
The Chat Goes Online

Steve Shultz

After eighty years as a tangible periodical, *The Chat* joins the ranks of publications published solely online, beginning with Volume 81. Individual members may access current and previous calendar year editions of *The Chat* by logging on at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/>.

Library subscription access to the restricted issues will be controlled via IP address. Library and organization members may contact the web editor, Kent Fiala, at webeditor@carolinabirdclub.org to confirm which IP address(es) are eligible for access.

Issues since 1971 are already available online and all are open access, except for the current and previous calendar years, which are available only by membership or subscription.

Online publications allows for several benefits, including the ability to easily search back issues using an index that spans Volumes 35-80 (1971 to 2016). Visit <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/chat> for the index, searchable database covering Briefs for the Files and Bird Record Committee reports, and explore forty years of full issues from the leisure of your device.

In addition to being accessible via the Carolina Bird Club website, *The Chat* is now an official part of the international Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL). BHL is a consortium of natural history and botanical libraries that cooperate to digitize the legacy literature of biodiversity held in their collections and to make that literature available for open access and responsible use as a part of a global “biodiversity commons.” The BHL consortium works with the international taxonomic community, rights holders, and other interested parties to ensure that this biodiversity heritage is made available to a global audience through open access principles. In partnership with the Internet Archive and through local digitization efforts, the BHL has digitized millions of pages of taxonomic literature, representing over 120,000 titles and over 200,000 volumes. Back issues of *The Chat* may be found at:

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/120122#/summary>