



Roundtable

In Memoriam ANNIE RIVERS FAVER

Annie Rivers Faver, 64, of Eastover, S. C., died 28 May 1973, several days after she had suffered a heart attack. Toncie edited "Backyard Birding" for *Chat* from 1951 until 1968 and recently returned to the staff as editor of "CBC Roundtable." She also wrote "Bird Notes" for *The State* and worked tirelessly to promote interest in bird study and conservation. Appropriately, her last article for *Chat* asked a question, "Are there any records of birds feeding on mushrooms?" Her mind was always reaching out for new ideas, always seeking a better understanding of the world around her.

CHANGES IN NOMENCLATURE

Beginning with the present issue of *Chat*, readers will note numerous changes in common and scientific names of birds made in accordance with the "Thirty-second Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds" that appeared in the April 1973 issue of *Auk*, pages 411-419. Some of these changes (lumps and splits) are for taxonomic reasons. Others will be required by the inclusion of Middle America and the West Indies in the next edition of the *A.O.U. Check-list*. In the summary given below an asterisk (*) follows the newly accepted common name. For changes in scientific names and a statement of policy regarding English names, we refer you to the committee report mentioned above.

LUMPS AND SPLITS

- Great White Heron merged with Great Blue Heron.*
- Blue Goose merged with Snow Goose.*
- Green-winged Teal* merged with Common Teal.
- Harlan's Hawk merged with Red-tailed Hawk.*
- Thayer's Gull* now attains species rank. [See GFN this issue. - Ed.]
- Red-shafted, Yellow-shafted, and Gilded Flickers are merged as Common Flicker.*
- Empidonax traillii* is split into *Empidonax traillii*, Willow Flycatcher* (southern-western "fitz-bew" type), and *Empidonax alnorum*, Alder Flycatcher* (northern-eastern "fee-bee-o" type). [Voice type will be required for field identification of these two species. - Ed.]
- Black-eared Bushtit merged into Bushtit.*
- San Lucas Robin merged into Robin, which is now American Robin.*
- Bahama Honeycreeper merged with Bananaquit.*
- Socorro Warbler merged with Pitiayumi Warbler, now Tropical Parula.*
- Parula Warbler becomes Northern Parula.*
- Audubon's and Myrtle Warblers merged into Yellow-rumped Warbler.*
- Bullock's and Baltimore Orioles merged into Northern Oriole.*

Cassidix mexicanus split into *Cassidix mexicanus*, Great-tailed Grackle * (southwestern subspecies), and *Cassidix major*, Boat-tailed Grackle* (eastern and northern subspecies).

McGregor's and Guadalupe House Finches merged into House Finch.*

Ipswich Sparrow merged into Savannah Sparrow.*

Dusky Seaside Sparrow and Cape Sable Sparrow merged into Seaside Sparrow.*

Slate-colored, White-winged, Oregon, and Guadalupe Juncos merged into Dark-eyed Junco.*

Mexican Junco and Baird's Junco merged into Yellow-eyed Junco.*

FURTHER CHANGES

Fulmar becomes Northern Fulmar.*

Pale-footed Shearwater becomes Flesh-footed Shearwater.*

Slender-billed Shearwater becomes Short-tailed Shearwater.*

Leach's Petrel becomes Leach's Storm Petrel.*

Wilson's Petrel becomes Wilson's Storm Petrel.*

[Other Hydrobatidae become Storm Petrels or Storm-Petrels or Storm-petrels.

There seems to be some question as to whether the Check-list Committee intended to hyphenate this name, and if so, whether or not to capitalize *petrel*.

Until there is a published correction, *Chat* will omit the hyphen. — Ed.]

Common Egret becomes Great Egret.*

Wood Ibis becomes Wood Stork.*

Widgeon is now spelled Wigeon.*

Shoveler becomes Northern Shoveler.*

Common Scoter becomes Black Scoter.*

Gray Sea Eagle becomes White-tailed Eagle.*

Pigeon Hawk becomes Merlin.*

Sparrow Hawk becomes American Kestrel.*

Harlequin Quail becomes Montezuma Quail.*

Upland Plover becomes Upland Sandpiper.*

Knot becomes Red Knot.*

Catbird becomes Gray Catbird.*

Yellowthroat becomes Common Yellowthroat.*

While the changes listed above will undoubtedly cause a considerable amount of confusion and consternation among bird watchers, they do not present as many problems as one might suppose. "Great White Heron" is still properly used to designate the white morph of the Great Blue Heron, and "Blue Goose" refers to the dark morph of the Snow Goose. "Eurasian Green-winged Teal" and "American Green-winged Teal" are now used to indicate the component subspecies groups of the Green-winged Teal. "Yellow-shafted Flicker" is the subspecies of the Common Flicker found in the Carolinas. When circumstances do not permit specific identification of the Willow and Alder Flycatchers, "Trail's Flycatcher" remains available for the complex. The following names are among those still available for their respective subspecies or subspecific group: Myrtle Warbler, Audubon's Warbler, Baltimore Oriole, Bullock's Oriole, Ipswich Sparrow, Dusky Seaside Sparrow, Cape Sable Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, and Oregon Junco. Thus only Savannah Sparrow will appear on the list of species for the next Christmas Bird Count, but a compiler could properly note in his comments the occurrence of a certain number of "Ipswich Sparrows." Do not hesitate to call "Myrtle Warblers" and "Baltimore Orioles" by their familiar names, but please remember you are now talking about a subspecific group rather than a full species. Confused? You are not alone. When in doubt about the correct form, please use the names in your field guide and let the staff worry about the new names. We occasionally get items using names that went out of style in 1957. The important thing is to keep those Postal Service people busy delivering notes and papers to the department editors of *Chat*. — EFP