



BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.

(All dates 1978 unless otherwise indicated)

- COMMON LOON:** One individual in winter plumage was seen on four dates between 17 June and 5 August at Beaverdam Reservoir in northern Wake County, N.C., by R.J. Hader.
- AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER:** One was seen from shore at Atlantic Beach, N.C., on 11 August by Brainard Palmer-Ball.
- WILSON'S STORM-PETREL:** Perry Nugent saw at least three on 4 June at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C.
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:** Four were noted on Forest Lake at Fayetteville, N.C., on 21 June by Philip Crutchfield, and one was seen at the nearby Becker Sand and Gravel Company on 18 July by Philip and J.B. Crutchfield. Also, as many as four birds were present in June and July at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., fide R.J. Hader.
- MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD:** A female or immature was seen in Charleston harbor, S.C., on 11 July by Bill Elliott, and perhaps the same individual was found there by Tom Reaves on 16 July.
- LOUISIANA HERON:** Rare inland sightings were single birds near Fayetteville, N.C., on 17 and 18 July (Philip and J.B. Crutchfield), and near Townville, S.C., on 27 July (Harry LeGrand).
- YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON:** Royce Hough noted an immature at Winston-Salem, N.C., on 23 July.
- WOOD STORK:** Six individuals were seen by Daniel Kaplan on 12 July at Sunset Beach, N.C. This location appears to be the approximate northern limit of post-breeding dispersal for the species along the Atlantic coast.
- GLOSSY IBIS:** This species seldom disperses inland in summer; thus, reports from three localities in North Carolina are of interest. Lou Fink reported one near Rocky Mount on 11 and 15 July; one was seen near Fayetteville on 10 July by Philip Crutchfield, and three there on 25 July; and Jim Pullman noted one near Seaforth on 30 July.
- WHITE IBIS:** John Fussell observed an "upset" adult at a heronry at Emerald Isle, N.C., on 17 June and 10 July, indicating the possibility of nesting at a locale where previous breeding has not been reported.

- AMERICAN FLAMINGO:** One was seen on 12 June at Ocracoke Inlet, N.C., by John S. Weske and John H. Buckalew.
- COMMON EIDER:** A first-year male was still present at the jetty at Cape Lookout, N.C., on 29 June, as noted by Skip Prange.
- BLACK SCOTER:** Moderate numbers were noted along the coast this summer: 35 were seen near Atlantic Beach, N.C., on 14 June by John Fussell, and 25+ were at North Island, S.C., on 13 July, as noted by Charles Eastman. Other reports were a single bird at Sullivan's Island, S.C., on 12 June (Perry Nugent), and eight at Fort Macon, N.C., late date of 10 August (Brainard Palmer-Ball).
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK:** One seen near Fayetteville, N.C., on 14 June by Philip Crutchfield was noteworthy; the species is seldom reported in the coastal plain during the breeding season.
- COOPER'S HAWK:** Daniel Kaplan saw an immature at Sunset Beach, N.C., on 13 July.
- BALD EAGLE:** At Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., R.J. Hader noted two adults and two immatures on 24 May, two adults and one immature on 10 June, and one adult until at least 5 August. An adult was seen at Santee State Park, S.C., on 3 June by Perry Nugent. At Carolina Beach, N.C., Mark Gardner saw an adult on 16 August and an immature on 17 August.
- OSPREY:** R.J. Hader noted an individual at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., on 3 June, 10 June, and 6 July.
- AMERICAN KESTREL:** A female and a fledgling were seen on 29 June in downtown Raleigh (Fayetteville Street Mall), N.C., by Carl Leibrandt, and a pair was seen regularly in June and July by Zach Bynum in downtown Winston-Salem, N.C. Perry Nugent reported that one was present during the summer in the southern portion of Francis Marion National Forest, S.C., and was last seen on 23 July.
- KING RAIL:** Two birds, probably a mated pair, were present from 23 May to at least 8 July at Greenview Farm near Raleigh, N.C., as observed by R.J. Hader. Inland reports of this species are becoming very infrequent.
- VIRGINIA RAIL:** Three were heard at Cedar Island, N.C., on 4 June by John Fussell and Lynne Moseley.
- PIPING PLOVER:** A very rare inland report was that of a single bird at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., on 28 July (Bill and Margaret Wagner) and the following day (R.J. Hader).
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:** One was noted at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., by Johnnie Payne, Bill Wagner, and Margaret Wagner on 27 July.
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** One was seen at Bird Shoal near Beaufort, N.C., on 8 August by Brainard Palmer-Ball, perhaps the same bird that has been there for the past few years.
- WILLET:** One was a rare inland find at Beaverdam Reservoir, N.C., on 27 July by Johnnie Payne, Bill Wagner, and Margaret Wagner.
- STILT SANDPIPER:** Harry LeGrand saw two near Townville, S.C., on 27 July, and three were at nearby Clemson on the same date.
- SANDERLING:** One was a good find in Franklin County, N.C., by Eloise Potter on 1 August.
- BLACK-NECKED STILT:** Approximately 75 pairs nested successfully at the spoil area in South Carolina just north of Savannah, Ga., as reported by Louise Lacoss and Beany Newhall. At North River marsh near Beaufort, N.C., Jo Anne Powell saw a young bird with adults on 10 July.
- AMERICAN AVOCET:** Mark Gardner saw three flying down the Cape Fear River near Fort Fisher, N.C., on 16 August, and he saw two birds in that area on the following day.
- GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL:** An adult and an immature seen at North Island, S.C., on 13 July by Charles Eastman provided a rare summer record for that state.

- FORSTER'S TERN:** Two were rare inland transients in Franklin County, N.C., on 30 August, as seen by Eloise Potter.
- SOOTY TERN:** The first nest of this species on the Atlantic coast of the United States was discovered by John Fussell, T.L. Quay, and R.J. Hader at Morgan Island, N.C., near Cape Lookout, on 16 June. Further details are planned for publication in a national journal.
- CASPIAN TERN:** Early inland "fall" reports were one seen in Franklin County, N.C., by Eloise Potter on 29 July, and two noted by Bob Lewis at Lake Greenwood, S.C., on 16 July. Mark Gardner saw one near Raleigh, N.C., on 9 May.
- GROUND DOVE:** John Fussell observed one at Atlantic Beach, N.C., on 22 June. The species might be breeding in this area, but positive proof has yet to be reported.
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** A calling bird seen by Harry LeGrand near Cashiers, N.C., on 1 June was a rare report from the Highlands Plateau.
- SAW-WHET OWL:** John Horn reports a previously unpublished specimen in the Duke University collection. The owl was hit by a car near New Hope Creek in southeastern Orange County, N.C., on 7 January 1970.
- WHIP-POOR-WILL:** Philip Crutchfield noted the species all summer in Cumberland County, N.C., a locality along the poorly defined edge of the breeding range in the state.
- EASTERN PHOEBE:** One was noted near Fayetteville, N.C., on 15 July by Philip Crutchfield. This locality is presumably at the edge of the phoebe's breeding range.
- WILLOW FLYCATCHER:** At Washington Park in Winston-Salem, N.C., two pairs were seen regularly during June and July by Zach Bynum, Ramona Snavelly, and Pat Culbertson. Harry LeGrand counted nine singing males in the French Broad River valley of central Transylvania County, N.C., on 28 May, a record state total.
- LEAST FLYCATCHER:** A very late individual was seen and heard calling near Rolesville, N.C., on 7 June by Mark Gardner.
- BANK SWALLOW:** Perry Nugent noted one or two birds, presumably late migrants, at Santee State Park, S.C., on 3 June.
- CLIFF SWALLOW:** A pair, probably the same as last year, again nested "out of range" at Moore's Landing in Charleston County, S.C., fide Perry Nugent.
- COMMON RAVEN:** The species was again noted this summer at Table Rock State Park, S.C. Harry LeGrand and Paul Hamel observed seven birds, some or all immatures, on 10 June.
- SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN:** One was heard singing in a damp field near Selica, Transylvania County, N.C., on 28 May by Harry LeGrand. The bird was apparently a late migrant.
- RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET:** Two exceptionally early sightings were single birds noted in Franklin County, N.C., on 29 July by Eloise Potter, and near Kure Beach, N.C., on 17 August by Mark Gardner.
- WORM-EATING WARBLER:** John Fussell reported two individuals near Merrimon, Carteret County, N.C., on 10 June. Much is still to be learned about the distribution of this warbler in the coastal plain.
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER:** Paul Hamel and others noted at least 25 birds in parts of Charleston County, S.C., on 19 March 1977, a very early date for such a large number.
- PALM WARBLER:** One was early near New Hope Creek in the Chapel Hill, N.C., area on 24 August, as seen by Johnnie Payne.
- ORCHARD ORIOLE:** An immature male was found singing on territory near Cashiers, N.C., on 1 June by Harry LeGrand. The altitude of 3900 feet may be a high-elevation record for the state.
- NORTHERN ORIOLE:** Harry LeGrand saw a singing male and a nearby female in cen-

tral Transylvania County, N.C., on 28 May. This species is a rare breeder in the southern half of the mountains in that state.

EVENING GROSBEEK: A female was very late at Carol Hamilton's feeder in Chapel Hill, N.C., on 14 June.

HOUSE FINCH: Nesting was again noted in North Carolina in Winston-Salem and Raleigh, and nesting may have occurred in Chapel Hill and Hickory. Ramona Snavely reported one colony with 12 singing males in Winston-Salem, and another with six singing males. She reports nesting at many sites in the city. At Raleigh, Joshua Lee saw a bird carrying nesting material during the summer to a vine-covered ledge on a building on the N.C. State University campus; a fledgling was seen there in July by Clark Olson. Two nestings were also reported in the Raleigh Rose Garden in July. At Chapel Hill, two males were seen at a feeder on 4 June by Carol Hamilton, and she noted a male there from 9 to 17 June, and a pair from 24 June until 30 July. Garvin and Louise Hughes observed up to three birds at a feeder in Hickory between 17 and 29 June.

RED CROSSBILL: This species was more numerous than usual this summer in the southern mountains of North Carolina. Harry LeGrand noted 18 in several small flocks along the Blue Ridge Parkway in southern Haywood County on 17 June, and four at Highlands on 25 June. At Camp Kanuga near Hendersonville, Jon Stewart and Dan Nedrelo saw three males and a female on 20 and 21 July. LeGrand also heard a bird calling in flight over Table Rock Mountain, S.C., on 9 July.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW: One remained at a feeder in Raleigh, N.C., until 6 June, fide Carol Hamilton.

BOOK REVIEWS

A GUIDE TO BIRD FINDING EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI (second edition)

Olin S. Pettingill Jr. 1977. Oxford University Press, 200 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016. Illus. by George M. Sutton. 689 p. Index. Hardcover. \$15.95.

A BIRDWATCHER'S GUIDE TO THE EASTERN UNITED STATES

Alice M. Geffen. 1978. Barron's Educational Series, Inc., 113 Crossways Park Drive, Woodbury, N.Y. 11797. Illus. by Peter Hayman. 346 p. Index. Paperback. \$6.95.

THE COMPLETE OUTFITTING & SOURCE BOOK FOR BIRD WATCHING

Michael Scofield. 1978. The Great Outdoors Trading Company, 24759 Shoreline Highway, Marshall, Calif. 94940. 192 p. 8½ x 11 inches. Paperback \$6.95, hardcover \$12.95 (plus 75¢ postage and handling if ordered from publisher).

The word is out that there are more bird watchers than hunters, and publishers are wasting no time in providing handy guides telling us how to practice our hobby. Obviously no author is going to have expert personal knowledge of every aspect of bird study in all parts of the county. A given section of a comprehensive work will be no better than the various sources of information. There will be some unfortunate omissions, some out-of-date material, and some obvious errors. Nevertheless, books such as the ones discussed below can be very helpful.

Pettingill's guide is a revised version of his respected 1951 work. The North and South Carolina chapters provide excellent examples of the variability of the contents. The North Carolina section contains important new material; but unfortunately it also has our Fish Crows still confined to the coastal region, gives directions to the now closed Gaddy's Wild Goose Refuge, fails to mention Fort Macon under the Morehead City paragraph, and does not state that permits are required for visits to Battery Island. The South Carolina section was revised by Dennis M. Forsythe and Sidney A. Gauthreaux Jr., and it greatly benefits