Report on the 1978 fall meeting.—Registration tallied 119 people for the FOS fall meeting, 6-8 October 1978, held at the Ramada Inn, Vanderbilt Beach, Florida. At Friday's special meeting, the Directors voted to have immediate past presidents become voting members of the board for a two-year term, and appointed a study group to draw up rules for an official Florida bird records committee. We were all proud to have Maggy Bowman's "Species Index to Florida Bird Records in Audubon Field Notes/American Birds Volumes 1-30 1947-1976" go on sale as the first FOS Special Publication. Friday evening's program included "Bird rehabilitation" by Dr. Gary Schmelz and a photographer's roundup.

On Saturday, field trips went to the Corkscrew Swamp boardwalk led by Sanctuary staff members, to Bonita Beach Causeway led by Theodore H. Below, or for a beach walk led by Ginny Below. The afternoon paper session, "Fish farming for Wood Storks" by Rick Bantz and "Artificial nest structures for Least Terns" by Leslie Thompson and Robert W. Loftin, was followed by a demonstration of bird study-skin preparation by Robert W. Crawford, David W. Johnston, Herbert W. Kale, II, Henry M. Stevenson, Chester E. Winegarner and Glen E. Woolfenden. The skin quiz, prepared by Johnston, was won by Kale. A beautiful sunset was the signal to begin the delicious beachfront luau and afterwards Bernard Yokel spoke on "Water, wetlands, and birds".

Sunday morning field trips went to the back-country of Corkscrew Swamp and to Sanibel Island led by Malcolm Simons. We thank Ted and Ginny Below for making the arrangements—especially the beautiful weather including the sunset and the cold front.—BARBARA C. KITTLESON, *Secretary.*

NOTES AND NEWS

Spring 1979 Meeting.—Joint meeting of the FOS and the Alabama Ornithological Society, 27-29 April 1979, at Dauphine Island, Alabama. For information write Robert A. Duncan, 614 Fairpoint Drive, Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561.

Fall 1979 Meeting.—Fort Pierce, Florida, 5-7 October 1979. For information write William E. Dowling, 3114 Memory Lane, Ft. Pierce, Florida 33450.

Checklist Committee.—The Committee and others interested in preparing an authoritative Florida Ornithological Society Checklist of the bird species presently known from Florida met 7 October 1978, during the fall FOS meeting at Vanderbilt Beach (Naples). Many details are still to be resolved but the group agreed as to the general form of the Checklist. Following whatever introductory material is deemed to be appropriate, the body of the Checklist will consist of the common and scientific names of the bird species that have occurred naturally in Florida and of those non-native species judged to have self-maintaining wild populations in the state. Species known to have nested in Florida and those represented in the state by two or more subspecies will be indicated in the list by symbols. The Checklist will emphasize verifiable evidence of occurrence, authentic specimens or photographs taken in Florida. Only species for which such evidence can be located will be accorded full status in the Checklist (reported species lacking such evidence may be included in parentheses) and data for specimens or photographs of the less common species will be cited. The number of reported occurrences in Florida will be given for the species that are represented by 25 or fewer records.

The group elected to cover records up to 1 January 1979. It is hoped that work can be completed reasonably soon after that date and that the Checklist will appear as an FOS Special Publication. FOS members who have knowledge of bird records, particularly of less common species, which may not be generally known are urged to bring the information to the attention of the Committee. We are especially interested to examine photographs documenting the occurrence of rare birds in Florida and to learn of private or local collections of birds or bird eggs that may have escaped our notice.—*Checklist Committee, J. B. Edscorn, O. T. Owre, H. M. Stevenson, G. E. Woolfenden* and *W. B. Robertson, Jr., Chairperson.*