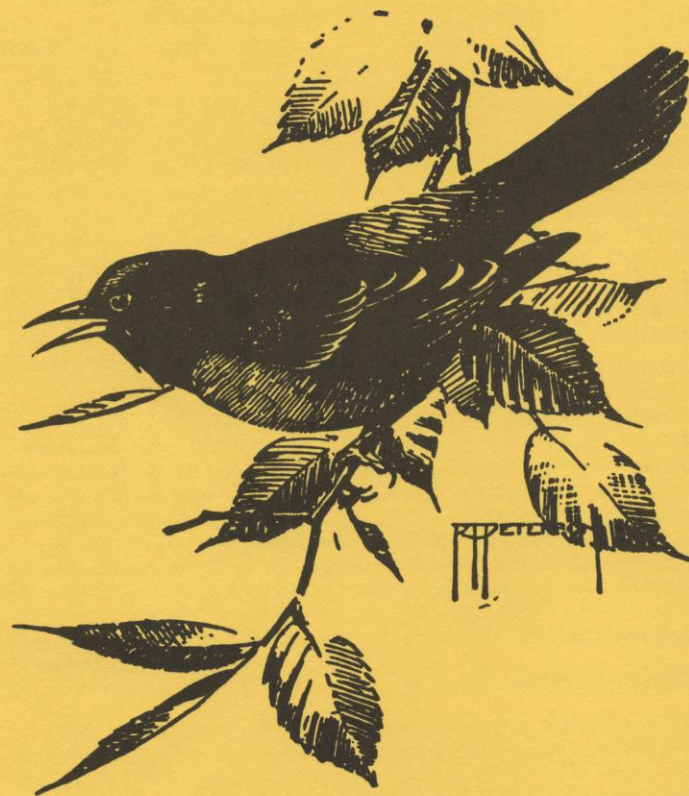


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SEPTEMBER, 1975

NO. 3

THE ORIOLE

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SUMMER BIRDS OF THE LAKE WINFIELD SCOTT RECREATION AREA AND VICINITY

J. Fred Denton

The Lake Winfield Scott Recreation Area is located in the Chat-tahooche National Forest just off Georgia Highway 180 five miles east of Suches and six miles west of the entrance to Vogel State Park. It is situated on the northwest slope of the Blue Ridge at an elevation of 2870 feet. At the time of this study, June 17-22, 1957, it was a newly developed area which contained an 18 acre lake, bath house, concession building, 26 cabins and many individual camp sites and picnic tables. During the study I tent-camped with my family at a site near the lake. There were several miles of unpaved roads within the Recreation Area and a trail ascended south for one mile to connect with the Appalachian Trail at Garrard Gap (el. 3250 ft.).

Every day was devoted to study of birds in the general area. Observations were made throughout the Recreation Area and up the trail to Garrard Gap. Outside of the Recreation Area observations were made in the valley along Highway 180 to Suches and Woody Lake (el. 2500 ft.), up Highway 60 to Woody Gap (el. 2750 ft.) and vicinity, including a hike to the fire tower on Black Mountain (el. 3800 ft.), and along the approximate nine miles of the Appalachian Trail from Woody Gap to Garrard Gap. This portion of the Trail ranges along the crest of the Blue Ridge at elevations between 3000 and 3300 feet except where it passes near the tops of two peaks, Cedar Mountain (el. 3759 ft.) and Baker Mountain (el. 3642 ft.).

The predominant vegetation in the Recreation Area was second-growth southern hardwood forest interspersed with pockets of white pine and hemlock. In the valley around Suches there were many small pastures and cultivated fields as well as small patches of Virginia pine. Hardwoods predominated along the Appalachian Trail with only occasional stands of pine or hemlock in hollows.

With the exception of Black Mountain which is in Lumpkin County, all observations were made in Union County whose southeastern boundary is the crest of the Blue Ridge.

List of Species

Turkey Vulture: *Carthartes aura*. One noted soaring over Woody Gap, June 19.

Broad-winged Hawk: *Buteo platypterus*. A bird soared and called daily over the Recreation Area; June 19 a bird noted soaring above Black Mountain.

Bobwhite: *Colinus virginianus*. Fairly common in the cleared areas in the valley.

Mourning Dove: *Zenaida macroura*. A few pairs noted around fields in the valley.

Barred Owl: *Strix varia*. Two pairs inhabited the slopes adjoining the Recreation Area.

Whip-poor-will: *Caprimulgus vociferous*. Uncommon, a single bird heard calling nightly from the ravine above Lake Winfield Scott.

Chimney Swift: *Chaetura pelagica*. Birds noted daily feeding above the Recreation Area, the valley and the ridge.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: *Archilochus colubris*. Fairly common, observed in all types of habitat.

Belted Kingfisher: *Megaceryle alcyon*. One pair observed at a small lake in the Recreation Area and another at Woody Lake in Suches.

Common Flicker: *Colaptes auratus*. Fairly common, occurring both in the valley and on the ridge.

Pileated Woodpecker: *Dryocopus pileatus*. Fairly common, heard or seen around the Recreation Area and along the ridge.

Hairy Woodpecker: *Dendrocopus villosus*. A single pair noted in mature forest on top of the ridge.

Downy Woodpecker: *Dendrocopus pubescens*. Common, occurring in all types of habitat from the valley to the top of the ridge.

Great Crested Flycatcher: *Myiarchus crinitis*. Fairly common and generally distributed in the Recreation Area, around homes in the valley, and in forest along the ridge.

Eastern Phoebe: *Sayornis phoebe*. Common, most conspicuous in clearings in the Recreation Area and valley, but also recorded occasionally along the ridge.

Acadian Flycatcher: *Empidonax virens*. Common along roads following creeks and in ravines with small streams, ranging up to 3200 feet.

Least Flycatcher: *Empidonax minimus*. The surprising discovery of three breeding pairs, one in the Zion Baptist Church yard and two in Suches, of this little flycatcher has already been reported (Denton, 1962).

Eastern Wood Pewee: *Contopus virens*. Common, recorded daily around the Recreation Area and at intervals along the ridge.

Barn Swallow: *Hirundo rustica*. This species was not found by me, but the next summer on July 17, 1958, G. W. Bell (1959a) found a nest in a chicken house near Suches, the first breeding record for the area.

Rough-winged Swallow: *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*. On June 18, three birds were flying over a cultivated field in the valley and six were feeding over the upper end of Woody Lake in Suches.

Purple Martin: *Progne subis*. One June 19 several birds were feeding around a chicken brooder house in the valley.

Blue Jay: *Cyanocitta cristata*. Fairly common, being particularly shy and inconspicuous in the Recreation Area; heard occasionally along the ridge.

Common Crow: *Corvus brachyrhynchos*. Small flocks were heard daily as they moved about over the valley feeding.

Carolina Chickadee: *Parus carolinensis*. Common, generally distributed through the Recreation Area and in forest along the ridge. A family group containing fully grown young foraged in the area around our tent on June 17.

Tufted Titmouse: *Parus bicolor*. Common, generally distributed in wooded areas, occurring in family groups or in association with chickadees.

White-breasted Nuthatch: *Sitta carolinensis*. Several pairs or family groups occurred in the Recreation Area; observed occasionally along the ridge.

Carolina Wren: *Thryothorus ludovicianus*. Fairly common around the Recreation Area and habitations in the valley. Two pairs were located along the top of the ridge, one around some rocks at the very top of Cedar Mountain (el. 3759 ft.).

Mockingbird: *Mimus polyglottis*. A single pair was found on June 18 in the yard of a home by Woody Lake in Suches. This pair successfully fledged young which were seen later in early July by G. W. Bell (1959b), who first found birds at this location July 7, 1956.

Gray Catbird: *Dumatella carolinensis*. Abundant in the Recreation Area and in coves and ravines at the foot of the ridge, much less common on top of the ridge. Also common around homes in the valley.

Brown Thrasher: *Toxostoma rufum*. Recorded daily, but uncommon in the Recreation Area and along the ridge, more common around homes in the valley.

American Robin: *Turdus migratorius*. A few pairs occurred about clearings in the Recreation Area, others around habitations in the valley.

Wood Thrush: *Catharus mustilina*. One of the most common and tamest species in the Recreation Area; also common in the valley and along the ridge.

Eastern Bluebird: *Sialia sialis*. Several birds were noted on service wires and around homes in the valley.

Yellow-throated Vireo: *Vireo flavescens*. Uncommon, a single pair located by a creek near the entrance to the Recreation Area.

Solitary Vireo: *Vireo solitarius*. Only a few pairs occurred in the Recreation Area, but it was common along the ridge where it seemed associated with small stands of pine or mixed stands where formerly there had been clearings.

Red-eyed Vireo: *Vireo olivaceus*. Abundant, the third most common species in the area, being equally abundant in woods in the valley and on top of the ridge.

Black-and-white Warbler: *Mniotilta varia*. Abundant, the second most common species both in the Recreation Area and along the ridge.

Northern Parula Warbler: *Parula americana*. Uncommon, a single pair found between two creeks above the upper end of Woody Lake.

Yellow Warbler: *Dendroica petechia*. Fairly common in the valley in open areas; on June 18 a family of young just out of the nest was observed.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: *Dendroica caerulescens*. Common, occurring throughout the Recreation Area, at Woody Gap, and along the ridge in mature hardwoods.

Black-throated Green Warbler: *Dendroica virens*. A single immature bird noted at Woody Gap on June 19. It was probably from a nest in a ravine at a lower altitude.

Blackburnian Warbler: *Dendroica fusca*. Fairly common, occurring along the trail to Garrard Gap, at Woody Gap, and at intervals along the ridge. On June 19 a female was feeding three young just out of the nest at Woody Gap.

Yellow-throated Warbler: *Dendroica dominica*. Uncommon, a single pair was found near Woody Lake in Suches.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: *Dendroica pensylvanica*. Common, observed in the Recreation Area, at Woody Gap, and all along the ridge.

Ovenbird: *Seiurus aurocapillus*. Abundant, the most common bird throughout the area studied.

Common Yellowthroat: *Geothlypis trichas*. Uncommon, several birds noted along the road to Suches.

Yellow-breasted Chat: *Icteria virens*. Fairly common, occurring in brushy areas in the Recreation Area and along the road in the valley.

Hooded Warbler: *Wilsonia citrina*. Fairly common, found most often on lower slopes of the ridge.

American Redstart: *Setophaga ruticilla*. Uncommon, a single pair located beside a creek along the road in the valley.

Eastern Meadowlark: *Sturnella magna*. Uncommon, a few heard singing in small pastures in the valley.

Red-winged Blackbird: *Agelaius phoeniceus*. Common, occurring in pastures and in alders along streams and ditches in the valley.

Scarlet Tanager: *Piranga olivacea*. Abundant, fourth most common species, being equally common in the Recreation Area and along the ridge.

Cardinal: *Cardinalis cardinalis*. Fairly common, a few pairs observed around Lake Winfield Scott and around Suches.

Indigo Bunting: *Passerina cyanea*. Common throughout the area. On June 19 a family of young just out of the nest was seen in the valley.

American Goldfinch: *Spinus tristis*. Fairly common, a few pairs observed in the Recreation Area, along the valley, and at Woody Gap.

Rufous-sided Towhee: *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*. Fairly common, recorded in the valley and at Woody Gap.

Chipping Sparrow: *Spizella passerina*. Uncommon, a single pair found nesting in the grove at the Zion Baptist Church near Suches.

Field Sparrow: *Spizella pusilla*. Uncommon, only two pairs found along the road in the valley.

Song Sparrow: *Melospiza melodia*. Common, occurring mainly around the lakes in the Recreation Area and at Suches, and through the valley.

DISCUSSION

Fifty-eight species of birds were recorded in the area studied, all of which are presumed to nest there. Of considerable interest are some species which appeared absent from the area and the probable reasons for this. An explanation for the absence of the Yellow-billed (Coccyzus americanus) and Black-billed Cuckoo (C. erythrophthalmus) is not readily apparent, but this case attests to the rarity of the Black-billed as a breeding bird in Georgia. The absence of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Poliophtila caerulea) and White-eyed Vireo (Vireo griseus) is explained by their not breeding in the State above altitudes of about 2200 feet. The lack of suitable damp ravines probably accounts for no Worm-eating (Helmitheros vermivorus) or Kentucky Warblers (Oporornis formosus) in the area. The Golden-winged Warbler's (Vermivora chrysoptera) absence is not unexpected because of the lack of brushy clearings at the higher elevations. The summer Tanager (Piranga rubra) so far as known rarely breeds above 2300 feet in Georgia. Although the Rose-breasted Grosbeak (Pheucticus ludovicianus) nests as low as 3000 feet at nearby Neel's Gap, apparently the peaks extending to higher altitudes in the study area are not of sufficient mass to have suitable breeding habitat.

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BIRD SONG FOLLOWING EXCITEMENT

George A. Dorsey

The consideration of bird song which may be induced by some kind of excitement has not appeared in a great deal of the literature. Armstrong (1973, pp. 130-134) has an interesting discussion of this kind of song, in which he presents possible causes and significances of such responses on the part of birds, to which the term of "displacement activity" has been applied by some workers. Since this subject seems to have rather meager coverage elsewhere, I should like to offer some limited observations which may be of interest.

It might be considered that all bird song is initiated by excitement of some kind. Birds sing most prominently in the breeding season. However, as has been perceived by almost any field observer, birds may sing in the autumn migration and in the winter, at times that may be remote for association with the time for breeding. A good bit of emphasis, perhaps even too much, has been placed upon territoriality as a factor in bird song. Recent studies seem to have brought in many other aspects, certainly some of the most interesting of which have been presented by Dr. Hartshorne (1973). The appeal of bird song as a musical effect is of much import to those of us who enjoy observing them. The holding of territory seems to be an important motivation for birds to sing, but it may not be the only reason. I cannot think of any territorial value in a twilight song, such as the spectacular early dawn performance of the Acadian Flycatcher, or the after-sunset singing of the Bachman's Sparrow and some others, nor of the night songs sometimes heard from birds, particularly from the Mockingbird.

I am suggesting that bird song may be regarded as a response to emotional stimulation, and that this may be initiated in perhaps several kinds of ways. One kind of inducement seems to be the result of a bird having become excited by some unusual event, in which the bird is strongly stimulated, perhaps by fear or alarm, or by anger.

I have noticed several times that when a railroad train passes by, with its rumble and rush of noise, after the train is gone, and just as conditions are becoming quiet, many birds near the railroad will go into a brief period of singing, perhaps short in duration, apparently as an aftermath to the noise of the train. On another occasion, when a Belted Kingfisher gave a loud, rattling call, a White-eyed Vireo that was nearby responded by singing three times. Residual excitement, after the initial feeling of alarm has subsided somewhat, might well stimulate a response of singing. This might be considered to be a form of substitution behaviour, or it may be an act of expressing a feeling of defensive aggression.

Quite some time ago I witnessed an attack by several House Sparrows upon a Mockingbird. I did not see the beginning of this affair, since I was indoors, but I had noticed that a Mockingbird had begun singing outside. After a short while the song ceased, and almost immediately an uproar of House Sparrow chirping began. I looked out and saw eight or nine House Sparrows surrounding the Mockingbird on the ground, and attacking him from all sides. One of them pulled some feathers from his tail. They were pecking and thrusting at him from all directions, but he was lunging at them, left and right, and was doing a rather fair job of defending himself. On an impulse I went outside and stopped the fight, and the sparrows left the scene quickly. The Mockingbird flew into a nearby tree, shook himself, hopped a little higher and looked down at me for a moment, and then began singing. This may not be a valid example of what I am presenting, but the bird did begin singing a few moments after the affair.

At another time I saw several small birds in a frenzy of scolding at a black rat snake (*Elaphe obsoleta*) that had climbed into a small tree. One of these birds was a Kentucky Warbler, which sang loudly several times following its first flush of excitement.

Other occasions have furnished additional examples of post-excitement singing. I watched a contest between a Mockingbird and some Robins, Starlings, and other birds for the fruit in a dogwood tree. The other birds were robbing the Mockingbird of a resource it had been holding. The coming and going of these birds, and their cries, attracted a few other birds that seemed to come because of curiosity. One of these was a Carolina Wren, which did not seem to have any interest in the dogwood drupes, and it took no direct part in the contest. It became very excited by the confusion of activity among the other birds, and after a short while it perched on a dead branch and burst into loud song, apparently as a result of the excitement. It sang for about six minutes, when the song was stopped by a savage thrust from a Loggerhead Shrike that also came to the tree. The wren gave a screaming note, and fled.

At another time, at about 8 A.M. eastern standard time, some heavy road machinery was brought in to do some repair work on a country road. The roar of the machinery disturbed a Chuck-will's-widow that had been asleep in the nearby woods, and it sang loudly several times, a rather incongruous sound in the broad daylight.

As a final point, I have for many years used the ruse of imitating a scolding wren for the purpose of drawing birds out of seclusion so that I could count their presence. Often there have been occasions when there did not seem to be any birds present, and I could not have seen them at all were it not for the wren-scold imitation being used to cause them to come out of hiding. On many of these times my imitation caused a good

bit of excitement among the birds, but sometimes after a bird had retreated a short distance it would sing several times. It seemed that this was an after-result of the excitement I had caused.

My primary objective had been to attract birds so that I might see them. For a long time I ignored these songs, thinking of them as incidental. As a consequence I have failed to record in my notes that many of these birds had sung. Gradually I became aware that birds often sang in this way, so much so that it was apparently not a mere coincidence. I must admit that my information is more scanty than I now would like it to be. I had an idea of wanting to record only the natural behavior of birds, and this was certainly not a normal course of the birds' actions. My admission of this mistake will not carry me very far now! Although I have some vague memory of a good many more instances, I have only the following records in my field notes:

Birds that were attracted by my having given imitations of a wren-scold, and which sang almost immediately afterwards:

Carolina Wren:	December 20, two wrens came, one sang afterwards. April 28, on separate occasions two wrens came; both sang afterwards. May 25, one wren sang following my imitation.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet:	March 22, three birds came, became excited; two males sang and chased each other, with erected crown feathers. April 6, one bird sang afterwards, somewhat soft in volume.
White-eyed Vireo:	April 20, two birds at separate locations began singing after the scold imitation.
Yellow-throated Vireo:	April 21, one bird sang softly afterwards.
Common Yellowthroat:	October 7, one bird sang afterwards.
Rufous-sided Towhee:	April 20, one bird sang afterwards April 21, one bird sang afterwards.
Song Sparrow:	October 21, one bird sang twice afterwards.
Gray Catbird:	This species and other <i>Mimidae</i> are readily attracted by using the "squeak" (a

hard, sucking noise made with the lips against the hand, used by many bird students).

May 7, one Gray Catbird came to the "squeak," sang afterwards.

June 7, three birds came at the same location, all sang following the "squeak."

While somewhat scanty, this list may still be of value in supporting my idea.

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Darlington School, Rome, Georgia 30161

RECENT RECORD OF A RUFFED GROUSE NEAR ATHENS, GEORGIA

Samuel R. Pursglove, Jr.

On January 1, 1973, the author, accompanied by Mr. William H. Goudy, a Biologist with the Division of Wildlife Resources, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, set out for an afternoon of American Woodcock (*Philohela minor*) and Bobwhite Quail (*Colinus virginianus*) hunting. We had decided to try an area along Sandy Creek in northcentral Clarke County where wintering Woodcock had been abundant in recent years. The site, located off U. S. 441, was approximately 2 miles north of the Athens city limits. A pipeline right-of-way provided access to the area from the highway.

The hunting site consisted of a narrow band of bottomland which varied from 30 to 50 yards wide. It was bordered on the south by the pipeline clearing, on the east by the creek, and on the west by a hillside. Forest overstory was scattered bottomland hardwoods, merging with mixed hardwood-pine stands on the hillside. Understory was primarily swamp privet (*Forestiera acuminata*). Ground cover consisted only of fallen trees and debris deposited by flooding. Additional characteristics of this and similar sites in northeast Georgia have already been presented (Pursglove and Doster, 1971; Pursglove, 1974).

Upon reaching the bottom, Bill and I headed upstream guiding closely on the waterway. After hunting some 250 yards of privet cover preferred by Woodcock, we returned through the floodplain near the hillside in hopes of finding a covey of Quail.

A short distance from the pipeline clearing, I separated from Bill in order to explore a stand of privet not hunted on our initial pass. Momentarily he fired twice, then called to his pointer to retrieve the bird. After checking the privet, I rejoined my guest and inquired as to his success. To my astonishment, he pulled a Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) from his game bag.

Standing in disbelief, even after he handed me the warm bird, I explained that as far as I knew the only Grouse in Georgia inhabited the mountains to the northwest. Bill, on the other hand, hadn't thought anything was unusual because the habitat "looked good for Grouse." It hadn't even crossed his mind that I had mentioned earlier that only Woodcock and Quail were in the area.

Before leaving to return to West Virginia that evening, Bill gave me the Grouse. I wanted to carry it to the laboratory of the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCWDS) for examination.

My colleagues who viewed the bird the next day were quite skeptical of Bill's discovery. It was suggested that the whole affair was a light-hearted prank involving a frozen West Virginia Grouse carried to Georgia or one killed in the mountains of Georgia and carried to Athens.

Necropsy and subsequent examination of the bird left little doubt, however, to the authenticity of our claim. Histologic findings proved it to be a fresh kill. In addition, its crop was distended with privet berries which were extremely abundant in local floodplain sites at that time of the year.

Even more significant were the results of a complete parasitologic examination. Over the past decade, several hundred Ruffed Grouse from throughout the mountainous areas of the Southeast have been examined for parasites in the SCWDS laboratory. One nematode, commonly known as the cecal worm (*Heterakis bonasae*), has had a 100% prevalence in this game bird (unpublished data, SCWDS).

Bill's bird, however, was totally free of cecal worms, clearly indicating that it was not recently of mountain stock. In fact, the Grouse was parasite-free! Interestingly, one axiom of parasitology states that parasites decrease significantly in variety and abundance as the host extends to the limits of its range.

To the best of the author's knowledge, the finding of a Ruffed Grouse in Clarke County established a modern record for the most southeastern natural occurrence of this bird in the United States. In former times, they probably occurred, locally at least, in various parts of the Georgia piedmont (Smith, 1945). In Alabama, Grouse occurred earlier as far south as the Talladega Mountains (Howell, 1928). Today they are considered restricted to a few northern counties in both states (Dalrymple, 1970; Hein, 1970; Imhof, 1965). Thus, Bill's discovery places the species some 50-60 miles south of these known natural grouse areas.

Since January, 1973, a number of additional explorations into the area have not produced any further sightings. Yet the Sandy Creek and Oconee River bottoms would appear to have suitable habitat for this game bird and some areas may contain isolated remnants of what once were more extensive populations. It is possible that limited human use of the floodplains, dense year round vegetation on bottomlands and the innate wariness of Grouse might enable a few isolated birds to go unnoticed for considerable periods.

It is also conceivable that this Grouse's occurrence in Clarke County resulted from a so-called "crazy flight" whereby young birds are thought to undergo a dispersal phenomenon in the fall due to various possible stimuli (Bump et al., 1947). However, the Grouse in question, identified

as an adult female, would have had to come 40-50 miles—a questionable distance for such a flight—then survived over a year in an entirely different environment.

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GENERAL NOTES

CURLEW SANDPIPER SIGHTED IN GEORGIA - A Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) was sighted in Georgia in the early afternoon of 20 April 1975 on the north bank of the causeway to Jekyll Island, Glynn County. Members of the Columbus Audubon Society who were present and saw the bird were Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Terhune, Mrs. Florence Lynn, and Laurie Jones.

In addition to our individual binoculars a Bausch and Lomb Balscope Zoom 60 telescope was used to study the bird. It was a warm and clear day. The sun was shining and the subject was in full view approximately 150 yards away. It was accompanied by about five Dunlins (*Calidris alpina*) which made direct comparison of the two species possible. All the birds were on a small mud bar which was surrounded on three sides by water. The birds were inactive at that time. Distinctive field marks that convinced us of its identity were the robin's red color of the Curlew Sandpiper and its bill decurved throughout its length as compared to the drab markings of the Dunlins. We were able to take two turns each at the telescope before the group flew off out of sight.

There has been one previous report of a Curlew Sandpiper in Georgia, a bird sighted at the Altamaha Wildlife Refuge, McIntosh County, 19 November 1960 by Richard G. Kuerzi (1961. *Aud. Field Notes*, 15: 25).

Robert W. Terhune, Merrimac Circle, Upatoi, Georgia 31829.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE AT BRASSTOWN BALD, GA.—On July 20, 1975, an adult Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) was observed flying westerly near Brasstown Bald by John and Judy Swiderski, Terry Moore, and Simone Speiss. The bird was seen at an elevation of approximately 3,500 feet. It clearly displayed the white head and breast. The forked tail was seen as the kite made several graceful circles before flying out of view.

Previous sightings above the fall line have been rare. Research of *The Oriole* since 1953 indicated sightings at Rock Eagle park in August of 1965 and at Macon in May of 1957.

Burleigh (1958. *Georgia Birds*. U. of Okla. Press, Norman, Okla.) indicates observations at Milledgeville in 1942 and Richmond County in 1943. Also, a specimen was taken near Conley in 1941.

Certainly, this appears to be the most northerly record for this species in Georgia.

It is interesting to note that on the same day three swallow-tails were seen in Augusta by Gerald Knighton, Jim Reinig, and Phillip Stoddard, and Helen Ogren observed two at the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge!

John Swiderski, 973 Schoel Dr., Decatur, Ga 30033

A LIMIT OF BREEDING RANGES OF SONG SPARROWS AND HOUSE WRENS BETWEEN CUMMING AND GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA—In November, 1972, I moved twenty-four miles from Cumming, Forsyth County, Georgia, to Gainesville, Hall County, Georgia. The main difference in the avifauna that I noticed the first spring after moving was that Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia*) and House Wrens (*Troglodytes aedon*) were common nesting species in Gainesville. I had only suspected that Song Sparrows nested very rarely in Cumming and had never in the ten years I lived in Cumming seen any evidence of House Wrens nesting there. Singing males of both Song Sparrows and House Wrens can be heard almost all over Gainesville well into July.

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FROM THE FIELD

Single Common Loons were seen on 13 March 1975 at Lake Oliver (near Columbus) by L. A. Wells and 22-30 May near Fitzgerald by Milton Hopkins, Jr. Terry Moore and others saw up to eight Roseate Spoonbills at the Brunswick Pulp and Paper Company 11-26 July. Wilson Baker, William Dopson, and Milton Hopkins reported two female Black Scoters off Little Cumberland Island on 28 June. At Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge, Terry Moore found a Black Rail on 24 April and 10 May. William Matheny saw a Bonaparte's Gull there on 11 April and three Bank Swallows on 26 July. From the nearby Columbus area, James Miller had a very late Cape May Warbler on 20 May, Worm-eating Warblers from 7-20 April, and two Blue-winged Warblers on 19 April. Indigo Buntings arrived early (or overwintered?) at Jekyll Island. Carl Masters saw a female on 14 February and two males were reported from a feeder on 21 February. Dougherty County had its first recorded Ring-billed Gull on 22 March and a Dickcissel frequented Betty Komarek's feeder in Grady County 17-28 April.

Black-necked Stilts were reported breeding at the Brunswick Pulp and Paper Company. Ed Bunkley saw six pairs on 11 July and Terry Moore and others saw twenty individuals there on 26 July. T. P. Haines and Milton Hopkins found 500+ pairs of White Ibis in the Rebecca heronry in Turner County on 10 May and 7 June and they noted a Louisiana Heron in the area on both visits. Milton Hopkins III found 26 pairs of Yellow-crowned Night Herons in an oxbow lake of the Ocmulgee River in Telfair County on 26 May. Barn and Roughwinged Swallows were found nesting in adjacent culverts 20 miles south of Columbus on 6 April and William Matheny reported Mallards breeding at Eufaula NWR. James Miller found a Swainson's Warbler on 1 and 5 June in Marion County and had a Black-and-white Warbler there on 1 June. Florence Lynn had a Black-and-white on 28 June in Columbus.

(Compiled by Robert L. Crawford, Tall Timbers Research Station, Route 1, Box 160, Tallahassee, Florida 32303).

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