

Cherry on 23 February (Davis). Another was in that state's piedmont on 7 December near Pineville (David Wright).

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW: This species is rarely seen in the southern coastal plain of North Carolina. Thus, notable were two adults and an immature at the Laurinburg-Maxton Airfield on 8 February (Douglas McNair) and records of single birds at three places in Cumberland County in January (Philip Crutchfield).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR: By far, a record count for the Carolinas was a remarkable flock of 68 tallied by Ricky Davis at First Colony Farms near Cherry on 23 February. There were just two Horned Larks with the longspurs, the reverse ratio usually found in the Carolinas. As many as seven were present at the Charlotte Motor Speedway near Harrisburg from 17 December to 26 February (David Wright et al.). Vaughn Morrison saw two at Cape Hatteras point on 4 January. In South Carolina, the only report was one far south in Orangeburg County on 4 February (Douglas McNair).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: Ken Knapp saw one at Pea Island on the CBC on 28 December.
NORTHERN (BULLOCK'S) ORIOLE: As many as two immature males were seen at Charles Lincoln's feeder in Morehead City by John Fussell from mid-March to 28 April.

HOUSE FINCH: Notable counts near the southern end of the winter range were as many as 52 at Kitty Kosh's feeders in Wilmington during the winter, 164+ in Bennettsville on 27 and 28 February (Douglas McNair), and 200+ in a flock near Monticello, S.C., on 24 January (Robin Carter).

RED CROSSBILL: Gail Whitehurst saw a flock of approximately 12 at Asheville on 6 January.



Roundtable

... with Louis C. Fink

New Address

This columnist has moved to Florida, but is continuing the column at the request of the Editor. Contributions are welcome, so send in your questions, comments, and observations. Yes, I miss my friends in Carolina—but consider this: Little Blue Herons and Cattle Egrets feed on the front lawn, and a Killdeer skitters through the standing water next to my car in the parking lot.—LOUIS C. FINK, 100 Clyde Morris Blvd., #155, Ormond Beach, Florida 32074.

Clothes Make the Man?

Scientists have studied chickadees and sparrows to learn whether feather patterns make a difference in social standing. It appears that when markings are bleached out or enlarged artificially, the bird going back to his own flock must fight for dominance. But in a new environment, the bird with strong, artificial marking may be accepted as a leader.

(MORE ITEMS ON PAGE 4)

- Bogart, Sally. 1940. Bug House Laboratory - Washington. Chat 4:62-63.
- Bragaw, H. Churchill. 1938. Field notes: Winnabow. Chat 2:46.
- Rogers, Dennis. 1986. Washington Bug House was more than just a crazy notion. News and Observer, Raleigh, N.C. 23 January.
- Shelburne, Mary. 1938a. Are Red-headed Woodpeckers cannibals? Chat 2:52.
- . 1938b. [Untitled report of Great Horned Owls nesting in captivity.] Chat 2:56.
- , Sally Bright, George Ross, and Churchill Bragaw. 1938. Field notes: Winnabow. Chat 2:12.
- Sterling, Elizabeth Yert. 1985. History of the Bug House Laboratory. Privately published, Washington, N.C.
- , and Mary Shelburne McLaurin. 1976. The Bug House. Pages 133-135 in Washington and the Pamlico, published by the Washington-Beaufort County Bicentennial Commission.

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About the Authors. The Bug House fostered at least one romance. Elizabeth Yert, editor of "The Reporter," married Hugh Martin Sterling, a vice-president of the group. Both Elizabeth and Hugh have been active members of Carolina Bird Club for many years. Mary Shelburne, a director of the Washington Field Museum and a charter member of the North Carolina Bird Club, married James L. McLaurin, who shares her interest in the birds.

Cooperation

U.S. News and World Report says that an Ivory-billed Woodpecker has been seen 500 miles east of Havana, Cuba, and confirmed by Lester Short, author of *Woodpeckers of the World*. Cuba suspended logging and seems anxious to cooperate in saving the bird.

New Refuges

Mary and Maud Adams have given 628 acres of forest and lakes near Sioux City, Iowa, to the State for a nature preserve. The sisters will live on the property, which abounds in cormorants, pelicans and other birds, for their life-time. The world's first preserve for shore birds has been established in Delaware and New Jersey on both sides of Delaware Bay. It is said that 1 million birds of 20 species stop in the area every spring.

Big Money

The New York Times says that birding now attracts 21 million Americans and is second only to gardening as a hobby. "There are incredible bucks in bird feeders," said one retailer. Enthusiasm runs high. *Bird Watcher's Digest* started 8 years ago with 2,000 subscribers and now has 55,000. At Jamaica Bay Refuge, scores of watchers are on hand every day before 0700. Now *Birder's World* is offering its charter issue. Roger Peterson's field guide has sold 3 million copies, and 140,000 more are sold each year. Seven hundred people have taken Cornell University's course in bird biology at \$140.