

# Maryland Ornithological Society

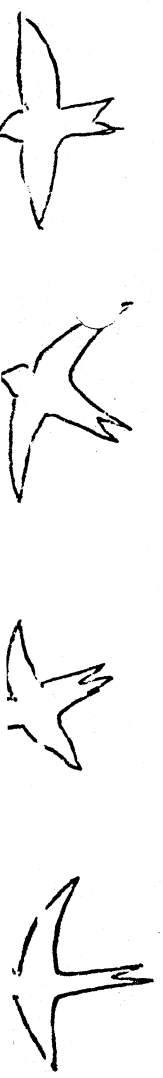
## THE ORGANIZATION

This is the second newsletter of the Howard County Chapter of MOS and perhaps some of the readers are learning about the society for the first time so maybe a recap is in order. There are chapters throughout the State and Howard County is the newest. The primary purpose of MOS was to promote the study and enjoyment of the birds of Maryland; the society still recognizes the pleasure and purpose of bird study but also recognizes the continuing need to preserve natural areas from encroachment to educate the public in conservation, and to provide a means of accomplishing these goals.

The first program meeting was held in December. "Too near Christmas - no one can go - too many holiday activities already planned - wait for awhile". The board heard and considered this advice and recognized the hazards but decided to go ahead with the plans anyway. "One has to start some place some time." Chandler Robbins agreed to be the first guest speaker and probably was the big reason Howard County birders and those just curious by-passed Christmas shopping for one evening. The program was a big success and it was gratifying to the board to realize the room selected was too small for the audience. The first order of business after that program was to negotiate for a larger room.

The board welcomes all new members and particularly would like each one to take a leading or supporting role in the various activities planned. For that reason, the names of the officers are printed again. They want to hear from you--suggestions, ideas, offers to help.

- |                |          |                                |
|----------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| Nan Rhineland  | 286-2427 | President                      |
| Bob Herndon    | 730-0942 | Vice-President and Field Trips |
| Peggy Hood     | 730-9251 | Secretary                      |
| David Holmes   | 730-7083 | Treasurer                      |
| John Healy     | 465-5737 | Trustee and Conservation       |
| Dee VanVelzen  | 531-6494 | Bookstore                      |
| Donna Herbst   | 286-3808 | Membership                     |
| Ted VanVelzen  | 531-6494 | Program                        |
| Erwin Klaas    |          | Junior Activities              |
| Shirley Hobbs  | 442-2385 | Bird Notes Contact             |
| Ruth Healy     | 465-5737 | Field Trip Telephone Contact   |
| Martha Chester | 730-1527 | Newsletter and Publicity       |



## PROGRAMS

January 11	Jerry R. Longcore	Avian Architects
February 8	Dr. Erwin Klaas	Milpas, Motmots and Mayas
March 8	Dr. Dixie Lee Ray	On the Environment
April 12	David Holmes	African Adventure

## FIELD TRIPS

- January 14 (Sunday) (snow date January 21) Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, Delaware. The date was incorrectly reported in the last newsletter. This is an all day trip and one should take lunch and a thermos of coffee. The trip is about a 2½ hour drive but the views of the waterfowl on the various ponds are spectacular and very rewarding. This wont be a strenuous day as much of the viewing can be from the car with only short walks at some of the stops. Good time to bring the camera.  
Leaders: Nan Rhineland and Bob Herndon
- January 20 (Saturday) Woodcock area walk. This will be one of the most interesting field trips scheduled but we must warn you that there will be a lot of walking and rubber boots will probably be advisable.  
Leader: Al Geis
- February 10 (Saturday) Local Bird Feeder Trip. Mark this as a must. If you are feeding birds now, you may be able to exchange ideas with others that will be helpful to both. If you'd like to start, there will be a variety of tips offered during the one-half day trip.  
Leader: To be announced.
- February 17,18,19 Chincoteague Weekend. Not all arrangements and plans are completed at this printing. The trip will begin early Saturday morning with a stop at the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge before moving on to Chincoteague. Return trip will be Monday. Further information as to leaders, motel, etc. will be available in the next newsletter.
- March 11 (Sunday) Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. This will be an all day trip. Bring lunch.

NOTE: THE MEETING TIME AND PLACE FOR ALL TRIPS: OAKLAND MILLS PARKING LOT ADJACENT TO THE OTHER FARN--7:30 A.M. FOR INFORMATION ON ALL TRIPS, PLEASE CONTACT RUTH HEALY AT 465-5737.

## MOS PRIVATE SANCTUARY SIGNS

Private properties may be posted as a "Wildlife Sanctuary Registered With MOS". Signs cost one dollar and are to be placed every 500 feet around property, at corners and entrances. For further information and application write to MOS Private Sanctuary Program, Box 55, Federalsburg, Maryland, 21632.

Parade magazine, December 31, named Dixie Lee Ray as one of America's six top women. Dr. Ray will be our guest speaker for the March meeting. She is the only woman ever appointed to a full five year term as an Atomic Energy Commission Commissioner. She has been particularly interested in the biological effects of radioactivity upon the environment and has an international reputation for research on anatomical adaptation of animals to their environments.

Dr. Ray is keenly aware of the dangers of pollution but doesn't think it means the end of the world. Parade quotes her, "I have a lot more faith in the strength and resilience of living things. That doesn't mean we can be either careless or cavalier about manipulating the environment. But we don't have to be hysterical. Doom is not necessary."

#### WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The Dorchester Arts Center and the U.S. Dept. of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service have announced the second annual photography contest and exhibit to be held at the Blackwater Visitor Center (12 miles south of Cambridge, Md.).

The contest is open to anyone except employees of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. No more than three entries may be submitted by each person. Photographs may be black and white or color and must be of size 8" x 10" to 16" x 20" and securely mounted on 16" x 20" mount board. Photographs must have been taken after January 1, 1971. Subject matter must include wild animal life. Photographs of only plant life, domestic or caged animals, or scenics will not be accepted. Judging will be March 3, 1973 and the exhibit will be open to the public at the Center through March 31.

Entries and questions should be addressed to: Refuge Manager, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Route 1, Box 121, Cambridge, Md. 21613.

#### BIRD NOTES

We didn't hear from too many of you about birds you have been seeing in Howard County. Please call Shirley Hobbs at 442-2385 to make reports. Nan Rhineland still has a kingfisher at the pond near her home in Glenelg. Evening Grosbeaks are reported in large numbers by some and others haven't seen them yet even though they had lots of them at feeders last year. About 35 herring and ring-billed gulls spent New Year's Day on Wilde Lake. The gadwalls seem to have decided to spend the winter there. Two handsome if unidentified ducks enjoyed the cold waters on January 6. Also on that day, a group of birders watched Jay Shepherd catch and band two saw-whet owls near the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.

#### HOMES AND SHELTERS FOR WILDLIFE

The Maryland State Department of Game and Inland Fish publishes a pamphlet giving building instructions for homes and shelters for wildlife which includes nesting boxes for wood ducks and houses for songbirds, as well as squirrel and rabbit shelters. The booklet is "Homes and Shelters for Wildlife" and the address is Dept. of Game and Inland Fish, State Office Building, Annapolis, Maryland, 21404.

## PROGRAM

December 14	Chandler S. Robbins	Winter Birds of Howard County
January 11	Jerry R. Longcore	Avian Architects
February 8	Dr. Erwin Klaas	Milpas, Motmots and Mayas
March 8	Dr. Dixie Lee Ray Atomic Energy Commission	On the Environment
April 12	David Holmes	African Adventure

## FIELD TRIPS

December 14

December 16 (Saturday) Sandy Point and Kent Island for winter residents, snow buntings, swans and ducks.  
Leader: David Holmes

January ~~20~~ (Saturday) Woodcock area walk.  
Leader: Al Geis

*Jan*  
February 14 ~~(Wednesday)~~ *Sunday* Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, Delaware.  
*Jan. 14 other* All day trip. Take lunch. Snow date: ~~Feb.~~ *Feb.* 21.  
*snow date 2/7/30* *Beam*  
Leaders: Nan Rhineland and Bob Herndon

The meeting time and place for all trips: Oakland Mills Parking lot <sup>7:30</sup> ~~7~~ a.m.  
For information on all trips, please contact Mary Healy at 465-5737.

## FIELD TRIP POINTERS

Some of you may be going on field trips for the first time and may have questions concerning what to do, take, wear, etc. The following are guides and hints that should help you to get the most enjoyment and information from the outings:

1. Clothing and shoes suitable for the weather. Its well to find out from the leader in advance if rubber boots might be advisable for marshes and wet areas.
2. One should have binoculars, field guide, small notebook.
3. Dogs should be left at home.
4. Report to the leader upon arrival at the designated meeting point. Be on time.
5. Let the leader lead the way. NEVER walk in front of the leader. Avoid abrupt movements and loud noises.

