



The Scissortail

NEWSLETTER OF THE

Oklahoma Ornithological Society

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President's Message

There has been a flurry of Northern Saw-whet Owl discussion going on in Oklahoma this year. This was stirred up by the project being conducted by Mitchell Pruitt and his advisor Dr. Kimberly Smith at the University of Arkansas. If you were at the 2015 OOS Spring Meeting held in conjunction with Arkansas Audubon, you may have heard the talk given by the two of them about this project. As part of Mitchell's Honors Thesis Project, he and Dr. Smith have been mist-netting and banding Northern Saw-whet Owls as part of a large, ongoing effort to track the species fall migration into the southern portion of their range in North America. This new information will contribute greatly to our understanding of the natural history of this tiny, incredibly cute owl. I was lucky enough to be able to go to Arkansas one night in November this year to watch the process. Four females were captured and processed that night, much to everyone's delight. The total capture number for this year was 22 owls.

For those of you who do not already know about Saw-whet Owls, let me give you a little background. For their small size, Northern Saw-whet Owls have a very large personality. Their breeding range is pretty far north of Oklahoma in southern Canada and northern and western portions of the United States. But, in the fall some owls migrate south all the way to the extreme southern states. Again, very little is known about these non-breeding season movements. Northern Saw-whet Owls are extremely nocturnal and rarely seen or heard during their fall migration. So, an intensive mist netting and banding program is underway to gather more information about the timing, numbers, and sex of the migrating owls.

Most of the owls captured in Arkansas by Pruitt and Smith were females. Only one was a male. It is

thought that the females take advantage of warmer temperatures and more efficient foraging by moving south during the winter while the males stick closer to the breeding areas in order to be ready to establish territories in spring. If these owls are migrating south in the fall in Arkansas, are they also in Oklahoma during that time? Most likely. However, they are notoriously difficult to detect. In Arkansas and other states, mist nets are set up in appropriate habitat, and their calls are played to attract them to the area of the nets in hopes of capturing one of these silent little owls. Once captured, they can be sexed, aged, and banded to add to the growing information about this cryptic species.

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**OOS Spring Meeting
April 15-17, 2016**

**Held Conjunction with "Leks, Treks, & More"
Lesser Prairie Chicken Festival in Woodward, OK
Full Information beginning on Page 39**

The Oklahoma Ornithological Society 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, PO Box is PO Box 24, Duncan, OK 73534. You may also join online using PayPal by visiting our website: www.okbirds.org

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.

Articles for *The Scissortail* are being solicited. Articles can pertain to anything related to birding and do not necessarily have to be about birding in Oklahoma, but should be of interest to readers. Some topics might include observed bird activity in the field or at your feeders; reports of birding outings/trips; historical perspectives on birds, specific parks or wildlife management areas; ongoing research projects by students and/or faculty of any level. Please send items for consideration to the editor of *The Scissortail* by email. Should you have questions regarding the process, please contact *The Scissortail* editor.

O.O.S. Officers

President -- Mia Revels — Professor of Biology, Northeastern State University, 611 Grand Ave., Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464 (918) 444-3824 e-mail: revels@nsuok.edu {'15-'16}

Past-president-- 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 {'15-'16}

President-elect -- Jimmy Woodard — 7845 NE 18th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73141 j.woodard@cox.net {'15-'16}

Secretary -- Doug Wood -- PMB 4068, 1405 N. 4th Ave, Durant, OK 74701-0609 (580) 745-2272 dwood@se.edu {'16}

Treasurer – Nadine Varner -- 7845 NE 18th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73141 (405) 370-5076 gallinuleofpurple@yahoo.com {'16}

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Membership/Circulation -- Donald Glass -- P.O. Box 2931, Claremore, OK 74018 home (918) 230-1154, office (918) 343-7701, email: dglass@rsu.edu {'14-'15}

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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 {'15-'17}

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— **VACANT** — Don Glass was appointed to fill this vacancy effective January 1st, 2017. {'15-'17}

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@noc.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}

Other positions:

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}

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, dreinking@ou.edu {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 but Microsoft Word © is preferred.

OOS SALES BY MAIL

- Oklahoma Bird Records Committee, Date Guide to the Occurrences of Birds in Oklahoma, 6th Edition. 2014. \$6.00 each in person; \$7 via mail or internet
 - OOS Field Checklist. 2005. Tri-fold card. Packet of 10 - \$4
- 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 now purchase these publications online at our website www.okbirds.com Look for the publications link.

President's Message continued from page 33

There are several records of Northern Saw-whet Owls in Oklahoma, but no one has done a systematic study on the species. I plan to survey northeastern Oklahoma next fall for migrating Northern Saw-whet Owls. We have some great habitat in this part of the state, and next year is supposed to be a big irruption year for the species based on the 4-year cycle normally seen in this species. If 22 captures is "average", I can't wait to see what an irruption year looks like! I have high hopes of gathering some exciting Northern Saw-whet Owl data for Oklahoma.

Mia Revels, President

The photo below is of a Saw-whet Owl being held by Mitchell Pruitt, shortly after the bird was banded. As you can see, they are tiny little things, second smallest owl in North America. Only the Burrowing Owl is smaller.



Treasurer's Report

By Nadine Varner

Over 60 people attended the 2015 Fall Meeting at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant. This generated \$2,508 in meeting income:

\$1,928 in registration fees
\$150 in sales
\$430 from the silent auction.

Our meeting expenses totaled \$1,108 (not including expenses for merchandise).

Current Balances

General Fund	\$14,256
Special Projects Fund	\$10,232
Memorial /bulletin fund	\$71,013

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Richard Hasegawa----Tulsa, OK
Cassandra Shires----Locust Grove, OK
Tom Traxler----Edmond, OK

NEW LIFE MEMBER

Gary Akin---Coleman, OK

\$\$ DONATIONS \$\$

Paul Rabitzki

Wally & Robbie Whaling

Thank you for your generosity in supporting OOS!!

Fall 2015 Meeting Report by Jimmy Woodard, President-Elect

Sixty-seven participants descended on Durant, OK, October 9-11, 2015, to attend the Fall meeting of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society(OOS). Ninety-four species of birds were found during the weekend (see list below), which included field trips to Tishomingo NWR and Hagerman NWR(TX) on Saturday morning, and a trip to the Denison Dam area on Lake Texoma, Sunday morning. Field trip leaders were Doug Wood, Gary Akin and Wayne Meyer. Interesting finds were: Neotropic cormorant, White-faced ibis, Black-bellied plover, Mourning warbler, and Palm warbler at Hagerman; Anhinga, Bald eagle, White-eyed vireo, and Gray catbird at Denison Dam.

Friday evening, we enjoyed a cookout of hotdogs and hamburgers during registration. Thanks to the Southeastern Wildlife Club for doing the cooking and cleanup for us! Gene Young gave a detailed presentation on the current status of Lesser Prairie Chicken and the Endangered Species Act. Bill Adams showed a brief selection of his recent photos after Gene's talk.

Doug Wood had set up a 20-specimen bird quiz with common birds that proved to be a bit tougher than we thought it would be. Everyone had fun with it and it caused some lively discussions on bird identification. I know Max Thompson from Kansas identified all twenty birds correctly. There may have been others who did, too, but most of us missed a few.

Saturday began with the field trips in the morning. In the afternoon the OOS board meeting was held as well as the business meeting. There were seven student oral presentations and three poster displays during the afternoon technical session. Prizes were awarded to the best undergrad and grad presentations in both categories. Our annual Fall silent auction generated almost \$500 in sales as attendees took home most of the donated items displayed.

A BBQ dinner was enjoyed before Dr Michael Husak from Cameron University in Lawton presented the featured program on his ongoing research about Scissor-tailed flycatchers. He gave an extremely detailed talk filled with fascinating and surprising new information about our state bird. OOS would like to give a big thank you to Dr. Husak for donating the costs associated with his travel and hotel to OOS, with a provision that we use it to support student research in the future. His generosity is greatly appreciated!

Sunday morning, 17 birders went on the optional field trip to Denison Dam. We enjoyed a very active morning of birds which kept everyone busy identifying birds. Nadine and I had to leave the group about 10AM to head home. Of course, when we got home, Doug had sent us a note that he had seen an Anhinga after we left. Isn't that always the way it goes when you leave too soon!

The weather was perfect the meeting. The setting was even better as several people commented that this was one of the best meetings they had attended in a long time. I think everyone had a good time visiting a part of the state most of us don't travel to very often. OOS would like to thank Doug Wood for all his hard work in setting up this venue. We would also like to thank Southeastern OSU for hosting us and the SE Wildlife Club for all their work in assisting with all the behind the scene details and for hosting the cookout.

Canada Goose	Killdeer	White-eyed Vireo	Spotted Towhee
Mallard	Spotted Sandpiper	Blue Jay	Savannah Sparrow
Blue-winged Teal	Solitary Sandpiper	American Crow	Song Sparrow
Northern Shoveler	Greater Yellowlegs	Tree Swallow	Lincoln's Sparrow
Northern Pintail	Lesser Yellowlegs	Cliff Swallow	White-throated Sparrow
Pied-billed Grebe	Stilt Sandpiper	Barn Swallow	Summer Tanager
Neotropic Cormorant	Least Sandpiper	Carolina Chickadee	Northern Cardinal
Double-crested Cormorant	Long-billed Dowitcher	Tufted Titmouse	Indigo Bunting
Anhinga	Wilson's Snipe	House Wren	Red-winged Blackbird
Great Blue Heron	Wilson's Phalarope	Marsh Wren	Eastern Meadowlark
Great Egret	Rock Pigeon	Carolina Wren	Great-tailed Grackle
Snowy Egret	Eurasian Collared Dove	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Brown-headed Cowbird
Little Blue Heron	Mourning Dove	Eastern Bluebird	House Finch
Cattle Egret	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	American Robin	House Sparrow
Green Heron	Greater Roadrunner	Gray Catbird	
White-faced Ibis	Belted Kingfisher	Brown Thrasher	
Black Vulture	Red-headed Woodpecker	Northern Mockingbird	
Turkey Vulture	Red-bellied Woodpecker	European Starling	
Northern Harrier	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	American Pipit	
Cooper's Hawk	Downy Woodpecker	Orange-crowned Warbler	
Red-shouldered Hawk	Hairy Woodpecker	Nashville Warbler	
Swainson's Hawk	Northern Flicker	Mourning Warbler	
Red-tailed Hawk	Pileated Woodpecker	Common Yellowthroat	
American Coot	American Kestrel	Palm Warbler	
Americaqn Avocet	Eastern Phoebe	Yellow-rumped Warbler	
Black-bellied Plover	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Wilson's Warbler	



OOS Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Broken Arrow Campus – Northeastern State University
July 18, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM by President Mia Revels.

Members in attendance: Jim Deming, Mickle Duggan, Claudia Glass, Don Glass, Joe Grzybowski, Mark Howery, Mia Revels, Nadine Varner, Doug Wood, and Jimmy Woodard. **Absent:** Chris Butler, Suzy Harris, Rebecca Renfro, and Gene Young.

Mia Revels provided brief greetings to the board.

Minutes for the May 2, 2015 executive board meeting were read and accepted with corrections (Motion: J. Grzybowski, Second – M. Duggan; unanimous).

Membership: D. Glass

206 Members. Membership increased by 4 members. D. Glass expressed concern that the membership number is affecting the bulk mail rate for the Bulletin and Scissortail. Need to increase membership or we will incur significantly higher mailing rate.

Treasurer: N. Varner

N. Varner submitted the Treasurer's report. The OOS spring meeting costs were offset by registrations and sales of OOS merchandise. CD was renewed for another year and board needs to decide where the money will be reinvested. Name change on CD needs to be accomplished.

Business Manager: M. Duggan

M. Duggan and D. Wood met and finalized the audit, which was accurate and well prepared by N. Varner. M. Duggan mentioned that the Budget committee (M. Duggan, M. Revels, N. Varner) will meet electronically to discuss next year's budget. The budget numbers are approximately the same as this year's budget.

Committee Reports

Activities: R. Renfro – absent, but provided report to the board.

The AOU/COS organizers did not request any further volunteers from OOS. We may provide a table with OOS information, but no vending. OOS will help staff the bird events at the Fall Oklahoma Academy of Science meeting at Lake Wister SP September 25-27, 2015. OOS will help staff the BioBlitz at Osage Hills State Park on October 2-4, 2015.

Archivist: C. Glass

C. Glass reported no new materials for the Archives, but requested materials be donated.

Awards: J. Deming

Noted that J. Deming put the Nominations form in the most recent Scissortail. J. Deming presented 3 nominations to the board for Awards of Merit (2 individuals and 1 group). The board voted to approve two awards (Motion – J. Deming, Second – M. Duggan; 8 Yes, 1 Abstention) – one to Sue Selman and one for the Spring Creek Coalition – for their work on conserving Oklahoma birds and habitat. Both awards will be presented at the fall meeting.

Bulletin: G. Young – absent, but provided report to the board.

G. Young said he had manuscript(s) for the September issue, but needs submissions for the next issue. G. Young requested J. Grzybowski provide the OBRC annual report for the upcoming Bulletin.

Conservation: M. Howery

M. Howery discussed the recent Incidental Take issue with the Fish and Wildlife Service. M. Howery will provide a conservation report for the Scissortail.

OBRC: J. Grzybowski

J. Grzybowski stated the OBRC will make adjustments to the checklist from the recent AOU Checklist supplement. J. Grzybowski stated the museum will continue to work on the OBRC records database this fall. J. Grzybowski stated there will be a fully-searchable database of OBRC records through 2008 on the website in the near future. Board voted to reduce the rate price to 3 vendors of the Date Guide. The bulk sale price will be reduced to \$5 for resale by The Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, and the Sam Noble Museum gift shops. (Motion – M. Duggan, Second – N. Varner). D. Wood asked if OBRC can appoint someone to write the annual OBRC report for publication. J. Grzybowski stated he would ask someone to do so at the next OBRC meeting.

President-Elect: J. Woodard

J. Woodard updated board on status of the fall technical meeting to be held at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant on October 9-11. Gene Young will be the Friday night speaker on Lesser Prairie-Chicken and Endangered Species Act issues. Dr. Mike Husak will be the Saturday night banquet speaker on present his research on Scissor-tailed Flycatchers. J. Woodard has prepared the registration form, call for papers, and other logistics for the fall meeting. J. Woodard is working on developing the spring meeting in conjunction with the Prairie Chicken Festival. J. Woodard approached Todd Humphrey about hosting the fall 2016 meeting at Jenks High School.

Scissortail: S. Harris – absent, but provided report to the board.

Deadline for Fall issue is August 15. Please send reports to Suzy for this issue.

Special Projects: - open

T. O'Connell resigned from his position as Special Projects chair with one year remaining on his term. T. O'Connell resigned due to other professional commitments. The Board thanks Tim for his years of service in this position. M. Revels will appoint someone to fill this position in the near future.

Continued on Page 38

Webmaster: C. Butler – absent – no report.

New Business

Committee composition update. Appointed Nominating Committee members (J. Woodard, M. Revels, D. Wood). Bulletin Storage Agreement terminated by Bill Carter due to space constraints. Incomplete sets of the Bulletin will be made available for storage in the Archives or will be recycled. Board accepted termination agreement (Motion – J. Deming, Second – M. Duggan).

Board discussed the status of the Bulletin with regard to the digital records at the OSU library. The Bulletin is currently available through 2008 in digital form at the OSU library. Board voted to maintain this situation with a 2-year embargo on new issues (Motion – M. Duggan, Second – J. Deming; 7 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abstention).

D. Wood solicited feedback on t-shirt/ball cap designs provided by ornithopolis.com. This is a possible vending opportunity for OOS.

Motion to adjourn by M. Duggan, Seconded by J. Deming; passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:34 PM.

Oklahoma Ornithological Society Conservation Report Fall 2015

By Mark Howery

Whooping Crane Update:

While we in Oklahoma experienced one of the wettest years in our history, the northern reaches of Canada struggled with a severe drought. The Canadian Fish and Wildlife Service monitors the breeding Whooping Crane population on and around Wood Buffalo National Park in northern Alberta each summer by using small planes to fly over traditional nesting marshes and bogs. This summer, only 68 Whooping Crane nests were initiated (down from approximately 84 nests last summer). Of these 68 pairs, only 23 were successful in rearing chicks, and all of the pairs reared only single chicks - there were no surviving “twins” (the term used to describe Whooping Crane broods in which both chicks survive to leave the nest). While 2015 has turned out to be a poor year for reproduction and population recruitment in the Canada-to-Texas population, the population remains as high as it’s been in the past century or more. If 85% of these fledged chicks survive the late summer and fall migration (the long term average survival rate), then approximately 330 Whooping Cranes are expected to arrive on their wintering grounds along the Texas coast. The combination of the warm fall and the wet summer across the Great Plains, has contributed to a much later fall migration than is typical. Most of the Whooping Cranes did not pass through Oklahoma until November, which is about two to three weeks later than usual.

Lesser Prairie Chicken Listing Vacated

This fall, a federal district court vacated the federal threatened listing action for the Lesser Prairie Chicken. The Lesser Prairie Chicken was federally listed as a threatened species in May of 2014; however, the recent court decision rolls back the bird’s federal status to a candidate species. The court based its decision on the opinion that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had made their listing determination without fully examining the conservation benefits of an on-going conservation initiative known as the Lesser Prairie Chicken Range Wide Plan. The Lesser Prairie Chicken Range Wide Plan is a development off-set program in

which energy companies and other non-agricultural businesses make financial payments to off-set the impact or footprint of their actions within the Lesser Prairie Chicken’s range. These funds are then used to purchase conservation easements and to restore or enhance existing mixed-grass prairie and shrubland habitats on agricultural lands in areas where they will benefit Lesser Prairie Chickens. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is likely to appeal the court’s decision, and the Lesser Prairie Chicken Range Wide Plan remains in effect. The Range Wide Plan is administered by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, of which all five states (OK, TX, NM, CO and KS) within the Lesser Prairie Chicken’s range are members. Additionally, the Natural Resources Conservation Service contributes over \$1 million annually toward prairie chicken habitat conservation through the Lesser Prairie Chicken Conservation Initiative (a program of the Farm Bill).

Sprague’s Pipit Listing Decision Delayed

In other Endangered Species Act news, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is expected to make a decision this winter on a proposal to list the Sprague’s Pipit as a threatened species under the ESA. In September of 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service placed the Sprague’s Pipit on its list of candidate species (this is a group of species that may warrant federal listing in the near future). Since then biologists, primarily in the pipit’s nesting range, have been collecting data to determine whether a threatened or endangered listing is warranted. Based upon the Breeding Bird Survey, the Sprague’s Pipit’s population has declined by over 40% in the past five decades; however the rate of decline has leveled during the past twenty years and the populations appear to be stable within three core nesting areas. A listing decision was expected in September, but has been delayed until January of 2016.

Old Known Wild Bald Eagle Passes

This past May, a banded Bald Eagle was found dead in upstate New York. As it turns out, this bird, a male that was banded as a chick from a nest in Minnesota in 1977, was the oldest documented wild-living Bald Eagle. In captivity, Bald Eagles commonly live into their late forties and early fifties.

OKLAHOMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Call to 2016 SPRING Meeting

The 2016 Spring meeting of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society (OOS) will be held April 15-17, in Woodward, OK. It will be held in conjunction with the Lesser Prairie Chicken Festival, which is sponsored by the Oklahoma Audubon Council and the Tulsa Audubon Society. One of the meeting highlights will be the keynote address at the Saturday night banquet. It will be given by Pete Dunne, who is one of the icons of birding in America. Pete has written several books such as "Tales of A Low Rent Birder", is the director of the Cape May Bird Observatory and one of the founders of the World Series of Birding.

All meeting activities will be held at the Northwest Inn, Woodward (800-727-7606). OOS has a block of rooms at a special rate of \$79 + tax. Please mention OOS or the Lesser Prairie Chicken Festival to receive this rate. The motel features a full breakfast bar included in the room rate.

There are several motel options in town. Nearby major chains include Holiday Inn, La Quinta, Hampton Inn, and Candlewood Inn. Budget motels include Days Inn, Comfort Inn, America's Best Value, and Super 8. The closest camping choices are at Boiling Springs State Park a few miles northeast of town.

Field trips will include visits to Boiling Springs State Park, Ft Supply Lake, and Ellis County WMA near Arnett. You will need a current hunting/fishing license(\$25) or a Conservation Passport(\$26) in your possession to access the WMA. Other nearby points of interest you can visit are Alabaster Caverns State Park, Glass (Gloss) Mountains, Little Sahara State Park, and Doby Springs (near Buffalo), to name just a few.

Please register for the OOS spring meeting through the normal OOS channels online at okbirds.org, or by mail. You DO NOT need to register through the prairie chicken festival for OOS events or the banquet. If you choose, you may participate in certain festival events for a fee. See a complete list of events, costs and festival information at the website, www.lektreks.org. Other festival events such as the Saturday and Sunday workshops are free to all except for the photography workshop.

SCHEDULE EVENTS

FRIDAY APRIL 15

5:00-???Registration and socializing at the Northwest Inn.

7:00-9:00 PM.....OOS Executive Board meeting

SATURDAY APRIL 16

FIELD TRIPS:

Ellis County WMA near Arnett.....this is a hidden treasure in northwest Oklahoma. Visit a variety of habitats including open water, marshes, riparian areas, woodlands, and open fields. Leader- Doug Wood. *Departs 7:00 AM from in front of the Northwest Inn lobby.*

Fort Supply Lake.....visit a variety of habitats at this lake just northwest of Woodward. Leader- Jimmy Woodard. *Departs 7:30AM from in front of the Northwest Inn lobby.*

Boiling Springs State Park.....this nearby location has several interesting walking trails through woodlands and open fields. Leader-TBD. *Departs at 8:00 AM from in front of the Northwest Inn lobby.*

Lunch is on your own. There are many eating options in Woodward. Most are located along Hwy 3/270 and Hwy 412. The options range from fast food and cafes to specialty restaurants.

SATURDAY APRIL 16 (continued)

2:00 - 4:30 PM.....Festival workshops at the Northwest Inn (free to OOS members except for photography workshop). *Pete Dunne will give a workshop on pishing and also be available to sign his books.*

5:30--8:00 PM.....Dinner and Keynote address given by Pete Dunne. Program title is “Small-headed Flycatcher ... Seen Yesterday, He Didn’t Leave His Name”.

SUNDAY APRIL 17

FIELD TRIP (Optional).....Bird local parks, trails and lakes in Woodward for spring migrants. Leader- Jimmy Woodard; or bird on your own. *Departs at 7:30AM from in front of the Northwest Inn Lobby.*

For questions, contact Jimmy Woodard at (405-365-5685) or j.woodard@cox.net.

SPRING 2016 OOS Meeting— REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Meeting Registration # _____ **@ \$15 / person** total amount \$ _____

*** Student * (new for 2016) = \$5 / person**

*******Saturday Evening Dinner options:**

CHICKEN\$28/person # _____ total amount \$ _____

VEGETARIAN (Pasta entrée).....\$24/person # _____ total amount \$ _____

Upgrade to STEAK.....\$36/person # _____ total amount \$ _____

Donations to help pay meeting costs \$ _____

TOTAL REGISTRATIONS/MEALS/DONATIONS \$ _____ .

You may still register for the meeting and pay for the banquet on site when you arrive.

*******PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR BANQUET CHOICES BY APRIL 1. *******

*******WE NEED A FIRM HEADCOUNT TO NOTIFY THE CATERERS *******

*******FOR PLANNING PURPOSES FOR THE SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET*****.**

You can send the registration/banquet form with payment (made out to OOS) to:
Nadine Varner at 7845 NE 18th St., Midwest City, OK, 73141.

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