

# The Chat

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# THE CHAT

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**Fall 2023**

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## General Field Notes

First Confirmed Breeding Record for Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) in Forsyth County, North Carolina *Ann Blue Robertson*.....63

Apparent Tool Use by a Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)  
*Paul Jadot* ..... 65

## Articles

2022 Annual Report of the South Carolina Bird Records Committee  
*Keith McCullough, et.al.* .....66

## Briefs for the Files

Summer 2023 *Josh Southern* ..... 71

*Cover: Virginia Rail, 14 April 2023, Forsyth County NC.  
Photograph by Claudia Nielson.*

# First Confirmed Breeding Record for Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) in Forsyth County, North Carolina

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Ann Blue Robertson  
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The Muddy Creek Greenway south of Robinhood Road/Jamison Park is an eBird Hotspot in Winston-Salem, North Carolina (Forsyth County). The trail borders Muddy Creek and winds through a mix of woodlands and open areas including open ditches and brushy habitat. It is known for attracting a variety of sparrows including, seasonally, White-crowned, Grasshopper, Vesper, Field, Savannah, and Swamp. Lincoln's Sparrow has been documented as well.

On Thursday evening, April 13, 2023, David and Susan Disher visited in search of interesting sparrows. They were walking along the back fence of the dog park when they were startled to see two adult Virginia Rails. The Dishers' eBird checklist, which includes photographs and audio files, includes the following written description: "small dark reddish-brown rails with gray faces and fairly long bills. Heard and seen. First saw

one in grass on east side of the dog lot. Recording and poor photos."



*Virginia Rail, 14 April 2023, Forsyth County NC.  
Photograph by Claudia Nielson.*

In the ensuing ten days, about 30 birders posted on eBird that they saw or heard one or two adult Virginia Rails along the marshy ditch near the dog park. Many of the checklists include photos or audio files.

I visited the site on April 18, 2023. I did not see the rails, but I did note the needle rush (*Juncus sp.*) that was growing along the shallow, water-filled ditch where the rails had been seen and heard. Marbry "Hop" Hopkins was also there, and we speculated that this widespread marsh grass was familiar habitat

to the rails, making it a good stopover area. No one yet had any idea the rails might be nesting.

On Sunday, April 23, 2023, young birder Jesse Haaf texted a photo of a recently deceased rail chick to me with the following message: "Ann, I believe this is a baby Virginia Rail. I found it at the corner of the dog park."

The next day, Monday, April 24, 2023, Jessica Tate, MD, and I visited Muddy Creek in the early afternoon hoping to collect the chick. Miraculously, it was still there. Jessica scooped up the little rail and examined it for trauma. She concluded that it had most likely encountered a canine, given the proximity to the dog park, although possibly a

human had stepped on it. I contacted Chris Marsh, PhD, who took the body and froze it pending delivery to the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh, where it is now specimen NCSM 28377.



*Virginia Rail, 23 Apr 2023,  
Forsyth County, NC.  
Photograph by Jesse Haaf.*

The last documented sighting of Virginia Rail during the breeding season was on May 5, 2023, when Jesse Haaf saw one adult Virginia Rail fly up from the ditch.

Curious on the rarity of the breeding record, I consulted the online website *Birds of North Carolina: Their Distribution and Abundance*, which notes that Virginia Rails in the Piedmont are “rare to locally uncommon transients”. There was a comment that Virginia Rails “possibly bred near Winston-Salem in 1985.” I then emailed Harry LeGrand, the owner of this portion of the NC Biodiversity Project, asking if he had more information on the 1985 occurrence near Winston-Salem. He wrote that “possible breeding” may have been overstated and sent a link to The Chat, Winter 1986, *Briefs for the Files*. For Virginia Rail, it read: “an adult seen at a golf course in Winston-Salem, N.C. on 19 and 21 July by Kim Spear and Richard Page.”

Since the 1985 sighting was not conclusive of breeding, I believe that this spring 2023 recovery of a recently fledged chick constitutes the first documented successful breeding record of Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) in Forsyth County, North Carolina.

Virginia Rail breeding range in the Eastern United States is generally along the immediate Atlantic Coast from North Carolina northward, and inland across the Northeast, Midwest and Great Plains, generally north of 38° latitude, with occasional breeding records inland and further south, for example the Burke’s Garden area in Tazewell County, Virginia.

## Literature Cited

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# Apparent Tool Use by a Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)

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On April 25, 2022, I took a series of sequential photographs of a Black-and-white Warbler (Mason Farm Biological Reserve, Chapel Hill, NC) when it was grooming, foraging, and feeding. During foraging, it clung to two arboreal vines, poking the bark repeatedly with its bill. Several sequential photographs were taken, two of which showed the bird holding a twig positioned lengthwise in its bill.

Bill Newmark Ph.D. (research curator and conservation biologist in the Natural History Museum of Utah) and I authored a manuscript entitled: Apparent Tool Use by a Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*). Peer-reviewed, it was accepted for publication in *The Florida Field Naturalist*, a quarterly scientific publication by The Florida Ornithological Society.

Tool use by birds from more than 30 families has been documented worldwide. For example, certain nuthatches uncover invertebrates by prying bark scales from tree trunks. Much like a nuthatch, the Black-and-white Warblers easily creep along tree trunks to locate insects. However, like many other wood-warblers it also forages insects from branches and leaves. It is our assumption that the bird used the twig to uncover insects or to force invertebrates out of crevices.

Photographs show the bird feeding on a caterpillar. Because of the large size of the caterpillar, it is likely that the Black-and-white Warbler gleaned the caterpillar from the surface of the bark rather than using the twig to pry the bark up or locate and probe for the caterpillar in a crevice in the bark. Regardless, we believe that these sequential photographs provide highly suggestive evidence for tool use by the Black-and-white Warbler. This indirect evidence for tool use by the Black-and-white Warbler is, as far as we are aware, the first such record for a wood-warbler (Parulidae).

The full article can be viewed at:

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/369880768\\_Apparent\\_tool\\_Use\\_by\\_A\\_black-And-white\\_warbler\\_Mniotilta\\_varia#fullTextFileContent](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/369880768_Apparent_tool_Use_by_A_black-And-white_warbler_Mniotilta_varia#fullTextFileContent)



*Black-and-white  
Warbler, 25 April  
2022, Orange  
County, NC.  
Photograph by  
Paul Jadot.*



# 2022 Annual Report of the South Carolina Bird Records Committee

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**Keith McCullough<sup>1</sup>, Chair; Lex Glover, Secretary; Jeff Click, Aaron Given, Simon Harvey, Chris Hill, Matt Johnson, Amy Tegeler, Steve Patterson, Irvin Pitts**

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In 2022 the South Carolina Bird Records Committee (SCBRC) acted on 26 reports, of which 19 were accepted, four were not accepted, and three were unresolved (to be re-reviewed in 2023). Two of these reports, one ultimately accepted and the other not accepted, were voted on previously in 2021 and remained unresolved until the committee's first ballot of 2022.

After many years of dedicated service, Giff Beaton rolled off the committee in early 2022 to make way for new members. Linda Montgomery decided not to return to the committee for another year. As a result of these departures, Amy Tegeler and Matt Johnson were welcomed as new members.

The required annual meeting of the SCBRC took place virtually via Zoom on 7 November 2022 and was attended by Keith McCullough, Jeff Click, Aaron Given, Chris Hill, Matt Johnson, Simon Harvey, and Steve Patterson. Not in attendance were Lex Glover, Amy Tegeler, Irvin Pitts, and Will Post. Keith McCullough was re-elected as Chair. Since there were no unresolved reports due for a fourth and final in-person vote, the meeting was spent reviewing forms, processes, and the review status of species on the South Carolina main list. The presence of a review status is determined in part by the number of accepted records processed by the committee. It was determined that no species needed a status change in 2022.

In 2022, only Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) was added to South Carolina's Main List, bringing the total to 449 species. A few of the accepted reports this year passed with an 8-1 result (Accept-Non Accept). SCBRC bylaws state that more than one non-accept vote is needed to produce a result other than Accept. These and the other reports that reached a conclusion are detailed below.

## Accepted Reports

**Brant** (*Branta bernicla*). 2022-007. Accept (8-1). Aaron Given submitted a written report of a Brant from the southwest end of Kiawah Island (Charleston County), seen on 14 March 2022. All but one member felt that the field marks described, along with the experience of the observer, were enough to accept.

**Brant** (*Branta bernicla*). 2022-026. Accept (9-0). Kimberly Nesbitt reported and photographed a Brant from Bulls Island (Charleston County), seen on 23 November 2022. The clear photo left no doubt among committee members.

**Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*). 2022-023. Accept (8-1). Samuel Payne submitted a written report of a Common Merganser from Lake Robinson (Greenville County), first seen 27 December 2022. Many of the committee members wished for

images that were larger and sharper than what were available, but only one member thought that Red-breasted Merganser was a possibility.



*Red-necked Grebe,  
26 Nov 2022, McCormick County, SC.  
Photograph by John Patten Moss.*

**Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*). 2022-028. Accept (9-0). An excellent photo accompanied a written report by John Patten Moss for a Red-necked Grebe at the J. Strom Thurmond Reservoir (McCormick County), first spotted on 26 November 2022. The written details helped confirm the location of the bird in South Carolina, and the photo confirmed the identification.

**Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*). 2022-025. Accept (8-1). A Western Grebe from Bulls Island (Charleston County) was described and photographed by various birders beginning

on 20 November 2022. One committee member did not feel that Clark's Grebe was adequately ruled out in the descriptions.

**Western Grebe** (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*). 2022-027. Accept (9-0). John Demchak reported a Western Grebe along with four photos from Lake Wylie (York County), seen on 19 December 2022. Other observers located and photographed the bird two days later at the same location. The excellent photographs helped produce a unanimous vote.



*Western Grebe, 19 December 2022, York County, SC.  
Photograph by John Demchak.*

**Snowy Plover** (*Charadrius nivosus*). 2022-016. Accept (9-0). Mary-Catherine Martin reported and photographed a Snowy Plover at Sand Island of Yawkey Wildlife Center (Georgetown County), seen on 22 February 2022. All members thought that the photos eliminated similar species.



*Hudsonian Godwit,  
16 April 2022, Charleston County, SC.  
Photograph by Keith McCullough.*

**Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*). 2022-006. Accept (9-0). Keith McCullough submitted one written report and one photo for a Hudsonian Godwit from NE Kiawah Island Beach (Charleston County), seen on 16 April 2022. The photograph showed lifted wings and helped all members vote to accept this report.

**Ruff** (*Calidris pugnax*). 2022-012. Accept (9-0). Steve Calver submitted one written report with two photos of a Ruff from the CDF Spoil Site (Jasper County), seen 7 September 2020. All committee members voted to accept this report based on the photos provided.

**Ruff** (*Calidris pugnax*). 2022-014. Accept (9-0). Matt Johnson submitted

one written report with three photos of a Ruff from Huntington Beach State Park (Georgetown County), seen from 28-30 May 2022. All committee members voted to accept this report based on the photos provided.

**Black-legged Kittiwake** (*Rissa tridactyla*) 2022-029. Accept (9-0). John Patten Moss submitted one written report with six photos of a Black-legged Kittiwake from the J. Strom Thurmond Reservoir (McCormick County), seen 25-26 November 2022. This species carries a review status in South Carolina of “inland only”. Some members felt that the photos were enough to accept by themselves, others felt that the description of field marks helped in favor of acceptance.

**Iceland Gull** (Thayer's) (*Larus glaucooides thayeri*). 2022-009. Accept (8-1). Brandon Holden reported an adult Iceland Gull of the Thayer's subspecies from a stationary roosting area watch at The Caribbean Resort and Villas (Horry County), seen 30 December 2021. All but one member felt that the combination of features visible in the photos warranted acceptance of this report.

**Slaty-backed Gull** (*Larus schistisagus*). 2022-001. Accept (9-0). Chris Hill submitted a written report along with a detailed photo essay of a Slaty-backed Gull from the Horry County Landfill (Horry County), seen 03 January 2022. Shawn Smolen-Morton also



submitted a report for this species, detected at the same location on 04 January 2022. Many other observers reported this species between the 3-8 January 2022. This observation was widely accepted by the birding community in South Carolina and beyond, and thus received a unanimous vote to accept. This is the first documented record of Slaty-backed Gull in South Carolina.

**Glaucous Gull** (*Larus hyperboreus*). 2022-015. Accept (8-1). Christine Kozlosky submitted a written report with three photos of a Glaucous Gull from Hilton Head Island (Beaufort County), seen 25 May 2022. Most of the comments given by committee members about this report indicate that similar looking “bleached-white” Herring Gulls were considered as a point of caution. However, only one member felt there was enough uncertainty to give a non-accept vote.

**Brown Noddy** (*Anous stolidus*). 2022-024. Accept (9-0). Scott Hartley reported and provided a photo of a Brown Noddy resting on pavement at Myrtle Beach State Park (Horry County) following the passing of Hurricane Ian. This bird was seen on 30 September 2022.

**Crested Caracara** (*Caracara plancus*). 2022-013. Accept (9-0). Harry Doswell submitted a written report, including a photo by Harry James, of a Crested Caracara near Hunting and Harbor Islands (Beaufort County), seen 19 August 2022. Several observers located the bird between 19-21 August 2022 in an area between these two islands. No members expressed concerns about provenance.

**Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*). 2022-009. Accept (9-0). Steve Patterson submitted a written report and a video to support an Alder Flycatcher in Townville (Anderson County), seen/heard 20 August 2021. This report was unable to reach a conclusion after two previous rounds of voting, each round producing two non-accept votes. The dissenting members were initially concerned with the audio description as well as the approximately 90-minute gap between hearing vocalizations and seeing an Empidonax. However, after the 3rd round of voting, all members agreed to accept this report based on the description of the vocalizations and the observer’s experience.

**Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*). 2022-003. Accept (9-0). Jack Volker submitted a written report along with a photo of a Snowy Owl from DeBordieu Colony (Georgetown County), seen 17 February 2022.

**Shiny Cowbird** (*Molothrus bonariensis*). 2022-011. Accept (9-0). Steve Calver submitted a written report with three photos of a Shiny Cowbird at the CDF Dredge Material Site (Jasper County), seen 6-7 July 2020.

### Non-Accepted Reports

**Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*). 2022-002. Non-Accept (4-5). An early 2022 written report of Common Merganser from Horry County was considered and not accepted by the committee. Most members felt that the description did not provide enough specific information to rule out Red-breasted Merganser.

**Iceland Gull** (Thayer's) (*Larus glaucooides thayeri*). 2022-008. Non-Accept (4-5). A report of a Thayer's subspecies of Iceland Gull from Horry County that included eight photos was considered by the committee. Some members felt the bird appeared as an Iceland Gull in only some photos, others were not confident with any of the photos, and one stated concern over hybrid possibilities.

**Sooty Tern** (*Onychoprion fuscatus*) 2021-016. Non-Accept (2-7). A written report of 10 Sooty Terns that included one photo from Abbeville County in 2021 was considered for the 2nd time in 2022. Because there were multiple non-accept votes after the first circulation, but not enough to be a majority, the report was re-circulated. The majority of the committee felt that the observation distance of nearly one mile, along with the poor photo, provided enough concern to warrant a non-accept vote. Some felt that the description did not adequately rule out Bridled Tern or Black Tern.

**Yellow-billed Magpie** (*Pica nuttalli*) 2022-020. Non-Accept. (0-9). A written report of Yellow-billed Magpie from early 2022 in Beaufort County was considered by the committee. All members expressed concern over the minimal details provided and uncertainty within the report on the part of the observer.

## Did You Know?

Full copies of *The Chat* dating back to the very first issue, March 1937, are available for viewing online. Find these and more at:

<https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/chat/>



# BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

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(All dates Summer 2023, unless otherwise noted)

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*Briefs for the Files is a seasonal collection of uncommon-to-rare or unusual North and South Carolina bird sightings and events which do not necessarily require a more detailed Field Note or article. Reports of your sightings are due the 20th of the month after the end of the previous season.*

Winter	December 1–February 28	due March 20
Spring	March 1–May 31	due June 20
Summer	June 1–July 31	due August 20
Fall	August 1–November 30	due December 20

*Reports may be submitted in any format, but I prefer that you use email, list multiple sightings in taxonomic order (rather than by date or location) and type your report directly into the body of the email. If your sightings are in a file, please copy-and-paste the text into the body of the email, rather than sending an attachment.*

*Suitable reports for the Briefs include any sightings you feel are unusual, rare, noteworthy, or just plain interesting to you in any way! It is my responsibility to decide which reports merit inclusion in the Briefs.*

*Please be sure to include details of any rare or hard-to-identify birds.*

*I rely in part on sightings reported in Carolinabirds. Please don't, however, rely on me to pick up your sightings from Carolinabirds. Instead, please also send your sightings directly to me as described above.*

*If I feel that your sighting warrants a Field Note, I will contact either you or the appropriate state Field Notes editor. You may, of course, submit your Field Note directly to the editor without going through me.*

Abbreviations: **BRC** – Bird Records Committee, **et al.** – and others, **Ft** – Fort, **m. obs.** – multiple observers, **Mt** – Mount, **NC** – North Carolina, **NWR** – National Wildlife Refuge, **Rd** – Road, **SC** – South Carolina, **SP** – State Park, **WMA** – Wildlife Management Area

*All place names preceding NC/SC, also in italics, are counties.*

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck:** Six in Belhaven *Beaufort* NC 6 Jun (Lisa Peavy) and, likely the same flock of six, in northeastern *Craven* NC 29 Jun (Lester Coble, m. obs.) were notable for that area of NC. Farthest inland were four in northwestern *Richland* SC 2 Jun (Hilda Flamholtz, m. obs.) and two at the McKinney Lake Fish Hatchery *Richmond* NC 18 Jul (Rex Badgett).

**Mute Swan:** Possibly of wild origin were a seemingly-mated pair at Pea Island NWR *Dare* NC 4 Jun (Jack Jenkins, et al.) through 29 Jun (m. obs.) and a flock of six including two sub-adults in *Carteret* NC, in flight over Beaufort 10 Jun (Matt Spangler) and at Davis Impoundment from late June (*fide* John Fussell) through 18 Jul (Marty Wall).

**Blue-winged Teal:** A drake at Simpson Research Station *Anderson* SC 16 May (Steve Patterson) intermittently through 12 Jul (Kevin Kubach) and two, a drake and a hen, at a retention pond in Pineville *Mecklenburg* NC 16 May (Greg Hays) through 21 Jul (Dennis Kent) were unusual for the Piedmont region in summer.

**American Wigeon:** A drake at the Savannah Spoil Site (restricted access) *Jasper* SC 2 Jun (Steve Calver, et al.) was late to depart.

**Northern Pintail:** Individual drakes at Durant Nature Preserve *Wake* NC through 9 Jun (Sara Marschhauser, m. obs.) and in *Pasquotank* NC 15-20 Jun (Greg Hudson) were quite late.

**Green-winged Teal:** Two, a drake and a hen, at the Savannah Spoil Site (restricted access) *Jasper* SC 2 Jun (Steve Calver, et al.) were late.

**Ring-necked Duck:** Eight, a mix of drakes and hens, in the Bluff Unit of Santee NWR *Clarendon* SC 27 Jun (Ron Ahle) and 1 Jul (Jonathan Manchester) was a remarkable count for mid-summer, though no evidence of nesting was seen. Individual drakes on Lake Julian *Buncombe* NC throughout the period (m. obs.), in *Pasquotank* NC 15-20 Jun (Greg Hudson), and on Pinnacle Lake at Table Rock SP *Pickens* SC through 19 Jul (Scott Stetenga) were also unusual for summer.

**Greater Scaup:** A hen photographed on South Pond at Pea Island NWR *Dare* NC 12 Jun (Melanie Crawford, Ann Stinely) was quite late.

**Lesser Scaup:** For the fourth summer in a row a Lesser Scaup was reported on the Pamlico River in Washington *Beaufort* NC, this year a drake photographed 26 Jun (Kevin O’Kane). A hen in southwestern *Rockingham* NC 7 Jun (Jesse Haaf, et al.) and a drake at the upper end of Lake Norman in *Catawba* NC 13 Jun (Caroline Martin) were also unusual for summer.

**Surf Scoter:** Individuals lingered into early summer at Ft Moultrie *Charleston* SC 4-5 Jun (Matt Johnson, et al.), at Morris Island *Charleston* SC 9 Jun (Elizabeth & Jonathan Anderegg), around Federal Point at Ft Fisher *New Hanover* NC through 11 Jun (Eric Butler), and at Jennette’s Pier *Dare* NC 28 Jun (Andrew Thornton, m. obs.). A drake photographed at Federal Point at Ft Fisher 24 Jul (Zane Fish, Ash Ranson) was very late.

**White-winged Scoter:** One photographed on the ocean along Morris Island *Charleston* SC 9 Jun (Elizabeth & Jonathan Anderegg) was late.

**Black Scoter:** Not unusually, a fair number of Black Scoters lingered into early summer at sites along the coast, this year mostly from *Carteret* NC south to *Charleston* SC. Some of the higher counts were 20 off Kiawah Island *Charleston* SC 8 Jun (Alexander Middleleer, et al.), seven off Ft Fisher *New Hanover* NC 10 Jun (Jeremy Braun), and 16 off Garden City Pier *Horry* SC 14 Jun (Michael Robertson). Pairs in flight off Ft Macon SP *Carteret* NC 24 Jul (Marty Wall) and off Myrtle Beach *Horry* SC 31 Jul (Amanda Brown, et al.) were especially late.

**Bufflehead:** A drake photographed near Sheldon *Beaufort* SC 16 Jun (Jake Zadik) was very late.

**Common Merganser:** A family group of one hen and four immature/sub-adult birds seen along the Linville River just above Lake James *Burke* NC 14 Jun (Clayton Gibb) may have nested somewhere in that area. Family groups continued intermittently through summer at four of the five sites in the NC mountains where nesting was confirmed in May (m. obs.).

**Red-breasted Merganser:** A drake on Lake Keowee *Oconee* SC from May (m. obs.) through 26 Jun (Bryan McDonald) and a hen in northwestern *Person* NC 19 Jun (Al Hooks, Audrey Whitlock) were unusual for sites away from the coast in summer.

**Ruddy Duck:** Ruddy Ducks lingered into early summer at multiple sites, with counts including 14 at Martin Marietta Park *Craven* NC 9 Jun (Jacob Clark) and ten on South Pond at Pea Island NWR *Dare* NC 10 Jun (Karen Lebing). A drake on the Salt Pond at Cape Point *Dare* NC 24 Jul into August (John Kuenzli, m. obs.) either over-summered in the area or arrived very early.

**Horned Grebe:** One photographed on the Savannah River just below the Lake Hartwell Dam *Anderson* SC 24 Jul (Jason Corder) and, likely the same individual, photographed near the dam on Lake Murray *Lexington* SC 2 Aug (Irvin Pitts) was very unusual for summer. These sightings are not without precedent, however, as a Horned Grebe summered on Lake Keowee, also in the SC Piedmont, in 2020 and 2021.

**Virginia Rail:** The pair heard calling in a cattail marsh southwest of Boone *Watauga* NC, at 3600', in late May and June apparently bred at that site, as a recently-fledged juvenile was seen there 23 Jun (Andrew Rapp).

**Purple Gallinule:** Somewhat inland of the species' typical breeding range, successful nesting was confirmed in the Cuddo Unit of Santee NWR *Clarendon* SC when three recently-fledged juveniles were seen alongside two adults 22 Jul (Irvin Pitts) and at a pond in central *Allendale* SC when an adult was seen alongside a juvenile 24 Jun (Cherrie Sneed) and 8 Jul (Mary Jo Dawson).



**Limpkin:** Successful nesting was confirmed again this year at SC's two known nesting sites—in the Island Green community in southern *Horry*, when four juveniles were seen alongside two adults 19 Jun (Rod Gonzalez), and at the upper end of Goose Creek Reservoir *Berkeley*, when two juveniles were seen alongside two adults 1 Jul (Barbara & Don Alexander, Jim Bunn, *fide* Craig Watson). Elsewhere in SC, individuals were photographed at Pinckney Island *Beaufort* 23 Jun (Michael Oliver), at Savannah NWR *Jasper* 4 Jul (Tammy Hester), and on Lake Marion *Clarendon* 25 Jul (Carl Bussells). Post-breeding wanderers photographed at Badin Lake *Stanly* NC 19 Jul (Barbara Tuset) and on the Catawba River in western *Mecklenburg* NC 21 Jul (Dennis Kent, m. obs.) were one-day wonders, notable for NC.

**Sandhill Crane:** One photographed in an agricultural area of eastern *Wilson* NC 15 Jul (Phil Doerr, Clyde Sorenson, et al.), where reportedly present three weeks, was unusual for July.

**American Avocet:** A flock of 11 in flight over Salem Lake *Forsyth* NC 11 Jul (John Haire) and one in flight over Falls Lake *Durham* and *Wake* NC 21 Jul (Ed Corey, et al.) were notable inland.

**Pacific Golden-Plover:** One, presumably the same individual seen there in late July for the past four years, was seen around Cape Point Buxton *Dare* NC 16-31 Jul (Megan Baker, Daniel Irons, m. obs.). Unlike previous years, the majority of sightings this year were made in the campground, likely because of a lack of suitable grass-flats around the Salt Pond.



*Pacific Golden-Plover,  
18 July 2023, Dare County, NC.  
Photograph by Kent Fiala.*

**Upland Sandpiper:** One seen at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Lane in *Henderson* NC 31 Jul (Amy Jackson, Vince Kloster) was our first “uppie” of fall.

**Long-billed Curlew:** One was seen on Bulls Island at Cape Romain NWR *Charleston* SC 21 Jun (David McLean).

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** One seen and photographed in the Dalzell unit of the Modern Turf farm in *Sumter* SC 30-31 Jul (Matt Rivers, m. obs.) was somewhat early.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** One photographed on the eastern end of Sunset Beach *Brunswick* NC 1 Jul (Liling Warren) was early.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** Two photographed near Clemson *Pickens* SC 7 Jun (Kevin Kubach) were somewhat late for a site so far from the coast.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** Pairs seen and photographed along Concord Church Rd in *Person* NC 8 Jul (Susan Jones, m. obs.) and in the Horsepen Creek arm of Lake Brandt *Guilford* NC 22 Jul (Elizabeth and Henry Link, m. obs.) were good finds inland.

**Willet:** Individuals photographed in the Horsepen Creek arm of Lake Brandt *Guilford* NC 20-26 Jun (Henry Link, m. obs.) and at Oak Hollow Lake *Guilford* NC 5 Jul (Heather Buttonow) were rather early inland for those inland sites. Three photographed in flight over Lake Norman in *Mecklenburg* NC 22 Jul (Steve Coggin, et al.) were also notable inland.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** An adult female photographed at Huntington Beach SP *Georgetown* SC 17 Jun (Ken & Julie Davis) was unusual for mid-June. At Pea Island NWR *Dare* NC, an adult male was seen at South Pond 28-30 Jun (Karen Lebing, m. obs.) and at North Pond 22-30 Jul (Daniel Irons, m. obs.).

**Red-necked Phalarope:** One seen and photographed on South Pond at Pea Island NWR *Dare* NC 28-29 Jun (Karen Lebing, m. obs.) was unusual for mid-summer.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** Individuals photographed at the Savannah Spoil Site (restricted access) *Jasper* SC 2 Jun (Steve Calver, et al.) and in Corolla *Dare* NC 5 Jun (Christian Hawn, et al.) were somewhat late.

**Laughing Gull:** A migrant flock of 12 at Harris Lake *Wake* NC 11 Jun (Kevin Markham) were rather late for an inland site. An adult individual seen and photographed on Ecusta Pond *Transylvania* NC 19-21 Jun (Nathaniel Axtell, m. obs.) was unusual for the mountain region, especially in mid-summer.

**Heermann's Gull:** An adult, presumably the same individual intermittently seen at scattered sites along the coast for the past two years, was photographed at Cape Lookout *Carteret* NC 1 Jul (Matthew Press).

**Least Tern:** One photographed in flight over Oak Hollow Lake *Guilford* NC 18 Jun (Milko Gervet) was very unusual for the NC Piedmont away from the passage of a tropical storm.

**Caspian Tern:** One at Ecusta Pond *Transylvania* NC 21 Jun (Nathaniel Axtell) was unusual for the mountain region in mid-summer.



*Roseate Terns, 3 Jun 2023, Ft Macon SP,  
Carteret County NC.  
Photograph by Marty Wall.*

**Roseate Tern:** Sightings continued around Ft Macon SP *Carteret* NC from late May through 18 Jun (Marty Wall) with a high count of seven, a remarkable count for that area, made 3-4 Jun (Wall, m. obs.). In *Dare* NC, one or two were seen around Cape Point intermittently through the period (m. obs.) and four were seen on the beach on the southern side of Oregon Inlet 30 Jul (Daniel Irons). Notable for SC and pending review by its BRC is the report with photographs of an apparent Roseate Tern on the beach at Huntington Beach SP *Georgetown* 20-30 Jun (Dale Reynolds, m. obs.).

**Common Tern:** Individuals photographed over Lake Norman in *Mecklenburg* 17 Jun (Patty Masten, et al.) and over Moss Lake *Cleveland* NC 22 Jun (Kevin Clary, Vicky Burke) were unusual for the Piedmont region in June.

**Forster's Tern:** Four in flight over Ecusta Pond *Transylvania* NC 21 Jun (Nathaniel Axtell) was a remarkable count for the mountain region in June.

**Red-throated Loon:** One photographed on the Pamlico Sound in Waves *Dare* NC 11 Jun (Karen Lebing) was quite late.

**Wilson's Storm-Petrel:** The flurry of from-shore sightings caused by a stalled weather system off the coast in late May continued into early June, with reports made from most coastal counties from *Dare* NC south to *Charleston* SC. 80 over Beaufort Inlet from Ft Macon SP *Carteret* NC 7 Jun (Marty Wall) was a notable count for that area.

**Cory's Shearwater:** 75 in flight off Cape Lookout *Carteret* NC 6 Jun (Jack Rogers, Christian Smith) was a notable count for that site. 742 in eastbound flight off Cape Point *Dare* NC 21 Jun (Daniel Irons) was the summer's high count.

**Audubon's Shearwater:** From-shore sightings were made at several sites in late July, likely related to a period of easterly winds. Individuals photographed in flight off Myrtle Beach SP Pier *Horry* SC 23 Jul (Scott Hartley), at Masonboro Inlet *New Hanover* NC 26 Jul (Megan Kasprzak), and in Southern Shores *Dare* NC 30 Jul (Jeff Lewis) were notable for those areas.

**Wood Stork:** 368 at a known nesting colony at a private lake in southern *Columbus* NC 31 May (Charlie Ayers, Duncan Fraser) was a notable count for NC. Two seen in flight over western Winston-Salem *Forsyth* NC 1 Jun (Nathan Gatto) were unusual for the

Piedmont region in early June. Post-breeding dispersal started up towards the end of July, with one along Mud Creek in *Henderson* NC 23 Jul (Bob Butler) and 29 Jul (Cathy Ford, m. obs.) being notable for the mountain region.

**Magnificent Frigatebird:** Individuals were seen in flight over dozens of coastal sites this summer, mostly 10 Jun through 4 Jul, with a peak 24-27 Jun following a period of easterly winds. Many reports likely involved the same individual moving up/down the coast.

**Masked Booby:** Individuals were seen near the shelf break about 30 miles southeast of Cape Point *Dare* NC 16 Jun (Katherine Wychulis) and 17 Jun and 20 Jul (Daniel Irons).

**Brown Booby:** Immature individuals were seen on the ocean near the shelf break southeast of Cape Point *Dare* NC 16 Jun (Katherine Wychulis) and 29 Jun and 19 Jul (Daniel Irons). A sick/injured immature bird found on Holden Beach *Brunswick* NC 24 Jul (David Wilson) was taken to a wildlife rehabilitation facility.

**Anhinga:** Successful nesting confirmed at the upper end of High Point Lake *Guilford* NC, where four adults and two active nests with a total of six juveniles were found 3 Jun (Linda & Paul Sumner, Matt Wangerin), was notable for the upper Piedmont region.

**Great Cormorant:** Individuals seen and photographed at Beaufort Inlet *Carteret* NC 13 Jun through 7 Aug (Marty Wall, m. obs.) and at Masonboro Inlet *New Hanover* NC 22 Jun and 24 Jul (Sam Cooper) were unusual for mid-summer. Though this species is regular at both sites in winter, none were seen at either site in April or May this year, suggesting these birds arrived in mid-June rather than lingering from winter.

**Brown Pelican:** An adult photographed at Lake Julian *Buncombe* NC 12 Jun (G. Ivey, John Koon) was only the fourth ever documented in the NC mountains. Other inland sightings involved an immature bird on Lake Hartwell *Anderson* SC 28 Jun through 4 Jul (Jason Corder, m. obs.), an adult on Lake Murray *Lexington* SC 30 Jun through 8 Jul (Zach Steinhauser, m. obs.), three, one adult and two immatures, on Lake Murray 24 Jul (Jim Browning), and two on Lake Wylie *York* SC 28 Jul (Harley Conrad).

**Least Bittern:** Three “singing” birds at a private lake in eastern *Moore* NC 17 Jun (John Bird, et al.) was suggestive of attempted nesting at that site.

**Snowy Egret:** Farthest inland this period was one at Kanuga Lake *Watauga* NC 17 Jul (Tommy Llama, et al.).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** Counts of five at Lake Twitty *Union* NC 6 Jun and 18 Jul (Dennis Kent) and a count of eight, five adults and three juveniles, 23 Aug (Kent) were suggestive of nesting at that site. An immature individual seen at Lake Tomahawk *Buncombe* NC 1-22 Jul (Walter Somerville, m. obs.) was somewhat unusual for the mountain region.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** In the NC Piedmont, successful nesting was confirmed at Miller Park *Forsyth* when two juveniles were seen on a nest 8 Jun (Marbry Hopkins) and at Ephesus Park *Orange* when a total of nine juveniles were seen on two nests 18 Jun (Kent Fiala). Not far from the nesting site in *Orange*, nesting was suspected at Sandy Creek Park *Durham* where up to five adults and two juveniles were seen through summer (m. obs.) and along Lower Little Creek in southwestern *Durham* where three juveniles were seen alongside two adults 30 Jun (Mark DiGiovanni).

**Glossy Ibis:** One at Horseshoe Road Nature Preserve *Granville* NC 31 Jul (Mike Manetz) was unusual for that area.



*Roseate Spoonbill, 8 July 2023,  
Iredell County NC.  
Photograph by Ian McDonald.*

**Roseate Spoonbill:** Like four of the past five years, spoonbills made a remarkable push northward and inland during the period of post-breeding dispersal in late summer. In NC, inland sightings included one at Tuckertown Lake *Rowan* 23 Jun (Linda Grebe), one in northern High Point *Guilford* 3-6 Jul (Brenda Hiles-Hurt, m. obs.), one at Lake Norman SP *Iredell* 3-10 Jul (F. Cassarino, m. obs.), one in Roaring River *Wilkes* 3-29 Jul (Andrew Rapp, m. obs.), three in northwestern *Richmond* 19 Jul (Mary Hatton), one at Wiggins Mill Reservoir *Wilson* 22-29 Jul (Alex Fuller, m. obs.), and two at Richardson-Taylor Preserve *Guilford* 29 Jul into August (Elizabeth Link, Linda Sumner, m. obs.). In SC, inland sightings included three at Lee SP *Lee* 10 Jun (Laura Kirk), two along Bluff Rd in *Richland* 24 Jun (John Grego), three along SC-6 in *Calhoun* 22 Jul (Thad Raymond, m. obs.), and one at Ninety-Six National Historic Site *Greenwood* 23 Jul (Chris Contakos). Double-digit counts at Huntington Beach SP *Georgetown* SC throughout the period (m. obs.), including a count of 50 made there 8 Jul (Stacy Hartman), were notable for the northern SC coast.

**Swallow-tailed Kite:** Two over US-64 near Jamesville *Martin* NC 25 Jun through 1 Jul (Ricky Davis, m. obs.) and one over eastern *Cabarrus* NC 25 Jun (Matthew Withrow) were early post-breeding wanderers. Later in July, individuals were seen over sites in the NC Piedmont including Summerfield *Guilford* 8 Jul (Matt Wangerin), I-40 in western *Iredell* 14 Jul (Brian Bockhahn), Abbots Creek Trail in *Wake* 16 Jul (Lori Arent, et al.), central *Gaston* 17 Jul (Erin Hines), and eastern *Wilkes* 29 Jul (Alex Trifunovic). Notable counts for the SC Piedmont included 16 in northern *Laurens* 13 Jul (Simon Harvey), seven along Keasler Rd in *Anderson* 17 Jul (Ann Bailes), 13 in southwestern *Spartanburg* 21 Jul (Matthew Campbell), and six in northern *Spartanburg* 27 Jul (Rick Veazey, m. obs.). The peak count at the annual late-summer gathering over fields in southern *Aiken* SC was 210 on 22 Jul (Carol Eldridge).



**Northern Harrier:** Individuals lingered throughout the summer at the Voice of America site in *Beaufort* NC (Miles Buddy, David True, m. obs.) and at Cedar Island NWR *Carteret* NC (m. obs.). One seen in flight over the French Broad River in *Henderson* NC 14 Jun (Marilyn Westphal) was unusual for the mountain region in mid-June.

**Mississippi Kite:** Nesting was confirmed in northwestern Winston-Salem *Forsyth* NC where, after a nest was discovered 16 Jun (Leslie Poole), two adults were seen tending to an unfledged juvenile 23 Jul (John Haire).

**Broad-winged Hawk:** Successful nesting confirmed in eastern *Lenoir* NC, where a family group of one adult and two vocal juveniles were seen 15 Jul (Duncan Fraser), was notable for that area.

**Red-cockaded Woodpecker:** Individuals seen in a managed portion of Sumter National Forest in northern *Newberry* SC, where photographed 17 Jun (Jeff Magniez, Cherrie Sneed), and near Jordan Lake State Educational Forest *Chatham* NC, where audio-recorded calling 10 Jul (Fleeta Chauvigne, Mark Montazer), were great finds for those former breeding areas.

**Merlin:** Suggestive of possible nesting in the NC mountains were summer reports of one at Mountain Aire Golf Course in *Ashe* NC 24 Jun (Clifton Avery) through 8 Jul (Tammy & Tom Sanders), one at Mt Mitchell SP *Yancey* NC 10 Jul (Catherine Reid, Debbie Segal), two in Banner Elk *Avery* NC 20 Jul (Alex Trifunovic), and one near Black Balsam Knob *Haywood* NC 17-21 Jul (Andrew Rapp, m. obs.).

**Western Kingbird:** Individuals photographed at Cape Point Campground *Dare* NC 9 Jun (David & Susan Disher, Roper Halverson) and along Tuttle Rd in *Stokes* NC 18 Jun (Tony & Cara Woods) were very unusual for the summer period.

**Gray Kingbird:** An individual photographed at Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve *Charleston* SC 12 Jun (William Twomey) was the only one reported this summer.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:** The pair nesting again this year near the York-Rock Hill Airport *York* SC were likely unsuccessful, as no juveniles were seen there and the adults departed by July. The pair seen along Williamson Rd *York* SC in late May likely nested somewhere in that area, as three were seen there 28 Jun and 24 Jul (Marcus & Cheryl Morris). Pairs seen three miles to the south in northern *Chester* SC 24 Jul (Morris) and three miles to the northwest along Oak Park Rd in *York* SC 30 Jun (Morris) may have been part of that same family group. Individuals photographed on powerlines in agricultural areas in northwestern *Iredell* NC 2 Jun (Caroline Martin), along Daisy Thompson Rd in *Person* NC 2 Jun (Jeff Blalock, m. obs.) and along Harris Grove Rd in northern *Laurens* SC 10 Jul (Simon Harvey) did not stick around.

**Plumbeous Vireo:** Pending review by the NC BRC is the report with photographs of an apparent Plumbeous Vireo, reportedly an actively singing adult male, on Colington Island *Dare* NC 7 Jun (David True, m. obs.). If accepted, the report would provide the first record of this western relative of the Blue-headed Vireo anywhere in the Carolinas.



*Apparent Plumbeous Vireo,  
7 Jun 2023, Colington Island,  
Dare County NC.  
Photograph by David Disher.*

**Warbling Vireo:** Singing males were reported at a few sites in the eastern Piedmont in very early June, though none established territory. A singing male in Roaring River *Wilkes* NC 4-7 Jul (Guy McGrane, Andrew Rapp, m. obs.) was unusual for that area.

**Black-whiskered Vireo:** One photographed and audio-recorded singing at the Old Burying Ground in Beaufort *Carteret* NC 16-17 Jun (Marty Wall, m. obs.) was a great find.

**Loggerhead Shrike:** Nesting confirmed southeast of Murfreesboro *Hertford* NC where an adult was seen carrying nesting material 24 Jun (Jack Rogers) and at Dutchman's Creek Lake *Davie* NC where three juveniles were seen alongside an adult 18 Jul (Paul Nielson) was notable for those areas.

**Bank Swallow:** One over North River Preserve *Carteret* NC 27 Jun (John Fussell) was unusual for mid-summer.

**Cliff Swallow:** 350 at an under-bridge nesting colony where US-601 crosses the Congaree River in southeastern *Richland* SC 7 May (Ron Ahle) was a notable count. An under-bridge nesting colony where US-701 crosses the Black River in *Georgetown* SC, where up to 35 were seen 7-14 Jul (Ken Davis), was notable for that area.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** One seen at Highlands Biological Station in southeastern *Macon* NC 8 Jun (Paul McKenzie) was extremely late.

**Evening Grosbeak:** An adult male photographed at a feeder near Brevard *Transylvania* NC 10 Jun (Niruka Alley) and a female seen near Spruce Pine *Mitchell* NC 13 Jun (Adam Duff) were extremely late, likely lingering from this past winter's mini-irruption.

**Lapland Longspur:** One photographed in grassy dunes near the Salt Pond at Cape Point *Dare* NC 5 Jun (Megan Baker, m. obs.) was incredibly late, the first ever documented in the Carolinas during the summer period.

**Lark Sparrow:** Counts at Ft Liberty (restricted access) of seven in northern *Hoke* NC 1 Jun (Nick Spigler) and eight in central *Hoke* 17 Jun (Spigler) were suggestive of successful nesting there. Birders are reminded that Ft Liberty is an active military base and closed to the public.

**Bobolink:** Nesting was suspected again this year along Bamboo Rd in *Watauga* NC where 15 were seen 19 May (Jan Mouro) and three continued through summer (m. obs.), at Island Ford Landing *Transylvania* NC where seven continued through 15 Jun (Nick Accardo), and near Beech Mountain in western *Watauga* NC where four continued through 18 Jun (Alex Trifunovic).

**Northern Waterthrush:** One at Brumley Nature Preserve South *Orange* NC 26 Jul (Kent Fiala, et al.) was rather early.

**Swainson's Warbler:** Singing adult males at Fant Grove WMA *Anderson* SC for a fourth summer in a row 8 May through 7 July (Kevin Kubach), at Pharr Family Preserve *Cabarrus* NC for a third summer in a row 13-18 Jun (Rick Simpson, m. obs.), and along the Deep River Trail in Franklinville *Randolph* NC 3 Jul (Fleeta Chauvigne, Mark Montazer) were notable for those areas of the Piedmont.

**Cerulean Warbler:** One photographed in Chapel Hill *Orange* NC 30 Jul (Jin Bai) was quite early for a site away from the mountain region.

**Magnolia Warbler:** Singing males in Banner Elk *Avery* NC, at 3700', 17 Jun (Alex Trifunovic) and at an overgrown fir tree farm in northwestern *Ashe* NC, at 3280', 12 Jul (Andrew Rapp) were unusual for those areas. Pairs likely nested on Roan Mountain *Mitchell* NC where one or two singing males and one female were seen intermittently through the summer (m. obs.) and in the Beacon Heights area near Grandfather Mountain *Avery* NC where an adult was seen carrying food 28 Jul (Charlie Ayers, et al.).

**Yellow Warbler:** An adult male photographed at Alligator River NWR *Dare* NC 11 Jun (Liling Warren) was quite late for a site in the outer coastal plain.

**Pine Warbler:** Successful nesting at New River SP *Ashe* NC confirmed when two recently fledged juveniles were seen alongside an adult 13 Jun (Ed & Sheila Bremer) was notable for the northwest corner of NC.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** Singing males on Roan Mountain *Mitchell* NC and Clingmans Dome *Swain* NC intermittently throughout the period (m. obs.), at Grandfather Mountain *Avery* NC 16 Jun (David Schroder), and Mt Mitchell *Yancey* NC 28 Jul (Austin Jones), were suggestive of attempted nesting at those sites.

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** Successful nesting confirmed at Valle Crucis Community Park *Watauga* NC when two recently fledged juveniles were seen alongside an adult 5 Jul (Paul Laurent, et al.) was notable for the northwest corner of NC.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** An adult male photographed at a feeder in Waves *Dare* NC 4 Jun (Karen Lebing) was quite late for a site outside of the mountains.

**Painted Bunting:** Singing males on territory at five sites in *Robeson* NC—near Pembroke 28 Jun (Christian Smith), at three sites near Rowland 29 Jun (Jack Rogers), and near Lumber Bridge 30 Jun (Smith)—were notable for that non-coastal NC county. Nesting was confirmed at the site near Lumber Bridge when a juvenile was photographed there 15 Jul (Hal Broadfoot). The singing male on territory at Dorothea Dix Park *Wake* NC for a second year in a row continued through the summer and was last seen 10 Aug (Natalie Barbour).

**Dickcissel:** Counts at known/suspected breeding sites in the Piedmont included two near the intersection Dairyland Rd and Meadow View Rd in *Orange* NC throughout the period (m. obs.), up to three singing males along Howerton Rd *Guilford* NC throughout the period (m. obs.), up to four singing males at Dobbins Farm *Anderson* SC in June (m. obs.), two singing males along Old Mountain Rd in western *Iredell* NC 29 May through 4 Jul (Monroe Pannell, m. obs.), two singing males along Compton Rd in northwestern *Orange* NC 11-19 Jun (Don Pelly, m. obs.), and up to three singing males along Harris Grove Rd in *Laurens* SC 10 Jul through 2 Aug (Simon Harvey, m. obs.). Near the coast, Dickcissels likely attempted to nest at North River Preserve *Carteret* NC where up to four were seen throughout the period (m. obs.) and at Alligator River NWR *Dare* NC where a singing male was seen NC 1-29 Jun (Karen Lebing, m. obs.) and a count of three, two singing males and one female, was made 16 Jun (Andrew Thornton). A female individual photographed along the Pitt Street Causeway *Charleston* SC 8 Jun (Sophie Dismukes) was unusual for a site along the coast in summer.

# CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)

The Carolina Bird Club is a non-profit organization which represents and supports the birding community in the Carolinas through its official website, publications, meetings, workshops, trips, and partnerships, whose mission is

- To promote the observation, enjoyment, and study of birds.
- To provide opportunities for birders to become acquainted, and to share information and experience.
- To maintain well-documented records of birds in the Carolinas.
- To support the protection and conservation of birds and their habitats and foster an appreciation and respect of natural resources.
- To promote educational opportunities in bird and nature study.
- To support research on birds of the Carolinas and their habitats.

Membership is open to all persons interested in the conservation, natural history, and study of wildlife with particular emphasis on birds. Dues, contributions, and bequests to the Club may be deductible from state and federal income and estate taxes to the extent allowable. Pay dues or make donations at <https://carolinabirdclub.org/dues>. Make change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile>. Send correspondence regarding membership matters to the Headquarters Secretary. Answers to questions about the club might be found at <https://carolinabirdclub.org/about.html>.

## ANNUAL DUES

Individual or non-profit.....	\$30.00
Family.....	\$35.00
Student.....	\$15.00
Sustaining and businesses.....	\$30.00
Patron.....	\$50.00 and up
Life Membership (payable in four consecutive \$125 installments) .....	\$500.00
Associate Life Membership (in same household as life member).....	\$100.00

## ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Susan Campbell, Apex NC	<a href="mailto:susan@ncaves.com">susan@ncaves.com</a>
NC Vice-Presidents	Christine Stoughton Root, Arapahoe NC Katie Greenberg, Arden NC	
SC Vice-President	Julie Davis, Pawleys Island SC	
Secretary	Karaleah Reichart, Raleigh NC	
Treasurer	Jared Miles, Charlotte NC	
NC Members-at-Large	Betsy Kane, Washington NC Paul Laurent, Banner Elk NC Bob Lewis, Durham NC Barbara "Kitty" Reynolds, Asheville NC	
SC Members-at-Large	Vacant Position Richard Hayes, Charleston SC	

## EX-OFFICIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chat Editor	Steve Shultz, Apex, NC	<a href="mailto:chat@carolinabirdclub.org">chat@carolinabirdclub.org</a>
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Website Editor	Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC	<a href="mailto:webeditor@carolinabirdclub.org">webeditor@carolinabirdclub.org</a>
Immediate Past President	Steve Tracy, Gastonia, NC	

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