

pared to Ring-billed, have darker brown wing coverts and are darker below. All *L. canus* are slightly smaller than Ring-billed and have short, dainty bills, with the Western race being the smallest. But bill size alone does not separate the species: Small female Ring-billed can have small bills.

In overall coloration, from darkest to lightest, the sequence is Mew Gull (*L. C. brachyrhynchus*), Ring-billed Gull, and Common Gull (*L. c. canus*). For more information, consult the article by Lauro and Spencer. The bird I observed is very similar to the bottom bird in Figure 5 of that article, or to the top right bird of Figure 12. It is also well represented by Plate 61, number 213e, of Harrison (1983).

This constitutes the second sight record of *L. canus* for North Carolina. The first occurred in December 1980 (Lewis et al. 1981).

LITERATURE CITED

- Lauro, A., and B. Spencer. 1980. A method for separating juvenile and first winter Ring-billed Gulls and Common Gulls. *American Birds* 34:111-117.
- Harrison, P. 1983. *Seabirds, an Identification Guide*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
- Lewis, R. H., M. Tove, and H.E. LeGrand Jr. 1981. Rare gulls at Cape Hatteras, N.C., including first Carolina record of Mew Gull. *Chat* 45:75-77.

NEW GENERAL FIELD NOTES EDITOR

E. Wayne Irvin will succeed David S. Lee as General Field Notes Editor for North Carolina, effective with the Winter 1985 issue of *The Chat*. Dr. Irvin is a dentist by profession, but he has wide experience as a nature photographer, taxidermist, and ornithologist. Dr. Irvin is particularly interested in pelagic birds. His wife, Fran, is Headquarters Secretary for Carolina Bird Club. Dr. Irvin's mailing address is in care of the North Carolina State Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 27647, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

After more than 4 years of editing field notes, Mr. Lee has given up his position on the staff of *The Chat* in order to have more time for field research and preparation of papers for publication. His interests include the birdlife of North Carolina's offshore waters, pocosins, and mountains, particularly Grandfather Mountain. As Curator of Birds at the North Carolina State Museum of Natural History, Mr. Lee will work closely with the present editors and serve as chairman of the North Carolina Records Committee for CBC. As Chief of the North Carolina Biological Survey, he will continue preparing a publication on the distribution of the breeding birds of the state.

CORRECTION

CBC Rare Bird Alert Phone Number

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