

## Twenty-Five Years Ago in The Chat

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Fall of 1992. The first extra-solar planets are confirmed, compact discs outsell cassette tapes for the first time, the first text message was sent, and Bill Clinton defeated George H.W. Bush and Ross Perot to become the 42<sup>nd</sup> President of the United States.

In the Carolinas, The Chat documented a leisurely 25 minute sighting of Northern Goshawk in Pender Co, NC; detailed a spring 1991 sighting of Harris's Sparrow in Durham Co, NC; related a harbinger of current climate change discussion with a report of January nesting attempts by American Robins in the Piedmont of North Carolina; and covered both opportunistic feeding by birds on insects (gulls, grackles and shorebirds foraging on ants) and insects on birds (wasps scavenging dead birds).

Briefs for the Files noted a Northern Gannet at Falls Lake, Durham Co, NC on 30 November 1991; a flock of 34 Fulvous Whistling-Ducks in Wilmington, NC on 8 November 1991 (a species now very rarely found in the Carolinas); noted that Ross's Geese were sufficiently uncommon that a count of three at Pea Island, Dare Co, NC was a record high count for that state; hints that Long-billed Curlew was still a regular wintering bird Ft. Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC; notes the third record of both Say's Phoebe and Shiny Cowbird in North Carolina; and details the sighting of a Curlew Sandpiper at Pea Island, Dare Co, NC that thrilled dozens of attendees at the Carolina Bird Club Fall Meeting at Nags Head.