

crowned Sparrow (*Z. atricapilla*). The combination of white on the cheek with black above, along with the blotches on the breast, indicates that the bird seen was molting from immature to mature plumage.

This apparently constitutes the fourth record of Harris' Sparrow for North Carolina. The first North Carolina record was an immature male collected by Burleigh in March of 1933 in Buncombe County and noted in *Birds of North Carolina* (Pearson et al. 1942). A later sight record of a single bird (incorrectly given in *Birds of North Carolina*, revised 1959, as "a flock of 46") was made at a feeder in Rhonda in November of 1946 (Chat 10:87). The third record was from the Christmas Bird Count at Tryon on 30 December 1976 (Chat 41:43).

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.

Guest Compiler

(All dates winter 1977-78, unless otherwise indicated)

COMMON LOON: Excellent numbers on inland lakes included 96 seen by Merrill Lynch at Roanoke Rapids Lake, N.C., on 4 December; 45 on Salem Lake near Winston-Salem, N.C., seen by Ramona Snively, Pat Culbertson, and Fran Baldwin on 5 December; and 30 at Lake Murray, S.C., on 21 January and 20 on 5 February, as reported by Bob Lewis.

RED-THROATED LOON: Clark Olson observed one at Beaverdam Reservoir in northern Wake County, N.C., on 12 March, and R.J. Hader saw the same individual there on 18 March.

RED-NECKED GREBE: One was seen by Anne Waters on 12 November at the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge, S.C., and two were seen on Pamlico Sound near Frisco, N.C., on 3 December by Rudolph Keller.

HORNED GREBE: High inland counts were 1350 at Lake Murray, S.C., on 5 February (Bob Lewis), 126 at Roanoke Rapids Lake, N.C., on 4 January (Merrill Lynch), and 100+ at Lake Norman, N.C., on 4 February (Dick Brown).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: This species lingered at Lake Greenwood, S.C., until 21 December, with a peak of five seen on 15 and 18 December by Bob Lewis.

ANHINGA: One was studied carefully in flight by Paula H. Rose in eastern Wake County, N.C., on 15 February, a most unusual winter record.

GREEN HERON: Jim Mulholland noted an individual at Raleigh, N.C., as late as 6 December.

CATTLE EGRET: In the Raleigh, N.C., area, single birds at Lake Benson on 27 March (Jim Mulholland) and at Beaverdam Reservoir on the same day (Clark Olson) were rather early.

GREAT EGRET: Rare inland reports for late winter were one seen at Lake Greenwood, S.C., on 14 to 18 February by Bob Lewis, and another seen at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., on 27 March by Clark Olson.

WOOD STORK: Remarkable early winter sightings for North Carolina were three in Asheville on 2 December, as seen by Larry Freeman and Robert Bruce, and one seen by John Fussell at Fort Macon on 10 December.

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: Five birds at Santee National Wildlife Refuge, S.C., on 26 February, as observed by Bob and Lisa Lewis, was an excellent count for the Carolinas.

SNOW GOOSE: Noteworthy inland reports were ten birds (two blue-phase) seen flying south over Raleigh, N.C., on 8 March by Dick Brane; one at Rocky Mount, N.C., all

- winter, as reported by Lou Fink; and a blue-phase bird seen near Townville, S.C., on 3 December by Sidney Gauthreaux and Harry LeGrand.
- FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK:** Pat Probst reported as many as 80 birds at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C., on 14 December, and Larry P. Hartis saw 35 at Pea Island, N.C., on 23 December.
- PINTAIL:** R.J. Hader had a peak of 50 birds at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., from late February to mid-March, an excellent inland count.
- NORTHERN SHOVELER:** Unusual inland in winter were two birds near Raleigh, N.C., on 3 February (Jim Mulholland), and one near Pendleton, S.C., from 22 to 27 January (Harry LeGrand).
- REDHEAD:** On 26 February Jay Carter observed flocks of 26 birds each at Whispering Pines and Lake Surf, both in Moore County, N.C.
- CANVASBACK:** Pat Culbertson et al. had noteworthy counts of 75 at High Point Reservoir, N.C., on 11 February, and 29 at Belews Creek Reservoir, N.C., on 3 February.
- GREATER SCAUP:** Single males were seen near Raleigh, N.C., from 4 to 6 February by Jim Mulholland, and near Greenwood, S.C., on 16 and 18 December by Bob Lewis. The latter observer also had a female at Greenwood from 12 to 24 February.
- OLDSQUAW:** A female seen on Lake James, N.C., on 13 February by Tom Haggerty was a rare inland record.
- COMMON EIDER:** An immature male was observed in Beaufort Inlet, N.C., by many observers from 18 December to 5 February, fide John Fussell.
- WHITE-WINGED SCOTER:** Bob Lewis saw a female on Lake Greenwood, S.C., on 15 January.
- SURF SCOTER:** A female was noted in Lexington County, S.C., on 11 December by Charles Whitney and Brian E. Cassie, and it remained for several days.
- BLACK SCOTER:** Jim Mulholland saw a female on 7 December at Lake Wheeler, near Raleigh, N.C.; all scoters are quite rare away from the coast.
- HOODED MERGANSER:** Excellent inland counts were 314 at Roanoke Rapids Lake, N.C., on 11 February, as seen by Merrill Lynch; and 300 noted by R.J. Hader near Raleigh, N.C., on 7 January.
- COMMON MERGANSER:** Very high inland totals were 18 at Roanoke Rapids Lake, N.C., on 22 January (Merrill Lynch); 16 on Lake Greenwood, S.C., on 10 February (Bob Lewis); and 10 at Thagard's Lake near Whispering Pines, N.C., on 26 February (Jay Carter). This uncommon species was also noted during the winter in numbers of three or fewer at Beaverdam Reservoir, Cowans Ford Dam, Creedmoor, Raleigh, and Winston-Salem in North Carolina, and at the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge in South Carolina.
- RED-BREASTED MERGANSER:** Counts of 94 at Lake Murray, S.C., on 23 January and 80 there on 5 February, as seen by Bob Lewis, and 22 at Lake Surf, N.C., on 3 December, as reported by Jay Carter, were quite good for the winter season at inland sites.
- SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** Norm and Carol Reigle observed one at Atlantic, N.C., on 19 March.
- GOSHAWK:** Two adults were carefully described by Jean McCoy at Long Beach, N.C., on 19 October. Single birds were noted, both on 4 December, by Barbara Lee at Turkey Pen Gap in western Henderson County, N.C., and by Merrill Lynch at Oconeechee Neck in Northampton County, N.C.
- ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK:** Single individuals were noted at Lake Tahoma, N.C., on 3 December by Mike Tove, and in northern Beaufort County, S.C., on 19 February by William Reid.
- GOLDEN EAGLE:** A very rare sighting away from the mountains was made by Daniel M. Kaplan at Chapel Hill, N.C., where he saw an immature on 22 February. In the mountains an injured adult was found near Shining Rock, Haywood County, N.C., in mid-

- February; Robert Brown helped to heal the bird and released it in March.
- BALD EAGLE:** In addition to several coastal reports, noteworthy inland sightings were two birds (an immature and a subadult) seen by Merrill Lynch at Roanoke Rapids Lake, N.C., on 3 December; an adult seen by Jim Mulholland near Raleigh, N.C., on 6 December; and an immature seen by members of the Charleston Natural History Society at Santee National Wildlife Refuge, S.C., on 22 January.
- OSPREY:** Late birds were singles at North Wilkesboro, N.C., on 27 November (Louise Winstead), and at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., on 23 December (R.J. Hader).
- MERLIN:** Ethel Floyd banded one on 19 December at Cashiers, N.C., and saw perhaps the same bird there on 1 January. Another was seen near Pendleton, S.C., on 5 February by Harry LeGrand, and probably the same individual was seen several miles away on 25 February by LeGrand and Sidney Gauthreaux.
- SANDHILL CRANE:** One was an excellent find near Hampton, S.C., on 18 November, as seen by Anne Waters.
- SORA:** An early individual was seen at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., on 4 March by R.J. Hader.
- BLACK RAIL:** At least one responded to a tape recording at 2300 on 23 March at Cedar Island, N.C., as reported by John Fussell.
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER:** Kevin Hints and John Fussell observed one north of its winter range at Williston, N.C., on 11 February.
- LESSER YELLOWLEGS:** Bob Lewis had an excellent midwinter count of 150 at a spoil area in South Carolina just north of Savannah, Georgia, on 14 January.
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER:** Very early spring migrants were seen at Clemson, S.C., by 19 February (Harry LeGrand), at High Point Reservoir, N.C., by 23 February (Ramona Snavely et al.), and at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C., by 26 February (Bob and Lisa Lewis).
- DUNLIN:** Sixty were seen at Lake Mattamuskeet, N.C., as late as 3 December by John Fussell.
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:** The peak count at the Savannah spoil area in Beaufort County, S.C., was 100 on 28 January, as noted by Harry LeGrand, Bob Lewis, and Lisa Lewis. Four were noteworthy inland at the Santee refuge near Summerton, S.C., as seen by Brian E. Cassie et al. on 22 January.
- WESTERN SANDPIPER:** John Fussell saw one at Lake Mattamuskeet, N.C., on 3 December, somewhat far inland for the species at this season.
- MARBLED GODWIT:** A good count of 192 was made by Ricky Davis at Fort Fisher, N.C., on 19 December.
- AMERICAN AVOCET:** Excellent winter counts were 450 at the spoil area in South Carolina near Savannah, Georgia, on 14 and 28 January (Bob Lewis), and 350 at South Island, S.C., on 12 December (John Cely).
- PARASITIC JAEGER:** Ricky Davis saw three individuals, plus an unidentified jaeger, at the Wrightsville Beach, N.C., jetty on 16 December.
- ICELAND GULL:** A second-year bird was carefully identified by David Hughes and Robert Anderson at Oregon Inlet, N.C., on 19 February. It was in the surf with Herring Gulls that were slightly larger; the small, mostly dark bill had a flesh-colored base, and the plumage was entirely white.
- HERRING GULL:** Forty seen at the Tar River Reservoir near Rocky Mount, N.C., in February by Lou Fink was a good inland count.
- BONAPARTE'S GULL:** An excellent total of 200 on 5 February at Lake Murray, S.C., was noted by Bob Lewis. Other notable inland winter counts were reported by R.J. Hader in the Raleigh, N.C., area: 40 at Lake Wheeler on 8 December, and 12 at Beaverdam Reservoir on 19 February.
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE:** Jim Mulholland observed four subadults at Surf City,

- N.C., from 25 to 27 March; the birds were often seen on the beach.
- FORSTER'S TERN:** Two were surprisingly seen inland on the western shore of Lake Moultrie, S.C., on 26 February by Bob Lewis.
- LEAST TERN:** Anne Waters saw an individual at Hunting Island, S.C., on 11 February, a rare winter report.
- CASPIAN TERN:** Three birds were north of their winter range at Cape Hatteras point, N.C., on 4 January, as observed by Robert Anderson.
- GROUND DOVE:** The first record for the northwestern corner of South Carolina was a single bird present at Pamela Spencer's feeder near Pendleton from late December into early March.
- SHORT-EARED OWL:** Noteworthy reports were single individuals seen in Lincoln County, N.C., on the evening of 24 October by Roger McPherson; at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., on 16 December by Eloise Potter and on 15 February by Merrill Lynch; at the Santee refuge, S.C., on 22 January by members of the Charleston Natural History Society; and in Lexington County, S.C., along the Congaree River on 28 January by Charles Whitney and Brian E. Cassie.
- WHIP-POOR-WILL:** Mrs. Ellison Smith noted the species all summer (1977) at Lynchburg, S.C., in the coastal plain, and observed a juvenile resting with an adult on a limb near her house on 21 August. A noteworthy winter record was one seen at Bolivia, N.C., on 5 February by Darryl Moffett and Donna Goodwin; the species may winter regularly in this area.
- HORNED LARK:** An excellent count of 130 birds was noted on 2 February by Jim Mulholland near Raleigh, N.C., where the species is quite uncommon.
- HOUSE WREN:** One was seen at a feeder on 1 January by Ethel Floyd at Cashiers, N.C., a rare winter record for the mountain region.
- WHITE-EYED VIREO:** Single birds seen outside the usual winter range were at Aiken, S.C., on 26 December (Anne Waters); at US 1 and Deep River, N.C., near Sanford on 22 January (Clark Olson); and at Rocky Mount, N.C., on 10 February (Lou Fink).
- BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER:** Philip J. Crutchfield reported one near Fayetteville, N.C., on 16 February.
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER:** A dead individual was found on the University of North Carolina campus at Chapel Hill on the late date of 30 November by Mark Crotteau.
- PALM WARBLER:** One was seen by Annie Leigh Broughton and Johnnie Payne in northern Chatham County, N.C., on 1 February, a rare midwinter record for the central part of the state.
- COMMON YELLOWTHROAT:** A female that spent the winter at Winston-Salem, N.C., was only the second winter record for that area, fide Pat Culbertson and Ramona Snavely.
- YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT:** One was banded by Elizabeth Teulings at Chapel Hill, N.C., on 3 December.
- SUMMER TANAGER:** A female or immature was carefully identified at Wambaw Creek bridge in the Francis Marion National Forest, S.C., on 3 December by Brian E. Cassie.
- DICKCISSEL:** Single birds were noted at feeders in Charlotte, N.C., from 20 February to 6 March by Dick Brown, and at New Bern, N.C., all February by Jo Clark.
- HOUSE FINCH:** Ten were seen by Clark Olson in Clayton, N.C., on 19 February. High counts at established wintering localities were 150 at the Raleigh, N.C., Rose Garden on 24 February (Kevin Hintsa and Robbie Blue), and 75 at Stanly Tech in Albemarle, N.C., on 6 December (Dick Brown).
- COMMON REDPOLL:** Five reports, all from North Carolina, indicated a good influx of this species southward in eastern North America this winter. Singles were seen along the coast at Fort Macon from 1 to 10 February by John Fussell, and at Oregon Inlet on

- 19 February by David Hughes, Bill Akers, and Robert Anderson. At feeders were two in Raleigh on 16 March (Lee and Betty Wheeler), one in Winston-Salem on 25 February and again on 4 March (Dale Gano), and one on the Stanly County Christmas Bird Count.
- RED CROSSBILL:** Ricky Davis saw a male on 11 December near Orton Plantation in Brunswick County, N.C., the only winter report received.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:** This species apparently winters regularly near Townville, S.C., as Harry LeGrand observed one on 9 February, and Sidney Gauthreaux saw four there later in the month.
- LARK SPARROW:** A bird that wintered in Bill Moffitt's yard in Morehead City, N.C., lingered at least until 7 April, as reported by John Fussell.
- DARK-EYED (OREGON) JUNCO:** Eloise Potter carefully observed as many as three individuals in her yard near Zebulon, N.C., on 4 March and for several days thereafter.
- TREE SPARROW:** Noteworthy winter reports were single birds seen at Raleigh, N.C., on 5 and 8 February by Kevin Hintsa and Clark Olson, and at a Chapel Hill, N.C., feeder from 25 January to 12 February by Carol Hamilton. Two were noted by Bill Lezar at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., on 23 January.
- CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:** Sidney Gauthreaux and Harry LeGrand observed an adult near Townville, S.C., on 3 December, a late and very rare inland record.
- LINCOLN'S SPARROW:** Three individuals were noted between 20 January and 19 February at widely separated locations in the Clemson-Pendleton, S.C., areas by Harry LeGrand and Sidney Gauthreaux, firmly establishing this secretive species as a winter resident there. Another was seen by Jim Mulholland near Raleigh, N.C., on 26 December.
- LAPLAND LONGSPUR:** Single birds at Pendleton, S.C., on 22 January (Harry LeGrand and Bob Lewis) and at Bodie Island, N.C., on 18 February (Robert Anderson et al.) were the only ones reported this winter.
- SNOW BUNTING:** Many observers reported this species at Huntington Beach, S.C., from 12 December to 26 February, with a peak count of seven.

BOOK REVIEW

A GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF VENEZUELA

Rodolphe Meyer de Schauensee and William H. Phelps Jr. 1978. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey 08540. xxii + 424 p. 40 color plates, 13 black-and-white plates, 41 line drawings by Guy Tudor and others. Appendix. Indexed in English, Spanish, and Latin. 6 x 9 inches. Cloth, \$50.00; paper, \$19.95.

The format of this book is essentially the same as that for Ridgley's very successful *Guide to the Birds of Panama*, which also was published by Princeton University Press. *Birds of Venezuela* illustrates over 900 species in color and nearly 200 additional ones in black-and-white. The plates are grouped in the center of the book with the names of the birds and brief tips on identification on the facing pages. The text gives a detailed description of each species, its range within the republic, and its extralimital range plus notes on habitats, habits, and vocalization. A map of the country is featured on the end papers, and the introduction gives basic information on the geography of Venezuela. This guide also will be useful to bird students in northern Brazil and eastern Ecuador (for which no guides have been published) as well as in Colombia, Guyana, and Surinam. *Birds of Venezuela* is a welcome addition to the literature on the birds of Central and South America.—EFP