



# GOSHAWK

NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 17 NO. 4

DECEMBER 1990

Rare Bird Alert Phone Number: 404 509-0204

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NEW RARE BIRD ALERT NUMBER FOR GEORGIA AND THIS IS IT: (404) 509-0204!

Under the auspices of the Georgia Ornithological Society and a co-operative financing plan involving the society and several Georgia Audubon chapters, a new rare bird alert number is now in operation manned (womaned?) by Adrienne Myles of Marietta. The number is (404) 509-0204.

The Rare Bird Alert is for reporting any bird in the Annotated Checklist with a status of rare or accidental. Of course, if the bird isn't listed at all and you know it to be a rare bird, call. Even if you're not sure about its wild status, call. In other words, do not pass by a Lapwing because it's not on the state list. By all means, call. The number is (404) 509-0204. From within the 404 area code, you realize, things are simpler. Merely dial 509-0204 in Atlanta and 1 509-0204 elsewhere in the 404 area.

Birds interesting to a particular area of Georgia will also appear on the hotline tape. For instance, a Chachalaca in Albany would be interesting. A Ruffed Grouse in Duluth would get attention. A western hummingbird mistaking the corolla of someone's ear for some Trumpet Vine should be reported immediately.

The reason for the Rare Bird Alert is so that birders who are anxious to see species they would normally have to travel hundreds or thousands of miles to study might witness the bird within Georgia at a cost of much less time and money. It's a method of bringing you the bird after the bird has taken the trouble to add untold distances to his migration just so you might have an opportunity to see him (her). So, don't let any stranger down! Call 509-0204. If you're outside the 404 area, just add a 404 to the 509-0204. Thus, (404) 509-0204.

Also, the line now has recorded messages for visitors and Georgians alike who want to know what's around. Just call (404) 509-0204 and listen to Adrienne's mellifluous tones bespeaking matters of music to your ears. It is the fullest service Rare Bird Alert that Georgia has ever had. The number (404 509-0204) will appear in every issue of WINGBARS, every issue of the GOSHAWK, newsletter of the Georgia Ornithological Society, and, hopefully, in most other newsletters around the state. So, remember, if you meet a strange bird in the field, call him in right away. Don't wait a day or two. Don't even wait an hour or two, if possible. Share him with others! How? Just call (404) 509-0204!

And a suggestion. If you call (404) 509-0204 and you don't get connected for some reason, do call (404) 509-0204 again. Electronics do fail occasionally. Or, if you get a busy signal, call (404) 509-0204 again! Or (404) 509-0204 as many times as necessary until connected. Remember, somebody else in Georgia wants to see your bird!

Write this number on several books you keep in the house, on your copy of the ANNOTATED CHECKLIST OF GEORGIA BIRDS, Occasional Publication No. 10 by GOS, 1986, and on the roof of your car for visiting private aircraft. You lost the number already? It's:

404

509

0204

It's yours. call it. Use it. Let's make Georgia not only the biggest state east of the Mississippi, let's make it the hottest!

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BIRDING NORTHWEST GEORGIA - PART II

David Brown

Yes, there is a Part II. Fall is here, and frost follows morning frost with an almost unbroken regularity. The Marsh Hawks have returned to our field, and "Poor Sam Peabody" can be heard from every thicket. The blackbirds have gathered together in huge generic flocks and descend in clouds upon newly sown wheat. Owls in the morning, coyotes at night. Sunday morning, as I sat shivering in my tree, looking out over a hundred acres of weeds and scrub, I was astounded by the multitude of quail that must be hiding out there somewhere, judging by their calls. The eastern horizon was beginning to glow that odd greenish glow it can have on these frozen mornings when a huge winged creature swooped up from its invisible flight across the field in front of me and landed on a branch not ten feet from my head. The Great Horned Owl is a great hunter, but he wasn't looking for me. He blinked once when I hooted at him and then quickly disappeared.

I've killed my deer. Hunting is over for me. Where are all the cranes? Normally by this time I will have seen hundreds, usually during the first week of November, but I have yet to spot a single one. I have, however, begun to check the lakes for waterfowl, and there are some encouraging items to report. Garden Lakes in Rome (see BIRDER'S GUIDE TO GEORGIA) are beginning to collect winter ducks and migrating transients. In one day, November 13th, I spotted Ring-necked Ducks, American Widgeons, Buffleheads, Pied-billed Grebes, Coots (many, many Coots), Mallards, Red-breasted Merganser (1), Red-necked Grebe (1), Ruddy Ducks, Canada Geese, and Gadwall (1). Remember, too, that these same lakes have yielded Redheads for the past three years.

The Arrowhead Fish Hatchery of Floyd Springs Road near Armuchee (you say ar-MURR-chee if you know what you're talking about) is always a good place to bird in Fall/Winter, and is the habitual starting point for the famous Greenberg/Poulsen-Brown Lookout Plateau field trips. The fish ponds are beginning to fill nicely and should be more and more attractive to ducks as they do. The back three ponds are full, and the rangers tell me they have already seen some Green-winged Teal. This chain of ponds has yielded both colors of teal, as well as Pintail, Widgeon, Ring-necks, Gadwall, etc. The large beaver pond whose dam was washed away in the spring floods, is back in business so one can expect to flush wood ducks here along with Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets. You'll also see several hawks in the atmosphere around here such as Kestrel, Marsh Hawk (all right, HARRIER), Red-shouldereds, Red-tails and Cooper's. This hatchery is the place where Joe Greenberg spotted a Harris' Sparrow not so many years ago.

You've come so far now...gotta go up to Pigeon Mountain and see if you can spot a Golden Eagle. Drive along the fields of the Lookout Plateau and scope out the grass for Horned Larks or maybe a Lapland Longspur. Stop at the overlooks along the brow and watch for hawks and hang gliders in the wind. Stop at the Lookout Restaurant at Cloudland or go over to Mentone, Alabama and Christmas shop. Or, if you like open fields, country living and large friendly dogs, you can come see us. Call (404) 857-4424. I'll show you my bobcat skin!!

10-14-90  
 649644  
 N.W.R.

# GEORGIA FIELD CHECKLIST

(Species recorded at least 4 times in the last 10 years)

OBSERVERS **GOS**  
 Members

Year **1990**  
 Total Species **109**

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SPECIES \_\_\_\_\_  
 Col. 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Col. 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Col. 3 \_\_\_\_\_

LOON, Red-throated		IBIS, White	
Common	✓	Glossy	
GREBE, Pied-billed	✓	SPOONBILL, Roseate	
Horned		STORK, Wood	✓
Red-necked		WHISTLING-DUCK, Fulvous	
Eared		SWAN, Tundra	
PETREL, Black-capped		GOOSE, Gr. White-fr.	
SHEARWATER, Cory's		Snow	✓
Greater		Canada	
Manx		DUCK, Wood	✓
Audubon's		TEAL, Green-winged	
STORM PETREL, Wilson's		DUCK, American Black	
Band-rumped		MALLARD	✓
TROPICBIRD, White-tailed		PINTAIL, Northern	
BOOBY, Masked		TEAL, Blue-winged	✓
GANNET, Northern		SHOVELER, Northern	
PELICAN, American White	✓	GADWALL	✓
Brown		WIGEON, American	
CORMORANT, Dbl-crested	✓	CANVASBACK	
ANHINGA		REDHEAD	
BITTERN, American	✓	DUCK, Ring-necked	
Least		SCAUP, Greater	
HERON, Great Blue	✓	Lesser	✓
EGRET, Great	✓	OLDSQUAW	
Snowy		SCOTER, Black	
HERON, Little Blue	✓	Surf	
Tricolored		White-winged	
EGRET, Reddish		GOLDENEYE, Common	
Cattle	✓	BUFFLEHEAD	
HERON, Green-backed	✓	MERGANSER, Hooded	
NIGHT-HERON, Blk-cr.	✓	Common	
Yellow-crowned		Red-breasted	

DOVE, Rock	✓	CROW, American	✓
White-winged		Fish	✓
Mourning	✓	RAVEN, Common	
GROUND-DOVE, Common	✓	CHICKADEE, Carolina	✓
CUCKOO, Black-billed		TITMOUSE, Tufted	✓
Yellow-billed	✓	NUTHATCH, Red-breasted	
BARN-OWL, Common	✓	White-breasted	
SCREECH-OWL, Eastern		Brown-headed	✓
OWL, Great Horned	✓	CREEPER, Brown	
Barred		WREN, Carolina	✓
Short-eared		Bewick's	✓
NIGHTHAWK, Common	✓	House	✓
CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW		Winter	
WHIP-POOR-WILL		Sedge	✓
SWIFT, Chimney	✓	Marsh	
HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-th.		KINGLET, Golden-cr.	
Rufous		Ruby-crowned	✓
KINGFISHER, Belted	✓	GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray	✓
WOODPECKER, Red-h.	✓	BLUEBIRD, Eastern	✓
Red-bellied	✓	VEERY	✓
SAPSUCKER, Yellow-b.	✓	THRUSH, Gray-cheeked	
WOODPECKER, Downy	✓	Swainson's	
Hairy	✓	Hermit	
Red-cockaded		Wood	
FLICKER, Northern	✓	ROBIN, American	✓
WOODPECKER, Pileated	✓	CATBIRD, Gray	✓
FLYCATCHER, Olive-s.	✓	MOCKINGBIRD, Northern	✓
WOOD-PEWEE, Eastern	✓	THRASHER, Brown	✓
FLYCATCHER, Yellow-b.	✓	PITIT, Water	
Acadian	✓	WAXWING, Cedar	
Willow	✓	SHRIKE, Loggerhead	✓
Least	✓	STARLING, European	✓
PHOEBE, Eastern	✓	VIREO, White-eyed	✓
FLYCATCHER, Great Cr.	✓	Solitary	✓
KINGBIRD, Western	✓	Yellow-throated	✓
Eastern		Warbling	✓
Gray		Philadelphia	✓
LARK, Horned		Red-eyed	✓
MARTIN, Purple		WARBLER, Blue-winged	✓
SWALLOW, Tree		Golden-winged	
N. Rough-winged		Tennessee	✓
Bank		Orange-crowned	
Cliff		Nashville	
Barn	✓	PARULA, Northern	
JAY, Blue	✓	WARBLER, Yellow	

VULTURE, Black	✓	WHIMBREL	
Turkey	✓	CURLLEW, Long-billed	
OSPREY	✓	GODWIT, Marbled	
KITE, Am. Swallow-t.		TURNSTONE, Ruddy	
Mississippi		KNOT, Red	
EAGLE, Bald	✓	SANDERLING	
HARRIER, Northern	✓	SANDPIPER, Sempalmated	
HAWK, Sharp-shinned		Western	
Cooper's	✓	Least	
Red-shouldered	✓	White-rumped	
Broad-winged	✓	Baird's	
Red-tailed	✓	Pectoral	
Rough-legged		Purple	
EAGLE, Golden		DUNLIN	
KESTREL, American	✓	SANDPIPER, Stilt	
MERLIN		Buff-breasted	
FALCON, Peregrine		DOWITCHER, Short-billed	
CHACHALACA, Plain		Long-billed	
GROUSE, Ruffed		SNIPE, Common	✓
TURKEY, Wild	✓	WOODCOCK, American	
BOBWHITE, Northern	✓	PHALAROPE, Wilson's	
RAIL, Black		Red-necked	
Clapper		Red	
King		JAEGER, Pomarine	
Virginia		Parasitic	
SORA		GULL, Laughing	
GALLINULE, Purple		Bonaparte's	
MOORHEN, Common	✓	Ring-billed	✓
COOT, American	✓	Herring	
CRANE, Sandhill		Lesser Blk-b.	
PLOVER, Black-bellied		Great Blk-b.	
GOLDEN-PLOVER, Lesser		KITTIWAKE, Black-l.	
PLOVER, Wilson's		TERN, Gull-billed	
Sempalmated		Caspian	
Piping		Royal	
KILLDEER	✓	Sandwich	
OYSTERCATCHER, Am.		Common	
STILT, Black-necked		Arctic	
AVOCET, American		Forster's	✓
YELLOWLEGS, Greater	✓	Least	
Lesser	✓	Bridled	
SANDPIPER, Solitary	✓	Sooty	
WILLET		Black	✓
SANDPIPER, Spotted	✓	SKIMMER, Black	

WARBLER, Chestnut-s.		SPARROW, Chipping	✓
Magnolia		Clay-colored	
Cape May		Field	
Black-throated Blue		Vesper	✓
Yellow-rumped	✓	Lark	
Black-throated Green	✓	Savannah	✓
Blackburnian		Grasshopper	
Yellow-throated	✓	Henslow's	
Pine	✓	LeConte's	
Prairie	✓	Sharp-tailed	
Palm	✓	Seaside	
Bay-breasted		Fox	
Blackpoll		Song	✓
Cerulean		Lincoln's	
Black-and-white		Swamp	✓
REDSTART, American		White-throated	✓
WARBLER, Prothonotary		White-crowned	
Worm-eating		JUNCO, Dark-eyed	
Swainson's		LONGSPUR, Lapland	
OVENBIRD		BUNTING, Snow	
WATERTHRUSH, Northern		BOBOLINK	
Louisiana		BLACKBIRD, Red-winged	✓
WARBLER, Kentucky		MEADOWLARK, Eastern	✓
Connecticut		BLACKBIRD, Yellow-headed	
Mourning		Rusty	
YELLOWTHROAT, Common	✓	Brewer's	
WARBLER, Hooded		GRACKLE, Boat-tailed	
Wilson's		Common	✓
Canada		COWBIRD, Brown-headed	✓
CHAT, Yellow-breasted		ORIOLE, Orchard	
TANAGER, Summer	✓	Northern	
Scarlet	✓	FINCH, Purple	
CARDINAL, Northern	✓	House	
GROSBEAK, Rose-breasted	✓	CROSSBILL, Red	
Blue	✓	SISKIN, Pine	
BUNTING, Indigo	✓	GOLDFINCH, American	
Painted		GROSBEAK, Evening	
DICKCISSEL		SPARROW, House	✓
TOWHEE, Rufous-sided	✓		
SPARROW, Bachman's			

NOTES

It's amazing how many species continue to be counted at the COUNTDOWNS after each GOS meeting. Many eyes in the field definitely produce more birds - 109 species with very few ducks included.

**GOS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS  
1990-1991**

CONSERVATION

Georgine Pindar,  
Chair

CHECKLIST

Patrick Brisse,  
Chair  
Daniel Jacobson  
Tye Ivey  
John Paget  
Emil Urban

MEMBERSHIP

Helen Ogren,  
Chair  
Barbara Passmore  
Kate Swiderski

EDITORIAL

Milton Hopkins, 1991  
Terry Johnson, 1993  
Edith Manns, 1993  
Allen Rhodes, 1991  
John Paget, 1995  
John Parrish, 1995

FINANCE

Branch Howe, Pres.  
Doug Phillips, Treas.  
Edith Manns, Sec.  
John Swiderski, Bus.  
Mgr.  
Dennis LaCosse, at-  
large

EXECUTIVE

Branch Howe, Pres.  
Helen Ogren, 1stVP  
Ken Clark, 2nd VP  
Edith Manns, Secy.  
Doug Phillips, Trs  
Don Duncan, PP  
Tommy Patterson, PP  
Terry Moore, Ed,  
Oriole  
Anne Wyand, Ed,  
Goshawk  
John Swiderski,  
Bus. Mgr.  
Bill Van Eseltine,  
Mem-at-large  
Joel Hitt, Mem-  
at-large

NOMINATING

(ad hoc)

AUDITING

(ad hoc)

EARLE GREENE AWARD

Dick Parks, Chair  
Doris Cohrs  
Jack Cooper

REGISTRATION

Ken Clark, Chair  
Frank McCamey  
Tess Cumbie  
Susan Richmond

GRADUATE STUDENT  
AWARDS

To be named

RARE BIRD ALERT

Bob Manns, Chair  
Patrick Brisse  
Anne Wyand

BYLAWS REVISION

(ad hoc)  
Branch Howe, Chair  
Frank McCamey  
Dick Parks  
John Swiderski

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Not currently functioning

## REQUESTS FROM GOS BUSINESS MANAGER

John Swiderski  
P. O. Box 1278  
Cartersville, GA 30120

The September, 1990 GOSHAWK was mailed first class the last week of August. Unfortunately, the post office sorting equipment stripped the address page from some of the newsletters. If you did not receive yours and would like a copy, please write to John requesting one.

If any member has an address or information about life member Gregory P. Barnett, please notify John. We lost touch with Mr. Barnett in 1988. He was in Loganville at that time.

In the 1960's, GOS published a newsletter known as CHIRPS. We have found copies of some issues and would like to have a complete file of this earlier GOS newsletter. If you have copies of CHIRPS, we would appreciate having them (or making photocopies) for our publications file.

For the GOS archive, we also need a copy of occasional publications:

THE BIRDS OF ATHENS, CLARKE COUNTY, GA (1938)

BIRDS OF GEORGIA - A PRELIMINARY CHECKLIST (1945)

DISTRIBUTION AND POPULATIONS OF SUMMER BIRDS IN SOUTHWEST GEORGIA (1951)

If you can donate a copy of any of these (or loan one for making a photocopy) please contact him.

### NEW MEMBERS

William G. Bates	Atlanta, GA
Catherine Howett	Lithonia, GA
John Finley Kiser	Jasper, GA
Don W. Still	Atlanta, GA
Karen Wiley	Roswell, GA
Jeannie B. Wright	Atlanta, GA

### NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE

Former GOS President and life member, Tommy Patterson, suffered a heart attack in early October. After hospitalization in Atlanta, he is recovering back in Dublin. If you wish to write, his address is 1409 Edgewood Drive, Dublin, GA 31021.

Congratulations to Don and Doris Cohrs who, as joint recipients, received the Earle Greene Award at the October GOS meeting. They, with the help of Terry Moore, turned what began as a small weekend bird banding operation into a month long project at Jekyll Island each fall employing the volunteer help of many banders and "band aids". This project is the only ongoing ornithological research project in the state of Georgia. Unfortunately, they were not available to personally receive this award...of course, they were banding birds!

PLEASE NOTE: Doug Phillips is now serving as treasurer for GOS. Items to be paid should be mailed directly to him at 5110 Marbury Circle, Atlanta, GA 30327. Dues and book orders should be sent to GOS, P. O. Box 1278, Cartersville, GA 30120.

## SUPPORT GEORGIA'S TAX CHECKOFF FOR NONGAME WILDLIFE

Look for the tax checkoff on line 26 (long form) and line 6 (short form) of your 1990 State Income Tax Form. By using the checkoff and donating a portion of your tax refund, you can help GIVE WILDLIFE A CHANCE.

Terry Johnson with the DNR from Rum Creek Wildlife Management Area gave an informative presentation at the Eufaula GOS meeting regarding Georgia's Nongame Wildlife Program and the multitude of ways in which it protects our state's wildlife, thus many of us got to hear, first hand, how valuable this program is for our state. Nongame refers to all species of wildlife not legally hunted, fished or trapped. Included are eagles, right whales, indigo snakes, songbirds, chipmunks, even butterflies. There are over 930 species of wildlife in Georgia, 95% of which are nongame. Lets protect our state by supporting Georgia's Tax Checkoff.

- Deadline for next issue is March 6th. •

### FIELD NOTES

TJ says an Army Corp of Engineer Ranger saw a single BROWN PELICAN at Lake Lanier near Buoy Marker 11 from at least 9/4-9/6 which was certainly a rare sighting. On 9/3, TJ saw a single DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT at Rum Creek.

Three YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERONS flying over I-85 north of downtown Atlanta was a good sighting (TM). J&MA spotted a WOOD STORK on 7/29 in the Macon area with its left foot missing, and TJ saw one WOOD STORK flying north of the Fitzgerald Fish Hatchery on 8/31. OBC, on a Coastal field trip saw 16 WOOD STORKS at Jekyll Island, 10/6.

The E. L. Huie Land Application Facility (ELHLAF - we have been incorrectly calling this the Clayton County Water Treatment Plant for several years now) hosted some early duck sightings with NORTHERN PINTAIL on 7/7&7/8 (P&TM,PB), BLUE-WINGED TEAL on 7/29 (JS&CH), and a pair of RING-NECKED DUCKS on 7/1 (JS&CL). An AMERICAN BLACK DUCK was an interesting sighting at ELHLAF on 8/26 (PB&BB).

KD,DH&TJ saw their first BLUE-WINGED TEAL of the fall on 8/28 at Rum Creek. Also, TJ sighted one AMERICAN WIDGEON on 10/26 and 10/28, and an adult male GADWALL on 10/26. DH & TJ found a flock of 30-40 GREEN-WINGED TEAL at Rum Creek on 10/26, and over 300 RING-NECKED DUCKS on 10/26.

A HORNED GREBE at Rum creek on 10/26 was a good find by DH. Two OSPREY nests were found at Rum Creek WMA, one being on a structure erected by the DNR and the Georgia Power Co. SC had an excellent view of a lone SWALLOW-TAILED KITE near Dillard, GA on 8/5. E&NA saw a single MISSISSIPPI KITE at Rum Creek on 5/14.

A&EM had an immature BALD EAGLE at their wildlife rehabilitation center near Townsend throughout the month of September. TJ had one at Rum Creek on 9/21, and an adult on 10/16.

Near DF's cabin south of Blairsville, is a good place for seeing RUFFED GROUSE - which is where she happened to see one on 10/5.

A KING RAIL inland at Pendergrass on 7/29 was a good find by JP.  
NEEA & TJ saw a PURPLE GALLINULE at the Rum Creek WMA Heron Pond on 5/15. This marks the first time the species has ever been recorded on the management area.

PR reported 80 SANDHILL CRANES in Conyers, GA on 11/13. A good sighting by TJ was a WILSON'S PLOVER at Lake Juliette on 9/8 and SEMIPALMATED PLOVERS - 3 on 9/8 and 2 on 9/13. Always a good bird to see, NA&TJ saw a PECTORAL SANDPIPER at the Plant Scherer Ash Pond on 5/19. TI et. al. patrolled Merry Brothers Brickyard Ponds through the summer and found LEAST, SOLITARY and PECTORAL SANDPIPERS and a YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON on 7/21. A BAIRD'S SANDPIPER was discovered at the ELHLAF on 8/30 by BD&FM. Two sightings of WILLETS, rare Atlanta area migrants, were one in Forsyth County on 8/27 and 8/30 (JP), and at the ELHLAF on 8/31 (BB&GW). Four BLACK TERNS were observed on Lake Oconee 10/20.

TJ heard his last WHIP-POOR-WILL of the year at his home in Monroe County 9/10. One late COMMON NIGHTHAWK was seen and heard while flying over a shopping area in Atlanta 10/28 by AW.

On 10/29, at the request of H&JW of Forsyth, GA, TJ identified a RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD which had been using their feeder for about a week. Subsequently, the bird was banded and found to be an adult female.

A BROWN CREEPER on 10/29 in Union County was reported by DF. Two sightings of CEDAR WAXWINGS with two birds near Dacula on 7/7 (JH) and one in Forsyth County on 7/22 (JP&JC) were quite unusual. RED CROSSBILLS were spotted by JG and JV at Cooper Creek Store on 7/11.

Rare Atlanta area nesters, SOLITARY VIREOS, raised three young in JH's back yard. OBC reported sightings of BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLERS, PRAIRIE WARBLERS, PALM WARBLERS, AMERICAN REDSTARTS and PAINTED BUNTINGS on their coastal weekend 10/6. DF identified an immature BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER which was killed on 7/27 by flying into the museum window on Brasstown Bald. PB had a CERULEAN WARBLER at Stone Mountain on 8/4.

OAS field trippers on 9/15 found a flock of 100 or more BOBOLINKS at Bond's Swamp. One PINE SISKIN remained into June at P&TM's feeder in Atlanta. KD & DH found a male ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK at the Rum Creek Management office feeder on 10/11. An extremely late PURPLE FINCH was seen at Mountain City on 6/2 (PR&DW).

DF reports the very rare and endangered KIRTLAND'S WARBLER on 10/5 in Union County 10 miles south of Blairsville. She has completed and sent in a Georgia Rare Bird Alert Form for consideration by the committee. Also, after studying a skin at the Museum of Natural History in Gainesville, FL, and consulting with Paul Sykes who has been doing work on the species for some time, she feels confident in placing it on her life list.

CONTRIBUTORS: Jerry & Marie Amerson, Nina & Eddie Arnold, David Belcher, Bill Blakeslee, Patrick Brisse, Jack Carusos, Stacy Caudell, Kathy Darley, Bruce Dralle, Dot Freeman, Joe Greenberg, Dwight Harley, Joel Hitt, Chuck Hunter, Ty Ivey, Terry Johnson, Carol Lambert, Frances Michael, Al & Emmy Minor, Peggy & Terry Moore, Okefenokee Bird Club, Ocmulgee Audubon Society, John Paget, Paul Raney, Jeff Sewell, Joel Volpi, Gene Wenger, Dick Williams, Jerry & Juanita Willingham, Sheila Willis, Anne Wyand.

## OKEFENOKEE SWAMP NOTES

Sheila Willis talked with personnel at the Okefenokee NWR last month concerning the nesting results of the past season and was told that extreme low water levels and later fires in the swamp have affected bird life. The wading bird rookery (Mack's Island on the west side failed again. Nests were started and abandoned as water levels dropped. After two unsuccessful years, there are 200 to 300 White Ibis (normally most abundant) and 15 to 16 Woodstork.

There was no monitoring of Sandhill Crane nesting or population this year due to lack of personnel and low water. Some wintering birds, however, have begun to arrive to join the natives. Osprey did nest in the swamp, but low water levels at the time of chick raising and fledging probably caused high mortality.

The Red-cockaded Woodpecker colony on Mitchell's Island was burned, with 15% of the cavity trees destroyed; however, some areas of peat which were burned may be beneficial to open up some areas.

Anyone interested in participating in a Christmas Count in this area or having questions about the swamp may contact Sheila Willis at (912) 285-0419.

## GEORGIA CONSERVANCY MOUNTAIN GUIDE

The GEORGIA CONSERVANCY'S GUIDE TO THE NORTH GEORGIA MOUNTAINS invites its readers to explore firsthand the beauty and wonder of the state's mountainous areas. The 304 page book, including more than 60 illustrations, is filled with facts, tips maps, and illustrations from many of Georgia's most knowledgeable naturalists.

Included are descriptions of more than 40 natural areas, a history of

the areas, where to look for fossils, hiking and walking trails, where to find wildflowers, rocks for climbing, fishing areas, camping areas, where to canoe, and more.

The guidebook retails for \$14.95 and is available in local bookstores, or contact The Georgia Conservancy, 781 Marietta Street, suite B 100, Atlanta, GA 30318-5750 (404) 876-2900.

The 1991 Georgia Conservancy Annual Conference at Callaway Gardens will be held the weekend of February 1-3. For further information call (404) 876-2900.

## FREE PAMPHLETS ON BIRDS

Several Nongame Wildlife Program pamphlets dealing with birds are available free of charge. Anyone interested in receiving pamphlets should include a self-addressed, stamped business envelope for each publication desired and make a request to:

Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Nongame Endangered Species Program  
Rum Creek Wildlife Management Area  
Route 3, Box 180  
Forsyth, GA 31029



## INFORMATION SOUGHT ON WOOD STORK FORAGING HABITAT

The Nongame Wildlife Program is in the process of compiling information on Wood Stork foraging areas in Georgia. This information will assist DNR Biologists in developing recovery and management plans for this endangered species. Please report any sightings of actively foraging Wood Storks to: Dwight Harley, Nongame Wildlife Program, Route 3, Box 180, Forsyth, GA 31029 or phone (912) 994-1438.

Please provide the following information: (1) date and time of sighting, (2) County, (3) Number of storks, (4) Distance and directions to nearest named roadway and nearest named river, creek or other body of water, (5) Type of wetland (Carolina bay, borrow ditch, farm pond, reservoir, beaver pond, oxbow lake, gum swamp, cypress swamp, other). Your support of this Nongame Wildlife program is extremely valuable.

## SPRING MEETING

Remember to mark your calendar for the GOS 1991 Spring meeting at Amicalola Falls State Park May 4-6. Details and registration forms will appear in the next newsletter. The Fall 1991 meeting will be held at Jekyll Island in October.

## TURTLE PROTECTION

At their October 24th Board meeting, the Department of Natural Resources adopted new rules to protect turtles which might get caught in shrimp fishing nets. The new rules require the use of turtle excluder devices (TEDs) with all trawl nets by commercial shrimp fishers in Georgia coastal waters.

## FROM THE CONSERVATION CHAIRMAN

Georgine Pindar

### Georgia Environmental Conference 1990

By the time you receive this copy of the GOSHAWK, the Georgia environmental Conference (December 1 and 2) at Georgia Tech, which GOS helped sponsor, will be a thing of the past. We hope many of you read the brochure you received and attend the conference.

The Policy Discussions focused on Solid Waste Management, Toxic Use Reduction and Management, Natural Area Protection, and Water Resource Protection. In addition, ten different skills Workshops, on topics ranging from Lobbying to Environmental Careers, gave a wealth of practical information to experienced and inexperienced environmentalists alike.

We hope the conference made a difference in building a stronger environmental movement in Georgia.

### Merry Brothers Brickyard Pond

The feasibility of getting the federal government to buy out Merry Brothers Brickyard Pond and make it into a wildlife refuge is still under consideration, says Jack Cooper, GOS member from Augusta. We know this area as rich in birds and plant life.

Making Earth Day Last

Exciting plans were announced at the banquet at the Fall Meeting in Eufaula: GOS will adopt the Orange Trail at the State Botanical Garden in Athens and enrich it with trees and shrubs planted for birds and other wildlife. Names of donors and of persons honored or memorialized will be on record in a special book at the Visitors' Center. The contract between GOS and the Garden will be signed very soon.

These people have contributed recently to the program:

Lanelle Lane, Irene Cloninger and Georgine Pindar	<u>In Memory of:</u> Little Brian Alan Grist
Lin Pollard and Georgine Pindar Anny and Douglas	Louise Hoops and her two children,
George and Georgine Pindar	Dr. F. Levering Neely
George and Georgine Pindar	George Hazelhurst Gillon
George and Georgine Pindar	Alec Buckingham Simson

The following person has pledged to plant a tree or trees:  
Patricia Shields of Lula, Georgia

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ABSTRACT OF MINUTES OF GOS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
EUFULA, ALABAMA  
October 13, 1990

Financial Report

Doug Phillips indicated that the financial position of GOS is strong; the balance effective September 30, is \$39,822.50. The Executive Committee unanimously approved the investment objectives and guidelines which were proposed.

Membership Committee

Helen Ogren, Kate Swiderski and Barbara Passmore will write follow-up letters to persons whose memberships have lapsed. They will contact appropriate persons and departments in Georgia colleges and universities in an effort to interest faculty and students in membership. Also, they will contact birding organizations in the state in an effort to attract members. At present there are 368 members, of which 70 are library memberships.

Conservation Committee

Georgine Pindar reported on a communication from Tommy French, head of Rare and Endangered Species; the status of Merry Brothers Brickyard Ponds in Augusta; the issue of Hurricane Creek Swamp; and Lake Alma.

It was agreed that under the TREES PROGRAM, GOS would adopt a trail for enhancement and upkeep at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia in Athens.

Graduate Student Grants

Branch Howe reported that he had met with Ron Pulliam, and John Swiderski sent a final proposal for supporting one or more graduate students to do ornithological research. The Executive Committee agreed that the award would be up to \$500.00 the first year (1991). Awards will be funded from the Peterson Print income.

DR. ROGER TORY PETERSON PRINT "ORCHARD ORIOLE"

GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY HAS AVAILABLE A LIMITED NUMBER OF "ORCHARD ORIOLE" PRINTS PRODUCED FROM THE ORIGINAL PAINTING BY DR. ROGER TORY PETERSON. EACH PRINT IS NUMBERED AND HAS BEEN PERSONALLY SIGNED BY DR. PETERSON.

YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN THE EVENTS WHICH LED UP TO THE PRODUCTION OF THIS SPECIAL PRINT. DR. PETERSON IS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY AND HIS MONOCHROME SKETCH OF THE ORCHARD ORIOLE GRACED THE COVER OF OUR JOURNAL "THE ORIOLE" FOR 50 YEARS. AS PART OF THE SOCIETY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN 1986, DR. PETERSON AGREED TO PAINT THE ORCHARD ORIOLE IN COLOR TO BE USED TO PREPARE A FULL COLOR COVER FOR OUR JOURNAL. IN ADDITION, HE ALLOWED THE SOCIETY TO PREPARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF PRINTS FROM THE ORIGINAL PAINTING.

OUR RESIDENT GEORGIA ARTIST, RICHARD A. PARKS, CLOSELY MONITORED THE PRODUCTION OF THE PRINT TO ASSURE THAT IT IS OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY AND IT IS TRULY A BEAUTIFUL PRINT DONE ON 11" BY 14" HEAVY STOCK.

THE SOCIETY WILL SEND YOU THIS UNIQUE PRINT FOR A FULLY PAID DONATION OF \$125.00. YOUR CHECK SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO G O S. PRINT NUMBERS WILL BE ASSIGNED IN THE ORDER RECEIVED AND YOUR PRINT WILL BE SENT PROMPTLY TO YOU FLAT IN A HEAVY MAILING BOX. THE MAILING ADDRESS IS G O S, P O BOX 1278, CARTERSVILLE, GA 30120.

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MAKING EARTH DAY 1990 LAST

At our fall meeting in Savannah, we advocated that we celebrate Earth Day 1990 by planting trees for the birds.

This can be a longtime commitment, a pledge to 'MAKE EARTH DAY LAST'. Won't you join us in promising to either 1) plant trees yourself, 2) give trees as gifts for others to plant, or 3) give a gift of money to the GOS to plant trees in honor of or in memory of someone of your choosing or our choosing?

EARTH DAY PLEDGE

As a part of the Georgia Ornithological Society program to MAKE EARTH DAY LAST through planting trees for the birds, I will promise to:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Plant a tree or trees.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Give a tree or trees to friends, neighbors, or relatives or to some program of my choosing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Make a donation to GOS to plant a tree or trees  
\_\_\_\_\_ In honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ In memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ In honor of or memory of someone the GOS chooses.

Your Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

City/State : \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of person in honor of or family of person in memory of, so that they may be notified of your gift:

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone : \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form (with Contribution, if that is your wish) directly to the Treasurer of GOS:

DOUGLAS S. PHILLIPS  
5110 MARBURY CIR., NW  
ATLANTA, GA 30327

Georgine Pindar, Conservation Chairman

# GOSHAWK



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## GOSHAWK

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