

a fire station. A mowed field was behind it and grown-up fields were in all directions. The birds foraged in these fields.

On 12 July at least one nestling was heard in the nest. One adult stayed on or near the nest while the other flew to the fields nearby. The adults were seen with grasshoppers in their beaks.

On 22 July the birds were not at the nest site. The male was on a telephone line 200 yards away. He flew to another line farther away, where the female was perched. From a pecan tree in the front yard of a house 50 feet away, a young bird was calling. The adults flew to another pecan tree, and the youngster followed. The parents would fly from the tree, collect food, and fly back to feed the young bird. Only one young bird was observed. The nest was collected and deposited in the collection of the South Carolina State Museum (#82.64.1).

This is one of the few records of a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher nesting east of the Mississippi River (Jackson, Amer. Birds 29:912, 1975). To my knowledge, this is as far east as this species has ever been known to breed. Although a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was reported from Hilton Head Island, S.C., on 12 May 1973 (Chat 37:88), this is the first report of nesting from the Carolinas.

Low-elevation Record of Winter Wren During Breeding Season in Graham County, N.C.

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On 19 June 1982 at 1600 EST, while walking in the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest in Graham County, N.C., with Pat and David McConnell, I encountered a singing Winter Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*). The location was about 500 m (1640 feet) beyond the memorial plaque that honors Joyce Kilmer on the right arc of the upper loop trail. We descended to the memorial plaque and there saw another (or the same) Winter Wren, which sang repeatedly. The next morning at 0700 EST, Jim McConnell and I returned to the memorial plaque and immediately heard a Winter Wren singing in the upper loop area about 50 m (160 feet) up the gentle slope from us. While we stayed in the area for about 30 minutes, the wren moved downhill into the lower loop area, ranging as far as 200 m (650 feet) below the memorial plaque. It sang repeatedly from various perches within the Rosebay (*Rhododendron maximum*) thickets, and we once observed it at a distance of about 6 m.

The elevation at the memorial plaque is about 770 m (2520 feet), and the wren ranged perhaps 12 to 13 m (40 feet) lower than that. A survey of the literature revealed no breeding-season records for the Winter Wren at such a low elevation in North Carolina. Stupka (Notes on the Birds of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1963) states that in the Great Smoky Mountains Winter Wrens leave the lower slopes in April for the highest elevations (spruce-fir forest) where they nest with other Canadian-zone species such as Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*), Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*), and Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*). *Birds of the*

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