

GOSHAWK

NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY



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Newsletter of the Georgia Ornithological Society

Vol. XV No. 1

January 1989

Harriett G. DiGloia,
Editor

Rare Bird Alert Phone Number 912/987-1052

From the Editor's Desk

We have two birds reported that are on the Hypothetical Species List for our state. A Ringed Turtle-dove in Cadwell and a Burrowing Owl seen at Gainesville.

From offshore of Jekyll Island come reports of Audubon's Shearwater and Wilson's Storm Petrel. Roseate Spoonbills were reported from Millen, Cadwell; Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon sightings came in from various sections of Georgia. A Baird's Sandpiper was spotted at Lake Lanier.

A Rufous Hummingbird was at Rum Creek Wildlife Management Area and Scissor-tailed Flycatchers showed up in Columbus and Adairsville. From Dawsonwood Rd. (? as to location) came a Brewster's Warbler sighting; a Lawrence's Warbler was seen at Augusta. Red Crossbills were once again on the Cohutta Ranger District of the Chattahoochee National Forest and at Blue Ridge.

GOS News

Spring Meeting! Fitzgerald! April 21-23! Remember what a great time we had at the last meeting there? Why not a repeat performance? Come and greet the spring birds in Fitzgerald.

A note from Milton Hopkins: "We have several "slots" under peanut drying shelters here at Osierfield with electrical and water supplies that could be used by any GOSers attending the spring meeting in campers, vans, etc. No charge. Interested parties, please contact me and I'll send a map of the farm.—R.F.D. 5, Osierfield, Fitzgerald, GA 30175."

Life member Sara Robertson has been accepted into the masters/doctoral program in Zoology at Cornell University. In addition, Cornell has awarded Sara the prestigious Andrew D. White Fellowship to assist her with the program. She recently completed her undergraduate program at Presbyterian College with honors. Congratulations Sara!

Welcome New Members! Jeff Sewell, Carol Lambert, Tucker; Barbara Marcovecchio & family, Clarkston; Paul & Carol Dunham, St. Simon's Island; William Birkhead, Columbus; Rebecca Rogers, Macon; Brad Bergstrom, Valdosta; John Parrish, Statesboro; John Dunning, Athens.

GOS Annual Spring Meeting and Field Trips

Plan now to attend the annual Spring Meeting, April 21-23, 1989. The meeting headquarters will be the new Shoney's Inn in Fitzgerald, Georgia. Program designed to add to your enjoyment and knowledge of birding are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings.

Here's the chance to bird the upper coastal plain of mid-south Georgia. Field trips will be led by knowledgeable local birders. Five large heronries, one with 3,000+ birds, are within 35 to 40 miles of Fitzgerald. The nearby Alapaha River features nesting sites of many wet woodland species. Also near are mud flats, a wastewater treatment facility, and 3 oxidation ponds, all frequented by shorebirds. The terrain includes natural and planted stands of pines, sand ridge and scrub oak, plus numerous streams and ponds followed by birds migrating at this time.

Species we may see include: egrets; herons; Anhingas; White Ibis, Moorhen; Acadian Flycatchers; Cerulean, Kentucky, Yellow-throated and Swainson's Warblers; Mississippi and Swallowtail Kites.

Registration is \$8 (non-GOS members), \$5 (GOS members). For details on room rates, Saturday night banquet, etc., contact Helen Ogren, 12785 Birmingham Hwy., Alpharetta, GA 30201; telephone: (404) 475-7218.

GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL FALL MEETING

Epworth-by-the-Sea

October 7-9, 1988

President Don Duncan opened the Saturday evening general membership meeting with a welcome to all members attending. All of the field trip leaders were recognized and thanked. Mention was made of the updated Birders Guide to Georgia and other GOS publications available in the rear of the room.

Georgine Pindar briefly covered the Fort Frederica problem, gave the address for writing letters of opposition, and encouraged everyone to do so.

The Earl R. Greene award was presented to Frank McCamey by Richard Parks. Frank has been active in GOS for 12 years, and has been involved in working with nature since college. He attended Yale University and holds a Ph.D. degree from Connecticut in forestry. He has worked with nature centers in Cincinnati, Ohio, and in Michigan. He came to Atlanta as Regional Director of the National Youth Foundation. He has held all offices of GOS and has devoted many long years to the environment.

Vice President Branch Howe introduced John "Barney" Dunning, the speaker who gave a very interesting and well-presented slide lecture on "Bachman's sparrows in South Carolina". Many questions from the audience were addressed.

Vernon Waters conducted the weekend countdown, with a total of 113 species observed.

The GOS Spring Meeting in Fitzgerald, Georgia, April 21-23, 1989, at the Shoney's Inn was announced.

Vernon Waters thanked everyone for their concern and letters helping to get the highway through Merry Bothers Ponds rerouted through Phinezy Swamp.

The meeting was adjourned.

ABSTRACT OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 8, 1988

Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island, Georgia

FINANCIAL REPORT: Current funds are \$30,864. There are 133 life members, 195 regular members, and 75 library members for a total of 403. GOS has sent a \$1,000.00 donation to the Roger Tory Peterson Institute.

ACTIVITY, RESPONSIBILITY, STATUS REPORT: Terry currently has sufficient material for his continuing work on The Oriole. Harriett has sent the GOShaw to the typist. The next issue will be out soon. *

The updated Birders Guide to Georgia is now available for \$6.00, or \$7.00 if mailed. the new "Checklist of Georgia Birds" is also available, with the MacGillivray's Warbler being the only addition.

Conservation updates were presented on Merry Ponds/Phinezy Swamp, Lake Alma (Hurricane Creek), the Sea Palms Proposal at Fort Frederica, Swamp of Toa, and Congressional Bills concerning Clean Air, the Tongass, and the North Slope.

GOS Annual Spring Meeting will be held at Shoney's Inn, Fitzgerald, Georgia on April 21-23, 1989. Tentative sites for the fall 1989 meeting were discussed, including Charleston, South Carolina and Savannah.

The Jekyll Island Banding Station (JIBS), as the only long-term ongoing ornithological project in Georgia, will be encouraged to present a compilation of data for publication.

It was suggested that we find ways to utilize the talented members of our organization. Possible ways of creating more interest are more field trips and reviving the presentation of scientific papers during annual meetings.

News of People

GOSer Delano Crowe died on December 15, 1988. He had been ill for a few years. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

GOSer Jeannine Angerman died on February 1. She became ill with cancer last year; but remained active until she was hospitalized a few weeks before her death. Our sympathies are with her family.

Travelers: Davis Bulluck and Andy Griner spent 16 days in Mali, West Africa in January of '88. Although not a birding trip, they did identify 85 species. The only one they seen before was the Cattle Egret.

Joel Hitt spent some time in West Virginia; Ken and Lil Dubke went over to Mississippi; Anne and Vernon Waters went out Colorado way, stopping at Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Here they saw a White-eyed Vireo, Scott's Oriole. In Colorado, they listed Band-tailed Pigeon, White-throated swift, Golden Eagle. Arlene Cark birded out in Oregon and saw Snowy Plover, Marbled Murrelet, Black Turnstone.

Anselm Atkins ventured over to Texas. Golden-fronted Woodpecker, Ringed Kingfisher, Golden-cheeked Warbler were tallied. Ty Ivey wandered a bit further afield, journeying to the Pribilof Islands. He gained 31 birds for his Life List, including Gray-tailed Tattler, Glaucous Gull, Smith's Longspur. Al Jenkins went even further, going to China. "Not one of the greatest trips for Lifers, but historically interesting and scenic", he said.

This brings us to Helen Ogren. Helen won a trip to the Falkland Islands. She pledged money to last year's American Birds team on their Big Day Count. Her team won. All pledgers names were put in a hat and two lucky people would win the trip. Well, Helen's name was drawn. She flew to London, England, boarded an RAF Tristar Troop Carrier, complete with troops and flew to the Falkland Islands. They refueled at the Ascension Islands. She saw King, Gentoo, Magellanic, Rock Hopper Penguins while there. There were 15 birders on the trip, one other American winner from Colorado and the rest were English with one Scotsman. Helen said it was a great trip.

Abbreviations used in this newsletter:

ad	Adult	Mtn	Mountain
AS	Audubon Society	NC	Nature Center
CBC	Christmas Bird Count	NF	National Forest
Co	County	NM	National Monument
CR	Creek	NRA	National Recreation Area
f	Female	NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
FSRd	Forest Service Road	R	River
FT	Fort	RD	Ranger District
GC	Golf Course	SP	State Park
im	Immature	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
Is	Island	WRP	Water Reclamation Plant
L	Lake	WTP	Water Treatment Plant
m	Male		

An asterisk (*) following the name of a bird denotes that it is listed as occasional, rare, uncommon or casual for one of the locations where it was seen according to the Annotated Checklist of Georgia Birds, J. Chris Haney. Editor's notes and dates in parenthesis are taken from this checklist. Dates are 1987 and 1988.

Georgia Birds at a Glance

- Common Loon*: Sweetwater Cr SP, Apr 19, PR; 15, Peachtree City L, Apr 1 and 1 on Apr 17, PB & CL and May 7, PB, HG, TM; Rum Cr WMA, May 14, JG; L Lanier, Jun 29, & 3 on Jul 25, & Aug 22, JPa
- Eared Grebe*: 2, Plant Scherer-Ash Ponds, Sep 30, TJ & Oct 1, AC, MCr, MC, DC
- Audubon's Shearwater*: Off Jekyll Is, Jun 11, Atlanta AS
- Wilson's Storm Petrel*: 10, off Jekyll Is, Jun 11, Atlanta AS
- Great Blue Heron*: All thru time period, Murray Co, HD; Great White Heron, Canton, Jul 4, T&PM
- Great Egret: 3, Conyers-Monastery, Jul 7, FM; 2, Whitfield Co, DCr & Aug 13-20, JW
- Little Blue Heron: 6, Conyers-Monastery, Jul 7, FM
- Tricolored Heron*: Rum Cr WMA, Jul 30, TJ; Augusta-Merry Ponds, Aug, AW
- Cattle Egret*: Clayton Co WTP, May 21, fide PB
- Green-backed Heron: 2, Dalton-yard, early Oct, S&JJ
- White Ibis*: 2, im, Conyers-Monastery, Jul 7, FM & Jul 24, JB; im, Rum Cr WMA, Jul 14, TJ
- Glossy Ibis*: Sapelo Is, Jun 11-13, Ocmulgee AS; 2, Augusta-Merry Ponds, Aug 3 & 1 on Aug 13, V&A W
- Roseate Spoonbill*: hatchling, 12 mi NW Burke Co, Jul 29, CD; 4, Andrews Is, Aug 31, RMJ; Jekyll Is-Causeway, Oct 8, V&AW (Ed's Note: ? if hatchling sighting in Georgia)
- Wood Stork*: 12 mi NW Burke Co, Jul 29, CD; nesting, Millen, summer, AW; 30, Cadwell, Aug 9, S&SR (? if NW Burke Co sighting in Georgia)
- White-fronted Goose*: Eufaula NWR, Jun 3, PR
- Snow Goose*: L Lanier, Apr 3, JC; Piedmont NWR, Apr 24, DH; 5 blue phase, 1 white, Macon-Brickyard Ponds, Nov 12, TI
- Green-winged Teal*: 4, Dalton WRP, Dec 18, JP, HD
- American Black Duck*: Macon, Jun 20, TI; 9, Dalton WRP, Dec 18, JP, HD
- Northern Pintail*: Macon, Oct 9 with up to 12 later, K&AC; f on beach with shorebirds, Jekyll Is, Oct 8, GOSers; Augusta; Nov 5, Augusta AS; Dalton WRP, Dec 18, JP, HD
- Cinnamon Teal*: Darien, Apr 1-10, D&PM & Apr 16, LT
- Canvasback*: Plant Scherer, Nov 19, Ocmulgee AS
- Redhead*: Plant Scherer, Nov 19, Ocmulgee AS
- Ring-necked Duck*: m, Plant Scherer-Ash Pond, Jul 16, TJ
- Greater Scaup*: 4 m, Augusta-Merry Ponds, Nov 5, V&AW
- Ruddy Duck*: 2 f, Macon-Brickyard Ponds, Jun 4, and pair all summer, TI
- Osprey*: Reports from 2 in nest, Rum Cr WMA, Augusta, Statesboro, Clayton Co WTP, Peachtree City L, Chattahoochee R NRA, Commerce L, L Lanier, TJ, V&AW, PB, DL, JPa
- American Swallow-tailed Kite*: Okefenokee NWR, Jun 11, D&JD; Conyers-Monastery, Jul 31, FE & 2 on Aug 1-4 fide FM
- Bald Eagle*: Reports from Rum Cr WMA, Sapelo Is, Augusta, Darien, TJ, MC, DJ, AJ, AW, TM, HG, PB
- Northern Harrier: Plant Scherer-Ash Pond, Sep 30, TJ

Sharp-shinned Hawk*: Stone Mtn, Jul 3, PB
Cooper's Hawk*: Sapelo Is, Jun 11-13, Ocmulgee AS
American Kestrel*: Atlanta-downtown, Aug 25, TJ
Peregrine Falcon*: Chattahoochee NF-Cohutta RD, Jun 25, HD; Augusta-Heron
Roost, Aug 26 & Sep 30, V&AW; Ocmulgee Indian Mounds, Sep 18, J&MA;
Sapelo Is, Sep 24-26, Ocmulgee AS; Dalton WRP, Dec 18, JP, HD
Ruffed Grouse: Chattahoochee NF-Cohutta RD, Oct 28, HD
Black Rail*: West Point WMA, Aug 31, RW
Virginia Rail*: im, Rum Cr WMA, Oct 24, manager
American Coot*: Tate, Jun 14, JK; 2, Rum Cr WMA, Jul 16, TJ
Sandhill Crane*: 70-75, L Tobesofkee, Nov 11, K&AC; 50, Macon, Nov 15, SW
Piping Plover*: 3, St. Simons Is, Aug 15, J< - one was banded at Outer
Banks, NC; Jekyll Is, Oct 8 & 3, Tybee Is, Nov 25, V&AW
American Avocet*: Plant Scherer-Ash Pond; Aug 20, TJ
Lesser Yellowlegs*: Macon, Jul 16, TI
Upland Sandpiper*: Gainesville-airport, Apr 14 with DBu and Aug 27, JPa
Marbled Godwit*: 3, Gould's Inlet, Apr 8, D&PM; Jekyll Is-South Beach,
Jul 9, JT; St Simons Is, Aug 8, LT, KL
Western Sandpiper*: Rum Cr WMA, Jul 14 and Aug 19 & 20, TJ, MC; Forsyth Co,
Jul 23, JPa
White-rumped Sandpiper*: Clayton Co WTP, May 4 & 7 on May 21 & 1 on May 28,
DH; 2, Eufaula NWR, May 7, PB, HG, TM; Pendergrass, Jul 30, JPa, JCa;
St. Simons Is, Aug 8, LT
Baird's Sandpiper*: L. Lanier, Aug 19, JPa
Stilt Sandpiper*: 3, Clayton Co WTP, May 4, DH; 6, Andrews Is, Aug 3, RMJ,
EH, LT
Short-billed Dowitcher*: 4, Rum Cr WMA, Aug 18, TJ
Wilson's Phalarope*: Clayton Co WTP, Aug 27, PB
Bonaparte's Gull*: Sweetwater Cr SP, Apr 19, PR
Herring Gull*: L Lanier, Jun 11, JPa; Piedmont NWR, Dec 21, CBC; Augusta,
Dec 26, CBC
Lesser Black-backed Gull*: 2, Tybee Is, Aug 22 & 23, AWy, SC, JBi
Great Black-backed Gull*: St Simons Is, Jul 8, LT & 1 ad, Oct 9, V&AW
Sandwich Tern*: Sapelo Is, Jun 11-13, Ocmulgee AS
Common Tern*: L Lanier, Jul 23, JPa
Forster's Tern*: Sweetwater Cr SP, Apr 23, PR
Least Tern*: Pendergrass, Aug 20, BD, DH
Black Tern*: 9, Pendergrass, Aug 12, JPa; 9, Plant Scherer-Ash Pond,
Aug 20, TJ, MC
Ringed Turtle-Dove*: Cadwell, Jun, S&SR (Ed's Note: On Hypothetical Species
List for state)
Common Barn Owl*: nesting, Forsyth Co, Jul 17, JPa
Burrowing Owl*: Gainesville-airport, Apr 14, JPa, DBu (Ed's Note: On
Hypothetical Species List for state)
Whip-poor-will: L Tobesofkee, May 22, K&AC; Emanuel Co, May 29, J&MA;
Pulaski Co, May 30, D&JD
Rufous Hummingbird*: im m, Rum Cr WMA-feeder, Oct 19-23, TJ
Red-headed Woodpecker: Augusta-levee, Sep 20 and Phinezy Swamp, Oct 1,
V&AW
Red-cockaded Woodpecker*: 3, Piedmont NWR, Apr 24, DH
Olive-sided Flycatcher*: Atlanta-Chattahoochee R NRA, May 25, GS
Willow Flycatcher*: Dillard, May 29, PR & Jun 5, T&PM; Atlanta-
Chattahoochee R NRA, Jun 19, KB; Athens, Sep 4, J&MA

Least Flycatcher*: Dillard, Jun 5, T&PM
Western Kingbird*: Macon-Brickyard Ponds, Sep 5, TI, J&MA, K&AC
Gray Kingbird*: Jekyll Is, Jun, HG, TM, PB, PR & 6 on Jul 24, D&PM &
Aug, LT, T&PM
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher*: Columbus, Jun 4, NI, BB; Adairsville, Jul 3, RWh
Horned Lark: Cartersville, May, JS
Common Raven*: 4, Chattahoochee NF-Brasstown Bald, Apr 30, Atlanta AS;
2, Rabun Bald, Jul 30, BD, DH; Tray Mtn, Aug 27 & 28, NK
White-breasted Nuthatch*: Macon-Brickyard Ponds, Jun 4, TI
Brown Creeper*: Augusta-in alcove of store, JC (Ed's Note: This was
reported in Sep issue of newsletter with the Jun news & so is
assumed to be Jun.)
House Wren*: nested, Dalton-yard, Aug, AH, HD; Augusta-levee, Oct 8,
Augusta AS
Marsh Wren*: Atlanta-Chattahoochee R NRA, May 1, DL
Veery*: Macon-yard, May 12, J&MA; singing, Chattahoochee NF-Brasstown Bald,
Jun 4, T&PM; 2, Augusta-levee, Sep 10, V&AW; Sapelo Is, Sep 24-26,
Ocmulgee AS
Gray Catbird*: Whitfield Co, Dec 17, TD
Loggerhead Shrike*: Macon-Central City Park, May 22, J&MA - feeding 2 im;
Dalton WRP, Dec 18, HD
Blue-winged Warbler*: m, Augusta-levee, Sep 1, V&AW
Golden-winged Warbler*: m & f, Augusta-levee, Sep 1, V&AW
Brewster's Warbler*: Dawsonwoods Rd, May 11, JG
Lawrence's Warbler*: Augusta-levee, Oct 1, V&AW
Nashville Warbler*: Macon, Sep 20, SW
Cerulean Warbler*: Atlanta-Fernbank Forest, Apr 23, Atlanta AS
Swainson's Warbler*: Rabun Co, May 29, PR
Dickcissel*: Colony, Subligna, May 13 til around Jun 30, DB, KP; 2-3 pairs,
Atlanta-Roger's Bridge, May & Jun, JV
Bachman's Sparrow*: Rum Cr WMA, Apr 23, DH & May 14, JG; Piedmont NWR,
Apr 24, DH
Grasshopper Sparrow*: 2, Rum Cr WMA, May 24, TJ; 4, Conyers-Monastery,
Aug 6, DB, DH
Fox Sparrow: Rum Cr WMA, Nov 19, Ocmulgee AS; 11, Dalton WRP, Dec 18, JP, HD
White-crowned Sparrow*: Chester, May 4, DS; 2 im, Augusta-Merry Ponds,
Oct 28 & Nov 7, V&AW; Dalton WRP, Dec 18, JP
Purple Finch*: m, Cadwell-feeder, Jun 10, S&SR (...accidental in summer at
Atlanta)
House Finch: 40, Dalton-yard, Aug, S&JJ; 30-40, Dalton WRP, Dec, HD;
Whitfield Co, Dec, VG; Dalton, Dec, MF; Augusta, Nov 5, Augusta AS;
Eton, Dec 18, HD
Red Crossbill*: 30-40, Chattahoochee NF-Cohutta RD, Aug 21 & 1 on Sep 7,
fide HD & 13 on Dec 18, JP, HD; Blue Ridge, Jan, JJO
Evening Grosbeak: 3, Whitfield Co, Dec 17, TD

Contributors: Jerry & Marie Amerson; Judy Bickett (JBi), Ken Blackshaw,
Barbara Brigham, Patrick Brisse, David Brown, Davis Bulluck (DBu), JoAnne
Butler; Susan Callaway, Jack Carusos (JCa), Mike Chapman, Delma Cloeman, Ken &
Arlene Clark, Jack Cooper, Maurice Crenshaw (MCr), Doris Crowe (DCr),
Johnnette Crum (JCr); Chris Depkin, Harriett DiGioia, Toby Dirks, Bruce
Dralle, Don & Joyce Duncan; Father Edwards; Mabel Faulkner, Pat Fincher; Hugh
Garrett, Vernon Gordon, Joe Greenberg; Anne Hamilton, Dale Hardee, Eileen

Hutcheson; Nancy Iha, Ty Ivey; James Jones (JJo), Sherwood & Jean Jones, Terry, Donna & Angela Johnson, Rose Marie Johnson; Margaret Kavanaugh, Nell Kirkland; John Kise; Dennis Lacoss, Chris Lambrecht, Kit Lane; Dennie & Pam McClure, Francis Michael; Terry & Peggy Moore; Jim Ozier; John Paget (JPa), Johnny Parks, Kris Poulsen; Paul Raney, Stoughton & Susan Richmond; Donny Screws, John Swiderski; Lydia Thompson, John Thompson; Joel Volpi; Vernon & Anne Waters, Harry & Jean White, Richard White (RWh), Richard Whittington, Sara Williams, Anne Wyatt (AWy)

Miscellaneous

Copies of the Proceedings of the Third Southeastern Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Symposium are now available. This meeting was held in August 1987 at Athens, Georgia and included more than 30 presentations by noted authorities from throughout the Southeast and beyond. To receive your copy of this 253 page document, send \$10 to Georgia Department of Natural Resources c/o Mr. Ron Odom, Route 2, Box 119A, Social Circle, Georgia 30279. Make your check payable to Planning Committee, 3rd Nongame Wildlife Symposium.