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Minutes of the 1976 Spring Meeting

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Minutes of the 1976 Spring Meeting

The 1976 spring meeting of the Florida Ornithological Society was hosted by the University of Miami and the Tropical Audubon Society in Coral Gables on 7-9 May 1976. Dr. Oscar T. Owre, Chairman, Local Committee, was ably assisted by his current and former students, and by the Tropical Audubon Society under the leadership of President Peter Quincy. Highlighting the convention were numerous field trips, visits to the outstanding Bird Range of the University, and the banquet at the campus Rathskeller.

Friday evening's symposium on Least Terns was organized by Dr. Herbert W. Kale, II, and Erma J. Fisk who gave an introduction and summary of Atlantic Coast colonies. Additional speakers were: Louise L. Green, "Port Everglades Roof Colony" and Mark Trafton, Jr., "Miami Area Colonies." Later the Board of Directors met and voted to increase their number to eleven by adding two directors, making a total of six directors, four officers, and the editor of the FFN. The board voted to stagger terms of the six directors, three being elected annually to serve two-year terms. Directors elected at the annual meeting on Saturday were C. Wesley Biggs, St. Petersburg, to fill an unexpired term ending in spring 1977; and for terms expiring in spring 1978, John B. Edscorn, Lakeland, Peggy Powell, Jacksonville, and Frank M. Dunstan, Ruskin. The board appointed Fred E. Lohrer, Archbold Biological Station, Lake Placid, to the editorship of the FFN, to succeed Henry M. Stevenson.

Dr. James A. Kushlan, Everglades National Park, was Chairman of the Saturday afternoon technical paper session, and introduced the following speakers: Randall Breitwisch, U. of Miami, "Red-bellied Woodpeckers in south Florida; Paige Patty, U. of Miami, "Land birds of Isla de la Plata"; Joan Browder, U. of Florida, "Cattle Egret ecology in South Florida and Africa"; Sue Hilsenbeck, U. of Miami, "Competition in Gray and Eastern Kingbirds in south Florida"; Oscar T. Owre, U. of Miami, "Exotic birds in south Florida"; Ira Joel Abramson, Bird Bonanzas, Inc., "The Black Hawk in south Florida."

The banquet speaker, Dr. Cesare Emiliani, Professor of Geology and Marine Geology and Geophysics, U. of Miami, discussed recent research on the frequency of Pleistocene glaciation and its effects on sea level changes.

The next meeting will be held at Jacksonville Beach on 7-9 October 1976. The spring meeting will be at the Lake Placid Holiday Inn on 22-24 April, 1977. — *Margaret C. Bowman, Secretary.*