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Yellow-throated Warbler

Blackburnian Warbler

Cerulean Warbler

Chestnut-sided Warbler Bay-breasted Warbler

Blackpoll Warbler Pine Warbler

Prairie Warbler Palm Warbler Ovenbird Common Yellowthroat Yellow-breasted Chat

Hooded Warbler Wilson's Warbler

Bobolink Eastern Meadowlark Canada Warbler American Redstart

House Sparrow

Connecticut Warbler

Kentucky Warbler

Northern Waterthrush Louisiana Waterthrush

Yellow-rumped Warbler Black-th. Green Warbler

Black-th. Blue Warbler

Cape May Warbler

Magnolia Warbler Northern Parula

Yellow Warbler

Black-and-white Warbler

Prothonotary Warbler Swainson's Warbler

Worm-eating Warbler

Tennessee Warbler Orange-crowned Warbler

Nashville Warbler

Brewster's W. (hybrid) Lawrence's W. (hybrid)

Golden-winged Warbler Blue-winged Warbler

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SPRING BIRD COUNT — 1973

ELOISE F. POTTER

Although the 1973 Spring Bird Count is no record breaker for the Carolinas in terms of the number of species found or individuals tallied, coverage of the 24 count circles was the best in the history of CBC. Only three counts spanned less than 12 hours from start to finish. Morehead City had workers afield from 05:00 until midnight, and most localities had parties out for at least 14 hours. Only two count areas had less than five field observers, only two recorded less than 75 species, and only one listed less than 700 individual birds. A total of 495 field and yard observers identified 93,512 birds of 257 species, only nine short of the 1972 all-time high of 266 species found on the count day.

Morehead City birders recorded the most species (168), closely followed by Charleston (167) and Wilmington (165). Raleigh led the inland counts with 141 species, but Winston-Salem (139) and Roanoke Rapids (137) were not far behind. Greensboro

recorded the highest number of individuals, 10,879 birds.

All but four counts were taken between 28 April and 6 May. Wilmington had the earliest census (23 April), and three others took place in western North Carolina the weekend of 12-13 May. Weather conditions were generally excellent with above freezing temperatures, light to moderate winds, and no precipitation or heavily overcast skies. Two exceptions were in the mountains where observers found below freezing temperatures and high winds (60 mph or more) in Avery County and on Mount Mitchell in the Yancey-McDowell count area. Avery County also had up to ½ inch of ice and snow early in the day, truly unusual weather for 28 April even at Grandfather Mountain.

Among the least expected birds seen on count days were a Mississippi Kite at Roanoke Rapids, two Ground Doves (Greensboro), Least Flycatcher (Charleston), Olive-sided Flycatcher (Yancey-McDowell Counties), Lawrence's Warbler hybrid (Brevard), Nashville Warbler (Charleston), Connecticut Warbler (Winston-Salem), and Wilson's Warbler (Elkin-Ronda). Singing male Swainson's and Cerulean Warblers were found on territory near Roanoke Rapids, and this discovery was accompanied by a marked increase in the observed occurrence of these two species at several places in piedmont North Carolina. Among the more interesting inland shorebird records from the present count period are Stilt Sandpipers (Iredell County) and Black-bellied Plovers (Roanoke Rapids and Iredell County). For details of these and many other significant sight records, please read the Compilers' Comments. Their carefully prepared reports often contain important information that cannot be recorded in the count table.

COMPILERS' COMMENTS

COAST

MOREHEAD CITY, N.C. (center: 0.7 mile NW of Crab Point).

28 April. Common Loon migration was very light on count day, probably because of unfavorable weather. Long-billed Dowitchers (Micou Browne, Allen Powell, Compiler), at North River Marsh, were late. Red-breasted Nuthatches and male Scarlet Tanager (Compiler) were near Walker's Mill Pond. The nuthatches are late and are thought not to have been winter resident birds. For two additional Scarlet Tanager records see "Briefs for the Files" in this issue. These three sightings represent an unusual concentration of the species in this area. Two Pine Siskins at Charles Lincoln's feeder 4 and 5 May were unusual because the species apparently did not winter around Morehead City. — JOHN O. FUSSELL III, Box 520, Morehead City, N.C. 28557.

WILMINGTON, N.C. (center: Myrtle Grove Junction).

23 April. One Savannah Sparrow was an "Ipswich Sparrow" seen by Greg Massey out of habitat on a sandy hummock near the river and verified by Edna Appleberry. Micou Browne heard the Grasshopper Sparrow in a rice field at Orton. Many winter species had already left, but spring arrivals seemed to be late. — FRANCES B. NEEDHAM, P.O. Box 204, Wrightsville Beach, N.C. 28480.

CHARLESTON, S.C. (center: 14 miles NE of Mt. Pleasant and ½ mile E of Hwy 17).

29 April. Our highest species total since CNHS first participated in the Spring Bird Count in 1958. Previous highs were 164 species in 1967 and 162 in 1971. Least Flycatcher (Perry E. Nugent and Nelson W. Taylor) was identified by field marks and voice; Nugent is familiar with the species. Blue-winged Warbler was a male seen at close range by Dennis M. Forsythe. Nashville Warbler (PEN, NWT) was also a male and seen well; South Carolina has two previous records for early May, both inland (South Carolina Bird Life, p. 623). Previous late date for Eastern Phoebe (PEN, NWT) was 28 March (SCBL, p. 353). Previous late date for Brown Creeper (PEN, NWT) was 14 April (SCBL, p. 386). — JULIAN R. HARRISON, Biology Department, College of Charleston, Charleston, S.C. 29401.

COASTAL PLAIN

BEAUFORT COUNTY, N.C. (center: where Upper Goose Creek enters Pamlico River). 6 May.—GERALDINE COX, Route 1, Box 151-A, Merritt, N.C. 28556.

PAMLICO COUNTY, N.C. (center: in Florence at intersection of 1324 and 1329). 29 April. – GERALDINE COX, Route 1, Box 151-A, Merritt, N.C. 28556.

SOUTHERN PINES, N.C. (center: Niagara, 3 miles NE of Southern Pines).

28 April. Double-crested Cormorant (Compiler, Mrs. L.C. Davis) was seen at lakes 8½ miles apart. The one found by Mrs. Davis remained at Whispering Pines the rest of the day. One had also been seen in Whispering Pines area 20 and 27 April. There is a possibility more than one bird was involved, but only one was counted. Species has been recorded in vicinity only twice prior to 1973. Four of the seven Mallards were a mated pair and two small young. Common Terns (James F. Parnell, Frances Needham) were at Thagard's Lake, Whispering Pines (second spring record for area). Cliff Swallow (Compiler, Parnell) is rare in spring. Gray-cheeked Thrushes (Compiler) were at widely separated sites (only two previous spring records). Golden-winged Warbler (Compiler, Parnell) was a male (third spring record). Chestnut-sided Warbler (Compiler) is a very uncommon spring transient here. Five Red Crossbills (Compiler) were near Southern Pines on 13 May. – J.H. CARTER III, P.O. Box 891, Southern Pines, N.C. 28387.

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (center: Clark Park).

28 April. Participants in the Fayetteville bird count were shocked and saddened to learn of the death of their compiler, John S. Butler Jr., in an automobile accident on 2 May. The report was completed and submitted for publication by Mrs. Neill A. Currie Jr., 1104 Brook Street, Fayetteville, N.C. 28305. Regarding Mr. Butler's leadership of the census, Mrs. Currie commented, "John was out on the count day from dawn until nightfall, when with lesser spirits dwindling away he was left with two companions. His boundless enthusiasm and cheerfulness, as usual, made the day for the group."

DILLON, S.C. (center: Dillon).

1 May. Not a single *Common* ("Yellow-shafted") *Flicker* was seen on the count day. – JOHN H. WILSON, Box 535, Dillon, S.C. 29536.

PIEDMONT

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N.C. (center: 1.4 miles SE of Weldon).

6 May. Flock of 18 Double-crested Cormorants seen flying over Roanoke Rapids Lake (Ross Silcock, Compiler) had been present since 22 April. The Mississippi Kite (Harry LeGrand) was an adult bird in flight over Johnston Farm, Occoneechee Neck. Habitat is floodplain forest near the Roanoke River. On 12 May the Compiler saw the bird at the same location, which is also the same place an immature was recorded last June (Chat, 36:112). Turkeys (three parties) were at Occoneechee Neck. White-rumped Sandpiper (Compiler) was at mudflats of construction site near Roanoke Rapids, and two were there the next day (first spring record for area). Seven Swainson's Warblers (HL, RS) were all singing males on territory in Roanoke River canebrakes. Sixteen Cerulean Warblers (John Wright, R. Silcock) were also on territory in floodplain forest along the Occoneechee Neck portion of Roanoke River. Compiler found an additional 10 birds in same area 12 May for an amazing total of at least 26 Cerulean Warblers, mostly males and probably breeding. See "Briefs for the Files" in this issue for details on count period sightings of Glossy Ibis, Bald Eagle, and Purple Gallinule. — J. MERRILL LYNCH, 539 Henry Street, Roanoke Rapids, N.C. 27870.

HENDERSON, N.C. (center: Henderson).

4 May. - A.W. BACHMAN SR., 111 Jennette Avenue, Henderson, N.C. 27536.

RALEIGH, N.C. (center: Norfolk and Southern R.R. crossing on Lake Wheeler Road). 28 April. The outstanding find was a *Swainson's Warbler* seen by Chris Marsh along Swift Creek. The bird was seen again (and photographed) at the same spot on 29 and 30 April. Also unusual is the *Laughing Gull* (Ross Silcock) at Lake Wheeler on 27 April. – R.J. HADER, 3313 Cheswick Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27609.

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (center: intersection of Franklin and Columbia Streets).

6 May. Our more unusual reports were of two Semipalmated Plovers (Forrest Calhoon), three Cerulean Warblers (Annie Leigh Broughton, Johnnie Payne, Gertrude London, and Carol Callaghan), six White-crowned Sparrows (J.R. Harding), and count period Warbling and Philadelphia Vireos (Angelo Capparella III). — JAMES O. PULLMAN, Route 6, Box 149, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514.

GREENSBORO, N.C. (center: transmitter of Radio Station WBIG).

28 April. *Upland Plover* was seen by Rose Avery, Carolyn Brown, Kenneth Brown, and Jean McCoy. Two *Ground Doves* were seen by Inez Coldwell, Frank Fish, Mildred Fish, Emma Leah Perrett, Maude William, Helen Zuk, and others. *Red Crossbills* were found by Dot Garrett. — DONALD ALLEN, 2611 David Caldwell Drive, Greensboro, N. C. 27408. [Upland Plover = Upland Sandpiper.—ED.]

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (center: intersection of I-40 and Silas Creek Parkway).

5 May. Chuck-will's-widow (Gardner Gidley, Margaret Gidley, Hewson Michie) was calling with Whip-poor-will. Ringed Turtle Doves (Bob Witherington, Charles Frost) were a mating feral pair. Connecticut Warbler (BW, CF) was well seen; individuals have been found around Winston-Salem several times during migration this year and last. Brewer's Blackbird (Mary Eriksen) was at a ground feeder where it was compared with Common Grackles. Cape May Warblers were unusually abundant during migration period. — C. ROYCE HOUGH, 713 Lankashire Road, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27106.

IREDELL COUNTY, N.C. (center: Hwy 115 at Yadkin River).

13 May. Caspian Tern was seen by Compiler. Three Still Sandpipers were at a 5-acre private lake at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Goforth near Olin. Mrs. Goforth heard the birds calling as they circled the lake. She was able to move within 100 feet of the birds at the water's edge. She saw the barred breast and distinctive face pattern. The

birds arrived in the late afternoon and were gone the next morning. Mrs. Goforth also reported the *Black-bellied Plover*. Warbler migration was evidently at its peak. We noted *Tennessee Warblers* (Flippen Jones, Larry Marlin) for the fourth consecutive year. *Cerulean Warbler* was seen by Bobby Mize, Lois Goforth, and Compiler. — JANE S. MULLEN, 408 Salisbury Road, Statesville, N.C. 28677.

STANLY COUNTY, N.C. (center: 2 miles NW of Badin).

28 April. Swainson's Warbler (Raymond Barker, David McCarn) was seen and heard. Compiler also heard song, compared it to recording, and concurred in the identification. Henslow's Sparrows (Vivian Whitlock, Compiler) were chased over a field of weeds and rye stubble until identification could be verified. Count period Bald Eagle was reported by Bill Calloway, a taxidermist. — VERA CROOK (Mrs. Barrett Crook), P.O. Box 219, Albemarle, N.C. 28001; Mrs. John Whitlock, assistant.

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (center: intersection of South Boulevard and Woodlawn Road).

5 May. Yellow-crowned Night Herons (Flo Cobey) have previously nested in the area. Wood Duck count was a female with 18 young. Least Sandpiper (FC) was found again in York County, S.C. Black-billed Cuckoo (FC) has rarely been reported on a count. A nest of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird was located, and a late brown plumaged Purple Finch was noteworthy. — JOE and BECKY NORWOOD, 1329 Goodwin Avenue, Charlotte, N.C. 28205.

GREENVILLE, S.C. (center: Hwy 29 and 291).

5 May. - ROSA LEE HARDIN (Mrs. W.B. Hardin Sr.), Cleveland, S.C. 29635.

ELKIN-RONDA, N.C. (center: 3 miles N of Elkin on US 21).

12 May. Male Wilson's Warbler (David Hassee, Mrs. Lee Hassee) was in thickets of the wooded floodplain of Yadkin River. – LIN HENDREN, Box 148, Elkin, N.C. 28621.

CALDWELL COUNTY, N.C. (center: Lenoir)

30 April. – HELEN MYERS, 310 Beall Street, N.W., Lenoir, N.C. 28645.

MOUNTAINS

AVERY COUNTY, N.C. (center: Grandfather Golf and Country Club).

28 April. – This is our best count to date in spite of the unusual weather conditions with up to ½ inch of snow and ice, temperatures as low as 22 F, and winds up to 60 mph. –MRS. RICHARD C. PROCTOR, 381 Westview Drive, S.W., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27104.

YANCEY-McDOWELL COUNTIES, N.C. (center: 2.3 miles S of Buck Creek Gap on NC 80).

28 April. Two Virginia Rails were about ¼ mile apart in a marshy area near Greenlee; thin bill, gray cheeks, reddish-brown underparts were noted by Compiler. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (Walter Hall) was seen and heard at close range; yellowish underparts, especially the throat, carefully noted. Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen at close range and heard by Compiler. Prothonotary Warbler was seen in a large tract of swampy land near Greenlee the week before the count (Compiler, WH). Tennessee Warblers (WH, RS) had gray head, white line over eye, thin bill. –JOSEPH L. HALL, Route 8, Box 1136, Asheville, N.C. 28806.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY, N.C. (center: intersection US 70 and SR 2740, Swannanoa).

12 May. Common Loons (five observers) were flying over a lake in the North Fork area. Osprey (Robert Brown) was over same lake. Greater Yellowlegs (Gordon Mahy) were on Warren Wilson College grounds for second spring count record. Bewick's Wren

and Warbling Vireo (Dorothy Griffin) were in same general area as the Traill's Flycatcher (DG, Compiler, and others). Orange-crowned Warbler (Joseph Hall, Chris, Gladys, and Wendy Rustay) was at Kenilworth Lake; identified by call with most field marks visible. Philadelphia Vireo, Brewster's Warbler, Nashville Warbler, and Tree Sparrow were reported seen during the count period in Beaverdam Valley by Mary Sawyer. —ROBERT C. RUIZ, 300 Wilson Avenue, Swannanoa, N.C. 28778.

BREVARD, N.C. (center: 7.5 miles SE of Brevard at junction of US 276 and SR 1536 at Cedar Mountain).

5 May. Mallards appeared to be wild birds. Peregrine Falcon (Claude and Eleanor Viens) was killed when it struck a window. Bank Swallows (six observers) and Cliff Swallows (Hazel and Hervey Roberts) are considered uncommon here. Lawrence's Warbler (Bernice and Hugh Hollifield) was seen in an extremely remote area of young growth timber. Compiler found Prairie Warbler in same area the next day. —WALTER C. HOLLAND JR., 290 Maple Street, Brevard, N.C. 28712.

OBSERVERS

MOREHEAD CITY, N.C.: Clint and Doris Benbow, Micou Browne, Alfred Chestnut, John and Mary Fussell, John Fussell III, Willie Johnson, L.J. Klein, Joyce Lewis, Charles Lincoln, Dorothy Lokey, Lynn Mosely, Doris Oakley, Allen Powell, Karen Ross, Harold Sears, Francis Wade, Tom Wade, E.W. Wagner, Marjorie Windley.

WILMINGTON, N.C.: Katherine Alexander, Edna Appleberry, Robert Brown, Micou Browne, J.H. Carter III, Betty and Lloyd Davis, David DuMond, Dot Earle, Kitty Kosh, Harry Latimer III, Edmund LeGrand, Harry LeGrand Jr., Debbie Mann, Greg Massey, Ann Nicholson, James F. Parnell, Pete Roberts, N.T. Ross, Mary Urich, Charlotte Waggett.

CHARLESTON, S.C.: William D. Anderson, E.B. Chamberlain, W. David Chamberlain, Calvin Clyde, Eyelyn Dabbs, Dennis M. Forsythe, Julian R. Harrison, Bobbin and David Huff, Peter B. Laurie, Perry E. Nugent, Zachary T. Ralston, John K. Reed, Grant B. Staley, Nelson W. Taylor.

BEAUFORT COUNTY, N.C.: Ethel Barkley, Geraldine Cox, Louise Gamble, James McLaurin, Mary McLaurin, Glenn Paul, Louise Satterthwaite, Mary Lee Smith, Hugh Sterling, Mary Wilson.

PAMLICO COUNTY, N.C.: Geraldine Cox, Billy Paul, Glenn Paul.

SOUTHERN PINES, N.C.: Dana Carter, Eleanor Carter, J.H. Carter III, Mrs. L.C. Davis, L.M. Goodwin Jr., Frances Needham, James F. Parnell, Frances Parnell, Lura Williams, Mary K. Wintyen, Ethel Wotton.

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.: Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Bergman, David Bingham, John S. Butler Jr., Derb Carter Jr., Davis Chambers, Mrs. Jonathan E. Courtney, Mrs. David Cromartie, Mrs. E.H. Evans Jr., Mrs. Charles T. Haigh Jr., Charles T. Haigh III, August Jakubiac, Mrs. Volney Kyle, George Lepper, Mr. and Mrs. Lockamy, Joyce Lipe, Kevin Lipe, Walter Moorman, Frank Moorman, Debbie Nietman, Henry A. Rankin Jr., Mrs. Sam Rankin, Mrs. J.A. Shaw, Mrs. W.D. Sherman.

DILLON, S.C.: Mrs. Mamie Bradfield, Mrs. Mary Turbeville, John H. Wilson.

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N.C.: Bill Collier, John Fussell, Harry LeGrand, J. Merrill Lynch, Louise Parker, Ross Silcock, Ray L. Winstead, John Wright.

76 The Chat

HENDERSON, N.C.: Neita Allen, Mrs. and Mrs. A.W. Bachman, Annie G. Burroughs, Ruth Carter, Mrs. Walter Dallas, Mrs. Sam R. Harris, May Hunter, Ethel H. Kirby, Mrs. Russell Parham, Paul Stewart, Mrs. J.D. Williams.

RALEIGH, N.C.: Dorothy and Norman Bell, Bill Brown, Jean Donaldson, Charlotte Hilton Green, R.J. Hader, Ray and Jeanne Halsey, R. Jeraht, Mabel Jones, Ken Knapp, Joshua and Janice Lee, Edmund and Harry LeGrand, Chris Marsh, Marilyn Middleton, Edna Miller, T.L. Quay, Ross Silcock, Linda and Sterling Southern, Edwin Sparks, David Stevens, Gail and David Whitehurst, Ray Winstead, John Wright.

CHAPEL HILL, N.C.: Stanley Alford, Anne Barnett, Tom Barnett, John Batten, Annie Leigh Broughton, Elizabeth Calhoun, Carol Callaghan, Angelo Capparella III, Ed Davis, Mrs. George Doak, Oliver Ferguson, William Hallahan, J.R. Harding, Herman Henkle, Russell Hoverman, Alexander Hull, Elinor Irvin, Logan Irvin, Paul Koepke, Mrs. Paul Koepke, Gertrude London, Stella Lyons, Ted Nixon, Johnnie Payne, James Pullman, Barbara Roth, Mrs. Daniel Sherk, Mary Stoudenmire, Elizabeth Teulings, Robert Teulings, Bill Wagner, Margaret Wagner, Eleanor Wagstaff, Adelaide Walters.

GREENSBORO, N.C.: Carolyn Allen, Donald Allen, Rose Avery, Laurie Bolger, Carolyn Brown, Kenneth Brown, Inez Coldwell, Madolyn Cason, G.W. Daniels, Frank Fish, Mildred M. Fish, Dot Garrett, Jean Gertz, Howard H. Groover, Duncan Hollar, Beth Johnson, Ellene Kirk, Benjamin S. Lambeth, Kathryn Lambeth, James Mattocks, Jean McCoy, Ida Mitchell, Beryl Norcross, Elizabeth Ogburn, Cora W. Parsons, Emma Leah Perrett, Bruce Pickard, Etta Schiffman, Catherine Shaftesbury, George Smith, Irene Smyre, Thomas E. Street, Helen Surratt, Marjorie Tays, William Tays, Joan Tipton, Michael Tove, Daphne Weisner, Maude Williams, Helen Zuk.

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.: Fran Baldwin, Olive Boice, William Boice, Zach Bynum, Pat Clubertson, Mary Eriksen, Charles Frost, Gardner Gidley, Margaret Gidley, Bill Hammond, Fred Hill, Ruth Hill, Royce Hough, Dwight Lee, Pollyanna Lee, Janice Levitt, Ann Listokin, Mary McGehee, Hewson Michie, Cynthia Olsen, John Olsen, Mary Olsen, Jim Orgain, Barbara Page, Molly Parker, Betty Pitt, Jackie Shelton, Dot Shiffert, Jerry Shiffert, Ramona Snavely, Bob Witherington.

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CHARLOTTE, N.C.: Elizabeth Clarkson, Bill and Flo Cobey, Helen Coley, Adrian and Beth Dykema, Gwen Fenninger, Ruth Hannes, Susannah Kaylor, Elizabeth Millwee, Joe and Becky Norwood, Shuford and Katherine Peeler, Ed Read (Mecklenburg Audubon Society and guest).

GREENVILLE, S.C.: Mary Austin, Ruth Gilreath, Rosa Lee Hardin, Gladys Hart, Lillie Hart, Mamie Kanaley, Martha Lawrence, William Lawrence, May Puett.

ELKIN-RONDA, N.C.: Chip Campbell, E.A. Harris, Virginia Hart, David Hassee, Mrs. Lee Hassee, Lin Hendren, Ola Hendren, Fred Masten Jr., W.P. Smith, Bobby Tysinger, Charlene Tysinger, Charles Tysinger, Jerry Tysinger.

(Continued on Page 62)

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Department of Biology, The Citadel, Charleston, S. C. 29409, 4 September 1972.

SPRING BIRD COUNT OBSERVERS

(Continued from Page 77)

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