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BOOK REVIEWS

BIRDS OF ROAN MOUNTAIN AND VICINITY. [1984]. Glen Eller and Gary Wallace. Lee R. Hérndon Chapter, Tennessee Ornithological Society. 12 p. Available from Glen D. Eller, Route 9, Box 1340, Grandview Terrace, Elizabethton, Tennessee 37643, \$1.90 including postage.

Dedicated in memory of Lee R. Herndon and Fred W. Behrend, the booklet contains a brief description of the Roan Mountain area (map on back cover) and 10 pages of two-part bar graphs showing relative abundance of each species according to season of occurrence and elevation. Early dates of arrival and late dates of departure are shown for migrants. An asterisk following the species name indicates known breeding. The species order is that of the Sixth Edition of the A.O.U. *Check-list of North American Birds* (1983). The graphs are based primarily on the field records of TOS members in the Elizabethton chapter. The authors are to be congratulated for making this large body of distributional data available in a convenient format. Everyone interested in the bird life of the southern Appalachians will want a copy.—EFP

SUBURBAN WILDLIFE. 1984. Richard Headstrom. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey 07632. Illustrated by Jennifer Dewey. 176 p. Softbound \$8.95.

Although the author is a former resident of Aiken, S.C., this collection of informal nature essays is strongly influenced by his experiences in New England. Fortunately, most of the articles tell where the animals can be found or are so generalized that geographic distribution is not a problem; however, the one on summer birds is misleading to people who do not live where certain species (e.g. American Bittern, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Vesper Sparrow) nest. The article on bats is particularly enjoyable because it deals effectively with some of the unfortunate myths that surround these flying mammals. Subjects include insects, spiders, and earthworms as well as the vertebrates most likely to be encountered in the suburbs. Headstrom's conversational style of writing makes for easy reading, and the book should appeal to young people.

Suburban Wildlife is a PHalarope Book, one in a series of publications based on nature courses taught at colleges, museums, or nature centers. Other titles deal with topics such as astronomy, botany, fossil collecting, and the seashore.—EFP