

Carolinas (Potter, Parnell, and Teulings, 1980) notes that little is known about the breeding habits of the Winter Wren in the southern Appalachians.

I have noticed that Winter Wrens at higher elevations in Graham County, where no spruce-fir forests grow, often have breeding territories that include the dense growths of rhododendron under hemlocks along the mountain streams and also the more open deciduous woods on the slopes above the rhododendrons. The low-elevation virgin forest of Joyce Kilmer may provide a habitat not unlike these higher sites in certain respects. Lying at the intersection of the lower and upper loop trails, the memorial plaque is a point of demarcation between two different types of habitat. Little Santeetlah Creek and its numerous tributaries create a moist, cool environment for the lower loop area. Shielded from the sun by Horse Cove Ridge to the south, this cove facing north is refrigerated even in midsummer. There the dominant tree is the Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), some growing 4.5 m (15 feet) or more in circumference. The understory is composed of dense thickets of *R. maximum* of near tree size. Where hemlocks have fallen, mosses, ferns, and mushrooms grow. The upper loop area, on the other hand, is virgin cove-hardwood forest, dominated by giant Tulip Trees (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)—some over 2.1 m (7 feet) in diameter and over 6.1 m (20 feet) in circumference. The understory consists of a rich variety of trees and is more open at ground level (no rhododendron), permitting a lush growth of ferns and wildflowers. Although it is not clear whether one or two Winter Wrens were seen, the one observed at the memorial plaque on the morning of 20 June did have a range overlapping both types of habitat.

BOOK REVIEW

A.B.A. CHECKLIST: Birds of Continental United States and Canada

Stuart Keith, chairman, A.B.A. Checklist Committee. 1982. (Second edition) The American Birding Association, Box 4335, Austin, Texas 78765. 90 p. Softcover. \$8.25 (A.B.A. members), \$9 (nonmembers), plus \$2.25 postage and handling.

This checklist, which follows the taxonomic order of common and scientific names that will appear in the sixth edition of the A.O.U. *Check-List*, should be extremely useful to bird students during the period of adjustment to the new nomenclature. Nearly a third of the booklet is devoted to a "Summary of Records of Accidentals and Other Species," a feature that will interest those who intend to purchase the A.O.U. publication but need a quick reference on rare birds. Although numerous sight records are included in the citations for the accidental species, great care seems to have been exercised in deciding which sight records offer adequate details for acceptability. In several cases where I have some familiarity with the published literature, I consider the judgment of the A.B.A. committee to have been commendably conservative. Space has been allowed for the owner to add records from supplements to be published annually in *Birding*, the A.B.A. magazine. The inside back cover is devoted to the A.B.A. Code of Ethics—something that should be publicized as bird watching attracts highly competitive people who may thoughtlessly create problems for wildlife, property owners, and fellow naturalists.—EFP