

On this same date a female Northern Parula (*Parula americana*) visited the roadway and appeared to be seeking grit, but no pecking was actually observed. I was present at the 300-yard Sawyer Road census route no more than 30 minutes on 16 May.

On 31 May 1983 David S. Lee and I saw a Yellow-throated Warbler (*D. dominica*) pecking sand on the rim of a Carolina bay in Bladen County, N.C.

I have found no mention of grit in any readily available reference on the food habits of wood warblers. Nonetheless, the above observations strongly suggest that feeding of grit to nestlings is widespread among the Parulinae. Contribution 1983-9 of the North Carolina Biological Survey.

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## BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.

(All dates 1983 unless otherwise indicated; SBC = Spring Bird Count)

**COMMON LOON:** Ricky Davis observed eight in flight over Beaverdam Reservoir in northern Wake County, N.C., on 24 April.

**PIED-BILLED GREBE:** Twelve grebes at Falls Lake in eastern Durham County, N.C., on 22 May probably were breeding individuals (Ricky Davis, Harry LeGrand).

**NORTHERN FULMAR:** John Fussell found a dead fulmar on the beach at Pine Knoll Shores, Carteret County, N.C., on 18 March. Two or three were observed by Lloyd Davidson about 15 miles E of Ocracoke, N.C., in mid-March.

**BLACK-CAPPED PETREL:** Rarely seen off Cape Lookout, N.C., were two approximately 38 miles SSE of the cape on 18 April (Wayne Irvin).

**LEACH'S STORM-PETREL:** A petrel identified as either a Leach's or a Band-rumped was seen 60 miles SE of Charleston, S.C., on 17 April by Dennis Forsythe and party. [The marks of "forked tail" and especially "bounding flight" appear to rule against Band-rumped in favor of Leach's.—HEL] Two Leach's were seen off Morehead City, N.C., on 19 June by Wayne Irvin.

**AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN:** Two birds, probably overwintering individuals, were observed by Ed Blitch on 6 April at Charleston.

- NORTHERN GANNET:** Michael Britten had a good count of 91 gannets migrating N at Cape Hatteras point, N.C., on 27 April.
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:** Barbara Roth reported that 182 were seen on the Jordan Lake SBC, N.C., on 8 May. Six were seen at Falls Lake on the Durham, N.C., SBC on 24 April (fide Mike Schultz). Elsewhere in inland North Carolina, Philip Crutchfield saw three flocks totaling 280 birds flying NW in the Lake Waccamaw - Bolton area on 24 April; five were seen at Lake Norman on 14 April by Paul Hart, Heathy Walker, and Clare Walker; and up to two were seen by Philip Crutchfield at Fayetteville from 11 to 27 April.
- ANHINGA:** Four were seen at a roost at Sunset Beach, N.C., on 24 April by Philip Crutchfield and Dana Mather. Crutchfield also noted the species again at Jessup's Mill Pond near Fayetteville, with one on 14 April and a pair later in the spring.
- MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD:** A female was observed by Pat Leonard at Kiawah Island, S.C., on 4 May.
- CATTLE EGRET:** One was far inland near Asheville, N.C., on 15 April (Ron Warner). Others in inland North Carolina were at Jordan Lake, Falls Lake, Raleigh, Halifax, and Zebulon, with the best count being six near the last town on 20 May (Ricky Davis).
- GREAT EGRET:** A few individuals were seen in April and May at the following lakes in central North Carolina: Jordan, Falls, Woodlake, and Wheeler. Nine at Woodlake, near Vass, provided an excellent spring count on 1 May (Tom Howard).
- REDDISH EGRET:** An excellent find was a bird in the normal (dark) phase at Mount Pleasant, S.C., seen by Cheryl Phillips and Julia Hill on 24 May.
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON:** Philip Crutchfield noted migrants near Fayetteville on 18 and 26 April. On SBCs were one at Chapel Hill on 1 May (Ken Knapp, Don Tarbet, Julie Stewart) and two at Raleigh on 7 May (fide Robert Hader).
- AMERICAN BITTERN:** Outstanding was the count of 26 on the Durham SBC on 24 April (fide Mike Schultz). Ramona Snavelly saw one of the early dates of 8 and 9 March in southwestern Forsyth County, N.C. Two seen at Cedar Island, N.C., on 30 May by John Fussell and Wayne Irvin may indicate a breeding population at the refuge there.
- GLOSSY IBIS:** Unusual inland was a flock of 8 to 10 seen in flight near Raleigh, N.C., on 2 April by George Hervey. The first record for the North Carolina Sandhills was one seen by Tom Howard and others near Whispering Pines on 1 May.
- ROSEATE SPOONBILL:** Very early and rare was an adult observed by Mark Epstein at Cat Island, S.C., near Georgetown, on 17 March.
- TUNDRA SWAN:** Perry Nugent and party noted 11 in Charleston harbor on 30 January, and another was quite late on 30 April at Jordan Lake (Anson Cooke et al.). Frank Enders saw 154 several miles W of Halifax, N.C., on 1 February; this flock may have been a part of the 500+ swans found all winter between this location and Caledonia Prison Farm near Tillery.
- CANADA GOOSE:** From late April to mid-May, free-flying birds were seen at five places in Moore County and one site in Richmond County in the North Carolina Sandhills, fide Jay Carter. Marion Jones found an active nest near Pinehurst on 1 May.

- FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK:** Seldom seen in spring were five noted by John Fussell and Ted Best at Cedar Island, N.C., on 26 April.
- GREEN-WINGED TEAL:** Late were two birds seen at Fort Macon State Park, N.C., on 2 and 3 May by John Fussell and Larry Crawford.
- BLUE-WINGED TEAL:** A good tally of 98 was made on the Durham SBC on 24 April, according to Mike Schultz, and two (possibly a breeding pair) were seen on Falls Lake on 22 May by Ricky Davis and Harry LeGrand.
- EURASIAN WIGEON:** Always noteworthy, a male was observed by Peter Manigault near the North Santee River, S.C., on 15 and 16 January.
- GREATER SCAUP:** Rather late was a male seen flying along the coast at Atlantic Beach, N.C., on 23 April by Jim Mulholland.
- LESSER SCAUP:** A male was out of season on a pond at Sunset Beach, N.C., on 18 and 19 June (David Swanson, Jim McConnell). Good counts of scaup (species undetermined, though probably Lessers) were 250 at Falls Lake on 25 March (Bill and Margaret Wagner) and 42 on Fontana Lake, Graham County, N.C., on 7 April (Owen McConnell).
- COMMON EIDER:** Two individuals were rare and late on the beach at Ocracoke Island, N.C., on 26 April, as noted by Michael Britten.
- WHITE-WINGED SCOTER:** One on 1 May at Pine Knoll Shores, N.C., was quite late (Larry Crawford, John Fussell).
- BLACK SCOTER:** Steve Everhart observed a pair of stragglers at Fort Fisher, New Hanover County, N.C., on 14 June.
- BLACK VULTURE:** Frederick Test saw a "small flock" migrating northward over Asheville on 21 March 1981. The species is infrequently reported from the mountains.
- AMERICAN SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** Single birds were out of range in North Carolina at a number of places in the lower coastal plain: North Hollow in Craven County on 9 April (Charles Manooch), Kenansville on 13 April (Micou Browne), Core Banks on 5 May (John Thompson), Harkers Island on 6 May (Skip Prange), Bodie Island and Rodanthe both on 30 May (Jack Reinoehl), and near Coinjock on 5 June (Chris Kieffer).
- MISSISSIPPI KITE:** A first record for Carteret County, N.C., was the sighting of an adult and three subadults by John Fussell at Cedar Island on 15 May. Wake County, N.C., also had a first kite—an adult seen by Jim Mulholland in southwest Raleigh on 1 May. Merrill Lynch saw an adult in southeastern Bertie County, N.C., on 10 May; and Jay Carter noted two adults W of Cheraw, S.C., on 14 May.
- COOPER'S HAWK:** An immature female was very rare at Cedar Island on 26 April, as seen by John Fussell.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK:** Noteworthy for the Outer Banks were seven migrants seen by Michael Britten near Buxton, N.C., on 27 April.
- GOLDEN EAGLE:** Robert Ruiz observed an adult at Camp Rockmont in Buncombe County, N.C., on 4 May.
- BALD EAGLE:** Individuals were seen this spring in central North Carolina near Aberdeen (Gay Duncan), Jordan Lake (Bill and Margaret Wagner), Falls Lake (Wagners), and

- Beaverdam Reservoir (Wayne Irvin). One was rare at Cedar Island on 15 May (John Fussell).
- OSPREY:** At Jordan Lake, Ricky Davis observed an early individual on 5 March, and he and Allen Bryan had an excellent count of 27 there on 17 April.
- PEREGRINE FALCON:** Very rare inland in spring was an adult seen by Merrill Lynch W of Enfield, N.C., on 27 March. Along the coast were falcons noted at Moore's Landing in Charleston County, S.C., on 10 April (Perry Nugent party), at Pea Island, N.C., on 17 April (Ray Chandler), and at Fort Macon State Park, N.C., on 27 April (John Fussell).
- MERLIN:** Single birds were observed inland near Fayetteville on 6 April by Philip Crutchfield and at Falls Lake on 24 April by Andy Towle.
- AMERICAN KESTREL:** Allen Bryan noted one on 22 May near Edenton, N.C., a locality to the east of the breeding range. Notable was a breeding report from Raleigh, where Wayne and Fran Irvin found a nest in a barn at Dorothea Dix Farm and observed at least two fledged young in late May.
- SANDHILL CRANE:** Unusual for South Carolina were three seen along US 301 at Santee National Wildlife Refuge from 15 December to 23 January by Perry Nugent and others.
- VIRGINIA RAIL:** A late migrant was found dazed on a skyscraper roof in downtown Winston-Salem, N.C., on 26 May by Charles Frost and Bob Witherington. Approximately five adults, presumably breeders, were flushed by a large fire at Cedar Island on 30 May, as noted by John Fussell and Wayne Irvin.
- BLACK RAIL:** John Fussell and Wayne Irvin saw 10 adults flushed by the Cedar Island fire on 30 May. Large numbers of this species presumably breed on the island.
- PURPLE GALLINULE:** Bob Holmes observed one at North River in Carteret County, N.C., on 30 April.
- COMMON MOORHEN:** This rare inland migrant was detected on 13 April at Salem Lake near Winston-Salem, where it was caught, banded, and released (Tom Mowbray, Ramona Snavelly). Others inland were seen at Jordan Lake on 28 April by Bill and Margaret Wagner, and at Falls Lake on 15 May by Allen Bryan and John Alderman and again on 22 May by Harry LeGrand and Ricky Davis.
- AMERICAN COOT:** One was late at Falls Lake in Durham County on 22 May (Ricky Davis, Harry LeGrand).
- BLACK-NECKED STILT:** Several were seen this spring and were presumably nesting at a spoil area along the Cooper River at Mount Pleasant, S.C., as reported by Julia Hill and Perry Nugent.
- SEMPALMATED PLOVER:** The best inland count for the spring was nine seen by Ricky Davis at Jordan Lake on 8 May.
- LESSER GOLDEN-PLOVER:** One was very early, in partial breeding plumage, on Shackleford Banks, N.C., on 13 and 14 March, as noted by John Fussell. Single birds were also seen in central Carteret County, N.C., on 30 April (Fussell) and at Woodlake, near Vass, N.C., on 1 May (Tom Howard).
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:** Quite rare in spring were three observed at Falls Lake on 15

- May by Allen Bryan, John Alderman, and Ricky Davis.
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** Apparently wintering were two Long-billeds noted by John Fussell at Portsmouth Island, N.C., on 2 and 3 March.
- WHIMBREL:** Late and unusual was a flock of 20 seen migrating by Frank Enders over his home near Darlington in Halifax County, N.C., on 3 June.
- UPLAND SANDPIPER:** One was observed at Winston-Salem, N.C., on 1 May by Charles Frost; and Frank Enders saw two W of Halifax on the same date.
- GREATER YELLOWLEGS:** Rather late on 22 May was an individual at Falls Lake (Harry LeGrand, Ricky Davis).
- RED-NECKED PHALAROPE:** Two females in breeding plumage were studied by Eleanor Dodson, Jackie Shelton, and Ramona Snively in western Forsyth County, N.C., from 18 to 23 May. Three were early migrants on 17 April as seen by Dennis Forsythe off Charleston.
- RED PHALAROPE:** Dennis Forsythe saw at least 100 off Charleston on 17 April. Such large numbers of this pelagic species are not unusual in March and April off of the coast of the Carolinas.
- SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Rare in spring were three observed on 15 May by Allen Bryan, John Alderman, and Ricky Davis at Falls Lake.
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Most unusual inland was an individual seen and heard by Ricky Davis at Falls Lake on 15 May. Perry Nugent and Dennis Abbott had another inland at Santee refuge, S.C., on 29 January. This species is apparently regular in winter at the refuge on Lake Marion.
- RED KNOT:** A count of 155, undoubtedly wintering birds, was notable on 3 March at Portsmouth Island (John Fussell).
- LEAST SANDPIPER:** This species winters regularly on several inland lakes in South Carolina, but a total of 50 at Santee refuge on 29 January, as noted by Perry Nugent and Dennis Abbott, was quite high. Another good count was 66 on the Jordan Lake SBC on 8 May (fide Barbara Roth).
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER:** Extremely rare in midwinter was one seen by Perry Nugent and Dennis Abbott at Santee refuge on 29 January.
- DUNLIN:** Ricky Davis observed two at Falls Lake on 10 May.
- POMARINE JAEGER:** On pelagic trips, Dennis Forsythe saw one off Charleston on 17 April, and Wayne Irvin had three off Cape Lookout, N.C., on 18 April. Observers from shore on Bogue Banks, N.C., saw three on 10 April (John Fussell) and two on 30 April (Larry Crawford).
- PARASITIC JAEGER:** Five at Atlantic Beach, N.C., on 15 April (John Fussell) was an excellent count for the date, as the species migrates north mostly in May and early June. Fussell observed another from the same beach on 19 May.
- LONG-TAILED JAEGER:** Very rare and early was an individual seen by Wayne Irvin off Cape Lookout on 18 April.
- GLAUCOUS GULL:** One seen in winter at a landfill near Newport, N.C., was last noted by John Fussell on 18 March.

- ICELAND GULL:** Very late was an immature well described on Masonboro Island near Wrightsville Beach, N.C., on 21 April by Mark Galizio and John Hardwick. Well inland was an immature seen 0.5 mile SE of the US 158 bridge on the Chowan River, N.C., on 4 April by Bill Williams. John Fussell observed one at several places in the Morehead City, N.C., area between 13 and 18 March.
- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL:** An adult was seen at the Newport, N.C., landfill from 13 to 19 March by Royce Hough and Wayne Irvin.
- RING-BILLED GULL:** Unusually high inland counts were 75 in a parking lot at Asheville, N.C., on 26 April (Robert Ruiz), 225 near Vass on 1 May (Tom Howard), 200 in a pasture at Raleigh on 8 and 17 March (Wayne Irvin), and 600 at Jordan Lake on 27 March (Charlie Lyon).
- LAUGHING GULL:** A good inland find was one at Falls Lake, as noted by Ricky Davis on 18 May.
- BONAPARTE'S GULL:** Allen Bryan had a notable tally of 82 at Jordan Lake on 10 April, and Ricky Davis saw four late individuals there on 8 May.
- LITTLE GULL:** An adult in winter plumage was noted by John Fussell and Bob Holmes on 9 April at Atlantic Beach. An immature was observed in Morehead City on 18 April by Wayne Irvin, and likely the same individual was quite late at nearby Fort Macon from 2 to 21 May (Fussell et al.).
- FORSTER'S TERN:** Inland migrants were seen by Jim Mulholland at Lake Wheeler near Raleigh on 2 April and by Andy Towle and Tony Shrimpton at Jordan Lake on 27 April.
- COMMON TERN:** The only inland report for the spring was of two seen by Tom Howard at Woodlake, near Vass, on 1 May.
- ARCTIC TERN:** Late May is the best time for seeing this rather rare pelagic migrant. Thus, notable, but not unexpected, were three seen off Hatteras, N.C., on 29 May by Robert Ake and party.
- SOOTY TERN:** Robert Hader and James Parnell observed one resting with Black Skimmers on a road at Ocracoke, N.C., on 25 May. Wayne Irvin noted three or four on a pelagic trip off Morehead City on 19 June.
- CASPIAN TERN:** Inland reports included nine at Falls Lake on 24 April (Mike Schultz et al.), six at Jordan Lake on 17 April (Allen Bryan et al.), three at Lake Wheeler on 22 April (Jim Mulholland), two near Vass on 1 May (Tom Howard), and two at Jordan Lake on 8 May (Ricky Davis).
- BLACK TERN:** Quite rare inland in spring was one in breeding plumage seen by Ricky Davis at Falls Lake on 15 May.
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** Very rare for Carteret County, N.C., was one seen by Larry Crawford and others on 30 April and 1 May at Pine Knoll Shores.
- COMMON BARN-OWL:** Andy Towle and Tony Shrimpton saw one in a barn, where it was apparently nesting, at Jordan Lake on 26 April and 1 May.
- WHIP-POOR-WILL:** Two were noted by Perry Nugent and Dennis Abbott along Seewee Road NE of Charleston on 26 January. This species winters regularly in Charleston County but is infrequently seen because of its nocturnal habits.

**LEAST FLYCATCHER:** Ken Knapp saw and heard one at Jordan Lake on 8 May, and he and others noted two at Raleigh on 7 May.

**HORNED LARK:** Paul Hart and Heathy Walker noted four, including two singing males, in eastern Cleveland County, N.C., on 31 May. A pair was seen by Frank Enders from April into June near Darlington, Halifax County, N.C.

**BANK SWALLOW:** John Fussell had several records in coastal Carteret County between 19 April and 22 May, including 10 at Cedar Island on 14 May. Also uncommon along the coast were two at Sunset Beach, N.C., on 24 April (Philip Crutchfield, Dana Mather). A good inland count was 100 at Falls Lake on 10 May (Ricky Davis).

**CLIFF SWALLOW:** Probably a late migrant was an individual seen at a lake SE of Rocky Mount, N.C., on 29 May by Ricky Davis.

**COMMON RAVEN:** Unusual outside of the mountains was one seen and heard by Derek Carrigan at Granite Falls, N.C., on 10 April.

**RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH:** Merrill Lynch observed an extremely late bird at Hall Swamp in Martin County, N.C., on 27 May.

**BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH:** Several were regular at Derek Carrigan's feeder during the winter in Granite Falls, N.C., where it is apparently absent in summer. Bill Duyck again noted one in his Asheville yard on 1 and 5 May. Very rare for Bogue Banks was one at Pine Knoll Shores on 22 April, as seen by John Fussell.

**HOUSE WREN:** At the edge of the breeding range was a male on territory at Fayetteville from 27 April into June (Philip Crutchfield, Henry Rankin Jr.)

**BEWICK'S WREN:** One was seen in a yard in northern Asheville on several dates in late April. It was investigating rolled awnings at a home, possibly for a nesting site, but the home owner chased the bird away, according to Frederick Test. A migrant was east of its range at Beaverdam Reservoir, where seen by Ricky Davis on 24 April.

**MARSH WREN:** Rather rare for the mountains were two noted by Douglas McNair at Cullowhee, N.C., on 15 May.

**GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH:** Three reports for Carteret County in spring were unusual. Singles were seen in Morehead City on 30 April and 1 May (Charles Lincoln), in the same town on 10 May (Mike Alford, John Fussell), and at Cedar Island on 15 May (Fussell).

**WATER PIPIT:** An excellent count of 500 was made by Perry Nugent and Dennis Abbott at Santee refuge on 29 January.

**CEDAR WAXWING:** Late departing waxwings were noted at Crowders Mountain State Park, N.C., on 28 May (Paul Hart), at Raleigh on 30 May (Gail Whitehurst), at Clemson, S.C., on 31 May (Alan Avakian), and in northeastern Sampson County, N.C., on 2 June (Eloise Potter).

**SOLITARY VIREO:** A nest was found by Dick Thomas at Weymouth Woods near Southern Pines, N.C., on 1 May.

**BLACK-WHISKERED VIREO:** Mark Galizio observed one near Masonboro Sound, New Hanover County, N.C., on 8 May, for the second state record. It was in the low branches of an oak and seen well. He noted that the "black whiskers were clearly visible in this bird which, otherwise, had the features of a Red-eyed Vireo." He is familiar with the species in Florida.

- RED-EYED VIREO:** Extremely early was one seen on 20 March by Wayne Irvin and John Fussell on Bogue Banks, N.C.
- PHILADELPHIA VIREO:** Very rare for Raleigh in spring was one seen and heard singing by Don Tarbet and Derrick Hamrick on 7 May.
- WARBLING VIREO:** The first suggestion of breeding of this species in Buncombe County, N.C., in over 50 years was the presence of a pair seen on 30 April and on many dates in May at Camp Rockmont, near Swannanoa, by Robert Ruiz. The birds were adjacent to a lake at 2200 feet in elevation.
- SWAINSON'S WARBLER:** Early for North Carolina was one heard singing along Bennett's Creek, Hertford County, on 9 April by Bill Williams. Paul Hart and Heathy Walker noted two singing birds and saw another along Jacob Fork River in South Mountains State Park, Burke County, N.C., on 26 May. Rhododendron was present in the habitat, and the birds were undoubtedly on their breeding grounds. Eloise Potter noted a singing bird along the South River at US 701 in Sampson County, N.C., on 2 June.
- WORM-EATING WARBLER:** A new breeding-season station was located by Eloise Potter, who heard four singing on 2 June in the flood plain of the South River at US 701 in Sampson County. Frank Enders noted two singing birds near Darlington in Halifax County in early summer. An uncommon migrant was seen by Michael Britten at Buxton, N.C., on 27 April.
- BLUE-WINGED WARBLER:** A fairly good count for the lower coastal plain was three at Four Holes Swamp, northern Dorchester County, S.C., on 16 April (Perry Nugent et al.).
- TENNESSEE WARBLER:** Rather rare for the piedmont of North Carolina were singles at Crowders Mountain State Park on 29 April and 2 May (Paul Hart), one near Elon College on 7 May (Allen Bryan), two at Charlotte on 7 May (David Dunham, Paul Hart), and four at Raleigh on 7 May (Leigh DeNeef, Jeff Walters).
- ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER:** Migrants were observed at Jordan Lake on 20 March (Allen Bryan, John Alderman), at Morehead City on 16 April (Fran Irvin) at Clemson, S.C., on 16 April (two birds—Alan Avakian, John Hay), at Crowders Mountain State Park on 27 April (Paul Hart), and at Raleigh on 7 May (Leigh DeNeef).
- NASHVILLE WARBLER:** Allen Bryan saw and heard one in Ashe County, N.C., on 5 May.
- BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER:** Rather early was a singing bird noted by Paul Hamel near Newry, S.C., on 12 April.
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER:** Philip Crutchfield had a singing male on territory in the Beaver Dam section of Fayetteville from 6 April to 12 May. This city is west of the known breeding range of the coastal population.
- CERULEAN WARBLER:** Joshua Lee noted a migrant at Raleigh on 7 May.
- BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER:** Noteworthy along the coast in spring were two seen by Perry Nugent and party near Charleston on 1 May.
- BAY-BREASTED WARBLER:** Quite late were two males and a female seen by Harry LeGrand at the Raleigh-Durham Airport on 25 May.



- PRAIRIE WARBLER:** Chris and Perry Nugent observed one in their yard in Charleston on 9 January.
- WILSON'S WARBLER:** Unusual in winter was an individual seen by Perry Nugent and Dennis Abbott at Santee refuge on 29 January.
- ORCHARD ORIOLE:** John Fussell noted an adult male on 20 March at his feeder in Morehead City.
- NORTHERN (BALTIMORE) ORIOLE:** An excellent coastal count was 10 seen by Skip Prange at Cape Lookout, N.C., on 26 April.
- NORTHERN (BULLOCK'S) ORIOLE:** The first North Carolina report of a female, without an accompanying male, was an individual at a Fayetteville yard from 19 March to early May (Philip Crutchfield, Ruth Chesnutt, Henry Rankin Jr.). The bird had "yellow on face, throat, and upper breast; otherwise whitish undersides; crown olivish with yellow tints, back olivish, wings and tail gray, two white wing bars, outer tail feathers yellowish, bill paler than female Northern (Baltimore) Oriole", according to Crutchfield's description.
- WESTERN Tanager:** A male at a feeder in Pine Knoll Shores, N.C., in the winter was last seen about 9 March by Kathy Kirkman. Another winter feeder bird was reported at Fayetteville into early May by Philip Crutchfield and others. Another male was seen at a feeder in Sumter, S.C., from January to 28 April by Mrs. Jim Mallard, fide Evelyn Dabbs. Most unusual was a female seen by Ron Warner at Bat Cave, N.C., on 31 May.
- ROSE-BREADED GROSBEAK:** Two were rare on Bogue Banks on 30 April (Larry Crawford), and early was one at Pea Island on 16 April and another at Bodie Island on 17 April (Ray Chandler).
- BLUE GROSBEAK:** Robert Ruiz noted individuals at two sites near Swannanoa, N.C., on 7 May and 22 May; the species is rare in that area.
- PAINTED BUNTING:** A female or immature was a very rare and far inland visitor to a feeder in Raleigh from approximately 25 February to 25 April (David and Susan Roberts, Fran Irvin). Dorothy Foy saw an adult female on 26 April at Oriental, N.C., a town where the species formerly bred and perhaps still does breed.
- DICKCISSEL:** John Beeler observed one on five dates from 7 March to 11 April at Guilford College, N.C., as reported by Charlotte Dawley. A notable record and probable breeders were two singing males found on 26 and 31 May by Paul Hart and Heathy Walker near Kings Mountain, N.C.
- HOUSE FINCH:** Robert Ruiz and Helen Charbonneau observed several in May in both Swannanoa and Asheville, where breeding thus may be occurring. Also probably breeding were several pairs seen through May at two places in Fayetteville (Philip Crutchfield, Henry Rankin Jr.). Frank Enders noted the first conclusive breeding for Roanoke Rapids, N.C., finding a nest and three adults there from April to June in a downtown block.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:** Near the edge of the breeding range were 11 singing birds and two juveniles at the Rocky Mount - Wilson Airport in Nash County, N.C., on 29 May (Ricky Davis). Surprisingly, the largest local breeding populations in the Carolinas have been near the edge of the range, in the upper coastal plain, probably because the fields tend to be larger in acreage than are those in most of the piedmont

and mountains.

**HENSLow'S SPARROW:** Perhaps on the wintering grounds were two seen within 3 feet of the observers (Dick Repasky, Steve Klause) at Scotland Lake in Sandhills Game Land, N.C., on 2 April.

**LE CONTE'S SPARROW:** Very rare for North Carolina were migrants seen by Wayne Irvin at Dorothea Dix Farm in Raleigh on 9 and 10 April and by Douglas McNair and many Carolina Bird Club members at Cullowhee on 15 May.

**SEASIDE SPARROW:** At least 150 were seen flying in front of the Cedar Island fire on 30 May by Wayne Irvin and John Fussell.

**BACHMAN'S SPARROW:** Very rare was one seen on the Chapel Hill SBC on 1 May by Andy Towle and Tony Shrimpton.

**LINCOLN'S SPARROW:** A bird at Skip Prange's feeder in Harkers Island, N.C., during the winter remained until 26 April.

## BOOK REVIEW

### Seabirds—An Identification Guide

Peter Harrison. 1983. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. 448 p. \$29.95.

This is an excellent book. It is a little large for standard field use as an identification guide, but nevertheless well worth carrying if one plans to spend any time observing birds at sea. The text covers 312 species of birds and is well illustrated. The publishers note that there are over 1600 individual color portraits. Thus, for most species, different sexes, ages, races, and other forms of plumage variation are well depicted. Additionally, 31 black-and-white plates illustrate plumage stages of single species or species easily confused. Plate 51, for example, has 11 illustrations of the dorsal and ventral plumage development in male and female Great Frigatebirds. The breeding and marine distributions of all seabirds have been mapped, and this certainly represents the best attempt to date to illustrate the known distribution of marine birds. The bibliography is up to date (the most recent citations are 1981) and relevant. Seaducks are covered only briefly in three pages at the end of the book.

The illustrations are of special interest. Harrison has personal field experience with all but 30 of the species discussed. It is unlikely that any other person has seen living examples of this many seabirds. A quick glance at nearly any of the 88 color plates should humble anyone who thinks he has mastered seabird identification. I have long wondered how people unfamiliar with the subtle differences in immature jaegers, for example, could hope to identify them with the simplistic illustrations in most field guides. The truth is that without considerable prior experience they could not. With Harrison's book in hand, one still would have difficulty in identifying all but the most typically plumaged birds, but at least one would be aware of the complexity of the problem. With the nomadic nature of many seabirds, and the limited knowledge of seasonal and geographic distributions of even North Atlantic species, the reader is quickly overwhelmed by plate after plate of cryptically plumaged birds that could conceivably occur in one area. Indeed many of the differences between plumages or races of single species are more pronounced than between some species. I have observed people on seabird excursions off the North Carolina coast happily