

The bird was feeding in a Carolina Laurel Cherry (*Prunus caroliniana*), where it remained for about 20 minutes.

Field marks were noted as follows: top of head and back were gray; wings were gray with two white wingbars; gray cheek patch on the white face was darker than the gray of the top of the head. There was dark streaking on the sides and a small black area on the throat; the breast and abdomen were clear white. The diagnostic yellow spot in front of the eye was not seen during the first observation. During subsequent observations, in better light, the yellow spot was evident. The bird's movement were frequent and quick, very much like a kinglet.

The bird was again seen on 6 and 7 January, when it was feeding in Live Oaks (*Quercus virginiana*) on Lake Shore Drive several blocks from the site of the first observation. It was not located between 7 and 16 January, but was seen daily from 16 to 22 January in the same general location. It was observed by numerous other bird watchers during this period.

The warbler regularly traveled with a loose flock of small land birds that included Tufted Titmice (*Parus bicolor*), Carolina Chickadees (*Parus carolinensis*), kinglets, nuthatches, Yellow-rumped Warblers (*Dendroica coronata*), and Solitary Vireos (*Vireo solitarius*). The Black-throated Gray Warbler was observed to feed only in Live Oaks after the initial observation in a Carolina Laurel Cherry. It often remained in the same tree for 15 to 20 minutes, working its way across the crown of the tree at the outer tips of the limbs.

This represents the second published observation of the Black-throated Gray Warbler in North Carolina. The first record was of a bird observed on 30 December 1965 at Orton Plantation in nearby Brunswick County (Chat 30:18, 24). There are also two records from coastal South Carolina, the first from Charleston on 13 December 1941 (South Carolina Bird Life, 1949, p. 456) and the second on 29 March 1972 at Wadmalaw Island near Charleston (Chat 48:16).

## BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.

(All dates 1986 unless otherwise indicated)

**HORNED GREBE:** One in breeding plumage was late in departing at Cedar Island, N.C., where seen from 18 to 22 June by Tony White, Jack Schultz, and John Fussell.

**CORY'S SHEARWATER:** John Fussell found one dead on the beach at Core Banks, N.C., on 8 July, and three were seen at Cape Hatteras point, N.C., on 26 July by Merrill Lynch and others.

**GREATER SHEARWATER:** This species frequently suffers die-offs in early summer; thus, not surprising were individuals found dead on the beach at Core Banks by John Fussell on 30 June and 8 July.

**BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL:** Counts of seven on 19 July off Oregon Inlet, N.C., and eight off Hatteras Inlet, N.C., on the following day (Robert Ake, Paul DuMont, and party) were somewhat typical for the species off that state's coast in recent summers.

- WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD:** One was seen off Oregon Inlet on 18 June, fide Barry Truitt.
- AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN:** Tony White and Jack Schultz saw one on 19 June in Pamlico Sound, N.C., midway between Cedar Island and Ocracoke Island.
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:** The species again nested at Jordan Lake, N.C., where Kathy Kuyper observed three active nests north of US 64 in early June. The only other known nesting site in the state is Lake Ellis Simon in Craven County.
- ANHINGA:** Moderately large numbers apparently still nest rather far inland at Boykin Mill Pond in Kershaw County, S.C., where 25+ were seen during the summer by Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman. Single birds, probably nonbreeders, were seen north of the normal range at Merchants Millpond State Park, N.C., on 10 June (Floyd Williams, Paul Hart) and in Company Swamp along the Roanoke River southwest of Windsor, N.C., on 26 June (Wilson Laney, Dennis Stewart, David Cobb).
- TRICOLORED HERON:** Among the scattered inland records of post-breeding birds, almost all of which are immatures, was an adult at Lake Hartwell near Fairplay, S.C., on 27 July (Charlie Wooten).
- REDDISH EGRET:** An excellent count of three egrets, all immatures, was made by Bob Cowgill at Kiawah Island, S.C., from 10 to 24 July. John Cely reported two immatures at Huntington Beach, S.C., on 11 July, and one was there on 24 July (Bill Hilton Jr.). In North Carolina, an immature was seen by John Hardwick and others at Lea Island near Topsail Beach from 6 to 11 July.
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON:** Douglas McNair heard one calling in flight at dusk at Highlands, N.C., on 4 June, a most unusual date and location for this species.
- YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON:** At least three adults were seen along the Black River, N.C., on the Pender-Bladen County border, on 6 April by Merrill Lynch. Suitable breeding habitat exists in the area. In the piedmont were single birds at Raleigh, N.C., on 29 June (Derb Carter) and at Clemson, S.C., on 10 June (Charlie Wooten).
- BLUE-WINGED TEAL:** A male was present at Sunset Beach, N.C., on 15 June, as noted by Ricky Davis. Breeding at this location is a possibility.
- BLACK SCOTER:** One male seen by Perry Nugent and party on 26 July at Folly Beach, S.C., was unusual for the summer season.
- BLACK VULTURE:** One to two were seen on several occasions in June and July 1985 by Douglas McNair at the Brevard Fish Hatchery in Transylvania County, N.C. The distribution of the species in the mountain region is poorly known, and no breeding has been documented in recent years.
- OSPREY:** The species was again noted nesting on large lakes in the North Carolina piedmont. At least four active nests were found at Jordan Lake (Kathy Kuyper), one nest was again present at Lake Townsend near Greensboro (Herb Hendrickson), and several nests were noted at Lake Norman (Dick Brown, Robert Siler). One bird was seen soaring over Linville Gorge, N.C., on 22 June by Mark Simpson.
- BALD EAGLE:** The largest concentration of eagles in the Carolinas occurs each summer at Jordan Lake, where the peak counts of post-breeders were 51 in July and 53 in August (many observers, data supplied by Deborah Paul).
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK:** Jay Carter saw an adult carrying food near Pinehurst, N.C., on 8 June for the first breeding evidence for the species in that state's Sandhills region. Bill Hilton Jr. saw one hawk near York, S.C., on 16 June.
- COOPER'S HAWK:** One was noted by Jay Carter near Pinehurst, N.C., on 22 June.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK:** An adult was seen along NC 24 west of Morehead City, N.C., on 19 June (Tony White, Jack Schultz). Other notable coastal-plain records were one seen from April through late July at Columbia, S.C. (John Cely, Lex Glover) and several in the Sumter, S.C., area during summer (Evelyn Dabbs).

- GOLDEN EAGLE:** An immature was again seen at the Brevard (N.C.) Fish Hatchery during June by Douglas McNair.
- AMERICAN KESTREL:** Dick Brown reported that young were found by various observers in many towns in the southern piedmont of North Carolina—Charlotte, Lexington, Hickory, Huntersville, and Spencer—and at Cowans Ford Dam on Lake Norman. Another young kestrel fledged near downtown Asheville, N.C., on 19 June (fide Dick Brown).
- BLACK RAIL:** New breeding-season locations were near Hobucken, N.C., where John Fussell heard one calling in late May, and at Topsail Island in Onslow County, N.C., where Gilbert Grant heard another on 1 June.
- COMMON MOORHEN:** Locally rare was a pair plus one young seen at New Bern, N.C., on 26 July by Bob Holmes.
- LESSER GOLDEN-PLOVER:** Rare and late was one seen by Perry Nugent and party near the North Santee River, S.C., on 3 May.
- BLACK-NECKED STILT:** Nesting was again noted in North Carolina near Aurora along the Pamlico River (John Fussell, Ray Winstead), near Beaufort along the North River (Fussell), and on Eagle Island near Wilmington (Kitty Kosh, Jeremy Nance).
- AMERICAN AVOCET:** One was notable at Eagle Island near Wilmington on 11 July (Jeremy Nance, Kitty Kosh).
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** John Fussell and others saw one at Portsmouth Island, N.C., on 27 July.
- RED KNOT:** A good count for early summer was 30 at Portsmouth Island on 27 June (John Fussell).
- SEMPALMATED SANDPIPER:** Out of season, apparently a very early migrant, was one seen on 25 June by Ricky Davis at Jordan Lake, N.C.
- PURPLE SANDPIPER:** Perry Nugent and party saw six late birds at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C., on 3 May.
- CURLEW SANDPIPER:** Apparently regular at Portsmouth Island in summer, one was observed there on 27 July and 8 August by John Fussell and others.
- RUFF:** Jeremy Nance noted one in near breeding plumage—considerable black on the head, neck, breast, upper belly, and back—at Eagle Island near Wilmington on 10 July. Most sightings of Ruffs in the Carolinas are of birds in nonbreeding plumage.
- SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Locally scarce were individuals seen near Greensboro, N.C., on 16 July (Herb Hendrickson) and at Fayetteville, N.C., on 25 July (Philip Crutchfield).
- PHALAROPE (Sp.?):** A phalarope was seen resting and feeding on the water at Jordan Lake on 4 June by Kathy Kuyper. [Details provided were not sufficient enough to distinguish between Red and Red-necked.—HEL]
- CASPIAN TERN:** One seen by Herb Hendrickson near Greensboro was somewhat early on 10 July.
- SOOTY TERN:** An adult was seen at a tern colony at Cape Hatteras point, N.C., on several dates from 4 June to 12 August (Sam Cooper, Marcia Lyons, et al.); no evidence of nesting was found.
- COMMON BARN-OWL:** Seldom reported in the mountains, one was found dead in Buncombe County, N.C., on 11 June (Ruth Young).
- NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL:** Mark Simpson heard one calling within the Shining Rock Wilderness Area on 13 June. The exact location was the northwestern slope of Flower Knob, at an elevation of 5200 feet. Alan Smith saw one on the southwestern slope of Point Misery, on the Buncombe-Yancey County line, N.C., on 19 June, in a spruce forest.
- WHIP-POOR-WILL:** The species was found by Douglas McNair to be locally common in the Cashiers, N.C., area during the summer, ranging upward to 3800 feet in elevation.

Most summer records in the mountains occur below 3000 feet.

**YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER:** Alan Smith explored much of northeastern Buncombe County, N.C., during May and June; he found several new breeding-season locations for the species. Five birds were found on the west slopes of Big Butt and Little Butt at 4500 feet on 20 and 27 May, and single males were seen just south of Walker Knob and Blackstock Knob on 28 May and 20 June. One was also seen on 28 May and 29 June at Little Fork Ridge.

**ALDER FLYCATCHER:** Ruth and Jerry Young found three nests with eggs at the "Graveyard Fields" along the Blue Ridge Parkway, N.C., on 7 June. Mark Simpson had three singing birds on Grassy Cove Top at an elevation of 5500 to 5800 feet in the Shining Rock Wilderness Area, N.C., from 6 to 14 June. Also in the wilderness area was one singing on the northeast slope of Craggy Pinnacle at 5600 feet on 15 June (Simpson). Alan Smith had single birds singing on 2 and 12 June just south of Big Butt (on the Buncombe-Yancey County line) and on 20 June between Craggy Dome and Craggy Pinnacle in northeastern Buncombe County.

**EASTERN PHOEBE:** At a very high elevation was one singing, but not considered to be on territory, at 6400 feet on Mount Mitchell, N.C., on 25 and 26 June (Douglas McNair).

**GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER:** Rick Knight noted a calling bird at Carver's Gap on Roan Mountain, N.C., on 6 June, a very high elevation for the species.

**HORNED LARK:** Evelyn Dabbs and Jimmy Beatty had a good total of six to eight pairs in a large field near Sumter, S.C., on 18 May. Also near the eastern edge of the breeding range was one singing on territory just northwest of Hamilton, N.C., on 26 May (Merrill and Karen Lynch).

**TREE SWALLOW:** Possibly a breeder was an adult seen by Philip Crutchfield on 21 June east of Valle Crucis, N.C., near the Watauga River. Jeremy Nance saw an immature on the noteworthy date of 15 June near Wilmington.

**CLIFF SWALLOW:** This swallow continues to expand its breeding range at reservoirs in the piedmont. Paul Hart reported nests at the SC 49 bridge over Lake Wylie, S.C., during the summer. The species was seen on 4 April at Parr Reservoir in Newberry County, S.C., by Robin Carter, who believes it may be nesting there. One swallow was nest-building at the Falls Lake dam in Wake County, N.C., on 31 May (Karen and Merrill Lynch). Also at Falls Lake, nests were seen by Merrill Lynch and Harry LeGrand under two bridges crossing the middle of the lake.

**BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH:** Continued breeding occurred during the summer in Asheville, N.C., as at least one fledgling was seen with two adults near Gail Whitehurst's yard in that city.

**GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET:** Charlie Wooten noted a singing bird at the Walhalla Fish Hatchery in Oconee County, S.C., on 12 June. The kinglet, possibly one of several birds noted on 26 May, was also seen carrying food, but no additional nesting evidence was found. This appears to be the first suggestion of breeding by the kinglet in South Carolina.

**BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER:** A migrant was at a high elevation of 4200 feet near Cashiers, N.C., on 24 April (Douglas McNair).

**CEDAR WAXWING:** Floyd Williams and others noted a few birds all summer at Merchants Millpond State Park, N.C., with two adults and two juveniles being seen on 19 July. Two waxwings were seen in eastern Greenville County, S.C., on 8 June and two more were noted at Clemson, S.C., on 3 July (Charlie Wooten). Ramona Snively reported that a nesting colony was again present at Tanglewood Park in southwestern Forsyth County, N.C., from 30 May to 10 July. Twelve nests were found, but only three were active for certain.

- SOLITARY VIREO:** Dorothy Foy reported that an immature she banded at Oriental, N.C., in the summer of 1985 returned to her yard and was netted on 16 July (1986). The species is not known to nest in the coastal plain of that state except sparingly in the Sandhills.
- WARBLING VIREO:** Apparently the first summer record for the North Carolina coastal plain suggestive of nesting was one bird seen singing on territory in eastern Halifax County on 7 June by Merrill Lynch and Harry LeGrand. The habitat—a cypress pond—is not typical for the species. Another new breeding-season record, the southernmost for the mountains in recent years, was one seen and heard singing on 5 June along the west bank of the French Broad River about ½ mile N of NC 280 (Alan Smith).
- CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER:** Rare in summer in South Carolina were a singing male and a female seen several times in June and July by Irvin Pitts at Caesar's Head State Park.
- MAGNOLIA WARBLER:** This species appears to be erratic, as well as rare, in the summer in the North Carolina mountains. Alan Smith noted one or two singing birds on 17 June and 5 July near Point Misery along the Buncombe-Yancey County line. The habitat was ecotone between spruce and hardwood forests.
- CERULEAN WARBLER:** At a very low elevation for the mountains was one noted singing on territory at Tryon, N.C., in May and June by Simon Thompson. Another was singing at 4300 feet, a very high elevation, about a mile southeast of Craggy Knob in Buncombe County on 19 June (Alan Smith).
- WORM-EATING WARBLER:** An excellent breeding-season count was 20 singing birds noted by John Fussell in the Green Swamp area of Brunswick County, N.C., on 7 June. This species is more widespread in the southern coastal plain of that state than formerly believed, occurring in many areas of extensive pocosin vegetation.
- SCARLET TANAGER:** Seldom found in summer in the Sandhills, a male was seen in Long-leaf Pine/Turkey Oak woods near Hoffman, N.C., on 19 June by Phil Manor.
- DICKCISSEL:** Ricky Davis found two pairs on territory at Lake Raleigh in Raleigh from 10 May into June. At least one juvenile was seen in early July by Harry LeGrand at that site. Paul Hart noted a male on territory from 11 May into June near Kings Mountain, N.C., but no evidence of nesting was seen. In the vicinity of Townville, S.C., as many as six males and two females were seen from early June to late July by Charlie Wooten, who saw a female with two juveniles on 27 July.
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW:** Robin Carter did much ornithological field work in the South Carolina piedmont, finding two Bachman's in Chester County on 1 June, one in Union County on 28 June, and one in Saluda County on 27 July. All were found in clear-cuts.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:** Near the edge of the breeding range were several singing birds about 8 miles S of Goldsboro, N.C., on 6 July (Eric Dean). Also near the edge of the range was a singing male about 2.5 miles E-NE of Speed, N.C., on 26 May (Merrill and Karen Lynch). An excellent count was about 30 birds in a large weedy field near Cross Keys, Union County, S.C., during the summer, as noted by Robin Carter.
- HENSLOW'S SPARROW:** A first summer record for South Carolina in several decades was one singing in a weedy field near Cross Keys from 1 June to 4 July (Robin Carter). Carter saw three birds on 22 June. John Fussell noted singing birds at several sites in southwestern Onslow County, N.C., near NC 50 during the summer. At previously known sites, Merrill Lynch tallied 14 singing birds near Hassell, N.C., and 12 singing birds east of Speed, N.C., on 26 May. These North Carolina birds were all in recently clear-cut areas growing up in weeds and young pine seedlings.
- SEASIDE SPARROW:** At least 60 territorial birds were counted by Philip Crutchfield and party in marshes in northeastern Pamlico County, N.C., on 20 July.
- SONG SPARROW:** Near the edge of the breeding range was one singing at the dam of Falls Lake near Raleigh on 31 May (Merrill and Karen Lynch).

- LINCOLN'S SPARROW:** Belatedly reported were individuals seen by Bruce Mack about 11 miles SE of Columbia, S.C., on 26 and 29 October 1972 and about 29 miles SE of that city on 14 April 1985.
- DARK-EYED JUNCO:** This species is a rare nester in South Carolina; thus, notable were two adults feeding three juveniles at the Walhalla Fish Hatchery on 12 June (Charlie Wooten) and nests found by Irvin Pitts at Caesar's Head in 1985 and 1986.
- YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:** Most unusual was an adult male seen at Folly Beach, S.C., from 24 to 28 July by Vivian Hembree and Will Post.
- HOUSE FINCH:** Douglas McNair noted a singing male at Cashiers, N.C., on 7 June, plus a female at a feeder there on the same day. Also near that town was one finch at High Hampton Inn on 28 July (McNair).
- RED CROSSBILL:** Out of season was a female or immature at a feeder in Chapel Hill, N.C., on 11 and 12 June (Carol Hamilton, Dennis Alwon).
- PINE SISKIN:** Adults are seen regularly in the mountains in summer, but without evidence of nesting; this apparently was the case with the 25 birds seen by Mark Simpson at Mount Mitchell on 8 and 15 June.

## BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from Page 64)

The introduction, a summary of wood warbler characteristics, is representative of the whole book: very informative but by no means dry. Each chapter describes one of the parulids through both anecdotes and references to the literature. Harrison describes habitat, nest sites, nest construction, eggs, cowbird parasitism, diet, song, and behavior. He provides range maps and information on the birds' names—source, pronunciation, and meaning.

The book is spaciouly laid out with readable type, room for notes, and many extremely useful black-and-white photographs and color plates that show habitat, nests, eggs, and behavior. This is a good sourcebook for everyone who is interested in wood warblers, and it invites the novice to discover a difficult but exciting family. We can only hope that Mr. Harrison will next treat us to a book on sparrows.—P.R. FORD-POTTER

### CATESBY'S BIRDS OF COLONIAL AMERICA

Alan Feduccia, editor. 1985. The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill and London. Illus. black and white plus 20 color plates. Bibliography. Index. 176 p. Hardcover, \$29.

Mark Catesby (1628-1749), a well-to-do young Englishman, came to Virginia in 1712 and traveled southward through the Carolinas to Florida and the Bahama Islands. Along the way he collected specimens, took notes, and presumably made at least preliminary drawings of the flora and fauna. Upon his return to England in 1726, Catesby began preparations for publishing his monumental *Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands*. Production of the two volumes required some 20 years.