

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

RICKY DAVIS

(All Dates Fall 1995)

- RED-THROATED LOON:** Inland reports included singles at Falls Lake near Raleigh, NC Nov. 12 (Ricky Davis) and Nov. 25 (Harry LeGrand); and at Lake Norman near Charlotte, NC late Nov. into December (David Wright).
- PIED-BILLED GREBE:** One found near Glen Ayre, Mitchell Co., NC Sept. 18 was at a relatively high elevation (3200') for the species (Rick Knight).
- HORNED GREBE:** There was an impressive movement of this species in the Raleigh area in late November when on the 25th, 100+ were on Falls Lake (Harry LeGrand) and 110 were counted at Jordan Lake (Will Cook)!
- EARED GREBE:** The Sumter, SC birds returned by Sept. 11 (Lex Glover, Evelyn Dabbs, Chris Eley) and the Goldsboro, NC birds returned by Aug. 5 (Eric Dean). The peak at Goldsboro was eight on Sept. 26 and up to five remained through the period (Dean). Also of interest was one at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper Co., SC on Nov. 8 (Steve Calver).
- RED-NECKED GREBE:** The only fall report was of the single bird found on Lake Norman Nov. 13 (David Wright).
- NORTHERN FULMAR:** One was found sick in the surf (and later died) on N. Core Banks, NC on the amazing date of Aug. 11 (Gerald Weaver, fide Trip Dennis)!
- BLACK-CAPPED PETREL:** This species was present offshore in good numbers this season with the peak count being 192 off Hatteras, NC Aug. 6 (Brian Patteson, et al.).
- HERALD PETREL:** This species was found twice this season with one dark phase bird Aug. 12 (Armas Hill, et al.) and two (one dark, one intermediate) Sept. 3 (Brian Patteson, et al.); both reports off Oregon Inlet, NC.
- CAPE VERDE PETREL:** North Carolina's first fall record came when one was photographed off Hatteras Sept. 16 (Brian Patteson, et al.).
- CORY'S SHEARWATER:** The peak count offshore was the 3000+ out of Oregon Inlet Aug. 12 (Armas Hill, et al.). An excellent onshore total for the fall was the 500 seen flying north past Cape Hatteras Aug. 26 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall).
- AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER:** This species was also found in excellent numbers offshore with the peak being 1175 off Hatteras Aug. 5 (Brian Patteson, et al.). Onshore reports involved one on the beach at Harbor Island, SC in August after passage of Hurricane Erin (Judy and George Halleron, fide Frances Nelson) and a good count of 12 flying north past Cape Hatteras Aug. 26 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall).

- WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL:** The only report was of one seen in late August northeast of Oregon Inlet on a fishing boat (Allen Foreman, fide Brian Patteson).
- WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD:** The good number of sightings from the summer continued into the fall with reports including: three off Oregon Inlet Aug. 5 (Armas Hill, et al.), three the same day off Hatteras (Brian Patteson, et al.), and singles off Hatteras Aug. 13 and 26 (Patteson).
- RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD:** The much rarer Red-billed was found twice! Immatures were found off Hatteras Aug. 27 and out of Oregon Inlet Sept. 2 (Brian Patteson, et al.).
- MASKED BOOBY:** The only offshore report was of one subadult off of Hatteras Aug. 5 (Brian Patteson, et al.). Much more unexpected was the immature seen flying close in just past the breakers at Long Beach, NC Aug. 1 (Ricky Davis).
- NORTHERN GANNET:** An excellent one-day total was the 10,000+ migrating south near Oregon Inlet Nov. 18 (Haven Wiley).
- AM. WHITE PELICAN:** A flock of 20 was observed flying north at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Oct. 28 (Bob and Barbara Maxwell). Also interesting was the single bird found on Gem Lake, Aiken, SC for one day in late November (Chuck Braun, fide Anne Waters). This bird was photographed and provided only the sixth inland record for the state.
- ANHINGA:** There were a handfull of the usual interior coastal plain reports this fall, but one was truly out of range when seen during a hawkwatch at Kerr Scott Reservoir, NC Nov. 19 (Adam Martin)! The distance west and the late date are quite amazing for our area.
- GREAT "WHITE" HERON:** The North Pond, Pea Island NWR bird was present throughout most of the period but was not being seen by December. Has this bird moved on or passed on?
- LITTLE BLUE HERON:** Little Blues wandered inland a little farther than usual with the best report being up to five immatures in Polk Co., NC Aug. 7 (Jennifer Wren, Tom Joyce). Another good total was the six at the Landrum, SC Sod Farm Aug. 2 (Simon Thompson). Farther east but still a good local count was the seven at Fayetteville, NC Aug. 13 (Hal Broadfoot, Jr.).
- TRICOLORED HERON:** Inland wanderers included two at Fayetteville, NC Aug. 13 (Hal Broadfoot, Jr.) and one at Goldsboro, NC Aug. 22 (Eric Dean, Gene Howe).
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON:** Two were at Jordan Lake Aug. 10 (Doug Shadwick) and one was still nearby Aug. 19 (Jeff Phippen).
- SNOWY EGRET:** This species was widely reported inland this fall with the most interesting records being a very respectable 15 at Goldsboro, NC Sept. 24 (Eric Dean), one at Lake Brandt near Greensboro, NC Sept. 14 (Herb Hendrickson), and three in Mecklenburg Co., NC Oct. 2 (David Wright).
- REDDISH EGRET:** It may sound like a broken record, but this species continues to increase in the Carolinas each summer and fall. Multiple reports of Reddish

Egrets were from the usual areas such as Core Banks, Ft. Fisher, and Sunset Beach in North Carolina and Huntington Beach State Park in South Carolina. Interesting were the couple of birds which remained late until the end of the period at Huntington Beach (Herb Hendrickson, Jack Peachey, Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

CATTLE EGRET: Slightly late was one at Goldsboro, NC Nov. 14 (Eric Dean) and a good local fall count was the 70 near Fayetteville, NC Aug. 13 (Hal Broadfoot, Jr.).

GLOSSY IBIS: This species is much less common as an inland wanderer than White Ibis, thus of interest were three near Fayetteville, NC Aug. 13 (Hal Broadfoot, Jr.) and two way to the west were observed from a hawkwatch at Kerr Scott Reservoir, NC this fall (Adam Martin).

ROSEATE SPOONBILL: The Spoonbill is a rare bird in the Carolinas, thus a report from Huntington Beach State Park, SC caused considerable excitement. One was present from mid-Oct. to early Nov. (m. ob.) and was noteworthy due to the lateness and length of stay.

WOOD STORK: This species was at its usual northernmost summering area at Sunset Beach, NC until at least late October. The peak count there was 50 on Sept. 2 (Eric Dean). Much less expected was the individual seen overhead near Rosman, NC Oct. 24 (Angel Gonzalez, fide Betty McIlwain) for a locally very rare report.

MUTE SWAN: The bird present at North Pond, Pea Island NWR, NC from the summer remained there throughout the period (m. ob.). Another one came into Huntington Beach State Park, SC in late November (with some Tundra Swans!) and remained for some time (Herb Hendrickson, Jack Peachey, Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman). It is highly probable that some of the recent records of this species in the Carolinas involve wandering birds from the growing mid-Atlantic states population.

SNOW GOOSE: Inland reports this fall included three at Connetsee Falls, NC Nov. 4 (fide Norma Siebenheller); three near Asheville, NC Nov. 25-29 (Bob Merrick); two near Townville, SC Nov. 14 (Bob Maxwell, Pete Worthington); and one near Orangeburg, SC Nov. 12 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

ROSS' GOOSE: The only report was of one in flight with Snows at Lake Mattamuskeet, NC Nov. 19 (Jeremy Hyman, Haven Wiley).

BRANT: Rare in the Charleston, SC area, an individual was at the Pitt St. Causeway Nov. 3-5 (Gifford Beaton, sev. ob.).

EURASIAN WIGEON: The only reports involved one to two at the usual North Pond, Pea Island NWR area during October and November (Brian Patteson, Ricky Davis, C. H. Gambill).

REDHEAD: Reports of this species included two to four in Transylvania Co., NC Nov. 24 and 29 (fide Norma Siebenheller); three at Lake Townsend, NC Nov. 16 (Herb Hendrickson, et al.); 12 on Belews Lake, NC Nov. 23 (Lloyd

- Ramsey, Jim Martin, fide Ramona Snavely); 13 at Falls Lake, NC Nov. 12 (Ricky Davis); and 12 on Jordan Lake, NC Nov. 23 (Chris Eley).
- COMMON EIDER:** A female-plumaged bird was seen from the ferry in Pamlico Sound near Swan Quarter Nov. 26 (Eric Dean); an unusual location away from the immediate coast for this species.
- SURF SCOTER:** Inland reports in North Carolina involved six at Jordan Lake Nov. 5 (Ricky Davis); seven at Goldsboro Nov. 5 (Eric Dean); one at Jordan Lake Nov. 23 (Chris Eley); and three at Falls Lake Nov. 25 (Harry LeGrand).
- WHITE-WINGED SCOTER:** This species is much less common as an inland migrant in the Carolinas than the Surf Scoter. Thus of interest were one at Jordan Lake Nov. 5 (Ricky Davis) and two there Nov. 26 (Mike Schultz, Norm Budnitz).
- RED-BREASTED MERGANSER:** A good count of 19 was at Jordan Lake, NC Nov. 23 (Chris Eley).
- COMMON MERGANSER:** This species was reported from Jordan Lake several times this fall. An eclipse male was there Oct. 13 (Ricky Davis) and three females were found Nov. 25 (Will Cook). Also a female was observed on Lake Phelps, NC Nov. 27 (Ricky Davis).
- RUDDY DUCK:** This duck was noted in above average numbers locally at Lake Mattamuskeet, NC when 9000+ were there in late October (Kelly Davis).
- BLACK VULTURE:** Very good counts were had this fall at several western hawkwatches. At Caesar's Head, SC 157 were counted (Bob Merrick) and at Kerr Scott Reservoir, NC 224 were tallied (Adam Martin).
- OSPREY:** A good local count of 19 was had at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Sept. 10 (Pete Worthington) and one was quite late at Lake Mattamuskeet, NC Nov. 22 (Kelly Davis).
- SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** The only report was of one near Morehead City, NC Aug. 27 (Tom Jones, Lynn Barker, fide John Fussell), a rare fall record.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE:** This species made news this fall with more reports than usual. One was in Duplin Co., NC Sept. 18 (Jeff Pippen, Dave Powell); one was in Duke Forest, Durham Co., NC Sept. 19 (Jeff Pippen, Will Cook); one was a very rare fall migrant at Pea Island NWR, NC Oct. 2 (Ricky Davis); an individual was near Durham, NC Oct. 5 (Will Cook); an adult was seen from Mahogany Rock Overlook, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC Oct. 7 (Will Cook, Terry Morris); a subadult was late in McCormick Co., SC Oct. 21 (Pete Worthington); and another was late in Durham, NC Oct. 23 (Jeff Pippen).
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK:** An exceptional count of 750+ was seen at Pea Island NWR, NC Oct. 2 (Ricky Davis) during five hours of observation time.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK:** Three were locally rare fall migrants on the Outer Banks when Davis saw them Oct. 2 during a heavy hawk migration. Peak counts from western hawkwatches included 2523 at Kerr Scott Reservoir, NC Sept. 19 (Dominick D'Ostilio) and 1550 at Asheville, NC Sept. 29 (Bill

Sanderson, Bob Wilson, et al.). Also one was quite late at Kerr Scott Res. Nov. 5 (Adam Martin).

GOLDEN EAGLE: Reports of this rare species included an early immature at Duke Forest, Orange Co., NC Sept. 28 (Will Cook); one adult from the Kerr Scott Reservoir, NC hawkwatch Oct. 8 (Adam Martin); one over Glen Cannon, Transylvania Co., NC Oct. 23 (Betty McIlwain, Liz Ellwood); a subadult from the Mahogany Rock Overlook, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC Nov. 12 (Harry LeGrand, Derb Carter); and a very early adult at Caesar's Head State Park, SC Aug. 13 (Bob Merrick). This last individual was most certainly from the Appalachian population.

AMERICAN KESTREL: Good counts from the North Carolina Outer Banks included 158 at Ocracoke Sept. 20 (Rich Guthrie) and 90 at Pea Island NWR Oct. 2 (Ricky Davis). A belated report from the summer involved at least two pairs in clearcuts on the Savannah River Site, SC in June and July (fide John Dunning), though no breeding evidence was noted.

MERLIN: Good counts of this falcon included three in Orange Co., NC Sept. 23 (Steve Stiffler, fide Will Cook); seven at Pea Island NWR, NC Oct. 2 (Ricky Davis); and a seasonal total of nine from Caesar's Head State Park, SC (Bob Merrick).

PEREGRINE FALCON: Good news with this species included successful nestings at the three sites in the mountains of North Carolina and a good fall total of 15 from Caesar's Head State Park, SC (Bob Merrick). Elsewhere inland and at the coast, numbers seemed about average.

YELLOW RAIL: One was flushed from a small broomsedge area in the Duke Forest, NC area on the very early date of Sept. 1 (Will Cook, Jeff Pippen) for an interesting record. Other reports involved one near Charlotte, NC Oct. 3 (Taylor Piephoff) and another at Lake Mattamuskeet, NC Oct. 11 (Kelly Davis) seen in a shallow roadside ditch!

CLAPPER RAIL: One was found injured in a parking lot in Goldsboro, NC Oct. 4 (fide Eric Dean) for a rare inland report.

VIRGINIA RAIL: Breeding evidence of Virginia Rail is rarely seen in North Carolina; thus an adult with one black downy chick at North Pond, Pea Island NWR on Aug. 20 (Ricky Davis) was noteworthy.

AMERICAN COOT: One at Sunset Beach, NC Aug. 18 was probably a summering individual (Steve Dinsmore).

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER: There were many reports of Golden-Plovers in the Carolinas this fall. Birds were found at many coastal sites (Outer Banks of North Carolina, Huntington Beach State Park and the Savannah Spoil Site in South Carolina). The more interesting records included up to seven inland at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm Sept. 24 (John Cox)(several were here from late August to early October); and a rarely seen (in the Carolinas) alternate plumaged bird was at Cape Hatteras Sept. 13 (Marcia Lyons).

- WILSON'S PLOVER:** A very good count of 100 was had at Bird Shoal, Beaufort Inlet, NC Aug. 12 (John Fussell, et al.).
- PIPING PLOVER:** The peak count reported this fall was the 63 at Portsmouth, NC Aug. 1 (Trip Dennis). One was at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm Sept. 24 (John Cox), providing an extremely rare inland record.
- KILLDEER:** Amazing was the three downy young found abandoned at Goose Creek, Berkeley Co., SC on the absurdly late date of Nov. 13 (Eddie Howard, Jr., fide Will Post). The young died a day later and no adult was ever seen. This nesting record is four months past the previously known egg-nest date for the state!
- BLACK-NECKED STILT:** One was locally unusual at Ft. Macon, NC Sept. 4 (Randy Newman, fide John Fussell). Also one was quite late at North Pond, Pea Island NWR Oct. 8 (Skip Hancock, Ricky Davis, et al.). Also a good count of 46 was had at nearby South Pond, Pea Island Aug. 15 (Steve Dinsmore).
- AMERICAN AVOCET:** A peak count for the Carolinas this season, 275 were at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Sept. 23 (Steve Calver). Locally interesting reports included one near Sneads Ferry, NC Nov. 4 (Nell Moore) and from one to two at Huntington Beach State Park, SC from mid-Sept. to mid-Oct. (Jack Peachey, Tonya Spires, Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman). And finally, a belated spring report involved an amazing 15 in a flock for one day in April inland at Lake Auman, Pinehurst, NC (Dick and Lois Dole, fide Dick Burk). This is a record inland total for the Carolinas and is only about the fourth South Carolina inland report.
- UPLAND SANDPIPER:** The fall migration of this species seemed about normal with reports coming from the usual areas. The best counts again came from the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm with the peak total being 70 there Aug. 27 (Lex Glover, Tom Hankins).
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** Reports this fall came from the usual locations: one at Ft. Fisher, NC Aug. 19 (Gene Howe) and Oct. 14 (Chris Eley), three at Cape Romain NWR, SC Sept. 27 (John Cox), and two on Shackleford Banks, Cape Lookout, NC Oct. 29 (Trip Dennis).
- HUDSONIAN GODWIT:** As usual, from one to five were at North Pond, Pea Island NWR, NC during the period early Aug. to early Oct. (m. ob.). Two were at Cape Hatteras, NC Sept. 10 (Pat Moore, Russ and Patricia Tyndall, et al.). Also from one to two were at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC early Sept. to early Oct. (Lex Glover, Chris Eley, Tom Smith, Steve Calver, Georgia Ornithological Society members).
- MARbled GODWIT:** An unusual report involved one out of habitat near Sneads Ferry, NC Sept. 2 that was located in a field, not a tidal area (Nell Moore, Ann Foster)!
- RED KNOT:** A very rare inland record was of one near Fayetteville, NC Sept. 16-17 (Hal Broadfoot, Jr.).

- SANDERLING:** The best inland total was nine at Falls Lake, NC Sept. 26 (Ricky Davis).
- WESTERN SANDPIPER:** Inland reports included one at Jordan Lake, NC Aug. 21 (Rob Gluck, fide Will Cook) and three at Lake Crabtree, Wake Co., NC Aug. 28 (Doug Shadwick).
- WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER:** One was at Georgetown, SC Aug. 27-Sept. 3 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman), one was at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm Aug. 20, 30 and Sept. 3, 17 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman, Larry and Carol Eldridge), two were at Lake Crabtree, NC Aug. 28 (Doug Shadwick), and two were at Goldsboro, NC Sept. 24 and (1) Oct. 22 (Eric Dean).
- BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:** Reports came only from North Carolina this fall with single birds at the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal Aug. 1 (Trip Dennis, Sue Brady); North Pond, Pea Island NWR Aug. 6 (Harry LeGrand, Derb Carter, et al.); Goldsboro Sept. 20 (Eric Dean); and Jordan Lake Sept. 26-27 (Ricky Davis, Chris Eley).
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER:** The peak total at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm was 300 on Aug. 27 (Lex Glover, Tom Hankins).
- CURLEW SANDPIPER:** The only spot with this species was North Pond, Pea Island NWR, NC as usual. From one to three were there off and on from early Aug. to early Oct. (m. ob.).
- STILT SANDPIPER:** The Savannah Spoil Site, SC hosted a large number of Stilt Sandpipers this fall. The peak count was 360 Oct. 19 (Steve Calver).
- BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** This species staged a good fall migration in the Carolinas this year. Inland reports included one at Falls Lake, NC Sept. 26 (Ricky Davis) and several at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm from late Aug. to mid. Sept. (m. ob.). The peak there was eight Sept. 10 (Lex Glover, Chris Eley). The best coastal reports included several at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Aug. 30 (Jack Peachey, Paul Rogers); three at Myrtle Beach, SC Sept. 3 (Nell Moore, Ann Foster); and up to five at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Sept. 6 (Steve Calver).
- RUFF:** This hard to find species was reported twice: a moulting male was at North Pond, Pea Island NWR, NC Aug. 15 (Steve Dinsmore) and a female was at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Nov. 5-12 (Steve Calver). The South Carolina bird was not only very rare for the state but also provided a late date.
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Rare inland were five at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm Sept. 24 (John Cox). Locally unusual was one at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Aug. 30 (Jack Peachey) and Sept. 7 (Pete Worthington).
- COMMON SNIPE:** A very good total early in the season was the 30 counted at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm Aug. 27 (Lex Glover, Tom Hankins).
- WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** The only inland report was of one at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm Aug. 27 (Lex Glover, Tom Hankins). Some of the better coastal reports included up to three at North Pond, Pea Island NWR, NC Aug. 6 (Harry

- LeGrand, Derb Carter, et al.) and a peak of nine at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Sept. 2 (Larry and Carol Eldridge).
- RED-NECKED PHALAROPE:** Always noteworthy on land, one was at Goldsboro, NC Oct. 2 (Eric Dean); and an amazing five were at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Sept. 2 (Larry and Carol Eldridge). Also one was still present there Sept. 19 (Steve Calver).
- RED PHALAROPE:** This species is much rarer on land than the preceding one. Thus of interest was one at Cane Creek Reservoir, Orange Co., NC Sept. 23 (Steve Stiffler, fide Will Cook) and another near Sneads Ferry, NC Nov. 13 (Nell Moore, Jim O'Donnell).
- LONG-TAILED JAEGER:** Offshore sightings included singles off Oregon Inlet, NC Aug. 12 (Armas Hill, et al.) and Sept. 2 (Brian Patteson, et al.). Much more unexpected and bizarre was the adult at Stumpy Point, Dare Co., NC Aug. 31 to Sept. 2 (John Fussell). This bird was observed flying over marsh, pocosin, and highway for three days. What's interesting is that there was no unusual weather event to account for this jaeger being on the mainland side of Pamlico Sound when it should have been out over the ocean!
- LAUGHING GULL:** Inland records involved one at Jordan Lake, NC Aug. 29 (Ricky Davis), three at Lake Norman, NC Sept. 4 (David Wright), and one at Goldsboro, NC Oct. 5 (Eric Dean).
- LITTLE GULL:** Belatedly, only the third or fourth record for South Carolina was provided by a well described immature at the Savannah Spoil Site April 18 (Steve Calver).
- COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL:** The only report was of one at Cape Hatteras, NC Nov. 26 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall).
- CALIFORNIA GULL:** An adult was found at Oregon Inlet, NC Nov. 25 (John and Paula Wright), a new location for this rare species in the state.
- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL:** Lessers continue to increase in our area, but noteworthy was the presence of at least nine already at Cape Hatteras, NC Oct. 8 (Bob Lewis). Also two found at Sunset Beach, NC Sept. 26 (David and Susan Disher) had very dark mantles and could possibly have been of the rare *intermedius* form.
- SABINE'S GULL:** North Carolina's second inland record of this species involved an immature on Lake Norman Sept. 4-5 (David Wright, Taylor Piephoff). No reports were received of this species from the offshore region this fall.
- COMMON TERN:** Counts of inland migrants were normally small this fall with the farthest west report being one at Lake Osceola, Hendersonville, NC Aug. 7 (Jennifer Wren, Tom Joyce, Jarvis Hudson). Also one exceedingly late at Lake Norman, NC Nov. 13 (David Wright) was closely observed to rule out Forster's.
- FORSTER'S TERN:** This species staged a better than average inland fall migration. The best total was 29 at Jordan Lake, NC Sept. 26 (Ricky Davis).

- The farthest west was one at Salem Lake, Winston-Salem, NC Sept. 17 (Ramona Snavelly, Reggie Burt).
- LEAST TERN:** Very late for the Carolinas, one was seen at Kill Devil Hills, NC Nov. 11 (Haven Wiley); flying north!
- BRIDLED TERN:** The peak offshore total this fall was 13 off Hatteras, NC Aug. 27 (Brian Patteson, et al.).
- SOOTY TERN:** Onshore reports (all associated with tropical storm systems) included singles at Harbor Island, SC early Aug. (Judy and George Halleron, fide Frances Nelson); Sunset Beach, NC Aug. 5 (Nancy and Richard Carter, fide Harry LeGrand); Breach Inlet, Charleston Co., SC Aug. 26 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman); and the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Aug. 29 (fide Anne Waters). The best offshore totals were 20 on Aug. 5 and 21 on Aug. 27, both off Hatteras, NC (Brian Patteson, et al.).
- BLACK TERN:** The best count this fall was 250 at Bear Island WMA, SC Aug. 26 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman). Numbers of inland migrants were a little lower than usual with the best total being 20 at Goldsboro, NC Aug. 21 (Eric Dean).
- EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE:** North Carolina's first established population was discovered at North Topsail Island Sept. 10 (Hal Broadfoot, Jr., Nell Moore, sev. ob.). Up to eleven birds have been in the general vicinity all fall and after checking with local people, it was learned that two showed up in the fall of 1994 and successful nesting occurred this past summer! The species also continues to increase in South Carolina with new locations including Moore's Landing, Charleston Co. The population at Bennett's Point, Colleton Co. had up to 16 birds this fall (Gifford Beaton).
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE:** One was at Kiawah Island, SC Oct. 26 (David Chamberlain) and another was reported from Bennett's Point, SC this fall (fide Gifford Beaton).
- COMMON GROUND-DOVE:** This species is very rare in North Carolina now, thus of interest was one seen at North Topsail Island Sept. 15 (Ricky Davis). In South Carolina the species is also hard to find, but remains regular at such spots as Huntington Beach State Park, Orangeburg, and the Savannah River Site. Less expected were two different individuals in Sumter Co., SC Sept. 26 (Lex Glover, Evelyn Dabbs).
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** Few reports of Black-billeds were received this fall. Individuals were heard at Piney Creek, Alleghany Co., NC Aug. 20 (James H. Coman III) and Mahogany Rock Overlook, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC Sept. 23 (Will Cook).
- SHORT-EARED OWL:** These owls returned to their usual wintering spots in the Carolinas during November (sev. ob.). The best count was the six at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Nov. 22 (Jack Peachey, Bob Maxwell, Paul Rogers). Of interest was one there extremely early on the date of Sept. 5 (Perry Nugent, et al., fide Jack Peachey).

- SAW-WHET OWL:** This species staged a record fall migration into the Carolinas. Evidence of this came from Enders near Halifax, NC who netted 100 different Saw-whets from early Nov. to early Dec.! On Nov. 4 he had his peak one-day total of 15. Elsewhere one was picked up (briefly!) at Cape Hatteras Nov. 18 (Kim Mosher and Kevin McCabe, fide Diane and Keith Andre) only to have it fly away! Also one was heard in Clarendon Co., SC Nov. 26 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman), which showed that some birds got that far south.
- COMMON NIGHTHAWK:** One was very late in Fayetteville, NC Nov. 7 (Hal Broadfoot, Jr.).
- HUMMINGBIRDS:** *Archilochus* hummers once again were found in good numbers into late fall. In North Carolina, areas hosting multiple birds were New Bern, Morehead City, Figure Eight Island, and up to nine were in the Buxton-Frisco area (sev. ob., Derb Carter, Diane and Keith Andre). *Selasphorus* hummers were in Transylvania Co., NC (fide Norma Siebenheller); Tryon, NC (Simon Thompson); and Mayesville, SC (Lex Glover, Evelyn Dabbs, Steve and Jill Patterson). Rufous Hummingbird males were at Unaka, Cherokee Co., NC Aug. 9-10 (fide Dot Freeman) and Allendale, SC Aug. 28 (fide Carroll Rickard).
- GREEN VIOLET-EAR:** North Carolina's second record involved a male banded by Sargent at a feeder in Burnsville in early Sept. (fide Harry LeGrand). The first one was also from the mountains when a male was at Asheville in October of 1987.
- OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER:** This rare but regular migrant was noted several times in North Carolina this fall. Single birds were found near Jordan Lake Aug. 18 (Len Pardue, Chris Eley, Ken Lundstrom, sev. ob.), Greensboro Aug. 28 (Herb Hendrickson), Cape Hatteras Sept. 10 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall, Pat Moore, et al.), and Lake Crabtree, Wake Co. Oct. 1 (Kent Fiala, fide Will Cook).
- YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER:** Good sightings included singles at New River State Park, Ashe Co., NC Sept. 22 (Will Cook), near Greensboro, NC Sept. 13 (Roger McNeill, Henry Link), and North Pond, Pea Island NWR, NC Sept. 3 (Jeff Pippen).
- WILLOW FLYCATCHER:** One was seen and heard at Moore's Landing, Charleston Co., SC Sept. 23 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).
- LEAST FLYCATCHER:** An excellent fall count of three was had at Jackson Park, Henderson Co., NC Sept. 3 (Simon Thompson).
- VERMILION FLYCATCHER:** Amazingly two females were found near Townville, SC Oct. 9 (Pete Worthington, Bob Maxwell) for only the second inland state record. Unfortunately the birds could not be relocated the next day.
- WESTERN KINGBIRD:** Very rare inland, two were found near the upper end of Lake Thurmond, McCormick Co., SC Oct. 7 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman). In North Carolina, the only report was of 2 to 3 in the Avon-Buxton area of the Outer Banks Nov. 18 (Derb Carter).

GRAY KINGBIRD: Reports of this rare kingbird involved one at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Sept. 1 (Fred Lochner); one at Ocracoke, NC Oct. 7 (Bob Lewis, Allen Bryan, John Fussell, John and Paula Wright); and another at Patriot's Point, SC Oct. 8 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

TREE SWALLOW: Huge numbers had built up in the Huntington Beach State Park, SC area when an estimated 50,000 were seen Sept. 26 (Jack Peachey).

BANK SWALLOW: Another good total for swallows was the 500 Banks at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm Aug. 25 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH: This species entered the Carolinas in locally good numbers this fall. Of interest was the two seen at Asheville, NC Sept. 30 (Gail Whitehurst) providing an early arrival date.

SEDGE WREN: One in Transylvania Co., NC Oct. 7-10 (Siebenhellers) provided a second county record. Also good numbers (6-8) for an inland area were found at Santee NWR, SC Nov. 10 (Lex Glover, Steve and Jill Patterson).

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET: A very early record was provided by one near Falls Lake, NC Aug. 19 (Bert Fisher).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: In North Carolina late Gnatcatchers included one at Jackson Park, Henderson Co. Nov. 5 (Gerald Echols, Wayne Forsythe); one at Rocky Mount Nov. 18 (Ricky Davis); and four at Goldsboro Nov. 22 (Jeff Pippen, Will Cook).

NORTHERN WHEATEAR: North Carolina's fourth (second in two years!) was found at Ocracoke Oct. 6-7 (Ed Shott, Bob Holmes, Bob Lewis, Allen Bryan, John Fussell, John and Paula Wright). This individual was not relocated after these two days, quite unlike last year's Cape Hatteras bird which remained for a month!

EASTERN BLUEBIRD: Rare Outer Banks records included single birds at Ocracoke Oct. 7 (Bob Lewis, Allen Bryan, John Fussell, John and Paula Wright) and Bodie Island Nov. 6 (John Fussell).

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH: There were a few reports of this thrush this fall. The best count was three in Greenville Co., SC Sept. 25 (Pete Worthington, Bob Maxwell) and the most interesting was the very late record provided by one near Townville, SC Nov. 17 (Bob and Barbara Maxwell). Several of these seemed to be of the Bicknell's form — observers will need to get closer looks at Gray-cheekeds from now on.

SWAINSON'S THRUSH: One of the best totals involved the 25+ seen at Jackson Park, Henderson Co., NC Oct. 1 (Wayne Forsythe, Simon Thompson).

WOOD THRUSH: Another very late thrush was the Wood seen and heard singing near Carlisle, Union Co., SC Nov. 4 (Lex Glover, Mike Turner)!

GRAY CATBIRD: Two late interior records included singles at Jackson Park, Henderson Co., NC Nov. 16 (Gerald Echols, Wayne Forsythe) and Mason Farm, Chapel Hill, NC Nov. 25 (Rob Gluck, Pat and Pete Hobson, fide Will Cook).

- LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE:** One at Piney Creek, Alleghany Co., NC Oct. 1 (James H. Coman III) was rare and followed the summer sighting of a Shrike for the area.
- WHITE-EYED VIREO:** One was probably wintering in an area where heard singing near Stumpy Point, Dare Co., NC late Nov.-Dec. (John Fussell).
- YELLOW-THROATED VIREO:** One was slightly late at Lugoff, SC Oct. 16 (Lex Glover).
- WARBLING VIREO:** A very rare fall migration report involved one at Yawkey WMA, SC Sept. 9 (Sid Gauthreaux, John Cely, Pete Worthington, Lex Glover, et al.).
- PHILADELPHIA VIREO:** Reports of this much-sought-after species were too numerous to mention in detail. Hopefully this shows an increase in their numbers, not just an increase in observer effort! Of interest was the very early one at Lake Crabtree, Wake Co., NC Aug. 25 (Doug Shadwick); the count of six in Ashe Co., NC Sept. 23 (Harry LeGrand, Derb Carter); the good total of 15 from Sept. 27 to Oct. 15 at Jackson Park, Henderson Co., NC (Wayne Forsythe, Simon Thompson); and one at Lugoff, SC Oct. 15 (Lex Glover).
- GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER:** This species was reported in better than average numbers this fall. The Jackson Park, Henderson Co., NC area hosted up to 20 from Sept. 13 to Oct. 3 (Wayne Forsythe, Simon Thompson) for an impressive total.
- "LAWRENCE'S" WARBLER:** This rarest of the Blue-winged X Golden-winged Warbler crosses was found at Patriot's Point, Mt. Pleasant, SC Sept. 21 (David Chamberlain).
- TENNESSEE WARBLER:** The latest report received was of one at Lee State Park, SC Oct. 27 (Lex Glover, Mike Turner, Steve Patterson).
- ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER:** Not only early but locally unusual was one found in Duke Forest, Durham Co., NC Sept. 15 (Jeff Pippen). Also one was found at Mason Farm, Chapel Hill, NC on the more expected date of Nov. 4 (Will Cook, et al.).
- NASHVILLE WARBLER:** Reports of this warbler were about average including singles at Lattimore, NC Sept. 2 (Pat Wilkison, JoAnn Martin); Jackson Park, Henderson Co., NC Sept. 11 (Wayne Forsythe, Simon Thompson); Roan Mountain, NC Sept. 18 (Rick Knight); Saluda Hills, Lexington Co., SC Sept. 19 (Lex Glover); Mt. Jefferson, Ashe Co., NC Sept. 22 (Will Cook); Ashe Co., NC Sept. 23 (Harry LeGrand, Derb Carter); Durham, NC Sept. 24 (Chris Eley); and Greenville, SC Sept. 25 and Oct. 9 (Pete Worthington).
- NORTHERN PARULA:** One was quite late at Durham, NC Nov. 28 (Len Pardue).
- YELLOW WARBLER:** One at Lake Mattamuskeet NWR, NC was late on Nov. 27 (Ricky Davis), though this area has hosted lingering Yellows before.
- YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER:** One was locally unusual in the Piney Creek, Alleghany Co., NC area on Aug. 20 (James H. Coman III).

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER: An immature female was found near Mahogany Rock Overlook, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC Sept. 23-24 (Will Cook, m. ob.) during the Carolina Bird Club's fall meeting at Elkin, NC. Two things were amazing about this find: one, the amazing number of people who were able to relocate the bird over two days; and two, the fact that Cook had also found a Kirtland's earlier in the spring at another Parkway site—all in one year!

PRAIRIE WARBLER: One was found at a high elevation on Roan Mountain, NC (5500') Sept. 18 (Rick Knight).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER: An excellent count of 20+ were found at Jackson Park, Henderson Co., NC Sept. 21 (Wayne Forsythe).

CERULEAN WARBLER: Reports of this uncommon species included a good total of three in Lexington Co., SC Sept. 2-10 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman); up to three in the Tryon, NC area in late August (Simon Thompson); and one at Cliffs of the Neuse State Park, NC Aug. 22 (Scott Hartley).

AMERICAN REDSTART: One was late in Lugoff, SC Nov. 6 (Lex Glover).

WORM-EATING WARBLER: A good total of 10 was had at Jackson Park, Henderson Co., NC Aug. 30 (Wayne Forsythe).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: Reports of this rare but regular migrant came from North Carolina; including single birds at Greensboro Sept. 19 (Henry Link, fide Roger McNeill), Jackson Park, Henderson Co. Sept. 27 (Wayne Forsythe, Simon Thompson), Pea Island NWR Oct. 2 (Ricky Davis), Buxton woods Oct. 7 (Eric Dean), Maplevew, Orange Co. Oct. 7 (Peter Burke, et al., fide Will Cook), and Mahogany Rock Overlook, Blue Ridge Parkway Oct. 8 (Will Cook).

MOURNING WARBLER: Much rarer than the Connecticut in our area, the Mourning was found several times in South Carolina. One was netted in the coastal region Sept. 27 (Will Post); one was in Anderson Co. Oct. 9 (Bob Maxwell); and an amazing two were found in Greenville Co. Oct. 12 (Pete Worthington).

WILSON'S WARBLER: This species was reported more than usual with the best records being two in Duke Forest, Durham Co., NC Sept. 8 (Will Cook, Jeff Pippen), one at Townville, SC Oct. 7 (Lex Glover, Tom Hankins), one at Folly Beach, SC Oct. 13 (Dennis Forsythe), and a late individual at Lake Mattamuskeet NWR, NC Nov. 10 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: One was late at Mason Farm, Chapel Hill, NC Nov. 25 (Rick Payne, fide Will Cook).

WESTERN TANAGER: One was found in Columbia, SC in early October (Tom Hankins), and remained at least a week (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman). Also the Wilmington, NC bird returned for its fourth straight winter (Kitty Kosh)!

DICKCISSEL: Reports included a male still at the summering location at VOA-B site, Beaufort Co., NC Aug. 11 (John and Paula Wright); one at Edisto Beach, SC Aug. 13 (Sid Gauthreaux, Carroll Belser, Bill Thompson); one at Pea

Island NWR, NC Oct. 2 (Ricky Davis); and one was netted at James Island, SC Nov. 14 (Will Post).

BACHMAN'S SPARROW: A belated report involved three wintering in Holly Shelter, Pender Co., NC Feb. 7 (Harry LeGrand).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: This sparrow staged a good migration in our area. The most interesting reports included one netted early at Patriot's Point, SC Sept. 14 (Will Post), another early one at North Topsail Island, NC Sept. 15 (Ricky Davis), two in Greenville, SC Oct. 12 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman), one at Breach Inlet, Charleston Co., SC Nov. 4 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman), and one near Butner, NC Nov. 12 (Jeff Phippen).

LARK SPARROW: This is an uncommon but regular fall migrant in the Carolinas. Birds were found in North Carolina at Mashoes, Dare Co. Sept. 3 (Harry LeGrand, Jeff Phippen), Oregon Inlet Sept. 23 (John Bennett), Pea Island Sept. 30 (Trip Dennis), and at Ocracoke Oct. 7-8 (Bob Lewis, Allen Bryan, John Fussell, John and Paula Wright, Russ and Patricia Tyndall).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: Up to nine were banded in coastal South Carolina from Nov. 10-Dec. 16 (Will Post), a good fall total for the area.

HENSLOW'S SPARROW: This rare migrant was banded at James Island, SC Dec. 5 (Will Post) and one was seen at Bucksport, Horry Co., SC Oct. 17 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman). Also a belated winter report involved three at Holly Shelter, Pender Co., NC Feb. 7 (Harry LeGrand).

LeCONTE'S SPARROW: Good reports of this elusive sparrow included one in Greenville Co., SC Oct. 9-11 (Pete Worthington), an amazing five at Santee NWR, SC Nov. 12 (Lex Glover, Mike Turner), and two near Sneads Ferry, NC Nov. 18 (Jeff Phippen, Will Cook, Chris Eley, John Bennett).

SHARP-TAILED SPARROW: Very rare inland, one was found in Greenville Co., SC Oct. 9-11 (Pete Worthington) for a noteworthy report. The inland Nelson's Sharp-tailed form was not mentioned, but is probably most likely.

FOX SPARROW: A possible record early arrival date for this species was provided by one found at Huntington Beach State Park, SC Oct. 16 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

LINCOLN'S SPARROW: This sparrow was not found in the usual numbers this fall. Only a handful were reported including one at Jackson Park, Henderson Co., NC Oct. 10 (Wayne Forsythe) and another in Jasper Co., SC Oct. 29 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

SWAMP SPARROW: One was early at Salem Lake, Forsyth Co., NC Sept. 12 (Ramona Navelly, Reggie Burt, Joyce Mauck).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR: The only one reported was in the fields west of Lake Phelps, NC Nov. 27 (Ricky Davis).

SNOW BUNTING: This species was found at the normal sites with singles at Pea Island NWR, NC Nov. 20 (Ricky Davis), Cape Hatteras, NC Nov. 25 (E. Rowan, S. Stell), and Huntington Beach State Park, SC Nov. 23-25 (Don Seriff, Herb Hendrickson, Lex Glover).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: A female was at Georgetown, SC Aug. 27 (Caroline Eastman) and a winter male was found on the north shore of Lake Mattamuskeet, NC Nov. 27 (Ricky Davis).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: This hard-to-find species was found at Pisgah Forest, NC when two were there Nov. 22 (Bill and Norma Siebenheller).

PURPLE FINCH: This species returned to the Carolinas this fall; last year they were practically non-existent! Reports were widespread but still spotty. The earliest Purple was one at Carver's Gap, Roan Mountain Oct. 25 (Rick Knight).

EVENING GROSBEAK: This winter finch was also seen this fall, after a long absence. In North Carolina the best reports included 30+ at Mahogany Rock Overlook, Blue Ridge Parkway, Nov. 5 (Derb Carter, Jeff Pippen); 40 at Duke Forest, Durham Co. Nov. 27 (Jeff Pippen); and 60 near Halifax Nov. 18 (Frank Enders). Most of these birds have been hanging out in the woods and ignoring the feeders. This should change as winter sets in.