

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

Compiled by ROBERT P. TEULINGS
Route 2, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514
(All dates 1974)

- CORY'S SHEARWATER:** Pelagic cruise parties found this species fairly common in Gulf Stream waters off the North Carolina coast in late June and July, highlighted by a tally of 92 off Cape Hatteras on 17 July by Bill Williams. Greater and Audubon's Shearwaters were seen also, but only in small numbers.
- LEACH'S STORM-PETREL:** Five were seen off Hilton Head Island, S.C., during a cruise on 22 June by Royce Hough.
- WILSON'S STORM-PETREL:** Forty were seen off Hilton Head Island, S.C., on 22 June by Royce Hough, 121 were sighted in the Gulf Stream off Cape Hatteras, N.C. on 17 July by Bill Williams.
- GANNET:** One was seen at Ocracoke Inlet on the North Carolina Outer Banks on the late date of 3 June by Paul Buckley.
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:** An immature bird was a locally uncommon summer visitor at Roanoke Rapids Lake, sighted near Vulture, N.C., on 14 July by Merrill Lynch.
- MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD:** One was seen over the sound at Topsail Island, N.C., on 9 June by Gail and David Whitehurst.
- LITTLE BLUE HERON:** A visiting flock of a dozen was present at the Rocky Mount, N.C., Reservoir on 24 and 25 July, observed by Betty Davis, Lloyd Davis, and Louis Fink. Other sightings of inland wanderers, all immatures, were noted during the post-breeding period in late June and July at Southern Pines, Raleigh, Chapel Hill, Greensboro, and Winston-Salem.
- LOUISIANA HERON:** An immature was found at Reynolda Lake near Winston-Salem on 23 July by Fran Baldwin, the first known local record for Forsyth County, N.C.
- LEAST BITTERN:** Three individuals were found by Merrill Lynch on 4 June in a large cattail and sedge marsh at the site of Albemarle Paper Company's wastewater treatment ponds near Gaston in Northampton County, N.C. This is the same site where a flightless juvenile was captured last summer (see *Chat*, 37:108). Elsewhere inland, two were seen by Harry LeGrand at Lake Hartwell near Clemson, S.C., on 18 June and the species is presumed to be breeding there.
- WOOD STORK:** Summering birds were unusually conspicuous in the Charleston, S.C., area where flocks of 20 or more were seen during the season by a number of observers, fide Perry Nugent. One was seen as far north as Morehead City, N.C., on 12 June by Don McCrimmon, and nine were seen in Brunswick County, N.C., across the Cape Fear River from Wilmington on 2 June by James Parnell and Robert Soots.
- WHITE IBIS:** An immature turned up as a post-breeding wanderer at Big Lake in Umstead State Park near Raleigh, N.C., on 22 June, observed by Charles Balducci, Nelson Chadwick, and Cheryl Horne. Single immatures were seen also in Chatham County, N.C., 10 miles SE of Chapel Hill, on 24 June by Robin Carter and at Winston-Salem, N.C., on 11 July by Fran Baldwin.
- ROSEATE SPOONBILL:** An individual in adult plumage was seen at North River Marsh near Morehead City, N.C., in mid-July by Alan Powell, fide John Fussell. The bird was present at least 2 days, 12 and 13 July.
- FULVOUS TREE DUCK:** Two late lingerers were still present on 26 June on the North Carolina Outer Banks at Pea Island Refuge following last winter's influx into the Carolinas (see *Chat*, 38:47).
- REDHEAD:** A late straggler was seen near Davis in Carteret County, N.C., on 15 June by John Fussell and Tom Wade.
- RED-BREASTED MERGANSER:** Evidence of successful breeding in the Charleston, S.C., area was reported by Ted Beckett. A nesting pair raised five young on Bohicket Creek.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE:** Frequent sightings were recorded along the Great Pee Dee River in the Bennettsville-Society Hill, S.C., area this summer by Robert Campbell. On 13 July up to seven birds were seen, including at least one immature. Local breeding is indicated.
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK:** One was seen in NE Warren County, N.C., on 4 June by Harry LeGrand, and two (a pair?) were seen near Apex in Wake County, N.C., on 23 July by John Wright. Another was sighted in northern Pickens County, S.C., on 16 June by Robert Beason, Sidney Gauthreaux, and Harry LeGrand. All nesting season sightings of Accipiters are worth reporting in view of the scarcity of information of their summer resident status in the region.
- MARSH HAWK:** A single bird was seen on 13 June near Manteo, N.C., by James Parnell. Elsewhere in the coastal area two late spring and early summer sightings were recorded at Cedar Island Refuge, Carteret County, N.C., where individuals were observed on 10 June by James Parnell and on 4 July by John Fussell.
- OSPREY:** A locally uncommon summer visitor was sighted at Lake Benson in Wake County, N.C., on

- 21 July by Chris Marsh and John Wright. At Lake Tillery near Albemarle, N.C., another was seen on 27 July by Jay Carter. No nesting records have been reported from these inland piedmont lakes.
- KING RAIL:** One was seen 28 July near Townville, S.C., by Harry LeGrand. The species' local nesting status there is unknown.
- AMERICAN COOT:** Two were seen at Lake Benson, Wake County, N.C., on 21 July by Chris Marsh and John Wright.
- SEMPALMATED PLOVER:** One was early and unusual at Winston-Salem, N.C., on 25 July, observed by Ramona Snively, Charles Frost, and Fran Baldwin.
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:** A late spring transient was found inland at Albemarle Paper Company's wastewater treatment ponds near Gaston, N.C., on 4 June by Merrill Lynch.
- WHIMBREL:** Thirty-nine were counted on the Outer Banks at Frisco on 27 July by Jim Weigand.
- UPLAND SANDPIPER:** Summer occurrences were reported from the Outer Banks where single birds were seen at Cape Point on Hatteras Island, N.C., on 24 June by Joe Hudick and at Wright Memorial, Kitty Hawk, N.C., on 14 July by Paul DuMont.
- GREATER YELLOWLEGS:** An early fall migrant was noted inland near Chapel Hill, N.C., on 21 July by Stanley Alford, Angelo Capparella, and Robin Carter. Another was seen at Winston-Salem on 25 July by Fran Baldwin, Charles Frost, and Ramona Snively.
- LESSER YELLOWLEGS:** An inland transient was observed at Raleigh, N.C., on 22 July by Chris Marsh.
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER:** A flock of 30 was seen at Winston-Salem on 25 July by Fran Baldwin, Charles Frost, and Ramona Snively. One was seen as early as 19 July at Raleigh by Chris Marsh, and eight were noted there on 23 July by the same observer.
- WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER:** June occurrences were noted on the Outer Banks where 11 were found at Cape Point on Hatteras Island, N.C., on 3 June by Paul Buckley and at least 20 were present at Oregon Inlet on 26 June, observed by John Wright.
- LEAST SANDPIPER:** An early inland fall transient was found at Raleigh, N.C., 17 July by Chris Marsh, and 10 were recorded at Winston-Salem, N.C., on 25 July by Charles Frost, Fran Baldwin, and Ramona Snively.
- WESTERN SANDPIPER:** A flock of 21 fall migrants was counted at Raleigh on 21 July by Chris Marsh, and three were seen at Winston-Salem on 25 July by Ramona Snively, Fran Baldwin, and Charles Frost.
- MARBLED GODWIT:** June sightings were recorded on the North Carolina Outer Banks where three birds were seen at Ocracoke Inlet on 3 June by Paul Buckley and another at Oregon Inlet on 26 June by John Wright.
- SANDERLING:** Two inland transients were seen at Winston-Salem on 25 July by Fran Baldwin, Charles Frost, and Ramona Snively.
- CASPIAN TERN:** Two were seen inland at Roanoke Rapids Lake near Vulture, N.C., on 13 July by Merrill Lynch.
- ROSEATE TERN:** One was seen at Hatteras Island, N.C., on 3 June by Paul Buckley.
- BLACK TERN:** A fall migrant was seen at Huntington Beach State Park near Murrell's Inlet, S.C., as early as 22 July by F.M. Probst.
- MONK PARAKEET:** In the Charleston, S.C., area an adult bird was observed at Fort Johnson on James Island on 2 June by Julian Harrison. On 17 July another individual was seen at the USDA Vegetable Breeding Laboratory near Charleston by Perry Nugent. Since a feral population became established on Long Island, N.Y., in 1967, this South American exotic has been found in 27 states. All sightings of Monk Parakeets should be reported so that the species' status can be monitored.
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** On 25 July one was heard calling, and presumed to be on territory, along the Blue Ridge Parkway within the Cherokee Indian Reservation, Jackson County, N.C. The observer was Harry LeGrand.
- WILLOW FLYCATCHER:** Wendell Smith reports the destruction of the small wooded bog at North Wilkesboro, N.C., which has been a breeding site for Willow Flycatchers for many years. This site, on which a note was first published in 1957 (see *Chat*, 21:3), was a casualty of urban development. At Raleigh, N.C., where a small colony has attempted nesting the past several years, no positive evidence of success was noted this season, as reported by Chris Marsh and Robert Hader. No other established nesting locations for Willow Flycatchers are presently known in the Carolinas.
- GRAY KINGBIRD:** One was seen on Sullivan's Island near Charleston, S.C., on 21 May by Kent Nelson.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER:** An individual was sighted near the south end of Oregon Inlet bridge on the North Carolina Outer Banks on 15 June by Joe Hudick.
- BANK SWALLOW:** A late migrant was seen at Rowland, N.C., on 16 June by Jay Carter.
- CLIFF SWALLOW:** An active nest was found at Clemson, S.C., in July by Sidney Gauthreaux and

- Carl Helms, and another during the same period under the I-85 bridge over Lake Hartwell on the South Carolina-Georgia border by Carl Helms. Cliff Swallows were first found nesting at Hartwell Dam in 1965 (*Chat*, 29:95).
- COMMON RAVEN:** Two were seen at about 2,800 feet elevation near the Walhalla Fish Hatchery in Oconee County, S.C., on 9 June by Robert Beason, Sidney Gauthreaux, and Harry LeGrand. Ravens are not known to be breeding in that locality.
- FISH CROW:** Summer records were reported from Clemson, S.C., where five birds were found on 23 June and two on 8 July by Harry LeGrand.
- BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER:** Several singing males were found on territory in June and July by Merrill Lynch along Hoggard Mill Creek near Windsor, Bertie County, N.C. This species evidently is breeding at least sparingly in the coastal plain section of North Carolina.
- SWAINSON'S WARBLER:** Eight were noted on 16 June in Pickens County, S.C., along US 178 between Rocky Bottom and the North Carolina state line by Sidney Gauthreaux, Harry LeGrand, and Robert Beason, indicating a good summer population in that locality. A rare summer record for Wake County, N.C., was recorded at Swift Creek near Raleigh where an individual was seen on 14 July by Chris Marsh. Nesting was not definitely verified.
- WORM-EATING WARBLER:** A singing male, on territory, was seen 7 and 13 July at Occoneechee Mountain on the Eno River near Hillsborough, N.C., by James Pullman, Elizabeth Teulings, and Robert Teulings, a rare summer record for the piedmont.
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER:** An individual, presumed to be an early migrant, was an unexpected find in a residential area near downtown Greensboro, N.C., on 13 July, observed by Jim Weigand.
- CERULEAN WARBLER:** The presence of an apparent nesting population has been reported by Chris Marsh from SW Polk County, N.C., where five singing males were noted in a localized area at an elevation of 1,400 feet, in late May and early June.
- BOBOLINK:** A late spring migrant was seen at Oregon Inlet on the North Carolina Outer Banks on 3 June by Paul Buckley.
- SCARLET TANAGER:** A summer record from the Rocky Mount, N.C., area in the upper coastal plain was reported by Louis Fink, who observed a male on the grounds of Nash Memorial Hospital on 2 July. The bird's calls were answered by a second tanager, indicating the presence of a pair.
- HOUSE FINCH:** A male and female lingered at Winston-Salem, N.C., as late as 19 June, fide Ramona Snavelly. At Charlotte, N.C., Elizabeth Clarkson reported a pair still present at her feeder on 8 July. There was no evidence of nesting.
- PINE SISKIN:** A late straggler was seen at Winston-Salem, N.C., on 16 June, Ramona Snavelly.
- VESPER SPARROW:** The presence of a singing male was noted 5 miles NW of Cashiers in Jackson County, N.C., on 10 June by Harry LeGrand, well south of the species' known breeding range.
- LARK SPARROW:** An individual in sub-adult or molting adult plumage was seen at the Wright Memorial, Kitty Hawk, N.C., on 14 July by Paul DuMont.
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW:** Eight singing males were noted in the vicinity of Newport, N.C., Carteret County, on 5 July by John Fussell and Chris Marsh. In the North Carolina Sandhills, a nesting pair was found in Fort Bragg Reservation in western Hoke County on 8 June by Jay Carter, and two other individuals were seen in the Camp MacKall Military Reservation, Scotland County, on 11 June by the same observer. Elsewhere, a pair was found during June near Clemson, S.C., by Harry LeGrand. Extensive searching turned up no additional summering birds in the Clemson area.
- WHITE-THROATED SPARROW:** A late winter straggler was seen at Mason Farm near Chapel Hill, N.C., on 9 June by Robin Carter.