

# THE ORIOLE

A Quarterly Journal of Georgia Ornithology; Official Organ of the  
Georgia Ornithological Society



VOL. XXVIII

JUNE, 1963

No. 2



# THE ORIOLE

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## CONTENTS

CHANGING STATUS OF OCCURRENCE OF THE GLOSSY IBIS, By GEORGE W. SCIPLE, M. D. ....	23
BARN SWALLOWS NESTING IN MURRAY COUNTY GEORGIA By ANNE P. HAMILTON .....	26
BARN SWALLOWS IN THE WEST POINT AREA DURING THE SUMMER By GRACE M. WHITEMAN .....	28
GENERAL NOTES .....	29
FROM THE FIELD .....	35
NEWS AND COMMENTS .....	36
RECENT LITERATURE .....	41

GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
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## CHANGING STATUS OF OCCURRENCE OF THE GLOSSY IBIS

By GEORGE W. SCIPLE, M.D.

The Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) has been regarded in the past as an extremely rare migrant or rare transient in Georgia. (Greene, *et al*, 1945) (Burleigh, 1958). Recent records suggest that this status may be changing.

A compilation of the published records of occurrences of the species in the state is presented in Table I.

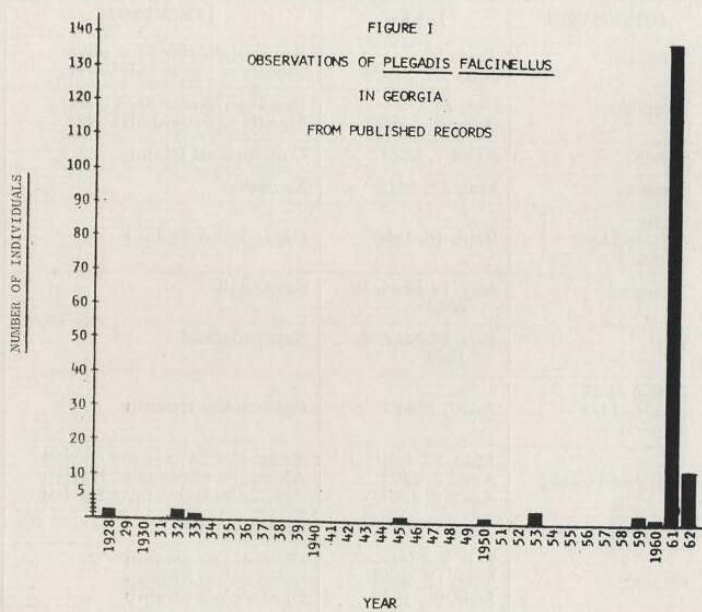
TABLE I  
PUBLISHED OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCURRENCE OF THE  
GLOSSY IBIS IN GEORGIA

OBSERVER	DATE	LOCATION
Tomkins	June 14 Aug. 12 1928	Brackish Water area near Mouth of Savannah River
Tomkins	Oct. 23 Oct. 25 1932	Brackish Water area near Mouth of Savannah River
Sprunt	April 7, 1933	Cumberland Island
Thomas	May 17, 1945	Augusta
Eadie (Quoted by Cypert)	Sept. 16, 1950	Okefenokee Swamp
Tomkins	Aug. 14-Sept. 19, 1953	Savannah
Teal	Feb. 28-Mar. 4, 1959	Sapelo Island
Fulks, et al (Quoted by Cypert)	April, 1960	Okefenokee Swamp
Craig and Craig	Mar. 26, 1961 April 2, 1961 April 9, 1961	Altamaha River near Darien Altamaha River near Darien Altamaha River near Darien
Craig and Craig	June 11, 1961	Jekyll Island
Cypert	Feb. 2, 1962 Mar. 15, 1962 Mar. 28, 1962	Okefenokee Swamp Okefenokee Swamp Okefenokee Swamp



Two further 1962 occurrences have been noted by the author in a salt marsh environment at McQueen's Island, between the south channel of the Savannah River and Wassaw Sound. Six birds were seen in flight late in the afternoon of 19 May. These birds were low over the marsh, but were not seen to alight. On 21 May, at 7:45 A.M., a single bird was seen landing in an area largely covered by a heavy growth of marsh grass (*Spartina alterniflora*), and interlaced with shallow salt water tidal channels and mud flats. On neither occasion was the author able to stay in the area to see whether other birds of the same species were present, or whether they would appear subsequently. These observations will be included in the data which Figure I, to follow, presents.

Figure I shows the number of individual Glossy Ibises observed in the State of Georgia and recorded by publication from 1928 through 1962. Authors counts or estimates are tabulated without modification, though it should be pointed out that the 1961 observations of numerous birds in the same general area on three successive Sundays may or may not have included repeated observations of portions of the same flock, as stressed by the authors. (Craig and Craig, 1961)



The observations of Hebard (1950) are not included in Table I nor Figure I because the information given in the published note is considered too tenuous to accept.

On the basis of the data presented, it would seem that the status of the Glossy Ibis in Georgia has changed in recent years. It is now more frequently seen, and in greater numbers, than in former years. The reasons for this observed change are at present unknown, though suspected ones are a presumed greater population of this species, a greater number of interested and qualified observers, and favored habitat more accessible than formerly to the observers.

P. O. Box 279

Savannah Beach, Georgia

April 3, 1963

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## BARN SWALLOWS BUILDING NEST IN MURRAY COUNTY, GEORGIA

By ANNE P. HAMILTON

After a unit of study on birds Tom Hefner, a sixth grade student, reported to his teacher, Ruth Cox, on May 17, 1963, that Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) were building a nest in his brother's barn in north-west Murray County, Georgia. Miss Cox, Mourine King, and I visited the location on May 19 and spotted the half-built nest after watching a pair of swallows flying in and out of the barn. At first we thought there must be young in the nest, but discovered that mud and not food was being carried in by an adult. We observed this adult, presumably the female, perch in the nest and work the material into it. The swallow's mate also flew into the barn and sat on an adjoining rafter while the other worked. They then flew together in the direction of the adjacent pasture and farm pond.

The nest at this stage appeared to be a cup stuck to a 2" x 6" beam in the manner of a Chimney Swift's nest. In the barn proper, it was made of mud and grass and was within three feet of an adjoining cow shed through which the birds always entered the nest area. Two other Barn Swallows twittering in flight around the barn may have been nesting also, though we saw no evidence.

The farm and barn of LeRoy Hefner are about 18 miles northwest of Chatsworth, the county seat, between Conasauga River and Sugar Creek in a section known as "Little Murray". Tom Hefner stated that this species has nested in the barn each year since his brother acquired the property three years ago.

This is one of very few nests of this species reported in the state. Prior to 1904 a small colony nested on Wassaw Island (Burleigh, 1958). The first nest in recent years was found by Henry M. Stevenson and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene West on June 15, 1957, on Lookout Mountain (Stevenson, 1957). Glenn Bell located a nest on July 17, 1958, in Union County (Bell, 1959). Birds, but no nests, have been observed along the Georgia coast in the summer of 1962. (Sciple, 1962) and at Rome in the nesting season (Jones, 1947). These swallows have appeared at least twice in Whitfield County in summer; a nest reported in a barn near Dawnville in mid-May, 1963, was torn away before it could be investigated. It has not been determined whether the birds are still present in that area.

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4. Sciple, George W., 1962. Barn Swallows Along the Georgia Coast in Early Summer. Oriole 27:27-28.
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704 Greenwood Drive,

Dalton, Georgia

May 22, 1963



## BARN SWALLOWS IN THE WEST POINT AREA DURING THE SUMMER

By GRACE M. WHITEMAN

On June 21, 1961 eight (8) Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) were seen flying low over a pasture near a lake in Harris County, about 12 miles east of West Point, on the Curtis Avery dairy farm. On June 27, 1962, six (6) swallows were sighted as they fed near the Chattahoochee River in West Point. As no nesting records had been reported from this section of the state I was reluctant to speculate on the possibility of breeding birds being present on either date.

On May 5, 1963, a casual remark concerning the "return of her Barn Swallows" was made by a resident of West Point. Upon investigation, I found that one pair of birds had begun nesting in a nest that had been used last summer, while a second pair was quite obviously searching for a nest that had been occupied last year, but torn down by the home owner after the birds had left the area. To date the second pair has not built at the old nesting site. My informant reports this as the fourth year the swallows have nested at their home, and for the three previous years two pairs of birds have raised two broods each summer.

On May 22, we checked on the reported nesting of Barn Swallows in a boathouse on a lake just outside the city limits of West Point. We watched for some time as two pairs of swallows flew to and from nests placed near the roof of the boathouse. A third nest was seen, but careful watching did not disclose activity. However, the home owner has seen as many as six birds at one time over the lake, and watched the building of the third nest.

With these records it now appears that the Barn Swallows have definitely nested for a total of four years in West Point and for two years just outside of the city. It is interesting to note that "as a swallow flies" the areas are rather close (about ¼ mile apart). It is possible that the selection of suitable nesting sites may have been a deciding factor in the division of one flock of birds.

"Georgia Birds" reports no recent nesting of the Barn Swallow in the state, and it is entirely possible that this account will furnish the first definite information on the status of this species during the summer in Georgia since that reported as "being before 1904" by Gilbert R. Rossignol. 1103 Sixth Avenue, West Point, Ga., May 24, 1963.

## GENERAL NOTES

**BREWER'S BLACKBIRD AT WAYCROSS.**—On February 16, while participating in the Okefenokee Bird Club's midwinter count at Waycross, my wife and I saw a flock of blackbirds feeding in a partially plowed field just west of town. We took a little more than the usual care in observing this flock of birds. There were several hundred Grackles, Redwings and Cowbirds, but the interesting find was a sprinkling of Brewer's Blackbirds (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*).

This was a new species for both of us so we were careful to cinch our identification by getting good views of both sexes. The identification was made easier because we had the opportunity to contrast them with other kinds of blackbirds. We saw the Brewer's Blackbirds as singles and as small groups of up to five or six mixed in with the other blackbirds. There must have been about thirty or forty of them.

When we were certain of our identification, we raced back into town and rounded up four other club members, Mrs. Lois Groszmann, Mrs. Lois Hafford, Miss Jane Park and Mr. Roy Moore. When we returned the birds were still feeding in the field. All of the group agreed upon the identification.

Burleigh (Georgia Birds) says the Brewer's Blackbird is an uncommon and irregular transient and winter resident in Georgia. It is likely that this is a more common winter resident in Georgia than the few records would indicate. When mixed with flocks of other kinds of blackbirds, it is easily overlooked. EUGENE CYPERT, *Wildlife Biologist, Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, Waycross Georgia, March 19, 1963.*

**CATTLE EGRETS IN SCREVEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.**—In the spring and summer of 1962 Cattle Egrets (*Bubulcus ibis*) appeared in Screven County Georgia. The three occurrences were on the east side of the county from two to four miles from the Savannah River. In April Grace Boddiford watched from seven to nine of the egrets for nearly a week as they associated with cows in a pasture back of her home, east of Sylvania.

In the northeast section of the county, between Briar Creek and the Savannah River, Louis O. Pfeiffer observed 75 or more individuals among cattle in his Coastal Bermuda grass pastures. He stated (letter) that "they were around from sometime in April till around the latter part of August". From time to time he also saw egrets in other pastures in



the county. Occasionally they stood on the backs of cows and were relatively tame, flying only short distances when disturbed. Mr. Pfeiffer expressed his opinion that the egrets were helpful in control of insects to which cattle are hosts. During the summer he noted in his herd that less spraying was necessary and that there was less "pink eye" disease, which veterinarians believe is spread by insects.

In late August or early September at the Ed Howard farm east of Sylvania on the Brannen's Bridge road Milas K. Pfeiffer saw "a large number" of the egrets among cattle as they fed in a cut-over grain field.—ANNE P. HAMILTON, 704 Greenwood Drive, Dalton, Georgia. December 19, 1962.

**BLUE GROSBEAK NESTING IN SCREVEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.**—For several summers Grace Boddiford had observed Blue Grosbeaks (*Guiraca caerulea*) in her yard and garden eight miles east of Sylvania in Screven County, Georgia, but it was not until 1961 that nests were found. In the matter of location near a dwelling and height from the ground the three nests may be worthy of note.

One nest tree, a loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*) stands within five feet of the Boddiford home in a corner sheltered from the north and east by projecting house walls. Here the absence of exits prevents disturbance by human beings, and foundation plantings of pyracantha and other shrubs are dense. Nearby, loganberry vines overrun a fence which separates the lawn (Bermuda, carpet, and St. Augustine grasses) from a small orchard of pear and peach trees. Bicolor lespedeza grows along another fence; the adjoining field is planted in grain each winter.

The nest found in the loquat in June, 1961, was about four and one-half feet from the ground, was lined with horsehair, and had a cast snakeskin woven in the outside wall of the nest. On June 11 the nest held three young birds. On June 15 the nest was empty and it was thought that cats had eaten the young. This may not have been true since on June 22 a male was noted in a nearby crepe myrtle with a full-grown bird that appeared to be a young one of the year. The latter's bill was edged with cream color and its body was lighter in color than a female.

The next day, June 23, the grosbeak's second nest was discovered in a young dogwood twelve feet from the first nest and farther from the house. Five and one-half feet from the ground in a spot where four small branches emerge from a larger, upright branch, this nest contained

no snakeskin, but was similar to the first in incorporating a bit of soft, thin cardboard outside the pointed bottom of the nest. Dried, broad-bladed grass was used outside this nest in the manner of cardinals. The female was incubating four plain, bluish-white eggs. On July 3 she was still brooding although the nest was tilted in a precarious position. It was evident that the nest fastening had loosened from the tree at one point in a manner unknown to the observers.

As to behavior about the nest, Anne Hamilton's notes record that twice the female approached the nest only after perching atop the nearest crepe myrtle and chipping loudly six to ten times. She must have seen cause for alarm, for usually she came quietly to the nest. Once the male was seen incubating for a short time. The insistent singing at the time of the earlier nesting slackened; the male was heard in song only twice in a two-day period.

In 1962 the grosbeaks again chose the loquat near the house, building the nest in the forks of a limb five feet from the ground, a location easily seen through a window. Loosely woven of cotton waste and grass, it was empty when found on May 20, but two days later contained two eggs and on May 27, four eggs. On June 8 there were young birds in the nest. After this date observers were unable to devote more time to the grosbeaks. It is not known whether there was a second nest in 1962.—GRACE P. BODDIFORD, Rte 2, Box 85, Sylvania, and ANNE P. HAMILTON, 704 Greenwood Drive, Dalton, Georgia. Feb. 28, 1963.

**TWO UNUSUAL OCCURRENCES ON THE OUTER BEACHES OF A BARRIER ISLAND.**—On March 16, 1963, in the late forenoon, the authors were examining a flock of assorted gulls and terns which were resting on the northeast beach of Little Cumberland Island. In this group of birds was an adult Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) in full plumage. A group of three birds of this same species was seen a few minutes later on the same beach some 250-300 yards to the east. All of these three were in first-year plumage. Until this winter this species has been only rarely observed in Georgia. Burleigh (Georgia Birds p. 281) lists only Hoxie's specimen, taken near Savannah about 1910. Tomkins found a dead immature bird at Tybee Island in February, 1961. (*Oriole* XXVI: 10-11.) A number of observers, including both the authors, have observed Great Black-backed Gulls along the outer beaches of several of the barrier islands during the winter of 1962-63. To the best of our present knowledge, all of these have been in immature plumage.



While observing the adult gull described above, the authors' attention was attracted by the sudden onset of restlessness amongst the flock of birds mentioned. Repeated, strident calls were heard from a Royal Tern which was in flight above the resting flock, and almost at once it was seen to be pursued by a strongly-flying bird considerably larger than itself. This bird appeared to be an adult Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) in intermediate phase plumage. Its distinctive tail feathers were clearly seen through binoculars. The jaeger flew off rapidly into the fog over St. Andrew's Sound, and was not seen again. There is no specimen of this species from the State, so far as we know.

Jaegers are notoriously difficult to identify in the field because of their variable plastic and immature plumages. The authors recognize this, and trust that the reader will view the reported observation with a skepticism at least equal to their own.—GEORGE W. SCIPLE & HERMAN W. COOLIDGE, *Savannah, Georgia, April 10, 1963.*

#### PAINTED BUNTING IN SUMMER IN SCREVEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.—

Since Thomas Burleigh (1958. *Georgia Birds*, p. 617) pointed out the dearth of information on the Eastern Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris ciris*) between Savannah and Augusta and stated that "it probably occurs along the Savannah River wherever there is suitable habitat", it may be well to publish notes of observations I have made in Screven County, which is situated on this river half way between the two cities.

My first record is of a female seen on April 21, 1942, which was thought to be a migrant. On June 18, 1950, a male was observed flying near S. L. Jenkins' store east of Briar Creek. I first became aware that this species might be a summer resident when I heard a male singing daily June 17-25, 1950, in a hedgerow at Grace Boddiford's home three miles west of the Savannah River. In 1958 I spent the month of June in Screven County and observed four singing males apparently established on territory. One was at the edge of a field at Grace Boddiford's home; one sang from perches on three sides of Milas Pfeiffer's yard in the eastern edge of Sylvania; and two were on the western edge of Sylvania, one of these being in a hedgerow bordering the Sylvania recreation center and the other in an adjoining cut-over area east of Highway 21, opposite the Screven County Hospital. The latter I heard singing on June 12, 13, 16, and perhaps other days.

In June, 1961, three males were singing in the same areas as above. On June 19, one sang continuously from five to ten minutes in the top

of an elm at the Pfeiffer home: on July 3 one sang once in the Boddiford yard and Mrs. Boddiford reported that she had heard it sing often in the spring that year; on July 4 one was singing on a guy wire attached to a telephone pole in the hedgerow at the recreation center. A brief search for nests proved fruitless.

Visits to all the spots where Dr. Fred Denton predicted that this species would be found breeding (Oriole 15:40) have not been possible, but I did find a male singing half a mile north of Newington on Highway 21 in Screven County on June 27, 1958. In addition, in Jenkins County on June 24, 1961, my husband and I saw a male on a telephone wire in a creek swamp beside Highway 21 two miles east of Millen. As the latter location is approximately twenty-four miles from the Savannah River at the nearest point, it may represent a more considerable range extension than has hitherto been thought to be true. ANNE P. HAMILTON, 704 Greenwood Drive, Dalton, Georgia. February 19, 1963.

#### BARN SWALLOWS NESTING IN NORTHEAST GEORGIA.—

After observing barn swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) in the Tiger area of Rabun County, for some time, on May 13, 1963 we saw a nest in a barn belonging to Fred Roan at Tiger, Georgia. We returned on June 1, 1963 and watched the parent bird feeding young. Photographs were made. Mr. Roan told us that swallows had nested in his barn since 1945, and also that there were nests in other barns of the Tiger-Clayton area.

On May 9, 1963, we saw barn swallows in the vicinity of barns at Rabun Gap, on Betty's Creek road, and near Germany, all in Rabun County. While these sites have not been investigated further we surmise that barn swallows nest much more commonly in northeast Georgia than Burleigh's account (*Georgia Birds*, 1958-p, 396) would indicate. Previous nesting records in north Georgia were at Lookout Mountain by Stevenson (Oriole 22:26, 1957), and at Woody's Gap, Union County by Bell (Oriole 24:25, 1959). E. O. AND MARIE B. MELLINGER, R. 1, Hardeeville, South Carolina, June 10, 1963.

#### BARN SWALLOWS NESTING IN WHITFIELD COUNTY.—

A Barn Swallow's nest containing two young was found June 16, 1963, by R. E. and Anne Hamilton in a chicken house converted to a barn on the farm of Jim N. Rogers four miles southwest of Dalton, Whitfield County. The mud cup rested against a beam above a wooden cleat only two or three inches from the tin roof. The fully fledged young appeared ready to



leave the nest. The yellow or light-colored sides of their bills showed clearly in the dim light. The adults fussed at our approach, though they finally fed the young several times while we were there. Three or more adults were in the vicinity, so there may be other nests in suitable buildings. This constitutes the first nesting record of Barn Swallows in Whitfield County—ANNE P. HAMILTON, 704 *Greenwood Drive, Dalton, Georgia*. June 16, 1963.

Ed. Note: It is gratifying to be able to present this large amount of breeding data for the Barn Swallow, some of which came in after the issue had gone to press.

It is a coincidence in that neither of the several observers had knowledge of the other's observations. The records are, in my opinion, an indication of the repossession of former breeding range by this species, in part, and probably the "re-discovery" of segments of the breeding population that has remained in the state all along. The observers and authors are to be commended for placing these records in print in time for other careful watchers to look for this species this summer. z

## FROM THE FIELD

Mrs. Fay S. Peters mailed a clipping from THE DAILY TIMES, Gainesville, Georgia back in December 1962. It concerned the observation of a flock of Sandhill Cranes over Hall County, Georgia at about 11:00 A.M. on October 28, 1962. The flock of 22 cranes was noted by Charles Boulware and Malcolm G. Edwards. Mr. Edwards is a Wildlife Biologist with the Chattahoochee National Forest.

Fr. M. Martin of The Monastery of The Holy Ghost, Conyers, Georgia sent in the following spring records: Scaup on March 18, 1963, Hooded Mergansers on March 18-21, 1963, Henslow's Sparrow on April 11, 1963, Orange-crowned Warbler on April 11, 1963, Upland Plover on April 11 through 15, 1963, Brewer's Blackbird on April 14 and 15, 1963, Long-billed Marsh Wren on April 19, 1963, and King Rails calling from the Monastery's marshes on April 16, 1963. Fr. Martin reports that one of the Whistling Swans that Louis Fink mentioned in the March 1963 Oriole left the monastery on May 3, 1963. He also mentions the fact that the geese seen by Mr. Fink were probably domestic and did not constitute a wildlife record, since the monastery pond has some tame geese of this description.

Mrs. Wilson B. Wilkes reports the observation of three Cattle Egrets on April 16, 1963 by Mr. Wilkes in Cook County, Georgia. She continues as follows: "We were driving along highway 76 about three miles West of Adel, Cook County, when two Cattle Egrets flew into a pasture right beside the road. We watched them for quite some time as they fed among the cattle. To my knowledge, the April 16, 1963 observation of Mr. Wilkes and our May 19, 1963 observation are the only two records for this immediate area."

Alma Cooke found two adult White Ibises in the Flint River Swamp, Taylor County, Georgia on April 14, 1963. The ibises were feeding with Little Blue Herons. The birds were again noted on April 15, and were feeding with Common Egrets. She also saw a King Rail in Crawford County, Georgia on April 4, 1963 and a Barn Swallow on April 15 in Taylor County.

Milton Hopkins, Jr. found three Cattle Egrets at Osierfield, Irwin County, Georgia on May 27, 1963. The birds were feeding in a small pasture with Hereford cattle and were first observed at about 6:30 A.M. They were noted several times during the morning and were flushed at 11:45 A.M.



Mr. Bobby Crawford, 221 Myrtle Drive, Thomasville, Georgia writes and tells of a collection of the Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) on April 12, 1963 at Thomasville, Georgia. Mr. Herbert L. Stoddard confirmed the identification.

Mrs. F. G. Pierce, Waverly Hall, Georgia writes and says "On April 30, 1963, Larry, Ronny, and Glen Johnston saw four heron-like birds in our pasture approximately 2 miles east of Waverly Hall, Harris County, Georgia following a herd of Hereford cows. They came to the post office and reported this to me. This was about 4:30 P.M. As soon as I closed the office at 5:30 I went by for Mrs. J. W. Jones and we rode out to the pasture and were pleased to find that there were four adult Cattle Egrets there. They were last seen at about 7:00 P.M. on the same day at a small lake near the cows, but feeding near the lake."

R. H. Peake, Jr., Athens, Georgia reports the Red-breasted Nuthatch on Dec. 3, 1962 in the University woodland. He found the Yellow-throat wintering at Athens for the first time on Dec. 23, 26, and January 15 and 22.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS

**COST OF REPRINTS**—Reprints of articles and notes appearing in The Oriole can be obtained by making a request for same when submitting manuscript. They are to be paid for by the author. Present prices are as follows:

1 page 1 side	2 pages both sides—same sheet	4 pages	8 pages
50-100—\$5.00	\$6.00	\$8.50	\$12.50
100-200—\$6.00	\$7.00	\$9.50	\$15.00

**REQUEST FOR BACK ISSUES**—Members and former members of G.O.S. who have back issues of The Oriole in duplicate or for any reason do not wish to retain their copies are urgently asked to contact Louis C. Fink, our business manager. The society would like to purchase copies of Vol. V—No. 3, Vol. VI—No. 2, and Vol. XII—No. 4.

**HAWK AND OWL BILL**—Members of G.O.S. who were instrumental in the passage of House Bill No. 477 in the Georgia Legislature are to be congratulated. Louis C. Fink has forwarded a letter addressed to him from Governor Carl Sanders in which the governor says "I

applaud the efforts of the Georgia Ornithological Society in its educational campaign to make the citizens of Georgia aware of this law. I agree with you that it is vital, and I appreciate your expressed gratitude of my approval of it.

A copy of this bill is printed below.

H. B. No. 477 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Mr. Wilkes of Cook

## A BILL

To be entitled an Act To prohibit the hunting and taking of certain birds; to provide certain exceptions; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

## SECTION 1

Except for the English or European house sparrow, European starling, and crow, (and except as otherwise permitted by the Game and Fish laws of this State) it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, shoot, kill, trap, net, or destroy, or to possess, sell, offer for sale, purchase, offer to purchase, or to ship, transport, carry, or deliver, or receive for shipment, transportation or carriage in any manner beyond the limits of this state, any wild bird or any part, nest, or egg thereof. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to make it unlawful for the owner or occupant of land to shoot hawks or owls when in the act of destroying poultry belonging to said owner or occupant, on the land owned or occupied by said owner or occupant, or to take and possess game birds as provided in this Act. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to make it unlawful for the owner or occupant of land to protect in any manner he deems necessary, crops, livestock, poultry, or any other property of any kind whatsoever on such land, from any wild bird covered in this Act or any other bird of any kind.

## SECTION 2

It shall be unlawful to bring into this state or to receive for whatever purpose from without the state any wild birds or parts thereof that are of the same species as are protected by this act, with the exception of game birds legally possessed.



## SECTION 3

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

H. B. No. 477 (AM)

Page 1

# MINUTES OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The forty-eighth semi-annual meeting of the Georgia Ornithological Society was held in McRae, April 19-21, 1963, with headquarters at Little Ocmulgee State Park Club House.

Registration totalled 52, 43 members and 9 guests.

Our hosts, the Telfair Garden Clubs and William Dopson, gave us a royal welcome, facilitating our orientation by street corner signs and adding to the attractiveness of the restaurants and club house with arrangements of locally grown flowers and wild material. The unusualness of being invited to a town without a bird club and by a high school student must be recorded as must the cooperation of his townsmen which testified their high regard for this promising young ornithologist.

Friday evening there was an informal get together and briefing for field trips. A special treat was the movie showing the life cycle of woodpeckers in their nests made by German Heinz Sielmann, by the use of infra-red film. *Windows In The Woods* is the English translation of the story of the filming written by Sielmann. Also on display was a specimen of a Florida Red-Tailed Hawk collected in Georgia. The bird was found dead on a Georgia roadside by William Dopson.

The business session was called to order by W. W. Griffin, who was made chairman in the absence, due to illness, of the President and First Vice President.

It was agreed to dispense with the reading of the minutes. The report of the Treasurer, Miss Katherine Weaver, was read and accepted. The balance of the General Fund was \$682.75 as of April 19, 1963.

The chairman of the Education Committee, Herbert Kale, reported that the House Bill 477 H, to protect hawks and owls, introduced by Representative Wilson B. Wilkes of Cook County had passed. He read the bill and said that it would also be published in *The Oriole*. He added that our work of education in regard to the value of hawks and owls

must be continued and increased if the bill is to be effective. A motion, by Mrs. Lewis Gordon, seconded by Dr. Sarah Nelson, provided funds up to \$75.00 for the committee to try to work out an educational program. To supplement this fund the hat was passed at the banquet.

A report on the Library of the Society housed at the University of Georgia was also made by Mr. Kale. He pointed out that our collection needs to be under the administration of the library, so that the whole staff will know more about it and thus make it more accessible to would-be users. A motion was passed that Mr. Kale and Mr. Louis Fink be authorized to enter into a favorable contract, with the University Library or some other library, similar to the contract between Auburn University and Alabama Ornithological Society.

The Oriole Manager Fink passed out mimeographed copies of his report which was accepted with thanks. He announced that back copies of *The Oriole* are available, except for two or three that will be reprinted, and that the Atlanta Public Library had recently purchased a set. Ivan Tomkins told of hoped for inauguration of Youth Museums in Macon and Milledgeville and suggested that both should have files of *The Oriole*. Editor Milton Hopkins announced enough material on hand for the next edition.

The Nominating Committee, Ralph Ramsay, Chairman, Alma Cooke, and Eugene Cypert, was appointed to report at the fall meeting.

It was announced that Ivan Tomkins had contributed some of his color slides to begin the Master Series of Georgia Birds we voted to assemble.

The secretary was asked to write and send a copy of *The Oriole* to Mr. Wilkes, to write a letter of condolence to Mrs. Hugh H. Harris who lost her husband, and to write the Godwins and Caters.

Mrs. Harriet Oliver brought a message from President Freeman of the Atlanta Bird Club that the Convention Bureau of Atlanta urges Georgia Ornithological Society to encourage National Audubon Society to come to Atlanta for its next meeting following the November 1963 meeting in Miami.

The banquet was served in the Telfair High Cafetorium, sponsored and served by the Future Homemakers. The three local garden clubs decorated and served as hosts. The table decorations and the woodland scene background were works of art, climaxed in detail by the ceramic



birds at each place which were molded, fired and painted true to life by our hosts. Dr. James H. Jenkins showed colored slides and told us of his recent travels and experiences in Africa.

During the field trips to the Clark Dopson Farm, Scuffle Bluff, the Thompson Farm and around Little Ocmulgee State Park 102 species of birds were seen.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth P. Newsom, Sec.

## RECENT LITERATURE

LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN SHORE BIRDS—by Arthur Cleveland Bent, Vols. 1 and 2, 1962, \$4.70 per set or \$2.35 per vol.

These two Bent volumes were originally published by the Smithsonian Institution as bulletins 142 and 146 in 1927 and 1929 respectively. The present volumes are unabridged republications containing every photograph found in the originals.

As in previous volumes species' main ranges are outlined, normal migrations are given, egg dates are stated, and courtship, plumages, food, behavior, voice, field marks, and the breeding ranges of each are discussed.

A total of 81 varieties of shore birds are discussed within the 832 pages of the two volumes and pictured in over 200 black and white photographs.

LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN WILD FOWL—by Arthur Cleveland Bent, Vols. 1 and 2, Dover Publications, 180 Varick Street, N.Y. 14, New York, 1962, \$4.70 per set or \$2.35 per volume.

The present volumes were originally published by the Smithsonian Institution as Bulletins 126 and 130 in 1923 and 1925 respectively. Dover Publications' two unabridged republications at this time contain a total of 750 pages and 106 full-page photographic plates. A total of 73 species and subspecies of ducks, geese, and swans are covered.

As in previous volumes each species is given full life history coverage. Perhaps some of the most interesting reading in these two volumes in particular concerns the sections describing the game status of each of our waterfowl. The individual reports are fascinating, first-hand accounts, many being written by former market hunters.

If you are interested in birds then all of these volumes should be on your bookshelf. The information contained in Bent's life history accounts will never grow old. Some of it, such as migration routes and distribution of certain species and their ranges, is subject to change but this will not alter the value of this library of ornithological knowledge. Milton Hopkins, Jr.



ENJOYING BIRDS IN UPSTATE NEW YORK—by Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr. and Sally F. Hoyt, 1963, Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 89, pp. \$2.

This is an ideal guide for anyone planning to visit New York State *north* of New York City. In the familiar Pettingill style, it describes locations where birds may be found—and has much additional information.

There is a chapter on bird recognition. There are descriptions of about a hundred familiar birds of the area, illustrated in black and white by Orville O. Rice. There is a most interesting check-list, giving habitat as well as a chart of the months in which 250 species may be expected. A stranger can tell at a glance what his chances are of finding a particular bird—in a specific locality at a definite time of the year. Finally, there is information on attracting birds and a list of reference books. Front and back covers are photographs of the bluebird and ruffed grouse in full color.

The book measures 6 x 9 inches, crisply printed by the offset method. The reader realizes that a similar treasury of information is already available on Georgia birds; even the artistic talent for illustration is available. All that remains to be done is the task of compilation—which would not be impossible if a dozen G.O.S. members cooperated. Sale of our Pocket Check List proves that the demand exists. Louis C. Fink.

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Application for membership may be made to the Treasurer. *THE ORIOLE* is sent without charge to all classes of members not in arrears for dues. Send changes of address, claims for undelivered or defective copies and requests for information relative to advertising, subscriptions and back numbers to the business manager.

All articles and notes submitted for publication and all books and publications intended for review should be sent to the editor.

Original papers in the field of ornithology are published in *THE ORIOLE*. Papers are judged on their contribution of original data, ideas, or interpretations and on their conciseness, scientific accuracy, and clarity.

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**STYLE**—The guide for preparation of copy is the **STYLE MANUAL FOR BIOLOGICAL JOURNALS** available from American Institute of Biological Sciences, 2000 P Street NW, Washington 6, D.C., \$3.00. A copy of this manual is held by the editor for use by contributing authors. A postal card request and return postage by you is required for its use.

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