

## AOS WINTER MEETING

Helen Thigpen

About 70 registrants attended the winter meeting of AOS on January 24-26, 1975, in Eufaula. Friday's heavy fog seemed to have grounded the hawks, for members traveling that afternoon reported them in unusual frequency on fence posts, snags and other low perches. Red-tails were by far the predominant species.

Louise McKinstry's interesting slide talk on her trip to Churchill, Canada, got the meeting off to a good start Friday evening. Tornado warnings proved no deterrent to Saturday's early birders, who were not disappointed in their search for the Short-eared Owl. Nine were flushed from a marshy area and observed cruising about briefly before dipping down again to hide in the tall grass. Seeing about 30 Black-crowned Night Herons roosting in the trees nearby was an unusual treat for most of us. Ducks were there in abundance in the company of Canada and Snow Geese. Although flooding prevented the scheduled trip to the Georgia side of Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge, a total of nearly 90 species was reported including Osprey, Cattle Egret, Greater Yellowlegs, Bonaparte's Gull, White-crowned Sparrow, in addition to the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Solitary Vireo called up by a Screech Owl recording.

The highlight of the weekend was the buffet dinner meeting at the Holiday Inn, where Dr. Dan Holliman gave a report on his study of the Clapper Rail in Alabama and the ecology of salt marshes. His slide presentation added to the absorbing interest of this report.

A resolution opposing channelization of the Tombigbee River tributaries presented by Bob Reid was unanimously adopted.

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! ! NOTICE ! !

ANNOUNCING THE 1975 FALL MEETING  
OF THE ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PLACE - DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA  
DATE - OCTOBER 10, 11, AND 12  
HEADQUARTERS - ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION  
MARINE SCIENCES LAB.