

THE GOSHAWK NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

TO: Georgia Ornithological Society
 P.O. Box 1684
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Please enroll the undersigned as a member of the Georgia Ornithological Society for the calendar year. Dues are enclosed as follows:

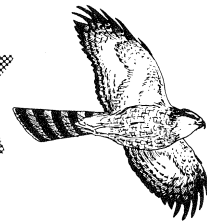
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GOSHAWK

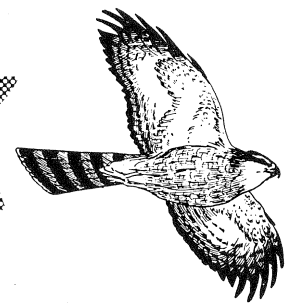


NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1684
 Cartersville, GA 30120

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GOSHAWK



NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 21 NO. 1

MARCH 1994

RARE BIRD ALERT PHONE NUMBER: 404 509-0204

GOS/AOS SPRING MEETING - DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA

April 15-17, 1994

For this special meeting, the base of operations will be at Sealab, the old Air Force quarters with registration beginning at 6:00PM. If you have not sent in your registration form or need information regarding accommodations, contact Eugenia Thompson; 2015 Morton Road; Athens, GA 30605; (706) 549-7318.

Kenn Kaufman, a field ornithologist of legendary stature, will speak Saturday evening on *Learning Our Birds*. Following is Mr. Kaufman's own description of his talk:

"Whether we look at birds for gentle enjoyment, for active birding pursuits, or for science, we want to be able to name the species we encounter. Learning to recognize the birds we see and hear is a haphazard process for most of us -- and ideally it's an ongoing thing, as we continue to become more familiar with them. I'm going to talk about that learning process itself. I'll draw examples from my own experiences (I've made every mistake you can imagine, and then some!) to talk about pitfalls to watch out for, the best kinds of field marks to notice, ways to avoid being misled by books, the best approaches to studying different groups of birds... and strategies for dealing with the really confusing groups without falling into utter despair! Finally, I'll say a little bit about the pleasures of getting to know the birds beyond merely knowing their names."

Kenn spent ten years as a bird tour leader, is Associate Editor of *American Birds*, and Editorial Consultant for *Birding*. He has authored many articles in these and other publications, and has also published a book, *Field Guide To Advanced Birding*.

☺ NEW MEMBERS ☺

Paula J. Arnold	Lilburn, GA	Christopher E. Moorman	Athens, GA
Lyman Davidson	Savannah, GA	Chuck & Elizabeth Prine	Savannah, GA
Jane B. Davis	Marietta, GA	Elizabeth K. Sanders	St. Simons Island, GA
Glenda & Jimmy Gossage	Chatsworth, GA	Mel & Sandra Sanders	Lilburn, GA
Gordon Gridley	Athens, GA	Jennifer Smith	St. Simons Island, GA
J. C. Hierholzer	Athens, GA	Stuart A. Smith	Rome, GA
Chuck Hunter	Lilburn, GA	Henderson Traylor	LaGrange, GA
Owen Kinney	Mt. Berry, GA	Louella J. Weld	Tucker, GA

We are saddened to report the deaths of the following GOS members:

T. A. Beckett, III	Johns Island, SC	Mrs. Davis Bulluck	Toccoa, GA
Gerald Kahan	Athens, GA	Mrs. John M. Hinson	Sylvania, GA
Lida MacKenzie	Atlanta, GA	Lewis F. Reeves	Clayton, GA

The GOS is seeking information on the following life members with whom we have lost touch. If you can provide current address or information about these members, please contact Business Manager, John Swiderski (404) 382-5188 or P.O. Box 1684; Cartersville, GA 30120: Joel Brenner, Atlanta; D. Jack Dozier, Tierra Verde; Virginia D. Evans, Atlanta; R. Lindsay Lilly, Jr., Daniels, W. VA; Henry X. Metz, Thomaston; John R. Myer, Atlanta; & Len Sisson, Kingston, GA.

Deadline for the next GOSHawk is May 20.



CONSERVATION NEWS

Georgine S. Pindar, Conservation Chairman
(O) (404) 355-8807; (H) (404) 355-8454

GIFTS TO GOS

We are pleased to report the following gifts to GOS for maintaining and enhancing the Orange Trail at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia in Athens:

DONOR: Cherokee Audubon Society: In honor of Mrs. Anne Hamilton, Dalton
In honor of Mr. Laurance Sawyer, Ringgold
Georgine Pindar: In memory of Mr. Hugh Head, Atlanta
In memory of Mrs. Jessie Head, Atlanta

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

These weeks when the Georgia General Assembly is in session are the busiest in the year for GEC, which is tracking and reporting environmental legislation as it works its way through the two Houses. You will get a report in the next *GOShawk*. If you want to get acquainted with those most actively involved, please put these dates on your calendar: May 1, Annual Meeting; June 5, Awards Picnic. You may get more information by calling President, Michael Djiak, (404) 979-9696, or your Conservation Chairman, (404) 355-8454.

ENVIRONMENTAL FUND FOR GEORGIA

Seven additional groups have joined EFG, which you remember is the organization working to raise money for the environment through payroll deductions: Coastal Audubon Society, Georgia Conservancy, Georgia Wildlife Federation, Park Pride, Reynolds Nature Preserve, Trout Unlimited, and Wilderness Southeast.

We need your help in encouraging our larger employers to make room for the EFG on the annual pledge cards and in reminding employees of their opportunity to take part in the program.

NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNT - CALL FOR MORE PARTICIPANTS

This continent-wide program, started in 1992 and held the second Saturday in May, is growing steadily. Five Georgia counties participated in 1992: eight in 1993. Count areas are entire counties rather than fifteen-mile circles as with Audubon Christmas bird counts. Our state coordinator is GOS member Charlotte Kirton; P.O. Box 40; Dawsonville, GA 30534, from whom county coordinators may obtain a checklist and to whom they should return their results.

FEEL FREE TO FEED CRITTERS Abstracted from Atlanta Journal - Anne Lawson Beerman

Does constantly feeding wildlife cause any environmental problems? For example, instead of removing harmful insects from trees, spreading seeds from wild plants or burying acorns that grow into oaks, animals that usually perform these tasks may be camped out at feeders. Stanley Temple of the Dept. of Wildlife Ecology at University of Wisconsin determined that there is no research to support that feeding animals has any effect on wildlife, in fact, in one study, it was determined that Black-capped Chickadees, a frequent feeder visitor, got less than 25 percent of their food from feeders, and maintained their normal foraging and feeding patterns, gleaning more than three-fourths of their food naturally. On the other hand, according to Temple, there is little doubt that the presence of feeders has allowed some bird species, notably the Northern Cardinal, Tufted Titmouse, and Red-bellied Woodpecker to expand their ranges northward. Has range expansion upset a natural balance? Not noticeably, because these birds tend to occur near human habitation where the impact on the environment is insignificant compared with the effect of human development.

Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's Black and Margaret Barker both endorsed bird feeding, provided the feeders and the ground below them are kept clean (bird baths, also). Black notes that "a bird feeder is exactly what you'd design if you wanted to transmit a disease. It offers the potential for one sick individual to spread disease to many." In this way, the benefit to birds of increased access to high-energy food can be turned into an overwhelming negative.

HOOKED ON BIRDS

At age six, **Kenn Kaufman** carted some books outdoors to figure out what those birds in the Indiana suburbs were and remembers the sense of accomplishment upon learning how to tell a Grackle from a Starling. **Chandler Robbins** grew up in a family of naturalists and birders; his dad took his first four Christmas Bird Counts in 1906. **Peter Dunne** was turned on at the age of seven when a friend who received a pair of binoculars and field guide for a birthday gift invited him to go for a bird walk the next morning. **Debi Love Shearwater's** nine year old brother (12 years her junior) involved her in feeding a fledgling bird that had fallen out of a nest after which she bought book, binoculars and watched birds in the yard. She took off from there. **Lola Oberman** (*The Pleasures of Watching Birds*) was his by the fatal attraction the day she and her husband took their first guided bird walk, intending to find a purpose for getting out and walking. **Erik Blom**, National Geographic's Field Guide consultant, expanded his world when, while reading news and sipping coffee in his car by a stream, he stood to stretch his legs and noticed a large bird fly up and land on a limb over the water. With his father's book and binoculars which had been left in the car, he identified it as a Yellow-crowned Night Heron, then another as a Spotted Sandpiper. He was hooked!

Do you remember how you got hooked on birding?

* Pierre Howard is a beginner birder but one who has long been a keen observer of wildlife, especially in south Georgia where he had spent a lot of time fishing and hunting. AAS field trip leader, Patrick Brisse tells this story on himself. Pierre saw the Common Ground Dove on the south Atlanta field trip, but Patrick explained in his inimitable French accent that Atlanta is far north of its range and it was unlikely to be a Ground Dove. However, Pierre insisted and described it, so they went back and found the bird was indeed a Common Ground Dove. The moral is, "Don't be too hasty to discount beginners' observations".

CONTRIBUTORS: Jerry & Marie Amerson, Atlanta Audubon Society, Giff Beaton, Bill Blakeslee, Patrick Brisse, Bruce Dralle, Dot Freeman, Charlotte Fries, Georgia Ornithological Society, Nancy & Ren Gobris, Dan Guynn, Bruce Hallett, Lanny Hinson, Pierre Howard, Brock Hutchins, Paul Johnson, Carol Lambert, Frank McCamey, Terry Moore, Anne Mursch, Mark Oberlee, Okefenokee Bird Club, John Parrish, Barbara Passmore, Betty Scruggs, Jeff Sewell, John Swiderski, Janice Thompson, Anne & Vernon Waters, Tim Whitehouse and Sheila Willis.

seen before is explained by these conditions. For the first time this year, the storks left the Audubon sanctuary before rising out the ponds. On the coast, WOOD STORKS were seen on the Jekyll Causeway, as usual, with 15-20 on 8/12, and 6 on 8/21. Also SW reported 200 WOOD STORKS on 10/22 on the east side of the Okefenokee Swamp, 50 on 9/26 at Jekyll Island Causeway entrance and 5 on 11/20 at the Altamaha W.M.A.

A very exciting find was the ROSS'S GOOSE in Excelsior, south Georgia around 2/19, and as of 2/22 it still remained in the area. A SNOW GOOSE was also seen at exit 11 off Hwy. 16 on Hwy. 26 (2/22), and TM&JS saw SNOW and BLUE GEESE in the Cartersville area on 2/8.

There were 17 REDHEAD DUCKS at Buford Dam on 11/6, (JS,CL,BD,PH), and two GADWALL at E. L. Huie Land Application Facility on 11/7 along with one GREATER SCAUP. Twenty-five GADWALL were reported from Cedartown 1/19 (JS). Six GREATER SCAUP were at E.L. Huie LAF on 1/30. Five were observed at the DeKalb Reservoir on 1/23 and were later seen again on 2/1 (JS,CL). Also, one GREATER SCAUP along with 10 BUFFLEHEAD, 8 PIED-BILLED GREBE, mallards and coots were present at Sweetwater Creek State Park on 1/30 (JS&CL). Eight BLUE-WINGED TEAL appeared at Youman's Pond, south GA, on 1/15 (JS&CL). One GREEN-WINGED TEAL was at E. L. Huie LAF on 12/24, along with two REDHEAD DUCKS (JS). Seven HOODED MERGANSERS were seen there on 12/26, and four at Lake Blalock. Thirty-three HOODED MERGANSERS was a good count at Sweetwater Creek State Park on 1/19 (JS). Two NORTHERN SHOVELERS were at E.L. Huie LAF on 1/1, and one CANVASBACK on 1/22 (JS). Fifteen RUDDY DUCKS was a good count by JS at Sweetwater Creek State Park on 1/19. Unusual sightings inland were a WHITE-WINGED SCOTER seen by BH on 11/10 and JS on 11/11 at E. L. Huie LAF, and one at Garden Lake in Rome on 12/4 (JS,BD,LH). TW reported one at Stone Mountain Park (2/22). BALD EAGLE REPORTS include 3 immatures and one adult on 11/20 at the Altamaha W.M.A. (OBC), and one mature bird at Lake Nottley on 2/19 (DF,AM,FM). Three GOLDEN EAGLES were counted on the AAS field trip to Cloudland Plateau on 1/29. SW was fortunate to see approximately 1,000 SANDHILL CRANES at the Grand Bay W.M.A. on 10/21.

Four PIPING PLOVERS were at Dungeness Beach, Cumberland Island on 8/16 (SW). One AMERICAN WOODCOCK was reported at Chattahoochee River NRA on 11/3 (JS), and another was seen on the State Capital lawn by PH on 11/8. Headline news was the LITTLE GULL seen at Chickamauga Lake, Chattanooga, 1/29 (J&MA,PJ,DG,NG). Twenty-five BONAPARTE'S GULLS at Lake Lanier was a good count on 1/22 (JS). GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULLS seem to be increasing in Georgia and South Carolina on the coast. A&VW saw two adults at St. Simons Island 8/12, one on Jekyll Island 8/21, and five on the same date at St. Simons Island. Several BLACK TERNS were at St. Mary's River and on the beach with LEAST TERNS on 7/30 (SW).

A very rare COMMON GROUND-DOVE was found by PH at the E L HUIE LAF on 11/20. (*See note at end.) EURASIAN COLLARED DOVES appear to have a foothold in the Brunswick area with several sightings of as many as three birds during November. GREAT HORNED OWLS were seen or heard several times at the south end of Cumberland (SW). On 9/8, one was seen in a tree with one RED-TAILED HAWK. Also, an interesting report by SW was on 9/21, one GREAT HORNED OWL was found with a Black Racer wrapped around it. People got the snake off the bird, and it flew off with an injured wing. While participating in the Glynn Co. New Year's Day CBC, DG was rewarded with a YELLOW RAIL as well as 12 AVOCETS.

A number of hummingbirds were reported this winter beginning with BP's RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD in Valdosta in November (complete with photo). The bird is still coming to her feeder late in February. A male ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD was reported from Chattanooga on 12/27. The bird was banded by the Sargents and later recaptured in Cartersville. There were also reports of RUFOUS in Duluth and Suwanee 2/22. A BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD appeared at the home of JT in Cartersville on 1/2, and BS had a BLACK-CHINNED female on 2/18 in Hahira.

SW reported flocks of 6 and 15 EASTERN KINGBIRDS at Cumberland Island flying south. JS counted ten HORNED LARKS at the Atlanta Motor Speedway in Hampton on 1/5. MO on 2/18, saw three FISH CROWS at Echo Lake in Atlanta.

Rare on Cumberland Island is the TUFTED TITMOUSE, but SW reported one heard on 8/4, one seen and heard on 8/10, one picking at fat caterpillar 8/31, one seen and heard, 9/21, and 2 heard on 9/22 - all north to mid-island. BP had a BROWN CREEPER crash into her glass porch on 2/1, but after holding him in her hands to warm the bird, it eventually recovered and flew away.

A HERMIT THRUSH and a WOOD THRUSH were seen together by SW in her back yard in Waycross. SW on 8/22 in Waycross, observed two adult AMERICAN ROBINS feeding three young in the nest. This represents the first successful nesting in that area, and also seems to be a late nesting.

RUSTY BLACKBIRDS migrated through the Augusta area in Sept. and Oct. with A&VW seeing 25 near Pinzy swamp on 9/6 and an incredible 450+ on 10/23 near the Augusta levee. GB & BH found 45 RUSTY BLACKBIRDS at Atlanta Motor Speedway in Henry Co. on 2/21. A good find was a CLAY-COLORED SPARROW on 11/20 at Altamaha WMA (OBC). Four FOX SPARROWS were seen at Suwanee Creek, CRNRA on 1/12 (JS), and up to five FOX SPARROWS at once were appearing in a Bibb Co. yard during January.

It has been a good winter for EVENING GROSBELLS with many reports of flocks at feeders in Union Co. Four were seen on the AAS field trip 2/19, and middle Georgia also experienced an invasion with many reports from mid-January on. An immature ROSE-BREASTED GROSBELL had been caught by a cat at Waycross on 10/30. For the first time since '87-'88, JS&CL had a PINE SISKIN at their home in Tucker on 1/30; one was seen in Cartersville on 1/8.

May 22, August 28

We will explore the ocean waters between east of Savannah, GA looking for pelagic birds. Expected species on the summer trips are Corry's Shearwaters, Greater Shearwaters, Sooty Shearwaters (May only), Audubon's Shearwaters, and Bridled Terns. We have a chance to see Wilson's and Leach's Storm-petrels. Rarer possibilities include Petrodroma Petrels, Boobies, Tropic-birds and Sooty Terns. We had Brown Noddy in both 1992 and 1993. On the winter trips we can expect to see winter sea ducks, Northern Gannets, Phalaropes, Jaegers, and perhaps Black-legged Kittiwakes, Fulmars and Skuas.

Cost for the trip is \$175.00. All trips leave from Wilmington Island, Savannah, GA. Directions, a list of accommodations, and full details will be sent with your reservation confirmation.

Trips not filled 30 days prior to departure (when deposit is due to the boat captain) will be cancelled. PLEASE RESERVE EARLY! Full payment must be made in advance. Refunds will be made only if a replacement can be found. For more information, call Bill Blakeslee at (404) 881-6570.

PELAGIC TRIPS RESERVATION FORM

Indicate the number of people in your party:

_____ May 22 _____ August 28

Checks (one per trip please) payable to: GOS

Mail to: Bill Blakeslee; 1722 Noble Drive, N.E.; Atlanta, GA 30306-3142; Phone: (404) 881-6570

Your Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

RELEASE (MUST BE SIGNED BY ALL PARTICIPANTS)

Each registrant named, both adult and minor, desires to participate in the pelagic trips of the Georgia Ornithological Society (GOS). Therefore, each registrant knowingly and voluntarily grants to the GOS and its officers, committee members, and any other persons engaged in activities in connection with this pelagic trip, a full release from any claim, liability, or cost of any nature on account of personal illness or bodily injury, loss of life, or loss or damage to property directly or indirectly arising out of the registrant's participation in this pelagic trip. further, I agree with the cancellation/refund policy.

NAME (print) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

NAME (print) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

GOS - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ABSTRACTS Jekyll Island, GA - October 9, 1993

Branch reported that an article on Environmental Fund for Georgia appeared on 11/25 in the Atlanta Journal and Constitution. GOS Executive Committee members are urged to make a contact with their employers or a large employer in the state to make him/her aware of this new opportunity for employees in Georgia. Call Georgine Pindar or EFG's Executive Director, Alice Rolls (404) 873-3173 for assistance or more information.

Auditors Dennis LaCoss and Richard Ellenberg, after careful examination of various records, reported GOS finances to be in order and that Treasurer, Doug Phillips continues to do a fine job.

Doug reported that effective 9/30/93, GOS's assets were \$39,582.67. One Peterson print had been sold during the year, book sales were good, and both GOShawk and The Oriole had increases in their publication costs.

Branch reported for John Swiderski that GOS's membership consisted of 251 yearly members, 142 life members, and 32 libraries. Only 29 individuals have failed to renew their memberships in 1993. The University of Georgia has re-established its exchange program and will pick up 35 copies of The Oriole.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Fall, 1994 meeting would be held at Jekyll Island. Jack Cooper has invited GOS to meet in Augusta for the Spring, 1995 meeting.

Branch reported that the Graduate Student Research Grant announcement for 1994 was sent to 47 biology professors, 27 in Georgia and 20 in eight other states.

Bill Blakeslee reported that GOS Pelagic Trip prices have gone up 10%, to \$165 per person. He is continuing to look for another boat with lower per-person costs.

The Executive Committee thanked Branch for his fine leadership of GOS over the past four years.

Through its research awards the AOU provides an opportunity to support public recognition of work that it considers to be of particular significance. The Brewster Award is given for the most important work on birds of the Western Hemisphere published in the last ten years. The Coues Award is for work that has had major impact on ornithology in the Western Hemisphere.

LSU solicits contributions for its first two projects in memory of Ted Parker, who was killed in August in a plane crash in Ecuador. Funds will be used to publish a memorial volume on "Natural history and conservation of Neotropical birds, and to finish Ted's book manuscript on the birds of Peru.

The *Birds of North America* project has completed Volume 2, with 40 species profiled in each volume. Eight more are to be published in 1994. BNA still needs authors to write species accounts.

The *Journal of Raptor Research* is seeking an individual to serve as book review editor.

The Institute for Bird Populations extends an invitation to North American bird banders to become part of the Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) program, a cooperative continent-wide network of constant-effort mist-netting stations for the long-term monitoring of landbird productivity, survivorship and population levels. Additional stations are being sought, particularly in the Southeast.

Wildlife biologist Jack Ward Thomas was recently named Chief of the U.S. Forest Service. Dr. Thomas is a long time member of the AOU and WOS. He was the Chief Research Wildlife Biologist at the USFS research station at La Grande, Oregon. Dr. Thomas's chief priorities as Chief is to implement ecosystem management on Forest Service lands.

Endangered Species Act Re-authorization Advances needs help. Bills to "reform", ie. greatly weaken the ESA have been introduced in the House and Senate. The AOU supports H.R. 2043 and S. 1531. Anyone who wishes to help could write to their Representatives and Senators asking them to cosponsor the strengthening bills and to oppose the others. It would also be very helpful to send letters to the editors of newspapers.

Surveys of Kirtland's Warblers located 485 singing males in Michigan in 1993, the largest number since 1961.

H.R. 2918, to create a National Institute for the Environment (NIE) now has 62 bipartisan cosponsors, including Minority Whip, Newt Gingrich (R-GA).

The Institute for Field Ornithology is offering an eight day workshop on birds and ecology of the rainforest near Iquitos, Peru, May 21-28, 1994. A highlight will be the visits to the 400-m Canopy Walkway, 120 ft. into the canopy.

The 1994 *Birds in Art* entry form was available in January. The postmark deadline for entries is 4/15/94. Following the 9/10 through 10/30 premiere in Wausau, sixty works will be selected for a tour that will include venues at the Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm, and the Hunter Museum of Art, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The Colonial Waterbird Society's two new honors for eminent achievements were conferred at its 17th Annual Meeting. The prize for Outstanding scientific research on the biology of colonially breeding waterbirds went to Dr. John C. Coulson, U. of Durham, England, for his long-term studies of the population dynamics and ecological interactions of Black-legged Kittiwakes and their colonies. The distinguished management/conservation of colonially breeding waterbirds was given to Dr. David Wingate, Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Parks-Bermuda for his efforts to protect the tiny relict population of the endemic Cahow (Bermuda Petrel) believed extinct since the 1600s until rediscovered in 1951. As its populations slowly grew, so did Dr. Wingate's horizon, eventually leading to the reestablishment of a nearly intact, entire Bermudian ecosystem of many endemic taxa on tiny Noresuch Island, where the Cahows were also safely protected.

House Sparrow or Starling eggs are needed for a study on nest predation rates in an island population of Song Sparrows. A study of nest failure using dummy nest in being conducted, and a comparison made of their fates to the fates of real nests.

Information is needed on the American Robin, Brown Thrasher, Black-bellied Plover, Grasshopper Sparrow, and Cerulean Warbler for the *Birds of North America* species account - unpublished data, personal observations, obscure references, etc.

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is seeking volunteer participants for Project Tanager, one of three National Science Experiments designed to involve amateur birders in ornithological research. The study will test the hypothesis that forest fragmentation reduces nesting success in the four N. American species of tanagers, which are all neotropical migrants. Participants will census tanagers in forest patches of various size, and look for evidence of successful nesting or parasitism by cowbirds.

Ornithological Newsletter carries many announcement of field study positions and other opportunities in ornithological research, throughout North America, for varying time periods. Most start this spring, and some offer salaries of \$1,000 per month and more. We can only list these very briefly -- call Dick Parks (404) 636-0628 or Frank McCamey (706) 216-2164 for more details.

Field and research assistants are needed for the following projects: •Breeding bird monitoring program in northern Michigan •Survey forest birds in Douglas Fir region of western Washington •Study of contaminants in spring migrant eagles in Montana •Mexican Spotted Owl in New Mexico •Population dynamics of Wood Thrush in Georgia (Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge) •Endangered Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in North Carolina •Carib Grackles in central Venezuela

forest fragmentation on neotropical migrants in western Massachusetts •Collection manager for Department of Ornithology, Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences •Studies of landscape patterns and impact on bird populations, Savannah River Ecology Lab •Pineland bird community study in Everglades National Park •Passerine bird habitat relationships in northern Arizona •Study of effects of human disturbance on subalpine animal communities in south-central Wyoming •Study of Least Tern foraging ecology on lower Mississippi River •Monitoring Piping Plover and tern, Cape Cod National Seashore •Study of Mexican Spotted Owl habitat in Southern Utah •Coordinator to study oil spill response at Point Reyes Bird Observatory.

•Long-term study on behavior and ecology of Kentucky Warblers, Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia •Study habitat use by trans-Gulf neotropical migrants •Study of habitat associations of neotropical migrants on prairie in North Dakota •Field observations on Common Loons in Wisconsin •Piping Plover and Least Tern management at Goosewing Preserve in Rhode Island •Study of raptors at Army base, Fort Lewis, Washington •Internship for raptor research at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Pennsylvania •Radiotelemetry study of Mexican Spotted Owls in Arizona •Work on neotropical migratory bird projects in Alaska, point counts and MAPS station •Neotropical migrant birds in the sky islands of southeastern Arizona •Population ecology studies of Worm-eating and Black-and-White Warblers in southwestern Connecticut •Monitoring of Common Loon population in Vermont •Study of population ecology of Gray-cheeked Thrush in New England •Banding and netting of passerines at Braddock, Bay, NY

•Investigate population size and productivity of endangered wetland breeding birds in northeastern Illinois •Study of Least Tern and Snowy Plover, National Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma •Collection of natural history data, Grenada, eastern Caribbean •Study aquatic bird ecology at heron colonies, northeastern coast of U.S. •Conduct breeding bird surveys at Wildlife Refuge, Tucson, AZ •Assist in refuge biological program, Malheur NWR, Oregon •Survey and monitor birds in Arizona •Study of neotropical migrant birds in coastal Louisiana and Texas •Instruct at Audubon Ecology Camp in Maine.

Study of neotropical migrants and residents of bottomland forests in Louisiana •Study of habitat use and demography of Northern Goshawk in California •Study of site-fidelity and demography of Swainson's Hawk in northern California •Observe Bald Eagles near Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming •Ongoing baseline studies of tundra nesting birds on North Slope of Alaska •Research and management on endangered species, Tuckahoe, NJ •Population study of Wood Thrush in Great Smoky Mountains National Park

•Study of timberland landscape effects on neotropical migrants, Moosehead Lake, Maine •Conservation, habitat ecology, and demography of neotropical migrants in Illinois •Supervisors of coastal seabird sanctuaries of the National Audubon Society in Maine •Research on energetics of spring migration of Pectoral Sandpipers in Great Plains •Monitor effects of big game habitat enhancement activities on breeding birds in northwestern Montana •Census breeding populations of Florida Grasshopper Sparrow •Study of prairie-edge birds in Oklahoma with Sutton Avian Research Center (20 technicians needed!) •Monitor parrot reproduction from blinds in Puerto Rico.

Following are meetings announced in *Ornithological Newsletter* - American Birding Association convention, June 13-19, 1994, Best Western International Inn; 1505 North Broadway; Minot, ND 58701. Seventh North American Crane Workshop; October 4-6, 1994; Biloxi, Mississippi. Raptor Research Foundation meeting, November 3-6, 1994; Flagstaff, AZ (602) 774-0041.

Florida Ornithological Society's Spring 1994 meeting is being hosted by the Everglades Chapter of the Audubon Society. It will be held in West Palm Beach, April 22-24 (407) 848-2475.

FIELD NOTES

JS,CL,BD&PH, on a trip to Buford Dam 11/6, found five COMMON LOONS and three HORNED GREBES. Ten COMMON LOONS were at the same location on 1/22, as well as 15 HORNED GREBES. The GOS pelagic trip on 11/14 yielded two adult MASKED BOOBIES (BB et al.). DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS moved inland for the winter in high numbers. On 11/13 there were 184 in Merry Brickyard Ponds (A&VW), and they increased to 275 by 11/21. On 8/5 SW saw two REDDISH EGRETS with one SNOWY EGRET canopy feeding in a tidal pool on Cumberland Island. On 8/17, three REDDISH EGRETS were standing on the beach, on 8/30, two were dancing and walking on the water's edge, and on 9/23, one was flying over the beach.

It is impressive that SW&CF saw up to 140 ROSEATE SPOONBILLS during the summer in Fernandina Beach, FL, 70 on 8/29, one on 9/16 at St. Marys River near St. Marys, and 18 on 9/26 at the Jekyll Island Causeway entrance. A&VW saw three on the Georgia causeway of Jekyll Island on 8/12.

AW reports that the foraging of juvenile WOOD STORKS at the Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary, Jackson, SC across the river from Augusta was unusual this year and is attributed to conditions that also affected sightings in Georgia. The summer drought brought down many areas to levels favored by the storks so they didn't need the sanctuary ponds which are artificially lowered for them to forage in. They were seen in several oxbow ponds and shallows off the Savannah River, but the sanctuary had no storks until 7/30 when they had 24, then none again until 8/14 when 51, mostly juvenile, arrived. On 8/28 there were 83 feeding in the ponds at the sanctuary. Over 100 storks were counted by Savannah River Site Ecology Lab personnel in an oxbow off the Savannah River on 8/26. When they sampled the ponds with nets after the birds left, they only found two fish. The storks had cleaned out the pond, so the birds moved back to Silver Bluff ponds. On 10/1, A&VW report 67 near the Savannah River in Hampton Co., GA in a drought-lowered pond. AW thinks that the storks seen in places never