

	Aiken	Spart	Cherok	Lexing	Greenv	Total
Total species	114	81	44	60	93	146
Total individuals	5714	2544	318	1269	3854	13,699
Observers	17	11	3	5	15	36
Parties	10	9	2	4		25
Hours foot	31.5	17	0.5	5	23.15	77.15
Hours car	24.75	14.5	2	10	14.5	65.75
Miles foot	13.25	15.5	0.5	6	7	42.25
Miles car	238	207	53	101	249	848
Hours feeder watch	4.5	25.5	11			41
# Feeder watchers	2	12	6			20
# Feeder stations	5	8	5			18
Hours nocturnal	2	1	1		0.75	4.75
Miles nocturnal	14	4	1		0.5	19.5
# Parties nocturnal	2	1	1		1	5
# Observers nocturnal	2	2	1		2	7
Start time	0500					
Finish time	1830					

Fifty Years Ago in *The Chat*—March–June 1960

Publication of Volume 24 of *The Chat* was irregular, for reasons that were not recorded. Although four issues were published as usual, numbers 1 and 2 were published in a combined issue labeled “March–June”, then separate numbers 3-A and 3-B were published, and then finally number 4.

In the 1959 Christmas Count, 177 species were seen in the two states. A blackbird roost of 800,000 in Greensboro helped boost the individual count to a record high of 1.4 million. The compiler of the Charlotte count, B. R. Chamberlain, noted “Suitable birding areas rapidly disappearing”.

In an article “I Saw the World’s Rarest Bird!”, Jack P. Hailman described visiting the breeding colony of Bermuda Petrels with David Wingate, just nine years after the re-discovery of the species, previously thought extinct.

Fulvous Tree Ducks (now Fulvous Whistling-Ducks) were reported at Savannah River NWR (belatedly; a 1956 record) and at Orton Wildlife Refuge near Wilmington NC. The SC record was the second for the state. A Laughing Gull banded as a nestling at Oregon Inlet in 1959 was recovered in January 1960 in Cuba. Probably due to Hurricane Gracie, 21 American Golden-Plovers and a Red Phalarope were seen in North Wilkesboro, NC, in October 1959. It was thought to be the first record of American Golden-Plover in the western part of the state since 1886. A murre, tentatively identified as Thick-billed, was reported from Swan Quarter NWR. There were only three previous records for the state, none more recent than 1937. Greg Massey reported a Horned Lark at Wilmington, NC, apparently the first record for the area. A Black-billed Magpie was seen by several

(continued on page 15)

the young were more than two months old. The adult birds were still nearby, but I saw no evidence that they were still feeding the young.

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Fifty Years Ago in The Chat, *continued from page 10*

observers in Chapel Hill, NC, on 23 March 1960. It was conjectured that it had been “driven in this direction by the great blizzards that swept eastward across Texas earlier this month”. It was the first record for the state, except for an earlier bird that had been determined to be an escaped captive. Four Bullock’s Orioles, an adult male, a female, and two immature males, were seen by “scores” of observers during the winter of 1959–1960 in Morehead City, NC. This was thought to be the first record for the state. A flock of Red Crossbills seen in Greensboro on 16 Jan 1960 was thought to be the first observation of the species in the state since 1953. There were several reports of Common Redpolls in NC, including four near Bodie Island lighthouse. SC’s first specimen of Common Redpoll “was obtained when a single bird was crushed by a truck operating on Bull’s Island”. The only previous record for SC was a sight record in 1901. An “Oregon” Junco was collected in Zebulon, NC.

The complete membership directory of the Carolina Bird Club was published in this issue. It showed a total of 1210 members, a substantially larger number than today’s membership.—*Kent Fiala*