

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

Ricky Davis
608 Smallwood Drive
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
RJDNC@aol.com

All Dates Spring 2002

EARED GREBE: One in alternate plumage was a good find at Salem Lake, Forsyth County, NC, March 23 (Ramona Snavelly *et al.*). Also the peak spring count at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County, SC, was four on April 1 (Steve Calver).

HERALD PETREL: This species was present off North Carolina's Outer Banks in good numbers this spring. The peak count was of three off Hatteras May 26, and from one to two birds were seen on six other trips during the period May 24 - 31 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

FEA'S PETREL: This rare petrel was also seen several times, with two off Hatteras May 27, one off Manteo May 27, and one off Manteo May 31 (Patteson *et al.*).

BERMUDA PETREL: This endangered species was found again this spring when two were off Hatteras May 27 (Patteson *et al.*).

BLACK-CAPPED PETREL: Two were good finds out of Murrells Inlet, SC, May 11 (Murray Honick). The peak North Carolina total was of 146 off Hatteras May 27 (Patteson *et al.*).

MANX SHEARWATER: A pelagic trip out of Hatteras March 9 produced an amazing total of 66 Manxes, the highest one-day count for the state in many years (Patteson *et al.*). Late spring pelagic Manxes included one off Manteo May 24 and two off Manteo May 31 (Patteson *et al.*). One was also seen from shore at Nags Head, NC, in late May (*fide* Ned Brinkley).

LEACH'S STORM-PETREL: One was found dead on the beach at Ft. Macon, Carteret County, NC, April 15 (John Fussell). There had been several days of easterly winds, and considerable *Sargassum* had washed up on the beach also.

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL: The peak count this spring was 40 off Hatteras May 27 (Patteson *et al.*).

WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD: Only one was found this spring, that being off Manteo May 31 (Patteson *et al.*).

RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD: This rare pelagic species was a good find out of Manteo May 31 (Patteson *et al.*). It had been a couple of years since Red-billeds had been found in North Carolina waters.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: An excellent count of 18 was had at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, March 9 (Allen Bryan). This species had been present in that area since the late fall and winter.

BROWN PELICAN: Very rare and unusual was one far upstream on the Roanoke River near the US 258 bridge, along the Halifax - Northampton Counties line, March 18 (*vide* Frank Enders). Fishermen reported that the bird was taking fish from their lines!

ANHINGA: Notable sightings of slightly out-of-range birds in North Carolina included two over Sealevel, Carteret County, April 20 (Sam Cooper), two over the Great Coharie Creek, Sampson County, April 26 (Harry LeGrand), and five over Durham May 5 (Dan Kaplan).

AMERICAN BITTERN: Good sightings from western North Carolina included one in Winston-Salem April 29 (*vide* Ramona Snavelly), one at Slick Rock Lake, Transylvania County, May 11 (Nancy & Tom Iha), and one in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, March 13 until April 8 (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, Marilyn Westphal).

GREAT BLUE HERON: This species continued its westward spread as a breeder. This year nesting sites involved three nests at L. Hickory, Alexander County, NC (Dwayne Martin), two nests at Riverbend Park, Catawba County, NC (Martin), five nests in Charlotte, NC (John Buckman), a nest near Bass Lake, Watauga County, NC (*vide* Walt Conway), one nest near Greer, SC (Linda Sharp), and nine nests at Fury's Ferry, Sumter Nat. For., SC (Robin Carter and Carolina Eastman). Also numbers are increasing inland as evidenced by the count of 243 on the Chapel Hill, NC, Spring Count, May 12 (*vide* Will Cook), and the colony at Cub Creek, Jordan Lake having 63 nests (Alan Johnston). Elsewhere one was unusual 50 miles off Murrells Inlet, SC, May 25, as noted by Jack Peachey.

GREAT "WHITE" HERON: This form is very rare in the Carolinas, thus of note was one at Kiawah Island, SC, March 13 (Ann Davis, *vide* Will Post).

LITTLE BLUE HERON: One at a pond near Burlington, NC, May 27 was a good local find for the spring (Lynn Moseley).

REDDISH EGRET: Only one was reported this spring, that being a bird in flight heading northward at Harker's Island, Carteret County, NC, May 27 (John Fussell *et al.*).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: Reports from western North Carolina included one at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, April 27 (Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey) and one at Happy Valley, Caldwell County, April 21 (Dwayne Martin). Known nesting locations were active again, with six adults at the New Hope Creek Impoundment, Chapel Hill, NC, May 25 (Lisa Dailey), up to seven pairs in the Winston-Salem, NC, area (Ramona Snavelly), and 14 adults and 12 young at a Charlotte, NC, rookery in late May (Alan Kneidel).

SNOW GOOSE: Three (two Blues, one White) were good finds for the spring season on the Oconee County, SC, Migration Count May 11 (Steve Wagner).

BRANT: One of the best counts in many years was the 500+ seen massed in Ocracoke Inlet, NC, March 10, as noted by Wayne Irvin. The birds were most likely staging there prior to their migration north.

TUNDRA SWAN: Two were locally unusual on L. Auman, Moore County, NC, March 7 (Dick Dole). Even rarer was the individual found at Brevard, NC, March 29-30 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller), which provided only about the second county record.

AMERICAN WIGEON: One, apparently injured, was late at the Ocean Isle, NC, W.T.P. May 25, as noted by Ricky Davis.

NORTHERN PINTAIL: Another late duck was the Pintail still at Bodie Island, NC, Lighthouse Pond May 24 (Jeff Pippen).

REDHEAD: During a slow year for waterfowl in the Carolinas, a count of 75 Redhead on L. Julian, Buncombe County, NC, March 10 was a surprise (Wayne Forsythe).

COMMON EIDER: Always noteworthy in the Carolinas, a female Common was quite late in the Atlantic Beach, NC, area April 8 and May 26 (*fide* John Fussell).

HOODED MERGANSER: This species nests somewhere in the Carolinas each year. This spring a female with six young was seen on the Coosawhatchie River, Hampton County, SC, May 9 (Carroll Richard).

COMMON MERGANSER: Four females were on Salem L., Forsyth County, NC, March 23 (Ramona Snively *et al.*), providing the only report this spring.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: Good numbers of this merganser were found inland this spring. In the mountains, the best totals were 15 on L. Julian, NC, March 21 (Wayne Forsythe) and 8 at Table Rock St. Pk., SC, March 30 (Scott Stegenga). Elsewhere 15 were at Buckhorn Res., NC, March 10 (Ricky Davis), 13 were on L. Waccamaw, NC, April 20 (Josh Rose); and an amazing flock of 147 on Roanoke Rapids L, NC, March 24 (Davis) provided one of highest counts for inland North Carolina in a long time.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: This species is found in North Carolina as a spring wanderer each year, and this season was better than most. One was rather early seen heading north along NC 12 from Avon to Pea Island N.W.R. March 10 (Brad & Pat Carlson, Jeff Lewis). Others included singles near Old Dock, Columbus County April 6 (Ginger Travis *et al.*), at Swansboro April 17 (Jamie Cameron), near Avon April 18 (S. Ryan), at Salvo April 21 (Ryan), over Buxton woods April 21 (Sidney Maddock), and at Cedar Island April 20 (John Fussell *et al.*). Much rarer and unexpected was one in the Piedmont along the Haw River, at Bynum, Chatham County April 25 (Chris Canfield).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: The number of reports of this species continues to increase. Some of the more interesting sightings included four southwest of Jacksonville, NC, May 24 (David Brinkman *et al.*), one north of Southport, NC, May 28 (Sam Cooper), one at the Palmetto Peartree Preserve, Tyrrell County, NC, May 25 (Jeff Lewis), and one in southeastern Wake County, NC, along the Neuse River May 29 (Harry LeGrand and John Finnegan).

NORTHERN HARRIER: One was somewhat late at Winston-Salem, NC, May 5 (*fide* David Dishner), while one was definitely late near Chapel Hill, NC, May 23 (Josh Rose).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK: A pair seen displaying to each other was observed at Stecoah Gap, Graham County, NC, May 7 (Simon Thompson). This species is an uncommon nester in the Carolinas.

COOPER'S HAWK: This species nests in our area more frequently than the preceding, but of note was a pair near Hillsborough, NC, May 25 (Greg Dodge).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK: Two were found on the Alligator River N.W.R., NC, in early March (Brian Watts, *vide* Jeff Lewis). Were these birds early migrants, or did they winter there – one was reported there during December on the Christmas Count! Elsewhere locally unusual spring sightings included one at Conway, SC, April 12 (Gary Phillips) and one in Jasper County, SC, May 8 (Will Cook). Also a nest found at the Savannah River Site, SC, May 30 (*vide* Anne Waters) provided a rare breeding report for the Coastal Plain.

RED-TAILED HAWK: Very rare was an individual of the "Kridler's" form of Red-tailed found at Murphey Island, Charleston County, SC, March 15 (Will Post *et al.*). This bird provided about the 4th report for the state.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: The wintering birds at Alligator River N.W.R., NC, were last observed March 19 (Jeff Lewis).

GOLDEN EAGLE: An adult was a good find along Max Patch Rd., Haywood County, NC, May 12 (Brad & Pat Carlson).

MERLIN: One was a good find on the Jordan L., NC, Spring Count May 5 (Norm Budnitz and Carol Williamson).

KING RAIL: One was a complete surprise, found in downtown Asheville, NC, April 25 (Stu Gibeau, Vin Stanton *et al.*). Obviously a grounded migrant, the bird was observed for a couple of hours only that day.

PURPLE GALLINULE: One was very rare and unusual on the beach at Avon, NC, in early May (Elizabeth Hanrahan). The bird, which was being mobbed by gulls, was taken to a local rehabilitation center for recovery.

SANDHILL CRANE: One that wintered in Transylvania County, NC, was present until at least March 27 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller). Another individual was present in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, NC, March 23 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff). Another western North Carolina sighting was of one along the Catawba River, Riverbend Park, Catawba County, March 25 (Dwayne Martin *et al.*). To the east one was present at a golf course community near New Bern, NC, for up to two weeks in late April (Wade Fuller, Bob Holmes *et al.*). And finally, one was found injured in a ditch near Rocky Mount, NC, in early May (John Vickers). This bird was taken to a Greenville veterinarian, but it did not survive.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER: The only inland report this spring was of one at the Winslow Sod Farm, Scotland Neck, NC, May 5 (Ricky Davis).

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER: One of the best inland spring counts received in a while was the 48 Semipalmateds at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. May 19 (Ricky Davis).

WILLET: Very rarely noted inland during spring, 11 Willets at Jordan Lake, NC, May 5 (Patrick Coin *et al.*) were a good find.

UPLAND SANDPIPER: The number of reports this spring was down somewhat, as compared to previous years. Four were at the Cherry Hospital

grounds, Wayne County, NC, April 6 (Eric Dean), one was near Red Oak, Nash County, NC, April 12 (Ricky Davis), and one was at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 1 (Steve Calver).

WHIMBREL: An individual of the "Eurasian" subspecies was found at C. Lookout, NC, May 27 (John Fussell *et al.*). This form is very rarely reported, but it has been recorded in the Carolinas several times before.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW: Always noteworthy in the Carolinas, singles were found at C. Lookout, NC, April 27 (Bob Holmes *et al.*) and Ft. Fisher, NC, May 3 (Bruce Smithson).

WESTERN SANDPIPER: Notable inland spring reports included one at Winston-Salem, NC, May 5 (*fide* David Disher), one in North Augusta, SC, May 11 (*fide* Anne Waters), and two at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. May 19 (Ricky Davis).

LEAST SANDPIPER: A count of 230 Least was made at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. May 19 (Ricky Davis), providing a very respectable total for an inland site.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: Inland sightings of note included 8 at the Winston-Salem, NC, W.T.P. May 26 (Ramona Snaveley *et al.*), 6 at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. May 19 (Ricky Davis), and two on the Jordan Lake, NC Spring Count May 5 (Brian Bockhahn).

PURPLE SANDPIPER: One at Ft. Macon, NC, May 31 was very late (John Fussell). This species has normally left the Carolinas by early to mid May.

DUNLIN: This species is one of the rarer inland spring migrants, thus of note were one at Sandling Beach, Falls Lake, NC, May 1 (Brian Bockhahn) and one in eastern Franklin County, NC, May 21-22 (Ricky Davis).

RUFF: A Reeve was again found at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 13 (Steve Calver). This area seems to be the most reliable for finding Ruffs in the Carolinas. Another Reeve, found at the Ocean Isle, NC W.T.P. May 4-5 (Taylor Piephoff and Rob Van Epps), provided a very locally rare sighting.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: Only one inland Short-billed was reported this spring, that being in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, NC, May 3 (Wayne Forsythe and Marilyn Westphal).

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER: Interesting reports of this species included two out-of-habitat on the beach at Ocean Isle Beach, NC, May 14 (Greg Massey) and an impressive total of 392 at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 13 (Steve Calver).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE: Rare onshore spring reports involved single females at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, May 8 (Sidney Maddock) and another or the same at nearby Bodie Island Lighthouse pond May 10 (Chris Eley).

RED PHALAROPE: A pelagic trip out of Hatteras, NC, March 9 produced a good count of 193 Reds (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

SOUTH POLAR SKUA: This species made a good showing this spring off North Carolina. Two were off Manteo May 24, one was off Manteo May 26, and two were off Manteo May 31 (Brian Patteson *et al.*). Other offshore South Polars included one off Hatteras May 13 and two off Hatteras May 21, as noted

by Brian Patteson. Also one seen at C. Hatteras May 28 (Marc Ameels, *vide* Patteson) provided a very rare onshore sighting.

POMARINE JAEGER: Pomarines migrated off North Carolina in excellent numbers this spring. They were seen on almost all trips in late May, and a peak count of 78 off Manteo May 24 was quite impressive (Brian Patteson *et al.*). Another good count was the 20 Pomarines seen from shore at C. Hatteras (Marc Ameels, *vide* Patteson). In South Carolina, two were good finds off Murrells Inlet on a May 11 trip (Murray Honick).

PARASITIC JAEGER: The best totals reported included seven off Hatteras May 26 and six from C. Hatteras May 29 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: Always noteworthy in the Carolinas, this jaeger was reported more frequently than usual. In North Carolina, four were off Manteo May 24, singles were off Manteo May 26 & 31, and one was off Hatteras May 25 (Brian Patteson *et al.*). In South Carolina, where it is a much rarer bird, one was found off Murrells Inlet May 11, as noted by Murray Honick.

LAUGHING GULL: Three inland reports were received this spring. Single Laughings were at Falls Lake, NC, May 1 (Brian Bockhahn), Jordan Lake, NC, May 5 (Norm Budnitz and Carol Williamson), and Oxford Dam of L. Hickory, Catawba County, NC, May 7 (Dwayne Martin *et al.*).

FRANKLIN'S GULL: One was a great find at Bald Head Island, NC, March 14, as noted by Greg Massey. The bird, in nice breeding plumage with pinkish wash to the breast, was on the beach with several Laughing Gulls for comparison. It had been a couple of years since the last Franklin's was found in the Carolinas.

ICELAND GULL: The Iceland first reported from the winter season frequenting the Cedar Island and Swan Quarter ferries to Ocracoke was last observed April 28 by Helmut Mueller.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL: A rare spring inland report was of a 1st-winter bird at Crosswinds, Jordan Lake, NC, May 3 (Doug Shadwick).

GLAUCOUS GULL: One was a good find at Hatteras Inlet, NC, March 10 (Veronica Pantelidis), providing the last report for the season.

SABINE'S GULL: There were two reports of this very rare gull. One was seen from C. Hatteras, NC, May 20 (*vide* Jeff Lewis), and another was close to shore at Bald Head Island, NC, May 31 (Sam Cooper). The latter bird provided an extremely unusual local sighting.

CASPIAN TERN: This species is the most expected inland tern during the spring. This season's best reports included one at L. Julian, NC, April 20 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff), one in Transylvania County, NC, April 27 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller), one at Mountain Island Lake near Charlotte, NC, April 6 (Rob Bierregard), and one at the Congaree Swamp Nat. Mon., Richland County, SC, April 13 (Tim Kalbach *et al.*). The latter bird was unusual in that it was observed over a parking lot! Also unusual was one seen following a creek through an open swamp forest in Edgecombe County, NC, April 21 (Ricky Davis).

ROSEATE TERN: Always noteworthy anytime in the Carolinas, single Roseate Terns were at C. Lookout, NC, May 5 (Magnus Persmark, Randy Emmitt, Owen McConnell) and C. Hatteras, NC, May 28 (Marc Ameels, *fide* Brian Patteson).

ARCTIC TERN: Only two were found offshore this spring, with birds off Hatteras May 26 and off Manteo May 27 (Brian Patteson *et al.*). Much rarer and unusual was the nice adult plumaged bird seen onshore at the western end of Holden Beach, NC, May 28 (Sam Cooper).

FORSTER'S TERN: Inland sightings of note involved five at L. Murray, SC, March 10 (Josh Rose *et al.*), two on L. Julian, NC, May 5 (Marilyn Westphal and Bob Olthoff), and one on the Chapel Hill, NC Spring Count May 12 (Ginger Travis).

SOOTY TERN: Only one was reported this spring, that being an individual on the beach south of Salvo, NC, May 11, as noted by Kristen Mazzarella.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: As of this spring, one bird still continues at the Beaufort, NC, site (Rich & Susan Boyd). Elsewhere one was locally unusual and unexpected in upstate South Carolina at a feeder in Pickens April 24, as noted by Steve Patterson.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: Noteworthy reports of this elusive species included one on the Buncombe County, NC, Spring Count May 12 (Marilyn Westphal), two at Piney Creek, Alleghany County, NC, May 19 (James Coman), one in Hendersonville, NC, May 24 (Bev Hudson), and one in the Croatan Nat. For., Craven County, NC, May 25 (John Fussell). The latter bird, like past reports from there, was singing from a pine pocosin habitat.

SHORT-EARED OWL: The best count from the usual Alligator River N.W.R., NC location was 20 in early March (Brian Watts, *fide* Jeff Lewis).

CHIMNEY SWIFT: One at Congaree Swamp Nat. Mon., SC, March 23 (Robin Carter) provided a new early date for the park.

BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD: Another one of this species was banded in the Carolinas, that being at Lexington, SC, in early March (Bill Hilton, Jr.).

CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD: The Calliope that wintered at a Winston-Salem, NC, feeder was last seen about April 21 (Charlie Williams).

BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD: Another wintering hummer, the Broad-tailed near Gibsonville, Guilford County, NC, was present until mid-April (Susan Campbell).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER: Locally rare and unusual were singles in Ocracoke, NC, May 4 (Peter Vankevich) and in downtown Beaufort, NC, April 20 (Rich & Susan Boyd).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: The nesting pair near Monroe, NC, returned for the third year in a row around April 23 (Anne Olsen). One wonders how many years these birds will be able to return.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: This species is very hard to find in the western sections of the Carolinas. Of note this spring were singles at Hendersonville, NC, March 15 (Ben Ringer) and Old Fort, NC, April 20 (Stu Gibeau).

WARBLING VIREO: The nesting birds returned to Anilorac Farm, Orange County, NC, April 22 (Shantanu Phukan) for their third year. Elsewhere migrants included one in Mecklenburg County, NC, April 27 (Taylor Piephoff), one at Ventosa, Halifax County, NC, May 5 (Ricky Davis), and one on Roanoke Island, NC, May 8 (Jeff Lewis).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO: This rare spring migrant was reported once, that being one on the Winston-Salem, NC, Spring Count May 5 (*vide* David Disher).

BLUE JAY: Migrating flocks of this species are rarely noted during spring. An impressive flock of 250+ was seen moving through Riverbend Park, Catawba County, NC, April 15 (Dwayne Martin).

COMMON RAVEN: One was seen and heard at the summit of Ocooneechee Mt., Orange County, NC, March 1 (Brian Bockhahn). This further extends the eastward expansion of this species from the upper Piedmont areas of North Carolina.

TREE SWALLOW: This species continues to spread eastward as a breeder. This year a pair building a nest on Roanoke Island, NC, in early May (Jeff Lewis) provided a new nesting report for that coastal locality.

CLIFF SWALLOW: New breeding season locations for this species were established over Brices Creek and the Neuse River in the New Bern, NC, area this spring (John Fussell, *sev. obs.*).

BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH: Very rare in our mountains, a group of 8 Brown-headed was located at Chatuge Lake, Clay County, NC, May 25 (Frank Renfrow).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH: Lingering Red-breasteds included three at Medoc Mt., Halifax County, NC, April 12 (Ricky Davis), one at Cedar Creek Landing, Lancaster County, SC, April 21 (Robin Carter), and one at C. Lookout, NC, April 27 (Bob Holmes *et al.*). Also of note were two at Table Rock St. Pk., SC, April 30 (Scott Stegenga) and one in Conway, SC, March 6 (Jack Peachey).

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH: Continuing the species' spread toward the coast in Carteret County, NC, a pair nested in Morehead City this spring (*vide* John Fussell), a first local record.

SEDGE WREN: Noteworthy mountain area sightings included singles in Buncombe County, NC, May 5 (Marilyn Westphal and Bob Olthoff), in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, NC, May 11 (Bob Olthoff and Marilyn Westphal), and at Table Rock St. Pk., SC, May 4 (Scott Stegenga).

MARSH WREN: One was a good find in the French Broad River valley, NC, April 29, as noted by Wayne Forsythe and Marilyn Westphal.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH: One was early at Hampton Plantation St. Pk, SC, April 22 (Phil & Sharon Turner).

HERMIT THRUSH: A wintering bird was rather late on the Buncombe County, NC Spring Count May 12 (*vide* Marilyn Westphal).

AMERICAN PIPIT: One was very late at the Harris Farm in eastern Franklin County, NC, May 28 (Ricky Davis).

CAPE MAY WARBLER: One was very early at Landsford Canal St. Pk., SC, March 23, as noted by John Buckman.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER: One at Surfside Beach, SC, March 3 (Joe Gyekis *et al.*) had to have been a wintering individual as it would be too early for a migrant.

PRAIRIE WARBLER: A Prairie at a feeder in Simpsonville, SC, March 7-8 (Pete Worthington) was most likely another wintering individual.

CERULEAN WARBLER: Nests of this species are rarely reported in the Carolinas, thus of note was one observed at Chimney Rock Park, NC, May 27 (Simon Thompson). A migrant at Mason Farm, Chapel Hill, NC, May 5 (Haven Wiley) was a good find for that eastern locality.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER: One provided a locally rare sighting in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, NC, May 11-13 (Bob Olthoff, Marilyn Westphal, Wayne Forsythe).

KENTUCKY WARBLER: Locally rare spring migrants along the coast included singles on Roanoke Island, NC, May 6 (Jeff Lewis) and at Ft. Caswell, NC, May 7 (Greg Massey).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: There were two reports of this rare migrant this season. One was at the Savannah River Site, SC, May 15 (Paul Champlin), and one was at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, May 22 (Ron Selvey).

MOURNING WARBLER: The very rare Mourning was reported twice, one being a singing bird at Jackson Park, NC, May 20 (Ron Selvey), and the other was unfortunately a window casualty in Durham, NC, May 8 (Bill Schlesinger, *fide* Jeff Pippen). This species is extremely rare in central North Carolina in spring.

HOODED WARBLER: Quite early were singles near Harleyville, SC, March 17 (Ann Shahid) and along River Road, Cumberland County, NC, March 24 (Bob Perkins).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: Very rare in spring, this sparrow was found twice. One was near Fishing Creek, Halifax County, NC, March 3 (Ricky Davis), and two were in the Hospital Fields area, Transylvania County, NC, April 25-27 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller, *sev. obs.*).

LARK SPARROW: One at Huntington Beach St. Pk., SC, the first week in April (Ken Behrens) was a good find and the only one reported this spring.

SAVANNAH SPARROW: Two were late at the Harris Farm, eastern Franklin County, NC, May 28 (Ricky Davis).

HENSLOW'S SPARROW: Always noteworthy, Henslow's Sparrow reports involved one near Hasty, Scotland County, NC, March 9 (Jeff Beane *et al.*), a locally rare and unusual one in the mountains at Pisgah Forest, Transylvania County, NC, April 5 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller), and one at Congaree Swamp Nat. Mon., SC, April 13 (Tim Kalbach *et al.*).

LINCOLN'S SPARROW: Spring migrants in the Carolinas are always worth mentioning. This spring's reports included one in Edgecombe County, NC, March 3 (Ricky Davis), one at Jackson Park, NC, April 4-12 (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, *sev. obs.*), one at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 13 (Steve Calver), and one at Piney Creek, Alleghany County, NC, May 6 (James Coman).

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW: One was a good find along the coast at C. Lookout, NC, May 4-5 (Randy Emmitt).

DARK-EYED JUNCO: Late Juncos included singles at Greenville, NC, May 11 (Veronica Pantelidis) and at Zebulon, NC, May 14 (Debbie Merritt).

DICKCISSEL: This species proved hard to come by this spring. Only two reports were received. A female was back at Anilorac Farm, Orange County, NC, April 28 (Shantanu Phukan), and a male was at the Harris Farm, Franklin County, NC, May 23 (Ricky Davis).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: One was found dead on the Duke University campus, Durham, NC, late April - early May (*vide* Randy Emmitt), providing a very rare inland record for the Carolinas.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD: An excellent count for the mountains was the 200+ at Jackson Park, NC, March 20 (Ron Selvey).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: One found along US 601 in Hampton County, SC, May 11 (Carroll Richard and Kathleen O'Grady) provided a locally rare and late sighting.

SHINY COWBIRD: Only one was found this season, that being a male at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 1 (Steve Calver).

RED CROSSBILL: A flock of six Reds at Piney Creek, NC, April 14 (James Coman) was considered locally unusual away from the usual higher elevation areas.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: A female frequented a feeder in Ashe County, NC, May 9-10 (Vaughn Morrison, Walt Conway) for a very rare sighting for the Carolinas.

PINE SISKIN: Locally rare and unusual in spring, three siskins at C. Lookout, NC, May 4-5 (Magnus Persmark, Randy Emmitt) were good finds.

EVENING GROSBEAK: This species was absent over most of the Carolinas this winter, thus of note were several spring reports from eastern North Carolina. Three were at Brickhouse Rd., Durham County March 3 (Scott Barnes), one was at a feeder in Goldsboro April 30 (Mary Bridges), and six were at a feeder near Norfleet, Halifax County April 7 (Ricky Davis).