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Volume 21 1993 Number 1

1993 Annual Meeting Notice

The 31st annual meeting of the New Mexico Ornithological Society will be held 2-4 April 1993 at the Roswell Inn in Roswell, New Mexico.

Registration will take place Friday evening (5:00-8:00 p.m.) and Saturday (11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.). The registration fee will be \$5, with speakers and students exempt.

The business meeting will be from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Saturday morning.

Dr. Bruce Thompson of the Department of Fishery and Wildlife Sciences, New Mexico State University, will chair the paper session on Saturday afternoon from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. See the "Call for Papers" in this issue of the Bulletin.

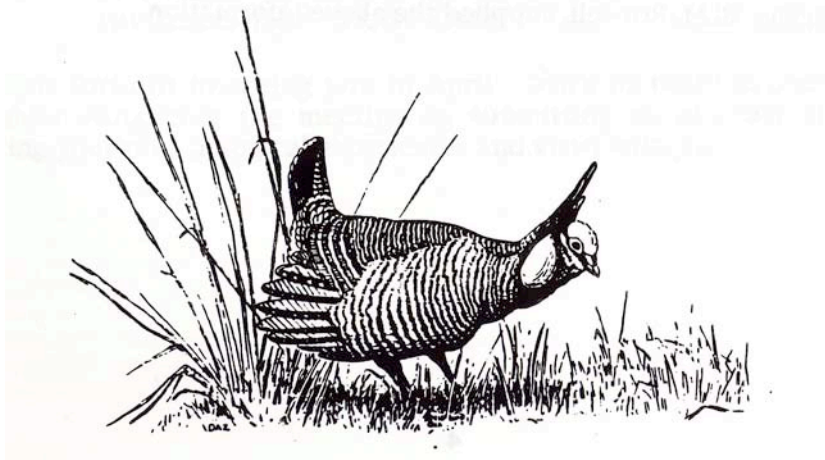
At 7:00 p.m. the banquet (\$10) will take place, and at 8:15 p.m. an invited speaker will talk.

Field trips to a Lesser Prairie-Chicken lek will leave the Roswell Inn at 4:00 a.m. both Saturday and Sunday mornings. Dan Baggao of the Bureau of Land Management, Roswell, is handling the arrangements for the trips; information will be available at Registration. Trips to Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge will be made on an individual basis. Information on recent sightings

at the refuge will be provided by refuge personnel and available at Registration.

Special room rates of \$46 (single or double) at the Roswell Inn (623-4920) will be available until 2 March 1993. Be sure to ask for the special NMOS rates when making reservations.

The meeting committee includes, in addition to Thompson and Baggao, Jackie McConachie, Mary Alice Root, and Greg Farley. Others wishing to help may call Mary Alice at 266-0561.



LESSER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN INFORMATION

The Mescalero Sands Population of the Lesser Prairie-Chicken *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus* consists of about 2500 birds. The lekking behavior takes place March through May from pre-dawn to about 2 hours after sunrise and from late afternoon to darkness. The peak lekking period is the 1st through the 3rd weeks of April. The clutch size is 12-16 eggs and incubation takes 23 days. The chicks are precocial and are brooded from June through August. The leks are in Shinnery Oak/Bluestem sandhills, and may be on drilling pads, roads, pipelines or livestock watering areas. The nests are usually about 2 miles from the lek, in Shinnery Oak/Bluestem. In the spring they feed on forbs and green materials; in the summer they utilize invertebrates (grasshoppers and leafhoppers) and acorns: the fall diet consists of green materials, acorns and seeds: acorn and seeds are also used in the winter.

It will be necessary to arrive at the viewing area around 5:00 a.m. We will carpool from the Roswell Inn departing at 4:00 a.m. both Saturday and Sunday. When close to the area headlights are to be turned off and windows lowered to listen for the birds. Watchers are to remain in the cars and to be as quiet as possible. The birds do not seem to mind being viewed from inside the vehicles. If they are flushed inadvertently they will

usually return within a few minutes if there are no further disturbances.

It may be necessary to know how many people plan to participate in the field trips. Please put this information on your registration form.

Dan Baggao, BLM, Roswell, supplied the above Information

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