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# N. M. O. S. BULLETIN

*incorporating the Newsletter of the  
New Mexico Ornithological Society*

Vol. 4, No. 4 Winter 1976 Santa Fe

## RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS to N.M.O.S. BY-LAWS

By N.M.O.S. Board of Directors

The following possible changes were discussed by the N.M.O.S. Board at its meeting at Bernalillo on 25 September 1976. Members present included Bruce Hayward, Claudia Hubbard, Jim Sands, and Jim Travis, plus non-voting observers John Hubbard and Henry Zeller. After discussions, the following amendments were approved for submission to the N.M.O.S. membership, to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting in 1977. In the following suggested changes, those items that are underlined are the present wording to be changed and those in parentheses are the recommended changes; only articles and sections with recommended changes are included here.

Article II. Section 2. Classes of Membership and Dues. The classes of membership of the Society shall be (Patron, Supporting, Family), Regular, (and) Student, and Family with corresponding dues to be determined by the Board of Directors (except that dues for Patron would be twenty times the annual Regular rate and dues for Supporting five times that rate.)

/// Additions.///

Article II. Section 6. Rights and Privileges. The members of the Society may specifically instruct the Board of Directors in the performance of its duties by: an affirmative vote of the majority of the members attending an Annual Meeting of the Society; an affirmative vote of the mailed votes (ballots) of members received resulting from a petition by any three members of the Society for such a vote. (; provided that the number of affirmative ballots

in each case must exceed one third of the total paid up membership of the Society at the time of the vote.) ///Additions///

Article III. Section 1. Number, Qualification and Tenure. The Board of Directors shall consist of the five elected members of the Society (seven members comprising the Officers plus three additional Directors) with the President as Chairman. The incorporators of the organization shall serve as Directors of the Society until their successors can be chosen by an election held in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws. Directors shall be elected for terms of two years and until their successors have been elected and have qualified. (The Officers shall be specifically elected as such by the membership and shall serve for terms of two years. The additional Directors shall be elected for terms of one year. An effort shall be made to obtain representation of different parts of the State among the Directors.)  
///Additions and deletions///

Article III. Section 2. Duties and Powers, etc. (Proxy Voting. Any Director who is unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors may give his proxy in writing to a member who will be present. Such a proxy may be either general or specific, but it will not affect the necessity for the presence of a quorum.) ///New Section///

Article III. Section 3. Annual Meeting, etc. (Duties and Powers, etc.)///Old Section 2///

Article III. Section 4. Quorum, etc. (Annual Meeting, etc.) ///Old Section 3///

Article III. Section 5. Resignation, etc. (Quorum.) Three (3) (Four) Directors shall constitute a quorum etc ///Old Section 4///

Article III. Section 6. (Resignation, etc.) ///Old Section 5///

Article IV. Section 1. Officers. The Officers of the Corporation shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, (and) Treasurer and one member of the Board. ///Deletion///

Article IV. Section 3. Vice-President. The Vice-President, in the absence of the President or in the event of his inability or refusal to act, shall perform the duties of the President and, when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions on the President. The Vice-President shall act as manuscript coordinator and principal editor for publications as defined in Article VII, Section 3. (He) shall perform such other duties as from time to time, may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors. ///Deletions///

Article IV. Section 4. Secretary. (Under the direction of the President) the Secretary shall (carry out the necessary preparatory work, such as preparation of agenda and the circulation of papers for consideration, for all business meetings of the Society;) keep the minutes, etc. ///Additions///

Article IV. Section 6. Members of the Board, etc. (Nominations for Reelection, etc.) ///Old Section 8///

Article IV. Section 7. Election and Terms of Officers, etc.///Becomes

Article IV. Section 8. (Section 6). Nominations for Reelection, etc. ///Shift in section number///

Article IV. Section 9. (Article VI.) Salaries, etc. ///Shift in Article number

Article V. (Article VIII.) Fiscal Year and Audit, etc. ///Shift in Article number///

Article V. Election of Officers and Directors.) ///Old Article IV, Section 7.///

Article V. Section 1. The President of the Society shall appoint a nominating committee, consisting of three members of the Society who are not Directors, which (Which) committee shall nominate and submit a list of proposed Directors (and Officers by position), residents of New Mexico and members of the Society, to the Secretary of the Society, at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. (Nominations submitted shall include only those to fill vacancies occurring in that particular year.) The list of nominations shall be mailed or delivered (by the Secretary) to each member of the Society, at the address which appears on the membership records of the organization, at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting. Further nominations, if any, that are received by the Secretary of the Society, and which have been signed by at least three members of the Society, must be mailed (or delivered by the Secretary) to members at least two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. The nominations will (shall) be presented for vote at the Annual Meeting. (No nominations shall be accepted from the floor during the meeting.) The elected nominees shall elect among themselves who will serve as President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. ///Additions and deletions.///

Article VI. Affiliation. etc. (Salaries, etc.) ///Old Article IV, Section 9.///

Article VII. Communications, Publications, and Editors, etc. (Staff. Section 1. The President with the consent of the Board of Directors may appoint an Editor of the Bulletin, an Editor of the Field Notes, and a Conservation Chairman, together with similar functionaries. All such appointees may participate in meetings of the Board of Directors without voting privileges.) ///New Section.///

Article VIII. Amendments, etc. (Fiscal Year and Audit, etc.) ///Old Article V.///

Article IX. Proxies, etc. (Affiliation, etc.) ///Old Article VII///

Article X. (Communications, Publications, and Editors.)///Old Article VIII///

Article XII. (Proxies, etc.) ///Old Article IX///

**THE CHRISTMAS COUNTS ARE COMING!!!**

Jonn P. Hubbard

Christmas Counts for this year will be held in the period 18 December 1976 through 2 January 1976. N.M.O.S. members are urged to participate in one or more of these counts, as they are fun, interesting, and a valuable source of data on our birdlife. To the extent that we have information, the following is offered as a resume of the counts, dates, and compilers. Next year we hope

information will be more complete, so that even more people can plan to participate--okay compilers?

Albuquerque (Alan Enberg, 400 Walter N.E., Albuquerque--phone 243-8811);  
Bosque del Apache N.W.R. (Chuck Hundertmark, 626 Dartmouth N.E., Albuquerque--266-1031);  
Carlsbad Caverns Natl. Park (Karl Elers, 1412 Bryan Circle, Carlsbad);  
Clayton (Wes Cook, 417 N. 1st St., Clayton--374-0073);  
Española (Burt Lewis, 314 Portrillo Dr., Los Alamos--672-9096);  
Farmington (Alan Nelson, 106 W. 33rd., Farmington--325-8619);  
Gila Valley (18 Dec.; Stu O'Byrne, Rt. 8, Box 180E, Silver City--538-9672);  
Glenwood (30 Dec.; John Hubbard, 2097 Camino Lado, Santa Fe--983-5918);  
Lakes Avalon/McMillan (22 Dec.; Jodi Corrie, P. O. Box 7, Roswell);  
Las Cruces (18 Dec.; Bill Principe, Dept. Biology, N.M.S.U., Las Cruces--646-1927);  
Las Vegas (John Gavahan, P. O. Box 36, Montezuma);  
Loving (Jim Cheek, 909 Rex St., Carlsbad);  
Rodeo (Bob Scholes, Box 8, Rodeo--588-2330);  
Roewell. (18 Dec.; Jodi Corrie--see Lakes Avalon/McMillan);  
Sandia Mts. (Ross Teuber, 1612 Kentucky N.E., Albuquerque--265-8962);  
Santa Fe (19 Dec.; Ro Wauer, Box 5373, Santa Fe--672-3527);  
Silver City (2 Jan.; Stu O'Byrne--see Gila Valley).  
Good Birding!!!

#### AMERICAN BIRDS REPORTS

Because of the increasingly high costs of postage, after 1976 the Society will no longer send out notices to cooperators asking for seasonal reports. In order to help you remember when such reports are due and what they should cover, the following is provided for your information. We urge you to keep this information in mind through the year and to send a report for each season. Reports should go to John Hubbard, 2097 Camino Lado, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501.

WINTER SEASON: 1 Dec. through 31 Mar.--Report deadline 8 Apr.  
SPRING SEASON: 1 Apr. through 31 May--Report deadline 8 June.  
NESTING SEASON: 1 June through 31 July--Report deadline 8 Aug.  
FALL MIGRATION: 1 Aug. through 30 Nov.--Report deadline 8 Dec.

#### THE THIRTY-THIRD A. O. U. SUPPLEMENT

John P. Hubbard

The American Ornithologists Union periodically reviews taxonomy and nomenclature of birds occurring in the A.O.U. Check-list area (presently North America north of Mexico, Baja California, and Greenland) and issues pronouncements that alter previous usage. In the most recent issue of The Auk (93:875-879), the official bulletin of the A.O.U., several taxonomic and nomenclatural changes have been handed down to us. While most of these involve generic and higher classification--rather than wholesale lumping, splitting, or common name changes, the membership might be interested in keeping abreast of the following:

Green Heron. This was formerly considered a distinct species, Butorides virescens, confined to North America; it has now been lumped with the pantropical B. striatus, but the familiar common name will be retained.

Brant are lumped into one species, Branta bernicla, with the Black Brant (B. nigricans) treated as a subspecies.

Tree ducks become whistling ducks, so that we now will refer to the Black-bellied Whistling Duck (Dendrocygna autumnalis) and the Fulvous Whistling Duck (D. bicolor) in New Mexico--where both hypothetical.

Mississippi Kite. The species epithet gets its double-esses back, so that the scientific name is now Ictinia mississippiensis.

Black-necked Stilt. In case you want to refer trinomially to our population the name will be Himantopus mexicanus mexicanus, as the Hawaiian Stilt (knudseni) and the South American Stilt (melanurus) are lumped as subspecies of mexicanus.

The tern genera Hydroprocne and Thalasseus are merged into Sterna, e.g. so the Caspian Tern becomes S. caspia.

The Burrowing Owl (Speotyto cunicularia) has been the sole member of its genus, but the latter has been merged into Athene, hitherto for a Old World taxon, as A. cunicularia.

The genera Centurus, long the repository for such woodpeckers as the Gila (C. uropygialis), Golden-fronted (C. aurifrons), and Red-bellied C. carolinus), and Asyndesmus, containing Lewis' Woodpecker (A. lewis), are merged into Melanerpes; the latter contains our Red-headed (M. erythrocephalus) and Acorn (N. formicivorus) woodpeckers.

The genus Picoides, formerly reserved for the Northern (P. tridactylus) and black-backed (P. arcticus) three-toed woodpeckers, has been expanded to include the genus Dendrocopos, e.g. Hairy (D. villosus). Downy (D. pubescens). Ladder-backed (D. scalaris), Arizona (D. arizonae), and White-headed CO. albolarvatus) woodpeckers.

Black-crested Titmouse. This form, found from Texas and Oklahoma southward, has now been lumped with the Tufted Titmouse (Parus bicolor)--with which it hybridizes.

The Long-billed Marsh Wren (Telmatodytes palustris) is now merged into the genus Cistothorus, also containing the Short-billed Marsh Wren (C. platensis).

Painted Redstart. For many years this species shared the genus Setophaga with the American Redstart (S. ruticilla), but it has now been transferred to a large genus of neotropical redstarts, as Myloborus pictus.

Great-tailed Grackle. This and other members of the genus Cassidix have been merged into the genus Quiscalus--that of the Common Grackle (Q. quiscula), becoming Q. mexicanus.

Bronzed Cowbird. Formerly placed in a separate genus, Tangavius, this species now becomes a member of the genus Molothrus--along with such species as the Brown-headed Cowbird (M. ater), as M. aeneus.

Pyrrhuloxia. The common and generic names have been the same for many years, but the latter now becomes Cardinalis--containing the Cardinal (Cardinalis cardinalis), with the species name C. sinuatus.

Long considered an Old World genus for such species as the European Goldfinch, Carduelis has now been expanded to include Spinus--i.e. Pine Siskin (S. pinus) and our three goldfinches (Spines spp.)--and redpolls (Acanthis spp.). The Common Redpoll becomes C. flammea, while tile goldfinches are: Common (C. tristis , Lesser (C. psaltria), and Lawrence (C. lawrencei).

Green-tailed Towhee. This species has long been placed in its own genus, Chlorura, but it now is merged with other towhees as Pipilo chlorurus.

#### NOTES AND NEWS

The N.M.O.S. Board meeting at Bernalillo on 25 September 1976 resulted in the recommendation of several amendments to the Bylaws (see pp. 21-23 of this Bulletin). John Hubbard was named to replace Bill Principe as editor of the Bulletin, as Bill will soon be leaving to do bird work in Venezuela. Bill's efforts on the Bulletin have been appreciated. Bill Baltosser will co-edit the Field Notes with John Hubbard, starting with the June-November 1976 issue. The Society will undertake publication of a manuscript on the breeding birds of Elephant Butte Marsh, now being written by Chuck Hundertmark.

Jim Sands was appointed chairman of the nominating committee and will produce a slate of officers and directors to be presented to the membership prior to the annual meeting. Anyone with suggestions is asked to contact Jim Sands.

In March the Society published Summer Birds of the San Juan Valley, by Greg Schmitt--our first publication since 1970. This work sells for 50¢ to N.M.O.S. members (limit one copy at this price) and for \$1.00 to all others; order from Claudia Hubbard, 2097 Camino Lado, Santa Fe 87501. We urge all members to purchase this excellent study, for without your support we cannot afford to publish other works such as this. This particular publication is of considerable importance, as it details for the first time the rich breeding avifauna of the San Juan Valley--an area on which much development of energy sources is occurring.

The annual meeting of the Society is scheduled for the University of New Mexico in March 1977. It is not too early to begin thinking about the event, and anyone who would like to participate in any aspect of the meeting is invited to communicate with the secretary, Claudia Hubbard. Suggested topics for papers that you might wish to give are particularly welcome.

Anyone having information on breeding birds for 1976 or earlier is urged to submit appropriate N.M.O.S. Breeding Record Cards for such data as soon as possible. We have already received the following for 1976: Ralph Fisher-94 cards; Marge Swain-32; John Hubaard-32 (plus 42 for past years); Bruce Hayward-3; Marshall Conway-2; Dot DeLollis-2; Greg Schmitt-1. This is a total of only 166 cards for 1976, and we know that there must be many more still to be sent in. We have just received our 1975 cards back from Cornell University, where duplicates were made by the Laboratory of Ornithology for their Nest Record Card Program. We have an arrangement by which Cornell will do this from our original data, so that our members have only to make out the N.M.O.S. cards. Of course, if you wish to make out an additional Cornell card, the Laboratory welcomes the effort.

The last issue of the Field Notes contained our first supplement to bird-finding areas in the state. We would like to know what the members think of the idea, and we urge you to send in candidates for any future

supplements.

Various of our sister organizations would like to invite your memberships in them, and we suggest that you do so as finances and interest dictate (but N.M.O.S. should come first!). Among those you should consider are the American Ornithologists' Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, and Wilson Ornithological Society among professional groups, Audubon Society and New Mexico Operating Committee of the Nature Conservancy among conservation societies, and American Birding Association. The secretary can supply further information if you are interested.