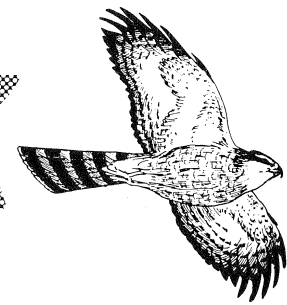


THE GOSHAWK NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

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GOSHAWK



NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 21 NO. 4

DECEMBER 1994

GEORIGIA RARE BIRD ALERT: (404) 493-8862

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

TO: Georgia Ornithological Society
P.O. Box 1684
Cartersville, GA 30120

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

_____ Regular \$16.00 _____ Sustaining \$25.00
_____ Patron \$50.00

(The above are annual rates for individuals or families.)
_____ Life Membership \$250.00 _____ Student \$8.00/per year

Please send me a list of the publications available from the GOS.

NAME _____

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS _____

FALL 1994 GOS MEETING - JEKYLL ISLAND

Despite a return to summer-like intermittent showers, 104 GOS members and guests hit the beaches, marshes, causeways, spoil areas, mudflats and banding station (JIBS) to search for birds. Thanks to Mike Chapman and a great team of field trip leaders, a weekend total of 161 species were recorded. The best sightings of the weekend included Reddish Egret, Roseate Spoonbill, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Wilson's and Piping plovers, Long-billed Curlew, Clay-colored and Lark sparrows. Anyone interested in receiving a complete checklist for the weekend, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: *GOShawk* Editor, 4608 Westhampton Drive, Tucker, GA 30084.

Friday night's member's slide show provided humor and expert photography. Paul Sykes' program on Saturday night, *The Bird of Fire: The Story of the Kirtland's Warbler*, was both enlightening and entertaining. Some members are wondering if he might be leading a tour to Michigan next summer...

Dick Parks presented the Earl Greene Award for outstanding service in Ornithology to Dr. John Avise, Professor of Genetics at the University of Georgia, for his contributions to our understanding of the DNA structure of birds.

Next Fall's meeting will still be on the coast, but we will travel a bit north to the Savannah area. In the Fall of 1996 (after the Olympics), we are planning a joint meeting with the Association of Field Ornithologists back at Jekyll Island.

SPRING 1995 GOS MEETING AUGUSTA, GA MAY 5-7

Plans are underway for the Spring 1995 meeting in Augusta. We will be based at the Days Inn on Broad Street, two blocks from the River Walk area, and within walking distance of the Morris Museum of Art, antique shops, and the (hopefully) completed Augusta-Richmond County Museum. Robin Carter, past President of the Carolina Bird Club and author of *Finding Birds in South Carolina* will be our speaker on Saturday night. Field trips are already set for the Merry Brothers Brick Yard Ponds, the Levee, Silver Bluff Sanctuary, Savannah Rapids Wildlife Sanctuary, and Hegge's Rock near Appling, Georgia. The Savannah Rapids area will be especially interesting to wildflower and plant enthusiasts.

Look for details and registration forms in the March *GOShawk*.



NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Cartersville, GA 30120

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Deadline for the next *GOShawk* is February 1st.



CONSERVATION NEWS
Georgine S. Pindar, Conservation Chairman
(H) (404) 355-8454; (Fax) (404) 352-0405

ENVIRONMENTAL FUND FOR GEORGIA

We have received the check for over \$3,000 as our share, so far, from EFG. Most of this came from the proportional split among the member organizations, but some came directly (through payroll deductions) to GOS, so our organization is better known in Georgia than some of us thought.

Unfortunately, none of this success is automatic, even though the payroll deduction program has been put in place in many businesses and agencies. Each year we must work to get EFG and GOS on employees' pledge cards and to encourage individuals to be generous with their pledges. Please help in every way you can! Please report to me the amount of time you spend in these efforts so that I can give GOS credit toward our 100-hour requirement.

As you may have read in the newspaper, EFG succeeded in breaking United Way's monopoly with the Atlanta government. The EFG (and GOS) will be on the pledge cards of the City of Atlanta employees this year. Credit goes especially to Alice Rolls, the Executive Director of EFG, and Carol Williams, President.

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Our GOS contribution to the GEC Legislative Forum at Georgia State on October 5th was very much appreciated. The Forum was lively, informative, and definitely worthwhile. Marc Pickard was a splendid Moderator, and Panelists Scott Bronstein, Peter Dykstra, and Jodie Henderson asked challenging questions of the candidates on pertinent environmental issues.

All three candidates for Lieutenant Governor were there: Pierre Howard, the incumbent; Nancy Shaefer, Republican; and Walker Chandler, Libertarian. State Representative Dubose Porter stood in for Governor Zell Miller, and State Senator Don Balfour stood in for the challenger, Guy Millner. In the opinion of the Conservation Chairman, Lieutenant Governor Pierre Howard and Representative Porter, surrogate for Governor Miller, gave the best answers to the environmental questions proposed.

ORANGE TRAIL - STATE BOTANICAL GARDEN OF GEORGIA

Thank you for your many memorial contributions to the State Botanical Garden in Athens toward the upkeep of the Orange Trail. Our total contributions so far come to well over \$2,000. Please make contributions payable to Georgia Ornithological Society and send to: Georgine Pindar, 2633 Ridgemoor Road, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30318.

RECENT ORANGE NATURE TRAIL CONTRIBUTIONS

<i>In Memory of:</i>	<i>Donors:</i>
Dr. Vernon Crawford	- Georgine Pindar
George A. Dorsey	- Doug & Betsy Phillips
Anne P. Hamilton	- Briar Creek Bird Club ♦ Don & Doris Cohrs ♦ Doug & Betsy Phillips

1995 GOS PELAGIC TRIPS
Gulf Stream / Continental Shelf

The following pelagic trips have been scheduled for 1995 at a cost of \$175 per person. All trips leave from Wilmington Island, Savannah, GA. Call Bill Blakeslee at (404) 881-6570 for details and reservations.

January 28
(weather date: January 29)
May 21
August 20

LEAST FLICATCHER - The only report was of a singing male on 2 June in Rabun County (Terry Moore, Jack Carusos). **GRAY KINGBIRD** - This species again nested near the convention center on Jekyll Island (m.ob.). Another pair was located at a new site in Brunswick in July (Paul Sykes, Paul Raney and Mike Chapman).

HORNED LARK - New sites for this species were also discovered. On 12 June, Jerry and Marie Amerson saw six in Twiggs County. An immature and two adults were seen at AMS on 3 July (Jeff Sewell), where the species had been seen since February when a flock of about 75 was found.

TREE SWALLOW - On 2 June, Terry Moore and Jack Carusos saw a pair entering a nest hole in a snag on the Hiawasee River, Towns County, not far from Lake Chatuge, a confirmed nesting site. Malcolm Hodges reported 60 adults and juveniles at Harris Neck NWR, McIntosh County, on 30 July.

BANK SWALLOW - In Laurens County, Tom Patterson had an excellent count of 200-300 on 23 July. At the ELHLAF, only one was seen during the period on 30 July (Jeff Sewell and Carol Lambert).

CEDAR WAXWING - This species was more commonly reported than usual. On 11 June, Jeff Sewell and Carol Lambert located a nest at the top of Brasstown Bald. Patrick Brisse saw the species at four locations in Union County between 13 and 17 June with two nesting sites in the same area. On 26 June, Patrick Brisse saw one at Blalock Lake a part of the ELHLAF, and on 2 July he saw an adult feeding two fledged young in the same area.

FISH CROW - Unusual for the northerly location was one found at Dockery Lake, Lumpkin County on 25 June (Hugh Garrett).

COMMON RAVEN - An employee of the U.S. Forest Service located a nest with two young on Brasstown Bald. The chicks fledged and were gone by 1 June (Milton Bradley fide Jeff Sewell).

WINTER WREN - Once again, this species was heard in June on Rabun Bald - 22 June by Giff and Becky Beaton.

VEERY - Believing in consistency, a Veery returned to the same spot in Fernbank Forest, DeKalb County, for the second year in a row where it was heard on 16 June by Georgann Schmalz.

AMERICAN ROBIN - One seen near Darien on 30 July was a rare summer coastal sighting (Malcolm Hodges).

SOLITARY VIREO - One immature bird was seen 16 July in south Henry County (Patrick Brisse, Jeff Sewell).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER - Beginning what was to prove to be an excellent fall migration count, singles were seen on 29 July by Jeff Sewell at Cochran Shoals section, CRNRA, Cobb County, and 30 July near Stone Mountain (Patrick Brisse).

LAWRENCE'S WARBLER - Billy & Brenda Dunbar reported sighting this extremely rare hybrid of the Blue-winged and Golden-winged warblers on 31 July at Kennesaw Mountain.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER - The first fall arrival was one reported on 21 July at Kennesaw Mountain (Giff Beaton).

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER - On 25 June, John Kiser, Bruce Dralle and Jeff Sewell found one at about 3000' in northeastern Pickens County. Bruce Dralle had an early migrant on 24 July at Kennesaw Mountain.

CERULEAN WARBLER - On 17 June, Patrick Brisse found a pair at Woody Gap, Lumpkin County, but did not find a nest. There is no documentation of the bird nesting in Georgia. A strong fall migration began very early when on 28 June, Jeff Sewell found two singing males in his yard in Tucker. The first report from Kennesaw Mountain was of 6 on 9 July, peaking at 19 on 31 July (Giff Beaton, Bruce Dralle).

BLACK-AND-WHITE-WARBLER - On 5 June, Jerry and Marie Amerson located a nesting pair on the edge of the fall line in Jones County. Malcolm Hodges noted an early fall migrant on 27 July in Glynn County.

AMERICAN REDSTART - The first migrant was seen by Don & Doris Cohrs on 17 July near Darien. The high count at Kennesaw Mountain was four on 31 July (Giff Beaton).

WORM-EATING WARBLER - The ACOGB describes this species as an uncommon nester in the upper piedmont, so a nest found on 5 June in Jones County on the southern edge of the fall line is very unusual (Jerry and Marie Amerson). Malcolm Hodges found one on 12 June in Glynn County for another unusual sighting. The peak count for the period came from Kennesaw Mountain on 24 July when four were seen (Bruce Dralle).

SWAINSON'S WARBLER - The rains brought by Hurricane Alberto flooded out many ground nesters. Malcolm Hodges reported, because of high water in July, he could not locate any Swainson's in any of their usual breeding places. He did find what was probably an early migrant in Glynn County on 27 July.

OVENBIRD - The only report was one at Kennesaw Mountain on 24 July (Bruce Dralle).

CANADA WARBLER - Again, there was only one report, one at Kennesaw Mountain on 24 July (Bruce Dralle).

SCARLET TANAGER - A wave of early migrants must have passed through the Atlanta area on 16 July: at the Cochran Shoals section of the CRNRA, Mark Oberle had three and at Kennesaw Mountain, Giff Beaton and Bruce Dralle counted eight.

PAINTED BUNTING - Far inland, one was seen at Fitzgerald by Mark Oberle and Milton Hopkins on 2 June.

DICKCISSEL - Of a large flock seen in a field near Athens in May, two pairs apparently stayed to nest and were seen by several observers during June and as late as 2 July (Paul Raney et al.). Also, Paul Raney found three near Albany on 10 June.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW - A bird seen by Frank McCamey near Dawsonville on 3 July was a very rare summer record.

ORCHARD ORIOLE - Paul Sykes had a good count of 11 on 23 July in Greene County.

NORTHERN ORIOLE - A male was seen on 20 June in Rockdale County near the Conyers Monastery, perhaps one of the very rare Atlanta area nesters (Robert Manns and Steve Ehly). Interestingly, Jeff Sewell saw a first year bird at Blalock Lake (part of the ELHLAF) on 30 July which could have been a southward migrant or a local bird. There has been a small nesting colony in Macon for several years now so it is certainly conceivable that other isolated nesting populations are around.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS - Furnishing only the second Atlanta area June record, one bird was spotted at ELHLAF on 12 June by Patrick Brisse and Jeff Sewell. Early fall arrivals were seen on 8 July at ELHLAF (Jeff Sewell) and at Gould's Inlet, St. Simons Island, on 18 July (Malcolm Hodges).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER - A very early fall arrival was seen in Greene County on 2 July (Paul Sykes).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER - Though listed as rare on the coast in summer by the ACOGB, three were seen in July by Malcolm Hodges during his coastal surveys in McIntosh and Glynn counties.

WHIMBREL - A small number of this species apparently summered on the coast. On 18 June, 18 were seen at the old marina on Jekyll Island (Bruce Dralle and Jeff Sewell) and on 4 July, Nancy and Ren Gobris and Jerry and Marie Amerson saw 12, also at Jekyll island. Malcolm Hodges had 23 for the month of July in McIntosh and Glynn counties.

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER - Breaking the early arrival date for the Atlanta area (1 Aug.) and equaling the early record for the coast were these reports: three on 21 July at the ELHLAF (peaking at 10 on 24 July - both reports by Jeff Sewell) and two on 17 July at the old marina on Jekyll Island (Malcolm Hodges). From the 17th through the end of July, Malcolm Hodges reported 72 in McIntosh and Glynn counties.

WESTERN SANDPIPER - At the old marina on Jekyll Island, Malcolm Hodges saw 100+ early migrants on 17 July although the species can usually be found during the summer along the coast in small numbers. The only inland report during the period was one seen by Paul Raney, Carol Lambert and Jeff Sewell on 24 July at the ELHLAF.

LEAST SANDPIPER - A good inland count of 23 was made on 28 July at the ELHLAF by Jeff Sewell.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER - Fairly early for the Atlanta area was one seen on 17 July at the ELHLAF by Jeff Sewell and Carol Lambert. Peak counts there were 13 on 25 and 28 July (Jeff Sewell).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER - As usual, late migrants were recorded at the ELHLAF with two seen on 5 June by Bruce Dralle, but early were "several" at Gould's Inlet, St. Simons Island on 25 July (Bill Blakeslee).

STILT SANDPIPER - Also unusual, one was seen on the very early date of 16 July at the ELHLAF (Jeff Sewell and Patrick Brisse) and, on the coast, Malcolm Hodges saw three at Andrews Island, near Brunswick, on 30 July.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER - Two seen by Paul Johnson at a sod farm in Peach County on 30 July beats the ACOGB early fall arrival date by 5 days.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER - Early arrivals during the period were seen on the coast at the old marina on Jekyll Island where Malcolm Hodges saw 40 on 17 July, and inland on 23 July at the ELHLAF where Jeff Sewell and Paul Raney saw two.

RING-BILLED GULL - Most unusual for a species that is not a local breeder, but is known as a long distance wanderer, an immature was seen at the DeKalb Reservoir by Bruce Dralle on 30 July.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL - In an event boding ill for many smaller coastal nesters, especially terns, though not one we should be surprised about, Malcolm Hodges, on 31 July, saw one at Gould's Inlet, St. Simons Island, in third summer plumage and one in juvenal plumage.

GULL-BILLED TERN - The best count was about 50 nesting pairs on a small unnamed island at the mouth of the Altamaha River, seen from a boat by Pierre Howard and Terry Johnson on 17 June.

CASPIAN TERN - No reports from the interior were received during the period. One was seen a few miles inland at Lake Pomona, Liberty County, on 17 June by Bruce Dralle and Jeff Sewell and Malcolm Hodges reported a juvenal plumaged bird on 31 July at St. Simons Island which must have either fledged nearby or wandered from afar.

ROYAL TERN - Malcolm Hodges reported "several thousand" nesting on an island in the mouth of the Altamaha River during June.

SANDWICH TERN - On 17 June, Pierre Howard and Terry Johnson reported a pair nesting on an island near the mouth of the Altamaha River. Malcolm Hodges also reported a nesting on Egg Island bar, mouth of the Altamaha River, but it is not known if the two are the same. Nancy and Ren Gobris and Jerry and Marie Amerson saw three at Jekyll Island on 4 July.

COMMON TERN - For a very unusual report for a supposed non-breeder, Malcolm Hodges saw an immature bird at Gould's Inlet, St. Simons Island, on 18 July.

FORSTER'S TERN - Patrick Brisse saw two early fall migrants at the ELHLAF on 23 July.

LEAST TERN - A dry Andrews Island hosted 40 birds in various stages of nesting on 18 June (Jeff Sewell and Bruce Dralle). A survey by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists found "hundreds" nesting nearby on a new dredge site recently added to Andrews Island near Brunswick (Robin Goodloe fide Jeff Sewell).

BLACK TERN - Better reported than usual: nine were seen on 18 July at Gould's Inlet, St. Simons Island (Malcolm Hodges), and from the interior three reports on 23 July, four at ELHLAF (Patrick Brisse and Paul Raney), five in Gilmer County (Jeff Petit), and seven in Greene County (Paul Sykes).

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE - This recent invader continues to spread across the state from its Brunswick beachhead. Two reports from near the fall line were received: two in Dooly County on 4 June (Dan & Pam Guynn) and two mating in Laurens County on 5 June (Hunter Patterson).

WHIP-POOR-WILL - As further evidence of the continued southerly range extension range, two were reported by Tom Patterson in southern Laurens County, 40 miles s. of the previous southernmost site in the county and 70 miles s. of the fall line.

WILLOW FLYCATCHER - Perhaps also expanding southward in Georgia, a singing male was last seen on 15 June by Jeff Sewell at the Suwanee Creek section, CRNRA in Gwinnett County. Several observers again located two or three nesting pairs in Dillard, Rabun County on 28 June, at the usual site (Dot Freeman).

☺ **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!** ☺

Jon Andrew	Atlanta, GA	Flavio Graciaa	Norcross, GA
Carl R. Beals	Auburn, AL	Royce & Betsy Hayes	St. Catherines Island, GA
Rick Berry	Athens, GA	Linda Headley	Dacula, GA
Dorothy Brock	Dahlonega, GA	Jacqueline Heyda	Doraville, GA
Matilda & Robert Carter	Marietta, GA	Ruth Elise Marley	Clarkston, GA
Brian R. Chapman	Athens, GA	Catherine Pichon	Big Canoe, GA
Cynthia E. Childs	Canton, GA	Jessica Leigh Roosevelt	Decatur, GA
Ron & Cynthia Christen	Crawfordville, FL	Patricia Scanlon	Atlanta, GA
M. Dwayne Collier	Rome, GA	Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Smith	Statesboro, GA
Steve & Nancy Covington	Rome, GA	Prasad Tetali	Avondale Estates, GA
Marion R. Dobbs	Athens, GA	Ted Touchstone	Summerville, GA
Randy Durham	Stone Mountain, GA	Richard L. West	Tallahassee, FL
Larry Edmonds	Atlanta, GA	Bradford Winn	Forsyth, GA
Roza Gerken	Statesboro, GA	Robert Winthrop, II	Athens, GA

GOS GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The GOS offers an annual grant of up to \$750 in support of ornithological research by a graduate student enrolled in Georgia, or from Georgia if enrolled out of state. Interested applicants should contact the Research Grant Committee, Georgia Ornithological Society, P.O. Box 1684, Cartersville, GA 30120 for details. The deadline for receipt of applications is January 15, 1995, and selection of the grantee is made by April 1, 1995.

GEORGIA RARE BIRD ALERT - (404) 493-8862

Thanks to the Oconee Audubon Society in Athens for the first contribution to the Georgia Rare Bird Alert from an organization other than GOS since 1992! The financing plan for this line originally involved several Georgia Audubon chapters around the state. Please urge your local Audubon Chapters and other bird clubs to contribute to the cost of this service. We know that many people from around the state, and particularly the Atlanta area, are calling in on a regular basis for bird reports. The line is now being updated several times weekly, and has been responsible for many good sighting reports, such as a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in metro Atlanta in October...a life bird for many observers. Individuals are also encouraged to contribute to this effort, and any amount is appreciated. We strongly request all other birding organizations in Georgia to help support this line. We are still investigating the cost and possibility of adding an "800" number to further encourage participation from outside the Atlanta area.

PUBLICATION OF GEORGIA LIFE AND YEAR LISTS

Beginning with the March 1995 issue of *GOShawk*, we will annually publish the names, hometown, and total species seen for the year (1994) and during the individual's birding lifetime in Georgia. Please do not send a list of species, but only the numbers. If your list is limited primarily to one specific area (i.e., Atlanta area, coastal counties, yard, etc.), that may be indicated. If you would rather not submit an annual list number, just send your life list total.

There are many GOS members who have been birding in Georgia for decades, but who don't regularly submit their lists to the American Birding Association for its publication. We are particularly interested in these lists, as well as those of the rest of us. Send your list totals with phone number to: Editor, *GOShawk*, 4608 Westhampton Dr., Tucker, GA 30084 (deadline is February 1, 1995). You can use the form below, a postcard, or whatever...

NAME _____ PHONE _____
 ADDRESS (CITY/STATE) _____

GEORGIA LIFE LIST TOTAL _____ # YEARS BIRDING IN GEORGIA _____
 1994 GEORGIA LIST TOTAL _____

Doug Phillips, Treasurer, reported that GOS continues to have strong assets, but that this last year had heavy operating expenses. We had an operating deficit in 1993 and 1994 which should be resolved by having increased the dues. It was noted that expenses for *The Oriole* and *GOShawk* have increased with improved publication quality. Savings should be realized on *The Oriole* due to recent equipment purchases. The Environmental Fund for Georgia (EFG) response has been very positive, with GOS having received \$3,141.88 (a proportional split among member organizations and direct donations to GOS). President Helen Ogren will send a letter to all Georgia Audubon Chapters requesting funding participation in the Georgia Rare Bird Alert.

Doug Phillips reported for John Swiderski, Business Manager, that our current membership is 449 (compared to 425 in October 1993): 264 regular; 141 life, and 34 institutional memberships.

Didi Manns reported for Georgine Pindar, Conservation Chair, that GOS members have contributed \$2025 to the State Botanical Garden of Georgia Orange Nature Trail. We must continue to volunteer time annually in order to receive our full share each year. An appeal was made for volunteers to assist with EFG fundraising efforts on behalf of GOS. The Executive Committee expressed appreciation to Georgine for all of her volunteer efforts with EFG on behalf of GOS.

Kristi Avera, Membership Chair, reported that 36 letters were recently sent to colleges and universities, and 55 letters to ABA members in Georgia who are not currently GOS members.

A committee to plan the combined AFO (Assoc. of Field Ornithologists)/GOS Meeting, Fall 1996 has been named, consisting of Bill Lovejoy, ad hoc chair, John Parrish and Les Davenport.

Todd Schneider of DNR discussed the North American Bird Census and indicated that he still needs volunteers. Training sessions will commence this winter.

FIELD NOTES

by Jeff Sewell

Note: The field notes in the next issue, March 1995, will cover the fall migration, August through November. Please send your reports as soon as you can. **Deadline is January 15th.**

Send sighting reports to: Jeff Sewell, 4608 Westhampton Drive, Tucker, GA 30084.

June - July 1994

Abbreviations: ACOGB - *Annotated Checklist of Georgia Birds*; AMS - Atlanta Motor Speedway, Henry County; CRNRA - Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, Cobb and Gwinnett counties; ELHLAF - E.L. Huie Land Application Facility, Clayton County; Kennesaw Mountain - Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Cobb County; m.ob. - many observers; NWR - National Wildlife Refuge; SCSP - Sweetwater Creek State Park, Douglas County; and SWMA - State Wildlife Management Area.

PIED-BILLED GREBE - Very unusual for the Atlanta area was a bird seen on the pond at the Emory University President's Estate on 10 July by Jerry Brunner.

GREATER SHEARWATER - In what is perhaps the bird event of the year so far, a Greater Shearwater "fell out of the sky" into the backyard of a resident on Lake Lanier, Hall County, on 28 July. GOS member Bill Fletcher, also a DNR employee, had the bird transported to a bird rehabilitation center on the coast where the bird lived for about two weeks before expiring of unknown causes. According to the ACOGB, this is the second inland record. The first was in 1974 in Baldwin County.

WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD - Details have not been received on the sighting of, astoundingly, two birds seen from shore at Tybee Island by Michigan resident, Mike Sefton, on 2 June.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT - Patrick Brisse counted 17 at Blalock Lake (ELHLAF) on 26 June and reported that the one nest built this year was felled by Hurricane Alberto in July. This is still the only documented nesting site of this species in Georgia.

LEAST BITTERN - A good count of 25 was tallied by Malcolm Hodges at the Altamaha SWMA on 4 June.

GREAT EGRET - The most northerly report was from Jeff Sewell and Pierre Howard of one north of Blairsville and one near Clermont in White County on 6 July. Good inland counts came from ELHLAF with eight on 30 July (Paul Raney) and from Greene County where Paul Sykes saw 20 on 23 July.

SNOWY EGRET - One seen on 2 June at ELHLAF by Jeff Sewell was only the second spring record for the Atlanta area.

(continued)

LITTLE BLUE HERON - Fifteen seen by Paul Sykes on 23 July in Greene County were the most he has yet seen in the area. **REDDISH EGRET** - Generally we think of this species as a rare late summer and fall visitor to the coast but this year an immature was seen on the early date of 17 June by Pierre Howard and Terry Johnson on an island in the Altamaha River. On 31 July, Malcolm Hodges saw two dark phase immatures at Gould's Inlet between St. Simons and Sea Islands.

GREEN HERON - The high count from an inland location was 20 at ELHLAF on 30 July (Jeff Sewell and Patrick Brisse).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - An intown NE Atlanta neighborhood for the seventh year in a row hosted two adults which fledged three young (Jeff Sewell). Gordon Hight saw an adult at the Arrowhead fishing lake in Floyd County from 13 June through 26 June for the most northerly sighting and Patrick Brisse had one near Stone Mountain on 23 July.

WHITE IBIS - Unusual inland were four seen at a Greene County marsh on 23 July by Paul Sykes. At Harris Neck NWR on 30 July, Malcolm Hodges counted 250 birds and about 50 nests, each containing 3-4 young.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL - The usual one or two were seen during the period along the Jekyll Island causeway: on 18 June Jeff Sewell and Bruce Dralle saw one; on 4 July one was seen by Nancy & Ren Gobris and Jerry and Marie Amerson.

WOOD STORK - Malcolm Hodges reports that colonies on the coast did very well. Dan and Pam Guynn reported two in residence on 26 June at a very northerly location near Unadilla. Tommy Patterson saw one on 23 July in Laurens County.

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK - Rare during the summer, one was seen at ELHLAF on 12 June (Patrick Brisse and Jean Martin) and again on 21 July (Jeff Sewell).

OSPREY - Unfortunately, Hurricane Alberto's winds and rain were too much for the Osprey's nest at Blalock Lake, ELHLAF, and it gave way in mid-July. The two chicks could not be found. Unusual for time and location was one seen by Jeff Petit at Carter's Lake, Gilmer County, on 24 July.

AMERICAN SWALLOW-TAILED KITE - From the Altamaha Fish Camp near Everett, Glynn County, Nancy & Ren Gobris and Jerry and Marie Amerson reported two on 4 July. The most unusual report was of two birds first seen in mid-July by Harvey Hearn on his farm near Palmetto in south Fulton County that stayed through the period.

MISSISSIPPI KITE - The Altamaha Fish Camp near Everett produced two on 18 June for Nancy & Ren Gobris and Jerry and Marie Amerson. Nancy Gobris later saw one near her home in Jones County on the Ocmulgee River on 13 July. Continuing an Atlanta area trend, one was seen in southeastern Henry County on 16 July by Patrick Brisse and Jeff Sewell.

BALD EAGLE - Brad Winn of DNR reports that their survey of the state this summer found 21 active nests, fledging 30 young. The more unusual places furnishing sightings were Lake Lanier, where on 4 and 5 July an adult was seen (fide Carol Lambert), near Blairsville, where on 6 July a sub-adult was seen (Pierre Howard and Jeff Sewell), and from ELHLAF, where two adults and one immature were seen several times during the period (m.ob.).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK - On 4 June, one adult was seen at the Piedmont NWR, near where a fledgling was mistnetted last July, this from a species with few confirmed nestings in Georgia (Nancy Gobris). On 23 July, Bruce Dralle, Jeff Sewell and Mark Davis saw one bird at Kennesaw Mountain, which is unusual for date and place.

COOPER'S HAWK - Also rare in the summer on the coast, this species was seen by Malcolm Hodges three times in McIntosh County: one each on 18, 29 and 30 July.

GOLDEN EAGLE - David Brown reported sightings during June between Menlo and Little River Canyon in Chattooga County, away from the hack site on Pigeon Mountain.

AMERICAN KESTREL - In yet another rare summer sighting, Patrick Brisse saw one near the Georgia State University MARTA Station in downtown Atlanta on 26 July.

RUFFED GROUSE - Though naturally elusive, this species would be seen more often if observers spent more time in the mountains in the summer. For our only report, Giff and Becky Beaton saw four at Rabun Bald on 22 June.

BLACK RAIL - Once again, this even more elusive species proved reliable at a marsh in Greene County on 2 July (Jeff Sewell) and on 23 July, two were found (Paul Sykes).

AMERICAN COOT - Nearly every year, one or two of this species can be found in the Atlanta area and 1994 proved to be no exception. On 25 June, Paul Raney spied one at SCSP for a good summer record.

SANDHILL CRANE - A candidate for the bird oddity of the period was one Sandhill Crane found in their subdivision in Jones County near Macon on 30 June by Nancy Gobris and Marie Amerson. The bird did not appear to be injured as it walked into a nearby wood and disappeared.

WILSON'S PLOVER - Though listed as common in the ACOGB, only two reports were received. On 4 July, Nancy and Ren Gobris and Jerry and Marie Amerson saw two at Jekyll Island. Malcolm Hodges counted six for the month of July during his surveys in coastal Glynn and McIntosh counties.

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER - Seven rather late birds were seen on 2 June at ELHLAF by Jeff Sewell and Brock Hutchins.

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER - Malcolm Hodges reports that the species nested at Egg Island bar in the mouth of the Altamaha River. He found six during the month of July.

BLACK-NECKED STILT - On 18 June, Jeff Sewell and Bruce Dralle looked over a dry lake bed at Andrews Island near Brunswick and found 12 Black-necked Stilts divided off into pair territories, but Malcolm Hodges reported that on 30 July, he found only one pair with two young there. Unfortunately, the colony at Rhett's Island in the Altamaha River failed completely due to high water levels from Alberto's deluge earlier in the month (Malcolm Hodges).

GREATER YELLOWLEGS - An early arrival was spotted at Gould's Inlet, St. Simons Island, on 18 July by Malcolm Hodges.