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GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Founded December 13, 1936

THE ORIOLE

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NO. 1

A NEW COVER FOR THE ORIOLE

H. Branch Howe, Jr., Chairman, Editorial Committee

and Terry S. Moore, Editor

During the first fifty years of publication, 1936-1985, *The Oriole* had only two covers, both of which were black and white line drawings (figures 1 and 2). The third cover, whose use begins with the present issue, Volume 51, Number 1, features a color reproduction of a new painting of the Orchard Oriole. We present a brief accounting of some of the people and events initially involved with *The Oriole* and the three covers.

The Oriole was founded by Don E. Eyles and Norman H. Giles, Jr. of Atlanta, who, as coeditors, published Volume 1, No. 1, January, 1936, while students in the Department of Biology at Emory University. The Atlanta Bird Club, founded ten years earlier, sponsored Volume 1. The editorial page of that first number announced a yearly subscription price of \$1.00, payable to the editors, who apparently were functioning as business managers as well. An impressive array of auxiliary talent was also available to the young founding editors: Advisory Editors Charles N. Elliott, Berma Jarrard and Earle R. Greene and Regional Editors J. Fred Denton (Athens), L. H. Mounts (Macon), E. E. Murphey (Augusta), Mabel T. Rogers (Milledgeville), Herbert L. Stoddard (Thomasville), and Ivan R. Tomkins (Savannah).

We have had some difficulty determining who drew the unsigned first cover (Fig. 1) which was used for only the first number, but we were recently assured by George A. Dorsey that it was drawn by Don Eyles. Dorsey stated that Eyles had told him that an emergency existed, and that something had to be done, so Eyles made the drawing. In Volume 1, Number 2, April, 1936, the editors thanked "Mr. Roger T. Peterson of New York, who has so kindly prepared our new cover" (Fig. 2). The editors also proposed "in the near future the organization of a state-wide bird club".

The organizational meeting of the Georgia Ornithological Society was held on December 13, 1936, with 22 persons in attendance, including Peterson, who represented the National Association of Audubon Societies, and Eyles and Giles. The drawing for the second cover, by Roger Tory Peterson, was used for 50 years and is now being replaced by the new painting which he graciously consented to do for our journal.

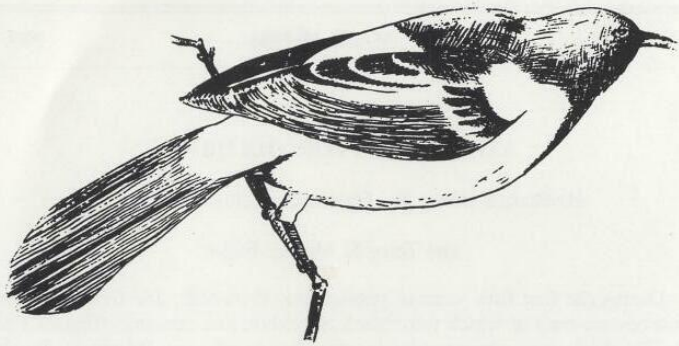


Fig. 1. First cover. Vol. 1, No. 1, 1936.

Beginning with Volume 2, Number 1, March, 1937, *The Oriole* was identified as the "Official Organ of the Georgia Ornithological Society", which is still true today. Don Eyles and Norman Giles coedited Volumes 1 and 2, and Eyles coedited Volume 3 with Earle R. Greene, after which both Eyles and Greene were succeeded by others. Both of the founding editors of *The Oriole* pursued careers in the biological sciences, although not in ornithology. Don Eyles entered the Commission Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service and was a scientist director on duty in Malaysia when he died in 1963. Norman Giles has had a distinguished career as a geneticist, first at Yale University from 1941-1972, where he was Eugene Higgins Professor of Genetics from 1961-1972, and subsequently at The University of Georgia, where he has been Fuller E. Callaway Professor of Genetics since 1972.

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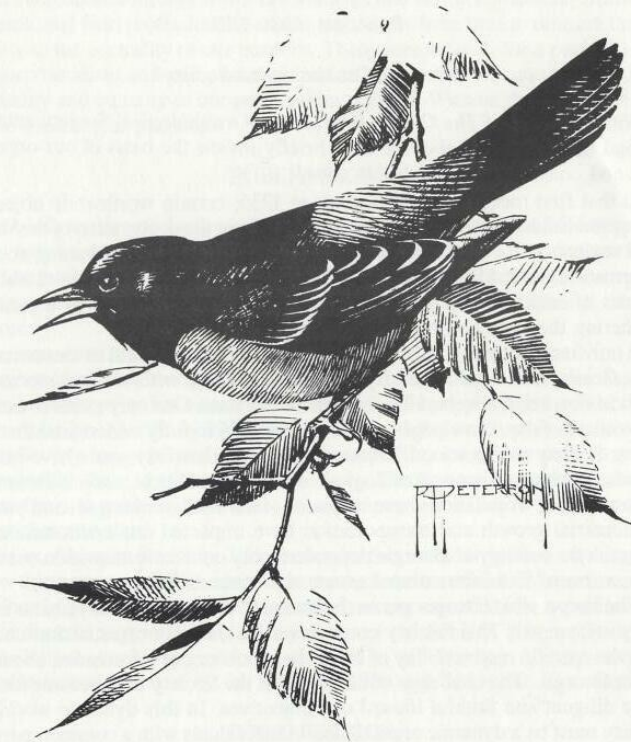


Fig. 2. Second cover. Vol. 1, No. 2, 1936 - Vol. 50, No. 4, 1985.

THE CHALLENGE OF THE SECOND HALF-CENTURY

Thomas K. Patterson

President, 1986-1987

Georgia Ornithological Society

With this issue of *The Oriole*, the Georgia Ornithological Society enters its second fifty years. It behooves us to briefly review the basis of our organization and consider that which lies ahead.

At that first meeting of the Society in 1936, certain worthwhile objectives were established. First among those was "to secure the cooperation of the various bird students and clubs over the state in gathering and disseminating accurate information of bird life within its boundaries". The final objective established a basis of implementation: "To issue a quarterly publication as a means of furthering the ends above described".

In our first fifty years, those who preceded us were faithful to these charges. *The Oriole* has been regularly published, along with several occasional publications, relative to bird life throughout our state. One only needs to examine the records of our knowledge in 1936 and in 1986 to fully understand the value of our Society to the scientific community. The past fifty years have brought significant changes in our sociological, economic, political, and environmental circumstances. Populations have increased, land use has changed, and patterns of industrial growth and transportation have impacted our environment. No longer is the ecology of Georgia dependent only on the events within our state. Now, national and international events also have an effect.

Who knows what changes are on the horizon? Yet, our purpose remains essentially unchanged. This Society continues to be the only organization charged with the specific responsibility of being the repository of information about bird life in Georgia. The challenge of the future of the Society is to become increasingly diligent and faithful toward our objectives. In this dynamic world, the Society must be a dynamic organization of individuals with a common purpose. As ideological as this statement appears to be, it directs us to some very practical approaches that are necessary for our future.

MEMBERSHIP

Our common purpose as individuals is implemented through affiliation with the Society. There are three essential purposes of membership which, in combination, suggest that membership is our first priority.

Members pay dues; and it is this income which provides the means for the fulfillment of our purpose. Virtually all of these funds are used to finance *The Oriole*, the *Annotated Checklist*, and other occasional publications, which represent the "dissemination of the accurate information of bird life within our state". Without dues-paying members, there can be no publications.

Further, our membership provides the bulk of data to fill the pages of our

publications. Members "gather the accurate information". Without noteworthy data, there need be no publication.

Finally, it is from our membership that leadership evolves. From the ranks of our recreational birders, from our students and serious amateurs, from our academic and field professionals, certain individuals from time to time are drawn actively to the centrality of our purpose. These persons will, for a period, keep our purpose alive, and will pass their zeal to others. Without good leadership, the quality and quantity of our publications will die. Without them, the Society has no meaningful purpose.

PUBLICATIONS

This *Oriole* represents the future in that there is the new cover which will grace many future issues. The Society owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Roger Tory Peterson for this painting of the Orchard Oriole - a debt which can only be repaid by the quality of the content as the journal leads to the fulfillment of our purpose.

The new edition of the *Annotated Checklist of Georgia Birds* is a vital tool in the hands of those who seek to enhance our knowledge. A representation of our knowledge to this date, this publication, when applied in the field, will lead to new knowledge in the future - and to subsequent, updated editions.

The Society has generated other occasional publications, some very recently. Undoubtedly, there are others on the horizon. The Society needs to encourage authorship and publication of these manuscripts, and to see to their distribution within our state.

Finally, *Georgia Birds*, by T.D. Burleigh, the essential volume of the past, is now thirty years old. Will a subsequent volume be beneficial? Who will author it? When? From where will the financial backing come? While a publication of this dimension may be beyond the scope of the Society, it is the Society's task to initiate, encourage, and support such an undertaking. And it is largely the information gathered by the Society which will determine its content.

ORGANIZATION

It is the organization of the Society by which leaders are selected, direction is set, and programs are established. What the Society does and how it goes about doing it is, in large measure, established by the By-Laws. The By-Laws of the Society have now been in place for several years, and need to be revised to accommodate current operation and future progress.

ACTIVITIES

The Society is composed of individuals who are active in their pursuit of knowledge of bird life within our state. The activity may be structured, such as the Breeding Bird Census of the Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Audubon Christmas Bird Counts; or it may be relatively unstructured, as is wading a marsh, observing nesting behaviors, noting migration patterns, or gathering

information for the life history of a species. Such activities can result in direct contributions to our published knowledge.

The Society is, in part, a social organization through which individuals may become involved in a corporate purpose. The association, in meetings, field trips, or other gatherings, can provide motivation, knowledge, and skill for the membership. Through these corporate activities, leaders emerge. Often, the Society's activities result only indirectly in new knowledge. The Goshawk, the newsletter, is published to recognize and enhance the social side of the organization as well as to communicate information about events.

In the future, the Society must develop and promote corporate activities, and must encourage individual pursuits. Such an opportunity exists currently with the possibility of beginning an atlas of the breeding birds of Georgia. This project, already begun in our neighboring states, requires that the Society initiate and support the effort, while encouraging the individual members to participate in its implementation.

CONCLUSION

The Georgia Ornithological Society has an excellent history dating back 50 years. The challenge of the future is to take what we have already accomplished and expand on it. *The Oriole* and other occasional publications will continue to be published but hopefully with even greater input from society members. Activities such as annual meetings and field trips will continue to be held, hopefully with greater participation by members. New projects such as the Breeding Bird Atlas will hopefully excite current members and encourage others to join the society and become active participants. With increased participation by current members and a steady influx of new ones, the future of the society will be assured.

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LEAST TERN COLONY ON SAPELO ISLAND

Rebecca E. Clark

During the summer of 1985, I had the opportunity to observe and document the nesting behavior of a small Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) colony. The colony had chosen the southernmost point of Sapelo Island's Nannygoat Beach as its nesting site. Sapelo, one of Georgia's loveliest barrier islands, provides a wealth of relatively undisturbed habitat for various wildlife forms, including several shorebird species. Despite the fact that Least Terns have used the shores of Sapelo as a regular nesting site for many years, little has been published concerning the status of the Least Tern along the Georgia coast (Teal 1981, Burleigh 1958, GOS Checklist 1977). The primary purpose of my summer's observations was to gather as much data as possible while disturbing the colony as little as possible.

The nesting site covered approximately one hectare or 2.5 acres. The area was quite flat and was bordered on the east by the high tide line and on the west by a substantial succession of primary sand dunes. Sea Oats comprised the predominant form of vegetation. The area was scattered with numerous broken shells which were scrupulously left untouched by the author in order to prevent possible disturbance of orientation landmarks used by the terns.

With one exception, little human disruption occurred due to the site's remote location. The nesting area was located adjacent to a study site involving Sea Oats which required daily visits. The investigators took every precaution not to disturb normal nesting behavior. No ill effects to the colony were observed.

Observation and documentation began on 29 June. An initial survey revealed a total of seven nests. Five nests contained two eggs each. One nest contained a solitary egg while the remaining nest was empty. The empty nest remained so throughout the period of observation. It is unknown whether chicks had fledged from the nest prior to the onset of the study or if the nest had merely been abandoned. Each nest was marked with a numbered survey stake to facilitate future location. The stakes were placed at least two feet away from the western boundary of each nest.

The site was subsequently visited a total of nine times. The visits were spaced approximately one to three days apart. Routine observations were made prior to 0800 and lasted less than a quarter of an hour. The lack of a blind prevented more lengthy periods of observation.

On the morning of 1 July, a newly hatched chick was found in nest number two. The remaining egg was intact. Due to the Least Tern's precocial development, the chick could not have been hatched for a very long period before being observed. The second egg in nest two hatched on the morning of 3 July. Once again, the chick was found within the nest. After that date, chicks were observed in the area and were presumed to be the chicks previously seen.

At approximately 0700 on 17 July, one of the eggs in nest seven was found in the early stages of hatching. The hatching process comprised approximately one hour of intermittent forceful struggling coupled with lengthy rest periods. Eventually, the chick was successful in freeing itself from the shell. Despite

drastic mobbing behavior by the adult terns, I was able to record the hatching process through the use of 35mm photography.

Nest number eight was not found until 16 July. It was located close to the monitored nests and was therefore considered to be new as of that date. This Least Tern pair had established their nest on the downward slope of a small sand dune. At the time the nest was located it contained two eggs. A return visit was made on 17 July. One of the eggs had been partially covered by wind-blown sand. Two eggs were still visible on 19 July. However, by 21 July, neither nest or eggs could be located. The nest site was completely covered by sand. The birds made no effort to reexcavate their nest.

Table 1 summarizes the data collected from each nest during the study. The incubation period for Least Terns spans a time frame of twenty to twenty-two days (Terres 1980). Due to the observed twenty-one day incubation period, it may be concluded that nests four and seven were established at the onset of the study. Nests one, three and six were probably established two to four days prior to the onset of the study.

Table 1. Summary of the number of eggs found in seven Least Tern nests. A dash indicates the first and subsequent dates that no eggs were present, regardless of whether viable chicks were observed.

Date	Nest Number						
	1	2	3	4	6	7	8
29 June 1985	2	2	1	2	2	2	-
1 July 1985	2	1	2	2	2	2	-
3 July 1985	2	-	2	2	2	2	-
4 July 1985	2	-	2	2	2	2	-
12 July 1985	2	-	1	2	2	2	-
16 July 1985	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
17 July 1985	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
19 July 1985	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
21 July 1985	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Raccoons and Eastern diamondback rattlesnakes are known to be primary predators of the Least Terns of Sapelo (Teal 1981). No evidence was found to verify such predation upon the observed colony. Raccoon tracks were not seen at any time throughout the study. It is more difficult to determine whether predatory behavior from rattlesnakes occurred. Since the site was not located behind primary sand dunes, the chances of snake predation were greatly reduced. My limited study prevented the establishment of concrete survival rate statistics. However, I can accurately state that I saw no evidence of fledgling kills throughout my study.

Despite their small number, the Least Terns in this colony provided insight into the behavior of this elegant species on Sapelo Island. Future nesting behavior, migration, and predator-prey relationship studies will be vitally important in gaining a more comprehensive understanding of the status of the Least Tern along the Georgia coast.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr. Jim Evans for his unswerving interest in my study and for his tireless assistance.

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1983 GEORGIA CHRISTMAS COUNTS

Kenneth Turner Blackshaw

This is the second article in the series that Terry Moore (1983) began last year. The general method of data formatting has been maintained, but the species totals from the previous year are shown as a comparison of relative abundance (Table 1). Since it is illuminating to sequence the data from northwest to southeast, that system has been maintained. In future years, the previous year's total will be replaced with an average of all previous years in the study.

The original data were obtained from Rubega (1984). As mentioned above, the data is presented in Table 1 with the counts proceeding from the northwest to the southeast. Abbreviations used include: DAL - Dalton, CHA - Chattahoochee National Forest, ATL - Atlanta, PEA - Peachtree City, ATH - Athens, CAL - Callaway Gardens, PIE - Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge, COL - Columbus, MAC - Macon, AUG - Augusta, DUB - Dublin, ALB - Albany, OKE - Okfenokee, HAR - Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge, THO - Thomasville, SAP - Sapelo Island, and GLY - Glynn County. Two counts reported this year but not in 1982 were the Okfenokee and the Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge counts.

Moore's (1983) comments on Christmas Bird Count data value are on target. It is true there are variations in accuracy from year to year due to team composition and depth of coverage of the count area. Individual counts may have reduced validity because of this. However, when you take the summary of count data as a whole over the years, the statistical inaccuracies will hopefully tend to cancel each other out and truly meaningful information and trends will appear.

Total species for the state was down somewhat in 1983 from 182 to 175; however, the individual count was up by some 500,000 to 675,057, due to the impressive count of Red-winged Blackbirds from Albany. Our observer total was up this year from 282 to 316, with a total of 125 parties spending 977 hours in the field compared to 848 last year.

The 397 Brown Pelicans reported in 1982 may have been an aberration as only 113 showed up for 1983. We will continue to monitor this species' return from DDT problems. A Cattle Egret far inland at Dublin was quite unusual. Noteworthy waterfowl sightings included 4 Tundra Swans at Augusta, a Greater White-fronted Goose at Harris Neck, 2043 Wood Ducks at Albany and an Oldsquaw at Sapelo. A total of 4 Bald Eagles were reported from 2 counts which is considerably better than the 1 seen in 1982. A Virginia Rail seemed to be out of place far inland at Dublin.

The major "happening" for 1983 was the Sandhill Crane migration. Seven out of the seventeen counts reported cranes compared to none in 1982. Most of the reports included the annotation "migrating"; however, they were scattered through the count period. A look at the counts from adjacent states shows this late migration to be concentrated in Georgia, with no reports from South Carolina, Alabama (except a lone bird at Eufaula), or Tennessee. The Florida counts show a considerable population already settled down in the middle part of the state.

Table 1. 1983 Georgia Christmas bird counts

Species Name																		Totals	
	DAL	CHA	ATL	PEA	ATH	CAL	PIE	COL	MAC	AUG	DUB	ALB	OKE	HAR	THO	SAP	GLY	1983	1982
Red-t. Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	7	8
Pied-b. Grebe	2	-	16	46	6	8	47	2	12	16	15	86	-	4	14	7	32	313	186
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	3	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	32	57	9
Northern Gannet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	-
Brown Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	89	113	397
Double-c. Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	6	-	5	1	10	-	46	-	182	312	571	583
Anhinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	1	-	4	-	3	14	19
American Bittern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Great Blue Heron	2	1	17	10	10	5	7	7	5	11	10	16	27	16	16	61	53	274	235
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	13	-	29	26	20	6	87	51	233	268
Snowy Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	30	42	85	83
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	6	-	23	9	41	37
Tricolored Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	11	9	22	16
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
Green-b. Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	8	13
Blk-c. Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	6	23	33	18
Yel-c. Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	1	5	-
White Ibis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	79	7	-	263	55	418	248
Glossy Ibis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Wood Stork	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Gr. White-f. Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Canada Goose	68	-	12	1	18	8	165	12	-	17	27	40	-	28	-	-	-	396	337
Wood Duck	10	-	6	1	13	1	78	7	-	8	1	2043	15	12	47	10	9	2261	175
Green-w. Teal	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	23	2	-	9	250	5	10	308	75
Am. Black Duck	-	-	5	4	13	-	124	-	-	1	-	-	-	8	-	6	2	163	72
Mallard	15	-	45	87	57	31	479	42	8	60	20	227	20	24	16	1	14	1146	721
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	2	62	-	1	69	8
Blue-w. Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	21	-	2	-	2	27	12
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	3	-	10	-	8	-	1	1	29	52
Gadwall	3	-	-	-	-	-	10	6	-	-	-	3	-	89	-	10	21	142	33
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	155	-	36	-	81	400	6	21	703	231
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	15	2	2
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	2	-	8	2	1	5	-	-	-	10	48	22
Ring-n. Duck	56	-	350	143	-	31	798	350	10	510	4	65	-	-	2462	-	3	4782	1912
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	17
Lesser Scaup	25	-	2	18	-	-	4	1	18	1	-	-	-	1	-	7	195	272	250
Scaup (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	560	-	560	100
Oldsquaw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Black Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	85	36	121	146
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	10	164	-
White-w. Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4	2
Scoter (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
Common Goldeneye	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	5	15	8
Bufflehead	-	-	7	13	2	17	2	63	1	-	-	-	-	21	-	23	60	209	255
Hooded Merganser	-	-	30	5	-	5	11	-	-	4	-	71	-	8	2	47	220	403	289
Red-br. Merganser	-	-	3	-	-	-	8	1	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	145	34	197	506
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	32	-	-	31	1	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	32	69	169	134
Duck (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	-	-	-	-	31	36
Black Vulture	12	-	-	22	14	24	8	2	2	5	22	32	8	26	9	44	8	238	143
Turkey Vulture	22	5	24	33	80	7	25	3	12	1	19	28	91	66	58	89	32	595	824
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	3	1
Bald Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	1
Northern Harrier	3	1	1	3	5	1	3	-	2	1	5	7	-	9	2	15	10	68	54

Species Name																	Totals		
	DAL	CHA	ATL	PEA	ATH	CAL	PTE	COL	MAC	AUG	DUB	ALB	OKE	HNR	THO	SAP	GLY	1983	1982
Blk & white Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	17	-	6	7	33	34
Common Yellowthroat	-	-	1	7	2	2	-	2	-	1	5	3	-	-	24	12	2	61	84
Warbler (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
N. Cardinal	70	19	372	199	229	139	38	42	173	62	95	135	4	49	62	79	97	1864	1848
Rufous-s. Towhee	31	27	274	113	109	37	20	21	85	20	41	75	6	15	64	79	73	1090	1026
Bachman's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chipping Sparrow	6	22	249	1413	45	139	142	17	277	4	70	52	155	100	158	6	-	2655	1836
Field Sparrow	54	57	1147	312	242	142	15	6	63	3	58	72	65	-	5	4	6	2251	1315
Vesper Sparrow	2	-	5	11	5	1	4	-	2	-	3	2	-	19	10	-	9	73	107
Savannah Sparrow	-	5	34	38	129	47	-	-	18	-	103	40	-	40	14	74	32	574	789
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Henslow's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sharp-t. Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	9	-
Seaside Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	6	31
Fox Sparrow	-	-	21	21	3	-	-	7	2	2	1	3	-	-	-	10	2	72	73
Song Sparrow	136	112	681	323	412	159	65	33	77	99	200	27	2	4	31	20	41	2422	2094
Swamp Sparrow	10	3	94	45	49	61	13	3	4	4	17	2	-	2	54	45	60	466	604
White-t. Sparrow	92	90	840	341	924	163	103	188	220	221	88	622	10	25	66	51	173	4217	4242
White-c. Sparrow	-	-	-	-	4	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	17	37
Dark-e. Junco	69	387	1245	406	437	251	160	305	206	60	22	15	18	5	16	12	6	3620	4688
Sparrow (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	466
Red-w. Blackbird	1000	10	348	713	8419	263	640	420	33	254	94	500000	326	38	2000	1235	850	516643	18597
East. Meadowlark	57	90	215	226	110	407	83	17	149	80	54	66	59	229	34	30	108	2014	2395
Rusty Blackbird	-	1	3	315	2	110	20	12	2001	144	-	-	-	30	39	15	-	2692	13272
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	105	-	-	-	-	-	-	105	109
Boat-t. Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	15	528	546	2301
Common Grackle	2041	2632	113	137	3500	152	-	350	4	2500	40	249	44	32	2350	129	180	14453	6685
Brown-h. Cowbird	2	4	22	27	14000	6	50	5	-	3	8	149	-	-	101	3	-	14380	688
Blackbird (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	942	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	942	1959
Northern Oriole	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Purple Finch	66	1	122	86	63	79	8	16	30	16	5	-	10	2	-	11	515	775	
House Finch	5	-	56	9	67	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	139	119
Red Crossbill	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pine Siskin	1	22	14	1	6	21	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72	45
Am. Goldfinch	46	99	415	222	160	110	9	75	62	23	64	11	26	93	90	65	390	1960	1723
Evening Grosbeak	15	8	-	-	-	-	2	5	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-
House Sparrow	178	45	352	19	420	24	2	94	153	5	6	20	3	-	15	-	10	1346	1208
Total Individuals		4867		9569		4775		5806		6639		505844		2845		13220		675057	
	7069		18837		48622		6551		6933		3521		4568		11300		14091		168210
Total Species	75	62	89	90	87	79	82	95	76	88	85	98	61	107	89	139	137	175	182
No. of Observers	18	15	45	23	40	24	10	10	18	11	9	10	7	18	8	16	34	316	282
No. of Parties	8	5	17	9	13	8	3	6	7	6	2	5	5	10	4	6	11	125	106
Party Hours	47	35	170	83	105	46	27	54	63	32	17	38	31	54	35	55	85	977	848
Party Miles	219	249	841	383	308	322	247	177	263	162	133	96	167	205	112	119	186	4189	3872
Date of Count	12/17	12/18	12/18	12/17	12/17	1/1	12/19	12/17	12/17	12/24	12/17	12/31	12/30	12/30	1/1	12/31	12/31		

Sapelo reported a Wilson's Plover but only 2 Piping Plovers were reported on all the coastal counts. This species bears watching over the next few years as it is getting increasingly hard to find. Another interesting shorebird sighting was 3 Marbled Godwits at Sapelo. This year only one Barn-Owl was seen as compared to 3 in 1982. It was not an invasion year for Red-breasted Nuthatches nevertheless 13 were found on 6 counts. Loggerhead Shrikes were down to 120 from 139 last year. We will see if this trend continues.

Two Orange-crowned Warblers apiece on the Atlanta, Athens and Columbus counts were good sightings of this semihardy winterer. The rarest bird encountered during the count period was a Nashville Warbler which has already been documented (Waters 1984). As mentioned before, the 500,000 Red-winged Blackbirds at Albany must have been an awesome spectacle and this one count contributed over 75% of all the individual birds reported from the state. None of the rarer sparrows were reported but counts of 1413 Chipping Sparrows at Peachtree City and 1147 Field Sparrows at Atlanta were impressive. Dublin was the only count to report Brewer's Blackbirds and Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge was the only count with a Northern Oriole. Winter finches were in greater numbers in 1983 than in 1982 with the best sighting being a Red Crossbill in the Chattahoochee National Forest.

This year the task of compiling all the Christmas Count data was greatly aided by the use of a personal computer. Having the data available in this format is incredibly valuable when any type of analysis of the data is considered. Just the simple keying in of the data revealed the total counts of individuals from several of the counts to be in error. This is not meant as a slur to the compilers as much as an indication of how difficult the accounting side of this study can be. For this reason, if anyone reading this article would be interested in a copy of the data from the 1982 and 1983 counts on a computer diskette in spreadsheet format, please contact the author for details. Having gone through the effort of recording this data, I certainly see no reason for anyone else having to do it.

LITERATURE CITED

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 Rubega, M.A., and the CBC Regional Editors. 1984. The eighty-fourth Audubon Christmas bird count. *American Birds* 38:570-575.
 Waters, Anne R. 1984. Nashville Warbler seen on Augusta Christmas bird count. *Oriole* 49:45-46.
 2536 Cedar Canyon Drive, Marietta, Georgia 30067.

FIRST GEORGIA RECORD OF A VARIED THRUSH

Daniel R. Jacobson

On the morning of 17 Feb. 1980, I received a phone call at about 0915 from Lillian H. Dubke of Ooltewah, TN who had just been contacted by Bill Presley of Trenton, Dade County, GA. Around 0830 that morning, Mr. Presley noticed a strange-looking robin in the backyard of his residence on Canary Circle which, upon consulting *A Field Guide to the Birds* (Peterson, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1978), he identified as a Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*). This was accomplished using the description in the accidental section under western birds.

Mrs. Dubke and I immediately drove to the Presley residence arriving there at 1040. The thrush was found right away perched in a nearby cedar (*Juniperus* sp.) approximately 7 m from the kitchen window. We observed: a robin-sized thrush with bluish-gray back and nape, orange underparts with a solid black band across the breast, orange eyebrow, black ear patch, and orange wingbars which showed particularly well when the bird flew to the ground. We watched the bird off and on until 1145 from distances of 7 to 35 m with 10X40 (Lillian) and 7X42 (Daniel) Leitz binoculars. We confirmed Mr. Presley's identification and I took several photos of the male Varied Thrush with a Canon FTb and a 270 mm lens. The last time we observed the bird it was being pursued by an American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) as it flew out of the yard in a southerly direction.

At about 1500 Terry Moore, Peggy Fletcher and Mary Ann Vernocy of Atlanta, GA arrived at the Presley residence. We watched from inside the house for a half hour with no success before deciding to walk across the backyard and into the edge of the woods south of the house. We shortly located the thrush at the southeast edge of the woods and were able to observe it well as it perched in one of the large trees from 1540 - 1550. Several times it gave a call note similar to the "chuck" note of the Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) at which time it would flip its tail. The temperature this day ranged from -7 to 2 degrees C and the sky was clear.

The bird was observed off and on until 22 March when it was last seen by Elizabeth Queener, Jane Bridgman and me. During the period from 17 Feb. to 22 March approximately 46 observers were able to see the bird. Several identifiable photographs were taken including Figure 1 which was taken by Joe Stone on 2 March. This sighting constitutes the first record for a Varied Thrush in Georgia and is one of the few sightings of the species in the southeast.

5614 Cold Springs Road, Hixon, TN 37343.



Fig. 1. Varied Thrush at Trenton, Georgia on 2 March 1980. Photo by Joe Stone.

MEETING NOTICE

The third Southeastern Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Symposium will be held 8-10 September 1987 in Athens, Georgia. The program will consist of invited papers on research and management within the Southeast, and the proceedings will be published. Registration details will be announced later. For further information write to Ron Odum, Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division, Rte. 2, Box 119A, Social Circle, GA 30279 or call (404) 557-2532.

GENERAL NOTES

PURPLE FINCH BANDED IN MICHIGAN RECOVERED IN GEORGIA - On 28 Jan. 1986 William Brown recovered a banded dead male Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*) in Fitzgerald, Georgia. The certificate received from the Bird Banding Laboratory indicated the bird was banded as an adult male near Glennis, Michigan on 25 April 1982. This means that the bird was hatched in 1980 or before. The band number was 0910-92005.

The interesting matter in this case would most definitely be the longevity of this particular individual. Most small passerines have an average life span of 2-4 years and few make it past 5-6 years. Another factor negatively affecting the bird's longevity is its 600 mile migration between breeding and wintering grounds.

The recovery of small birds is low so if you find one that's banded, send the band number to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Bird Banding Laboratory, Office of Migratory Bird Management, Laurel, MD 20708. Knowing that you have assisted in the study of a particular species should be due reward.

W. Brian Brown, Rt. 2, Box 106, Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750.

FALL RECORDS OF LESSER GOLDEN-PLOVER IN THE ATLANTA AREA - On 2 Nov. 1985 I was birding Peachtree City Lake, 25 miles southwest of downtown Atlanta, for possible migrant ducks. Early November is generally a good time to start studying waterfowl migration in the Atlanta area. However, the lake was mostly drained with a relatively large mudflat-type habitat. As few ducks were present I was hoping to find a few shorebirds instead. The main part of the lake had the following shorebirds: 2 Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*), 5 Pectoral Sandpipers (*Calidris melanotos*) and about 50 Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*). I moved to the northern part of the lake where I located 3 large plovers feeding actively. From the very beginning I thought they were juvenile Lesser Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*). The bill and legs were black, the upperparts were brownish and spotted with golden yellow, the crown was dark and contrasted with a well defined pale eyebrow, giving the birds a cap effect. The bill was short and thin compared to a Black-bellied Plover's (*Pluvialis squatarola*) bill and the general appearance was of a more delicate bird. All three birds were identical. I was not able to flush the plovers, although I was no further away than 30 m, so the dark rump, lack of wingstripe and pale axillaries could not be seen. Before I left I called Chris Lambrecht, a local resident, who verified the sighting an hour later, although he was also unable to flush the birds. No plovers were present the next morning.

A week later on 9 Nov. while checking the Clayton County Water Treatment Plant, 20 miles east of the original sighting, I found two more Lesser Golden-Plovers. That day Ellery McClintock, Dale Hardee, Jay Snow from England, and I were able to verify all field marks as the plovers were observed in flight and on the ground. The plovers were subsequently seen by many observers through 13 Nov. when last noted by Paul Raney. This represents the 5th record for the Atlanta area and the first one during the fall period.

Patrick Brisse, 4960 Gatehouse Way, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30088.

POMARINE JAEGER OBSERVED AT CUMBERLAND ISLAND, GEORGIA - On 3 Jan. 1986, I observed two Pomarine Jaegers (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) and one Parasitic Jaeger (*S. parasiticus*) from the beach near Sea Camp on Cumberland Island National Seashore in Camden County, Georgia. The first sighting was made at about 0900 on this date as I was using a 20X80 spotting scope to examine the flocks of gulls gathered around several shrimp boats working near shore. I noted a dark, gull-like bird approximately 300 m offshore which showed the flash of white in the wing and low, deliberate flight of a jaeger. I immediately noted that the bird was considerably larger and heavier than the Parasitic Jaegers typically seen from shore, and suspected that it might be a Pomarine. It rose above the horizon, and I could clearly see that it was a light phase adult jaeger with the broad dark collar band and stocky, barrel-chested shape characteristic of Pomarine Jaegers. It proceeded to attack a Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*), which was distinctly smaller than the jaeger. Though the bird was not close enough to allow me to clearly see the shape and length of its tail spikes, I have no doubt that it was a Pomarine Jaeger. I have considerable field experience with both Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers, and have never seen a Parasitic as large and heavy as this bird. As I watched, another jaeger appeared in the same field of view at roughly the same distance as the first bird. This second bird was entirely brown in color except for its white wing patch, and was very noticeably smaller and lighter in build than the original jaeger. On the basis of size and shape alone, I judged this second bird to be a Parasitic Jaeger.

About 20 minutes later, as I was walking north along the beach, yet another jaeger appeared very close inshore and only about 30 m from me. This bird proved to be a dark phase Pomarine with elongated, rounded and twisted central tail feathers and sooty brown plumage with white wing patches. It was larger and heavier than a typical Parasitic but was not as stocky as the first Pomarine observed earlier. Had it not been close enough for the tail spikes to be visible, I would not have been able to clearly distinguish it from a Parasitic. It flew rapidly off to the south paralleling the beach only 20 m seaward of the water's edge.

I have seen jaegers from shore in Georgia with some regularity, usually in association with flocks of gulls and terns attending boats. However, before the sightings described here I had never identified a Pomarine Jaeger from the beach. Only two other sightings of this species from land in Georgia have been published. Single birds were reported from Sapelo Island on 2 Jan. 1965 by Coolidge and Hopkins (*Oriole* 29:62-63) and Tybee Island on 18 Feb. 1965 by Tomkins (*Aud. Field Notes* 19:369). Jaegers observed from shore in Georgia are often seen under poor viewing conditions and at large distances, and it is possible that Pomarines are in fact not as rare near shore as the paucity of records would indicate.

Bill Pulliam, Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602.

FROM THE FIELD

October - December 1985

The period seemed to be very average from the birding standpoint. There were a couple rarities reported but even that seemed to be below average. The fall did not seem to produce a good number of strong cold fronts so migrants were not bunched up. About the only good news was that it appears to be a good invasion year for Red-breasted Nuthatches and a possible good year for Pine Siskins and perhaps Evening Grosbeaks.

Abbreviations used include: AS - Audubon Society, CBC - Christmas Bird Count, CCWTP - Clayton County Water Treatment Plant about 20 miles south of Atlanta, CNC - Chattahoochee Nature Center about 15 miles north of Atlanta, MBBT - Merry Brothers Brick and Tile Company in Augusta, MIA - Macon Industrial Area, NWR - National Wildlife Refuge, PCL - Peachtree City Lake about 20 miles southwest of Atlanta and SCSP - Sweetwater Creek State Park about 20 miles west of Atlanta.

In the interests of making it easier for Georgia observers to report their records to *The Oriole*, it has been decided to modify the reporting dates so as to coincide with those of *American Birds*. Therefore the periods of reporting and the due dates will be the same as for *American Birds*. For those not familiar with those deadlines they are as follows:

Period	Due Date
March - May	15 June
June - July	15 August
August - November	15 December
December - February	15 March

Please help us bring *The Oriole* back on schedule by submitting your reports on time with full details of any unusual observation.

RED-THROATED LOON - The only report received during the period was of a single bird seen off Sapelo Island on 29 Dec. by Emil Urban (*vide* Anne Waters).

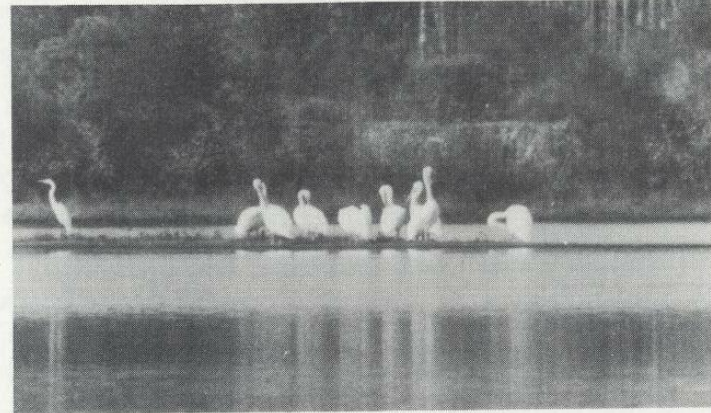
COMMON LOON - Late fall or early winter inland records were received from Athens where a single bird was noted by Billy and Brenda Dunbar on 23 Nov. and from Atlanta where up to 3 birds were seen by Dennie and Pam McClure from 1-13 Dec. Another was noted during the Piedmont NWR CBC on 18 Dec. and a pair was at Lake Tobesofkee during the Macon CBC on 21 Dec.

HORNED GREBE - As usual just a few were reported inland. Rip Holman found the species at Lake Loretta in Albany on 3 Nov. and Dennie and Pam McClure had 3 more the same day at SCSP. Another bird was found on I-575 NW of Atlanta on 13 Dec. and was turned over to the CNC according to Nanette Johnson. One reported by Stuart Coward on 16 Nov. was a rare sight for the Athens area where waterbirds can sometimes be difficult to find.

EARED GREBE - Terry Johnson spotted one on the Plant Sherer ash pond near Macon on 19-20 Nov. This represents only the sixth record for Georgia.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN - Joining the already reported birds at the MIA near Macon were seven additional birds as mentioned by Ty Ivey and Jerry and Marie Amerson on 12-13 Oct. This is a rather high number for Georgia, especially inland.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT - The species has been on the increase inland over the last 5 to 10 years. Records are almost too numerous to detail anymore. The best count was 21 at MBBT on 14 Dec. (Anne Waters). Small numbers were sighted in Laurens County in Nov. (Tom Patterson) and in the Macon area from 12 Oct. to 17 Nov. (Ty Ivey and others).



White Pelicans at Macon, Georgia on 12-13 October 1985. Photo by Ty Ivey.

In Atlanta only singles were noted on 12 and 22 Oct. and 2 Nov. (*vide* Terry Moore). The last two sightings came from Albany on 19 Oct. (Alan Ashley and Rip Holman) and Piedmont NWR on 26 Oct. (Dale Hardee).

ANHINGA - The only inland reports came from MBBT where Anne Waters mentioned an adult on 2 and 9 Nov. and an immature on 23 Nov. Emil Urban spotted 2 more there during the 21 Dec. Augusta CBC.

GREAT EGRET - Rather late birds were noted by John Paget at Commerce Lake on 26 Oct. and at Pendergrass on 16 Nov. At MBBT Anne Waters mentioned a small group of about 13 birds during most of the period.

LITTLE BLUE HERON - Only one bird was left at MBBT on 5 Oct. according to Anne Waters and a single at Callaway Gardens on 20 Oct. was rather late (Patrick and Donna Brisse).

CATTLE EGRET - Extremely late and one of the few fall records for the Atlanta area were the two birds seen by Patrick Brisse near Tyrone on 3 Nov. The birds were probably associated with the passage of Hurricane Juan.

WHITE IBIS - No reports were received from the piedmont area; the 5 seen near Millen on 11 Oct. by Anne and Vernon Waters constituted the only inland report received.

TUNDRA SWAN - A wintering bird was found by Tom Patterson on 26 Dec. for a rare Laurens County record. Another bird was observed flying above Jekyll Island on 23 Dec. by Lydia Thompson.

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE - Extremely rare in the piedmont area was a single individual found by John Paget at Commerce Lake on 18 Oct.

SNOW GOOSE - The species seemed to have been more widely reported north of the fall line this period. On 14 Dec. a bird was at the MIA (Ty Ivey, Ken and Arlene Clark), an immature was in Crawford County (Mike Chapman) and another was at MBBT (Anne Waters). On 21 Dec. both phases were noted during the Macon CBC, ten birds were found during the Peachtree City CBC and a white phase was seen on the Athens CBC. The last report was a variant phase at PCL on 28 Dec. (Patrick Brisse).

GREEN-WINGED TEAL - Anne Waters reported only 3 during the period from MBBT on 9 Nov. In Atlanta 2 were at CCWTP from 26 Oct. - 2 Nov. (Patrick Brisse), one was at SCSP on 3 Nov. (Dennie and Pam McClure) and 2 more were at PCL on 14 Dec. (Patrick Brisse).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL - A good inland count was 65 as mentioned by Patrick and Donna Brisse from PCL on 5 Oct. Late birds for the piedmont area were at CCWTP on 26 Oct. (Patrick Brisse) and Pendergrass on 15 Nov. (John Paget).

GADWALL - Reports came from Augusta on 9 Nov. (Augusta AS), Plant Scherer near Macon on 17 Nov. (Ocmulgee AS), Laurens County on 23 Nov. (Tom Patterson), the MIA on 14 Dec. (Ty Ivey and others) and during the Columbus CBC on 29 Dec. The species seems to have been more common than in previous years.

- AMERICAN WIGEON - A fairly early bird was near Commerce on 6 Oct. according to John Paget. Ty Ivey and other observers reported a winter sighting from the MIA on 14 Dec.
- CANVASBACK - The species was reported from Macon at the Plant Scherer ash pond on 23 Nov. by Terry Johnson and others at the MIA on 14 Dec. by Ty Ivey and others. Redheads were also sighted on those two dates. A male Canvasback was noted by Billy Dunbar at Sandy Creek Park on 21 Dec. for a first record for the Athens CBC. The last one for the period was noted during the Columbus CBC on 29 Dec. (*vide* Sam Pate).
- REDHEAD - Seventeen at PCL on 30 Nov. was a good count for the Atlanta area (Patrick Brisse).
- GREATER SCAUP - A female was carefully identified at close range on a small pond at Stone Mountain from 8-14 Dec. by Patrick and Donna Brisse and Terry Miller. Patrick also reported a male on 14 Dec. from CCWTP. This bird was compared directly with Lesser Scaup present at the same place.
- BLACK SCOTER - A bird was already back at Jekyll Island on 24 Oct. according to Lydia Thompson and about 200 were seen a few miles offshore during the 16 Nov. Atlanta AS pelagic trip.
- WHITE-WINGED SCOTER - Three birds were also early on Jekyll Island on 30 Oct. as reported by Lydia Thompson.
- COMMON GOLDENEYE - Tom Patterson noted one on Ben Hall Lake in Laurens County on 15 Dec. for the only period record.
- BUFFLEHEAD - Interesting inland counts included 40+ at Rock Eagle Lake on 1 Dec. (Billy Dunbar) and 52 during the Piedmont NWR CBC on 18 Dec. (*vide* Terry Johnson).
- RUDDY DUCK - Another good inland count was the 120+ seen during the 18 Dec. Piedmont NWR CBC (*vide* Terry Johnson).
- OSPREY - Single birds were widely reported inland during the period, the dates were 7 Oct. near Macon (Jerry and Marie Amerson), 25 Oct. from Macon again (Ken and Arlene Clark), 20 Oct. from the Lookout Plateau (Dale Hardee), 9 Nov. from Athens (Billy Dunbar), 9 and 23 Nov. from Augusta (*vide* Anne Waters) and 15 Nov. from Commerce (John Paget).
- BALD EAGLE - Gregory Valpey had the only sighting for the piedmont area on 19 Nov. near Lake Lanier. Around the fall line Dale Hardee noted one on 26 Oct. at the Piedmont NWR and Terry Johnson and others mentioned single birds on 17 Nov. and 18 Dec. around Plant Scherer near Macon. Tom Patterson received 2 sightings in Oct. from Laurens County and Sam Pate mentioned 3 during the Columbus CBC on 29 Dec.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK - On 5 Oct. late birds were noted by Georgann Schmalz above Fernbank Forest in Atlanta and by John Paget near Commerce Lake.
- MERLIN - A few Merlin were noted inland, Tom Patterson sighted the first one in Laurens County on 5 Oct. and Billy Dunbar saw the other one at the Lake Oconee Wildlife Management Area on 25 Dec. Along the coast, Terry Moore mentioned the species as being more common than usual from 6-20 Oct; he personally saw 15+ during the second week of Oct.
- PEREGRINE FALCON - The number was about normal for the coast in Oct. Twenty-five were reported from Jekyll Island between 6-13 Oct. and 18 birds were banded on Cumberland Island from late Sept. through early Oct. (*vide* Terry Moore). One was noted 10 miles offshore during the 12 Oct. GOS pelagic trip. Late birds were noted on Jekyll Island on 2 Nov. by Joe Greenberg and 13 Nov. by Lydia Thompson. Inland sightings were scarce: Clarence Belger saw one at MBBT on 1 Oct., Patrick and Donna Brisse saw another harrasing waterfowl at PCL on 5 Oct. and the last one was sighted by Paul Hoinowski near Perry on 10 Oct.
- SANDHILL CRANE - Early and out of the regular migration path where 5 birds noted by Clarence Belger on 1 Oct. at MBBT. Over Atlanta, where most of the migrants are seen, Terry Moore received reports from 9 Nov. through 15 Dec. for a total of only 650 birds. Small numbers were noted in the first week of Dec. around the Macon area according to Ken Clark and Joyce and Don Duncan.
- LESSER GOLDEN-PLOVER - Three late birds were noted at PCL on 2 Nov. (Patrick Brisse and Chris Lambrecht) and 2 more were at CCWTP from 9-13 Nov. (Patrick Brisse and others). They could possibly be the same birds as PCL is only 20 minutes away from CCWTP and the birds were seen at PCL only on the 2nd.
- SEMIPALMATED PLOVER - Two birds at PCL on 12 Oct. were rather late for an inland location (Patrick Brisse).
- GREATER YELLOWLEGS - One bird sighted at the Lake Oconee Wildlife Management Area on 25 Dec. by Billy Dunbar was rather interesting as the species is rare in the winter that far inland.
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER - For the fourth year a bird was found wintering at PCL and was seen during the entire period (Patrick Brisse).

- PECTORAL SANDPIPER - PCL was drained in late Oct. and attracted a few late shorebirds. Patrick Brisse noted 5 birds there on 2 Nov. and 2 more on 3 Nov.
- DUNLIN - A single bird on 9 Nov. and 3 birds on 30 Nov. were found at CCWTP by Patrick Brisse. In Laurens County Tom Patterson noted the species from 13 Oct. to 23 Nov. with a good inland count of 10 birds. Clarence Belger and Anne and Vernon Waters sighted 3 very late migrants at MBBT on 7 Dec.
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER - Of note was a bird found by Jerry and Marie Amerson at the MIA on 5 Oct.
- COMMON SNIPPE - A good inland count was the 70+ sighted near Kathleen by Don and Joyce Duncan on 25 Dec.
- RED PHALAROPE - Four were seen about 20 miles offshore from Jekyll Island during the GOS pelagic trip on 12 Oct. (*vide* Anne Waters) and 3 more were noted on the 16 Nov. Atlanta AS trip (*vide* Terry Moore). On the last trip 18 more birds could only be identified as phalarope (sp.).
- POMARINE JAEGER - The 12 Oct. GOS pelagic trip found 1 bird and the 16 Nov. Atlanta AS trip yielded 2 more. During that last trip one Parasitic Jaeger was also sighted along with 8-9 birds classified as jaeger (sp.).
- LAUGHING GULL - Anne and Vernon Waters and Clarence Belger reported a large concentration, 4000-5000, on the south end of Jekyll Island on 11 Oct.
- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL - A fourth year bird was on Jekyll's South Beach on 8 Oct. (Peggy and Terry Moore) and a late bird was still there on 17 Nov. (Craig Faanes). The species has become regular in the last few years along the coast in early Oct.
- SANDWICH TERN - A late bird was still on Jekyll Island on 11 Oct. as noted by Anne and Vernon Waters.
- COMMON TERN - A surprising number, 30-40 birds, was seen about 40 miles offshore during the 16 Nov. Atlanta AS pelagic trip out of Jekyll Island.
- FORSTER'S TERN - Tom Patterson was the only observer to report the species inland with singles on 16 and 23 Nov. in northeast Laurens County.
- BRIDLED TERN - Two to three birds found 40-50 miles offshore during the 16 Nov. pelagic trip were relatively late (Atlanta AS).
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE - A single bird was found by Patrick Brisse on 17 Nov. near the South Beach on Jekyll Island; John Thompson was the only other observer to see the bird on 18 Nov. This represents the 8th state record and the second one in less than a year.
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO - Interesting were the two birds banded on Jekyll Island on 7 and 17 Oct. (*vide* Terry Moore). A late bird was noted inland in Forsyth County on 2 Nov. by John Paget, Jack Carusos and Steve Moore.
- YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO - John Paget sighted a late bird at Pendergrass on 4 Nov.
- SHORT-EARED OWL - Extremely rare in the piedmont, one was found by John Paget and Gregory Valpey at the Gainesville Airport on 9 Nov.
- COMMON NIGHTHAWK - Sam Pate noted a late bird over Columbus on 3 Nov. and Mark Oberle saw one over Decatur on 8 Nov. The sighting of another one on 22 Nov. by Anselm Atkins over Decatur, although not positively identified as a Common, is unheard of this late in the fall.
- CHIMNEY SWIFT - Most of the swifts are gone by late Oct. and Nov. sightings are normally rare. This year birds were sighted in Atlanta on 1 and 3 Nov. (*vide* Terry Moore), in Columbus on 3 Nov. (Sam Pate), in Augusta on 2 Nov. (Anne Waters), in Macon on 3 Nov. (Jerry and Marie Amerson), on Jekyll Island on 4 Nov. (Lydia Thompson) and in Athens on 5 Nov. (Billy Dunbar).
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD - Somewhat late was a bird still near Columbus on 13 Nov. (Mary Schley *vide* Sam Pate).
- WESTERN KINGBIRD - Although not unexpected, 4 was a good count on Jekyll Island as reported by Joe Greenberg on 2 Nov.; 2 more were also seen near Darien the same day by Joe. Three were still on Jekyll on 5 Nov. according to Lydia Thompson.
- GRAY KINGBIRD - Joe Greenberg noted a very late bird on Jekyll Island on 2 Nov.
- TREE SWALLOW - Patrick Brisse and Mark Oberle saw 12 at CCWTP on 2 Nov. and Paul Raney saw 2 more on 3 Nov. at SCSP. Both are late records for an inland location.
- BARN SWALLOW - Two were late at PCL on 3 Nov. as mentioned by Patrick Brisse. The record was erroneously recorded as Cliff Swallows in *American Birds* (40:99).

- FISH CROW - A positive report for the Atlanta area was received from Dale Hardee and Patrick Brisse when 2 birds were heard and seen at CCWTP on 9 Nov.
- RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH - It is definitely an invasion year as too many sightings for publication were received. It was not too difficult to find 6-8 birds in a couple hours of birding in the piedmont area. One exception was that Tom Patterson reported only one sighting from the central coastal plain.
- WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH - Tom Patterson reported a bird during the first two weeks of Oct. in Laurens County, mentioning the rarity of the species in the central coastal plain.
- GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH - One individual was banded on Jekyll Island on 17 Oct. (*vide* Terry Moore).
- WHITE-EYED VIREO - A late migrant (most likely) was still near Kathleen on 12 Dec. according to Don and Joyce Duncan.
- PHILADELPHIA VIREO - A bird was banded on Jekyll Island on 6 Oct. (*vide* Terry Moore).
- WARBLERS - Rather unusual for the Albany area, a large wave of warblers was observed by Alan Ashley during 18-27 Oct., 3214 birds were counted, 67% were Tennessee's and 32% were Bay-breasted's.
- NASHVILLE WARBLER - Only 2 reports were received, one from the Chattahoochee River in north Atlanta on 6 Oct. (Atlanta AS) and another from Jekyll Island where it was banded on 7 Oct. (*vide* Terry Moore).
- MAGNOLIA WARBLER - Anne and Vernon Waters and Clarence Belger noted a late migrant on 9 Nov. during a field trip at MBBT.
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER - Another late warbler record was received from Augusta where this species was seen during a field trip at MBBT on 23 Nov. Noteworthy was the sighting of a female by Anne and Vernon Waters during the Sapelo CBC on 28 Dec. This last bird was probably the first winter record for Georgia.
- CONNECTICUT WARBLER - Two birds were banded on Jekyll Island on 8 and 11 Oct. (*vide* Terry Moore). This warbler is a very rare fall transient and these sightings are only the 2nd and 3rd in 8 years of banding study on Jekyll.
- INDIGO BUNTING - Jack Carusos and John Paget reported a very late bird in Forsyth County on 10 Nov.
- PAINTED BUNTING - A male and a female seen at MBBT by Anne Waters on 19 Oct. were definitely late.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW - A late migrant or a possible wintering bird was found by Gregory Valpey on 16 Nov. near Commerce Lake and was seen again on 24 Nov. by Gregory and John Paget.
- LECONTE'S SPARROW - Rarely reported in Georgia, one was observed on 29 Dec. by Herb Kale and Jack Cooper on Sapelo Island.
- HENSLOW'S SPARROW - Single birds were found on Sapelo Island on 28 Dec. (Anne and Vernon Waters) and again in a different part of the island on 29 Dec. by Anne and Vernon Waters, Herb Kale and Jack Cooper.
- WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW - Less frequently reported from the Atlanta area recently, one was at CCWTP on 26 Oct. (Patrick Brisse).
- BOBOLINK - A late bird was present at Pendergrass on 24 Oct. as mentioned by John Paget.
- PINE SISKIN - According to Terry Moore a few birds were reported in the early part of Nov. in the Atlanta area but no large numbers were seen except for small flocks coming to a few feeders.
- EVENING GROSBEAK - A small flock flew over Terry Moore's house in north Fulton County on 14 Nov., a single individual on 15 Dec. again in north Fulton County (Peggy and Terry Moore) and another during the 22 Dec. Atlanta CBC were the only reports received during the period.

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