover. As part of this research, one of her projects focuses on tracking individual plover migration movements using GPS data loggers in collaboration with the Migratory Connectivity Project and the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center.

All meeting activities will be held at the Community Building at Black Mesa State Park (adjacent to Lake Carl Etling, not the actual Black Mesa peak). OOS has reserved the group camp, and free lodging is available to those interested on a first come first serve basis (~50 beds available). The lodging is bunkhouse style (no heat/AC), and you will need to bring your own bedding. For hotel lodging, the Townsman in Boise City (580-544-2506) is available, as well as various Bed and Breakfast locations near Kenton. Primitive camping is also available at the state park (with restroom and showers available).

BLACK MESA STATE PARK



Planned field trips consist of tours of the Kenton and Black Mesa area on Saturday morning. Saturday lunch is on your own; Boise City has a few cafes and there is a kitchen in group camp for those who would like to cook and have lunch at the state park. Catering for the Saturday night banquet will be provided by the Rabbit Ear Cafe and consists of Mexican food such as fajitas, enchiladas, vegetarian options, etc.

Please register for the OOS spring meeting through the normal OOS channels online at www.okbirds.org or by mail using the registration form on page 8.

Schedule of Events

Friday, May 8:

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM.Registration at Black Mesa State Park (adjacent to Lake Carl Etling).

Saturday, May 9:

7:00 AM – 12:00 PM.Field Trip to Black Mesa area (Leader: Jimmy Woodard et al.). Meet at Community Building and split into smaller groups.

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM.Lunch: On your own. Full kitchen at community building is also available to those who wish to cook.

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM.Board Meeting

1:00 PM – 5:15 PM.Silent Auction

5:30 PM – 8:00 PM.Dinner and Keynote Speaker, 5:30 – 8:00 pm. Keynote address given by Allison Pierce. Program title is *“Shorebirds without a shore: new insights into the ecology of Mountain Plovers”*.

8:00 PM – 8:30 PM.Species List, and announce Sunday morning field trip itinerary.

Sunday, May 10:

Field Trip (Optional).Field trip to Keyes, OK. Leader: Jeff Tibbits. Departure time TBD at the meeting. Search for Mountain Plovers in the plowed fields near Keyes.

For questions, contact Jeff Tibbits at (405-535-7382) or jeff.tibbits@odwc.ok.gov

Fall 2019 OOS Meeting --- Registration Form

Name(s): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Meeting Registration # _____ @\$15/person total amount \$ _____
Meeting Registration (Student) # _____ @\$5/person total amount \$ _____
Saturday Evening Dinner (Fajitas/Enchiladas) # _____ @\$15/person total amount \$ _____
Saturday Evening Dinner (Vegetarian) # _____ @\$15/person total amount \$ _____

Do you plan on staying at the group camp bunkhouses? _____ YES or _____ NO

TOTAL REGISTRATIONS/MEALS/DONATIONS \$ _____

*******PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR BANQUET CHOICES BY APRIL 29 WE NEED A FIRM HEADCOUNT TO NOTIFY THE CATERERS FOR PLANNING PURPOSES FOR THE SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET.** You may still register for the meeting and pay for the banquet on site when you arrive.

You can send the registration/banquet form with payment (made out to OOS) to:

Nadine Varner
7845 NE 18th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73131

You may also register using PayPal on the OOS website at www.okbirds.org