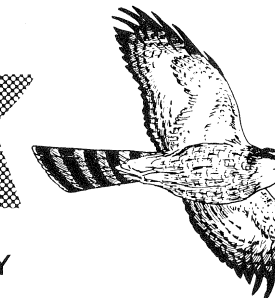


THE *GOS*hawk NEWSLETTER IS
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE
GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL
SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT..... KENNETH CLARK
1ST VICE PRESIDENT..... BILL LOVEJOY
2ND VICE PRESIDENT.....EUGENIA THOMPSON
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GOSHAWK



NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

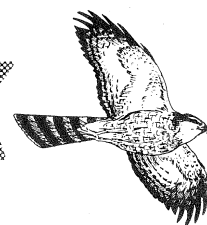
_____ Please send me a list of publications available from the GOS.

NAME(S) _____

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS AND PHONE # _____

PLEASE LET US KNOW OF ANY ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBER CHANGES!

GOSHAWK



NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1684
Cartersville, GA 30120

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

CARTERSVILLE, GA

PERMIT NO. 97

VOLUME 23 NO. 1

MARCH 1996

**GEORGIA RARE BIRD ALERT: (770) 493-8862 Statewide
(912) 244-9190 South Georgia**

**ALABAMA: (205) 987-2730
FLORIDA: (813) 435-2722
(813) 657-4442**

**N/S CAROLINA: (704) 332-2473
TENNESSEE: (615) 356-7636
Chattanooga: (423) 843-2822**

SPRING 1996 MEETING April 26-28 Holiday Inn - Dalton, Georgia

The GOS Spring 1996 meeting will be held April 26-28 at the Holiday Inn in Dalton, GA (I-75 & Walnut Avenue). Special GOS room rates (1-4 people/room) are \$49/night + 10% room tax. In order to get these special rates, reservations should be made by April 12, 1996. Call 1-800-HOLIDAY or directly to the Dalton Holiday Inn at 706-278-0500, be sure to identify yourself as being with the Georgia Ornithological Society and give the three-letter group block code - GOS.

Dalton GOS member Harriet DiGioia has arranged field trips to local birding hot spots - some will be half-day trips, while others will last most of the day. (The restaurant at the Holiday Inn opens early for those who want breakfast before the field trips). Harriet has also arranged for speakers from the area. Friday night's speaker will be Kevin Calhoun, an ornithologist from the Tennessee Aquarium. The speaker for Saturday night will be Eddie Morris from the U.S. Forest Service. On Saturday night, a cash bar at 6:00 p.m. will be followed by our buffet-style banquet at 7:00 p.m. The cost of the banquet will be \$17.75. Registration form for the meeting and banquet are on page 10.

...Eugenia Thompson

FUTURE MEETINGS

As previously announced, the joint meeting of GOS and the Association of Field Ornithologists (AFO) will be held at the Holiday Inn Beach Resort on Jekyll Island, October 18-20, 1996. Our banquet speaker on Saturday night will be Dr. Sidney Gauthreaux of Clemson University. Dr. Gauthreaux is an internationally known expert on the use of radar in the study of neotropical bird migration. For meeting information, contact Bill Lovejoy 912-681-2516 or Eugenia Thompson 706-549-7318. Anyone interested in presenting a paper should contact Ray Chandler, Department of Biology, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA 30460-8042; 912-681-5657; fax 912-681-0845; e-mail: chandler@gasou.edu.

Look for more information in the *GOS*hawk as further details, agenda and field trips are finalized.

...Bill Lovejoy

Deadline for the next GOShawk is May 1, 1996.



Rennie Davant Atlanta, GA
 Ashley Harrington Pinehurst, GA
 Clif Horrigan Portsmouth, NH
 Jerome Jackson Mississippi State, MS

Michael Krogh Duluth, GA
 John T. McBride, Jr. Shreveport, LA
 Lee & Kitti Reynolds Athens, GA
 Ann H. Stewart Rome, GA

...John Swiderski

CONSERVATION NEWS

Environmental Fund for Georgia

GOS will soon be receiving another generous check from EFG, and your Finance Committee will be deciding how best to spend the money to further the cause of environmental education. Following are the employers who have so far included EFG & GOS on their pledge cards:

Public

City of Atlanta
 Clayton County
 Clayton Schools
 Federal Government
 (Combined Federal Campaign - CFC)
 Athens Area
 Atlanta Area
 Macon Area
 Savannah Area
 Southeast Georgia Area
 MARTA
 State of Georgia

Private

Atlanta Landmarks
 CNA Insurance
 Egghead Discount Software
 Glass McCollough, Sherrill & Harrold
 Intermec Corporation
 Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation
 Life College
 Long, Aldridge & Norman
 Lotus Development Corporation
 Memorial Medical Center
 Piedmont Hospital
 Rosser International
 Southern Federal Credit Union
 USA Today
 Roy Weston, Inc.

Please let us know if you can help us get access to other public or private employers. This fall, when many firms, companies and agencies have their pledge rallies, we'd like you to help us by attending a rally or two and telling employees about GOS. Nancy Iha (770-977-0179) has agreed to coordinate volunteers.

Georgia Environmental Council

Legislative Monitor Hotline....404-378-3861

With the General Assembly once again in session, GEC is sponsoring Katherine Baer (404-377-6528 evenings) to monitor environmental legislation. The June issue of *GOShawk* will have a report on legislation passed this session.

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

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. Please keep this worthwhile project in mind for gifts in honor of or in memory of friends and family. Please make contributions payable to Georgia Ornithological Society and send to:
 Georgine Pindar, 2633 Ridgemoor Road, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30318.

RECENT MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Donor(s): Georgine Pindar

In Memory of: Marie Boman (Mrs. John)
 Michael Hix
 Meredith Winter Mabry

Carol Lambert & Jeff Sewell

Nancy Harwood Lambert

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, has been personally signed by Dr. Peterson, and is available only through GOS.

You may be interested in the events which led up to the production of this special print. Dr. Peterson is a founding member of GOS 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"x14" heavy stock.

The Society will send you this unique print upon receipt of your check made payable to GOS for \$125. 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: GOS, P.O. Box 1684, Cartersville, GA 30120.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ PRINTS @ \$125.00 each

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____ Payable to GOS

GEORGIA BIRDERS & THEIR LISTS
(As of 12/31/95)

GOS REGISTRATION, SPRING MEETING
HOLIDAY INN - DALTON, GA
April 26-28, 1996

NAME(S) (for name tags, print): _____

(Children under 16 must be registered but are charged no registration fee): _____

Address _____ Phone () _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Meeting Registration(s) @ \$8.00 per person	\$	
Meeting Registration(s) @ \$12.00 per person (non-member)	\$	
Reservations for banquet @ \$17.75 per person	\$	
TOTAL:	\$	

Note: No portion of registration or banquet fee is tax deductible.

Make checks payable to GOS and mail with this form to:
Eugenia Thompson, 2015 Morton Road, Athens, GA 30605.

Early registration makes planning easier. Cancellations for meeting and banquet reservations received 72 hours in advance of meeting (April 23) will be refunded. The GOS requires registration for participation in the meeting and field trips, and also requires all registrants to sign the following release. If the participant is a minor, a parent or legal guardian must sign this release.

RELEASE

Each registrant named, both adult and minor, desires to participate in the field trips and other activities at this meeting 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 meeting, 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 meeting.

NAME (print) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

NAME (print) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

(Attach additional names and signatures)

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER OF GOS, YOU ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND OUR MEETINGS, BUT WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THE FORM ON THE BACK OF THIS ISSUE TO SEND IN YOUR GOS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION.

This was a good year for many Georgia birders who were able to add to life bird sightings in the state. The appearance of birds such as Vermillion Flycatcher, Burrowing Owl, Little Gull, Franklin's Gull and Brant made it exciting for listers, especially those who have passed the 300 mark and are usually hard-pressed to add birds. 1996 is already off to a good start with the unexpected sightings of Red-necked Grebe at Lake Lanier. At the time of this writing, even more birders have reached and surpassed the 300 mark due to good birds reported in January and February. Who knows what we'll end up with by the end of this year.

...Carol Lambert

<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOME</u>	<u>GA LIFE LIST 1995</u>	<u>GA LIFE LIST 1994</u>	<u>GA YEAR LIST 1995</u>	<u>GA YEAR LIST 1994</u>
Bob Manns	Atlanta, GA	360	358	-	-
Terry Moore	Roswell, GA	341	338	-	243
Joe Greenberg	Atlanta, GA	336	333	-	-
Patrick Brisse	Stone Mountain, GA	330	328	-	242
Paul Raney	Conyers, GA	323	319	-	252
Bill Blakeslee	Atlanta, GA	322	317	-	-
Bruce Dralle	Marietta, GA	322	-	-	-
Paul Sykes	Watkinsville, GA	322	317	-	-
Billy Dunbar	Watkinsville, GA	320	293	297	249
Jeff Sewell	Tucker, GA	319	313	276	291
Giff Beaton	Marietta, GA	313	308	275	266
Mark Oberle	Atlanta, GA	311	306	-	-
Carol Lambert	Tucker, GA	310	306	257	260
Peggy Moore	Roswell, GA	309	309	-	-
Brenda Dunbar	Watkinsville, GA	307	272	284	230
Jerry Amerson	Macon, GA	301	294	222	226
Pierre Howard	Atlanta, GA	299	276	278	275
Marie Amerson	Macon, GA	294	288	216	219
John Swiderski	Cartersville, GA	286	286	-	-
Kevin Danchisen	Marietta, GA	252	178	245	160
David Chaffin	Cleveland, TN	226	223	-	-

CHANGES TO THE GEORGIA CHECKLIST

Since the publication of the *Annotated Checklist to Georgia Birds* in 1986, a number of birds new to the state have been sighted and the status of other birds has changed. This note highlights the changes to the checklist which the GOS Checklist and Records Committee has accepted through the end of 1995. Many other records are pending. Watch *The Oriole* for a detailed report of these records.

- ✓ *Add to the Regular List:* Magnificent Hummingbird, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Anna's Hummingbird, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Allen's Hummingbird, MacGillivray's Warbler, Townsend's Warbler.
- ✓ *Move from the Provisional List to the Regular List:* Leach's Storm-Petrel.
- ✓ *Add to the Provisional List:* Common Eider, Burrowing Owl, Bell's Vireo.

GEORGIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

Observer writing this account & date _____
 Species _____ Number, Age, Sex _____
 Distance from bird(s) _____ Relative size of bird _____
 Head & Neck (describe forehead, crown, auricular, malar region, median line, etc.) _____

 Eye & Loes (describe supercilium, ring, stripe, color, etc.) _____

 Upper & Lower Mandibles _____
 Legs & Feet _____
 Upperparts (describe nape, back, rump, upper tail coverts, etc.) _____

 Underparts (describe throat, belly, side, flanks, crissum, etc.) _____

 Rectrices (describe inner, middle, outer tail feathers, color pattern, shape, etc.) _____

 Wing (describe color, length, shape, linings, bars, coverts, leading & trailing edges, etc.) _____

 Vocalization _____
 Behavior _____

 Date of observation _____ Time _____ Weather _____ Sky Cover _____
 Duration of observation _____ Bird-Sun Orientation _____
 Exact Location _____
 Habitat _____ Other Observers _____
 _____ Optical Equipment _____
 Additional Comments _____

(An accompanying sketch or photograph can be excellent further documentation.)

Send to: Checklist & Records Committee, c/o Bill Blakeslee, 1722 Noble Dr., Atlanta, GA 30306

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE - This species continues to increase in the state. Several reports came from their Brunswick stronghold with most counts being in the 10-12 range (m.ob.). Other reports came from Madison with two birds on 23 Aug. (Billy Dunbar), seven at Blakeley on 26 Aug. (Dot Freeman), and two birds at Wrens in Jefferson County on 12 Sept. (Anselm Atkins, Margaret Kavanaugh). There are evidently viable colonies also in the St. Simons and Darien areas (Paul Raney), so it appears that this species will be with us for awhile .

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO - The only reports were single birds seen in Rabun County on 1 Sept. by Mark Oberle and at KMT on 23 Sept. by Jeff Sewell, Billy Dunbar and Chuck Saleeby.

BURROWING OWL - Rick Waldrop visited the Bainbridge site that has hosted this species this year and was rewarded by seeing one there on 9 Sept.

SHORT-EARED OWL - Rare anywhere in the state was a bird near Lawrenceville on 12 Nov. (Joel Volpi). Unfortunately this bird could not be relocated.

BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD - An immature male was reported from the Summerville area on 1 Sept. by David Brown. Hopefully details of this sighting will be documented in *The Oriole*.

SELASPHORUS HUMMINGBIRDS - The first bird appeared at a feeder in Crabapple on the early date of 28 Sept. (Helen Ogren). This particular bird was felt to be a Rufous Hummingbird. By the end of the period there were at least 10 reports of birds around the state. One of the birds was banded near Macon on 19 Nov. and was identified as an Allen's Hummingbird - the third state record (fide Jeff Sewell).

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER - Billy Dunbar reported single birds at Eatonton on 11 Aug. and at Athens on 30 Aug. Other single birds were seen at KMT on 19 Sept. (Giff Beaton, Pierre Howard) and at Piedmont Park in downtown Atlanta on 23 Sept. (Richard Ellenberg).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER - An amazing count of three was reported from the Ocmulgee National Monument in the Macon area on 16 Sept. by Jerry and Marie Amerson.

GRAY KINGBIRD - One bird was seen in Brunswick on 19 Aug. by Bill Blakeslee et al. Generally this species is seen out on the barrier islands and not on the mainland.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER - This rare species was seen in Houston County on 3 Sept. by George Griffeth.

CLIFF SWALLOW - A good count of 15 was made at the ELHLAF on 24 Sept. (Bill Blakeslee et al.). A record late bird was seen at Plant Scherer on 16 Nov. by Barbara Edwards and Lil James. This should be documented in *The Oriole*.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH - Small numbers of this erratic species appeared in the area during the month of Oct. and remained through the end of the period. This is the largest invasion of this species into the area in the past few years.

SEDGE WREN - One bird was seen at the CRNRA on 14 Oct. (Mark Oberle, AAS) and 4+ were found in a small marsh at the KMT National Battlefield Park on 19 Oct. (Giff Beaton). Two were at the same marsh on 5 Nov. (Giff Beaton, Jeff Sewell) and six were there on 26 Nov. (Giff Beaton, Bruce Hallett).

WARBLING VIREO - This species was reported only once - one bird was seen at KMT on 18 Sept. by Chuck Hunter.

NASHVILLE WARBLER - Single birds were seen on 17 and 18 Sept. (Giff Beaton et al.) and an amazing three were recorded on 27 Sept. (Giff Beaton). One other bird was banded at Jekyll Island but the exact date of banding was not provided.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER - Evidently one was banded at Jekyll Island this fall but the exact date has not been provided.

MOURNING WARBLER - This very rare species was reported a number of times during the period. One was seen at the CRNRA on 7 Sept. by Terry Moore (his first in Georgia in over 30 years of birding here). Another bird was seen in the Dawson Forest area on 2 Sept. by Jack Carusos and John Paget. One was banded at Jekyll Island but the exact date has not been provided. In addition there was another report from KMT in late Aug. which could possibly have been this species.

WILSON'S WARBLER - One bird was seen in downtown Atlanta on 27 Sept. by Bill Summerhour. Evidently one was banded at Jekyll Island during the period but the exact date has not been provided.

DICKCISSEL - A single bird was seen in Greene County on 14 Oct. by Paul Sykes and Billy Dunbar.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW - The Jekyll Island Banding Station (and the auxilliary station at Darien) evidently banded a total of four birds but the exact dates were not provided.

LARK SPARROW - An excellent find was a bird in the Marietta area on 2 Sept. by Richard and Nancy Cole. Unfortunately the bird did not remain in the area for other birders. Another bird was seen at the Jekyll Island Banding Station on 16 Oct. (Pierre Howard, Don Cohrs).

LINCOLN'S SPARROW - The only report was a bird seen in the Rome area on 29 Oct. by Nelson Dobbs.

PURPLE FINCH - After an almost complete absence last winter, small numbers reappeared in the state (at least the northern part) during November.

PINE SISKIN - The first bird of the season was one at KMT on 17 Oct. by Terry Moore. After that, small numbers were reported from a variety of locations through the end of the period.

EVENING GROSBEAK - There were at least eight reports starting on 4 Nov. (fide Jeff Sewell). Only small numbers were reported with the peak counts being about 10 birds or so.

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE - Tommy Patterson found one in Laurens County on 25 Nov. and the bird remained there through the end of the month.

SNOW GOOSE - Five birds (blue phase) appeared at the ELHLAF on 2 Nov. and were seen off and on through 24 Nov. (m.ob.). Seven other birds were seen in Laurens County on 25 Nov. by Tommy Patterson.

OLDSQUAW - A record early arrival for the state was a single bird at Jekyll Island on 15 Nov. by Paul Raney. The same or another bird was also seen at Jekyll Island 23 and 24 Nov. by Billy and Brenda Dunbar.

SURF SCOTER - Three were seen at Jekyll Island 23-24 Nov. by Billy and Brenda Dunbar.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER - Two birds were seen at Jekyll Island on 15 Nov. by Paul Raney and a single bird was very rare inland at Rum Creek on 18 Nov. (Jeff Sewell, Carol Lambert, AAS).

TURKEY VULTURE - The migration of this species is generally ignored so the following observations are worth noting. Giff Beaton and Bruce Dralle saw 87 at KMT on 4 Nov. Also on 4 Nov. Jeff Sewell had 100 in DeKalb County and the next day Carol Lambert saw 120 at the ELHLAF.

OSPREY - There were five reports of birds moving through the Atlanta area during Sept. with four of these clustered around 26-28 Sept. (m.ob.). A late bird (at least for the Atlanta area) was one at KMT on 4 Nov. (Giff Beaton, Bruce Dralle).

MISSISSIPPI KITE - Tommy Patterson et al. had a good count of four in the Dublin area on 19 Aug. A very late bird was reported from Wassau Island on 7 Oct. by Brad Bergstrom and Mark Welford. If documented, this would be the latest departure date for the state.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK - For the first time in several years there were good numbers of this hawk reported from the Atlanta area. After a period of several days of rain and low clouds good weather returned on 26-27 Sept. just in time for these hawks to move through. Kevin Danchisen was the first to report good numbers on 26 Sept. with 200+ at Blackjack Mt. in Cobb County and 422 at KMT. On 27 Sept. Peggy Moore had 100+ just north of KMT, Bill Blakeslee and Giff Beaton had 222 at KMT and Terry Moore and Ernie Clarke had a single flock of 600-700 several miles south of KMT.

MERLIN - A rare find for the Atlanta area was a bird seen at KMT on 6 Oct. by Giff Beaton.

BLACK RAIL - This rare species was heard in the Darien area on 9 Sept. by Brad Bergstrom.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER - Very rare for the Atlanta area were two reports of this species - single birds in Bartow County on 1 Oct. (Nelson Dobbs) and at the ELHLAF on 5 Oct. (Carol Lambert).

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER - This species was seen at Sod Atlanta near Cartersville starting on 2 Sept. when Nelson Dobbs saw six through 18 Sept. when one was seen by Giff Beaton. Other single birds were seen at Super Sod below Macon on 4 Sept. by Jerry and Marie Amerson et al. and at the ELHLAF on 26 Sept. (Jeff Sewell).

PIPING PLOVER - Brad Winn had an excellent count of 17 at Ossabaw Island on 9 Oct.

WILLET - Very rare for the Atlanta area was the sighting of a total of 21 Willets at the ELHLAF on 21 Aug. by Ted Sechinger.

UPLAND SANDPIPER - Rare for anywhere in Georgia was the sighting of an Upland Sandpiper in the Dublin area on 15 Aug. by Allen Rhodes.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW - One bird was seen at St. Catherines Island on 16 Oct. by Hunter Patterson. Two birds were seen at Ossabaw Island on 26 Nov. (Brad Winn) and 28 Nov. (Steve Kyles).

RUDDY TURNSTONE - Very rare for an inland area was a Ruddy Turnstone at the ELHLAF from 11 Sept. (Brock Hutchins, Carol Lambert) through 20 Sept. (Carol Lambert).

SANDERLING - Rare for the Atlanta area were two birds at the ELHLAF on 10 and 11 Sept. (Jeff Sewell et al.) and one bird in the Cartersville area on 10 Sept. (Nelson Dobbs).

DUNLIN - Rare for the Atlanta area were single birds at the ELHLAF on 25 Sept. and again from 26 through 29 Oct. (Carol Lambert).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER - This species was more commonly reported this year than in the past few years. In Peach County four were seen on 26 Aug. and seven on 27 Aug. (Nancy Gobris, Jerry and Marie Amerson). In the Cartersville area Lanny Henson found one on 28 Aug. and the species was last seen there on 18 Sept. when several observers saw three there. Four were seen in Bulloch County on 28 Aug. (Mark Welford, Ray Chandler) and one was seen in the Macon area on 29 Aug. (Giff Beaton, Kevin Danchisen). Finally, one bird was seen at the ELHLAF on 23-25 Sept. (m.ob.).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE - The only report was a single bird in Laurens County on 3 Oct. by Tommy Patterson.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE - On the 20 Aug. pelagic trip five birds were recorded (Bill Blakeslee et al.).

PARASITIC JAEGER - The only report was a bird seen at Wassau Island on 8 Oct. by Paul Johnson & Bill Blakeslee.

FRANKLIN'S GULL - One of the rarest sightings of the period was a single Franklin's Gull which briefly appeared (1.5 hr) at the ELHLAF on 28 Oct. and then disappeared (Russ Wigh, Patrick Brisse, Jeff Sewell). This is the second Atlanta area record and the eleventh for the state. Georgia's 12th record occurred when four birds were seen at the Walter F. George Dam below Georgetown on 11 Nov. (Adam Byrne). Unfortunately the birds did not remain at that spot. Also there at the same time were two Laughing Gulls.

GULL-BILLED TERN - Twelve was a good count at Jekyll Island on 19 Aug. by Bill Blakeslee et al.

BRIDLED TERN - On the 20 Aug. pelagic trip eight birds were seen by Bill Blakeslee et al.

SOOTY TERN - Brad Winn saw nine off St. Simons Island on 2 Aug. and on the 20 Aug. pelagic trip two birds were seen by Bill Blakeslee et al.

GOS COMMITTEES 1995-1997

Terms for the 10 committees specified in the bylaws are two years except for those of business manager, editors and editorial committee (six years) and nominating committee (ad hoc). All terms are renewable. First year of continuous service is 1995 unless otherwise indicated in parentheses.

EXECUTIVE

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Eugenia Thompson, 2nd Vice President ('93)
Karen Theodorou, Secretary
Jeannie Wright, Treasurer
John Swiderski ('76)

Helen Ogren, Past President ('87)
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Lehr Brisbin, Chr., Editorial
Georgine Pindar, Chr., Conservation ('86)
Terry Moore, Ed., *The Oriole* ('81)
Carol Lambert, Ed., *GOShawk* ('94)

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BIRDERS' GUIDE TO GEORGIA

Joel Hitt, Chair ('90)
Kenneth Blackshaw ('90)
Giff Beaton

RARE BIRD ALERT

Jeff Sewell ('93)
Gena Dwyer

NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNT

Since Georgia first started participating in the NAMC, 201 species in 14 counties have been tallied. Obviously, the more counties covered, the more species may be found. These totals could eventually be used for a species distribution map of the state done COUNTY BY COUNTY. The Georgia NAMC needs participation.

If you are interested in helping this project, please contact me and I will be glad to forward information. Please send inquiries to: Jerry Amerson, 701 Plantation Drive, Macon, GA 31211, 912-746-5697.

The next NAMC will be held on Saturday, May 11, 1996.

Did you say t-shirts? Yes, GOS has a t-shirt at last. These first edition t-shirts will be on sale at our spring and fall meetings. If you just can't wait 'til then, they are available by mail now.

What do they look like? They are really great. The art work is fantastic...Dick Parks came up with a beautiful scene of Laughing Gulls on a beach. They are available in white or natural (sand tone) color, and are a good quality "Hanes Heavyweight" 100% cotton (preshrunk) shirt. The cost is \$12 per shirt.

If you wish to order by mail, please complete the following:

Sizes: L (Adult 42/44) XL (Adult 46/48)
Colors: White or Natural

QUANTITY	SIZE	COLOR
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Total # of shirts _____ @ \$12 = \$ _____

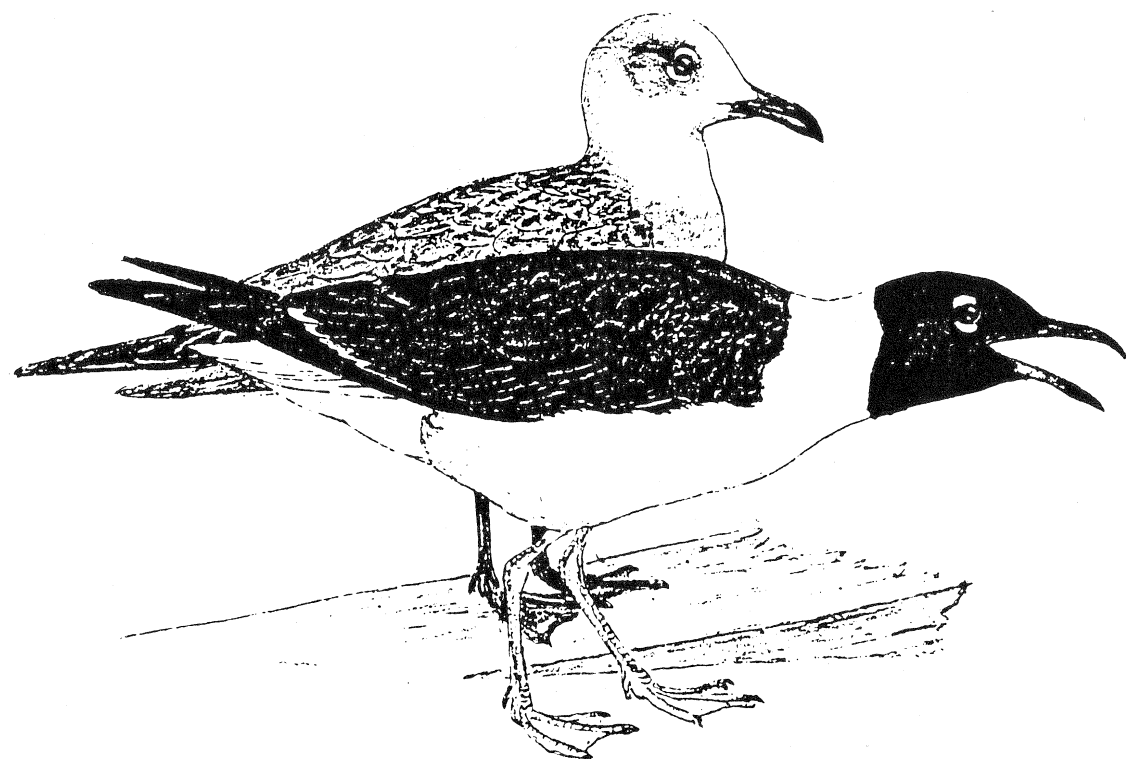
Postage: \$3 for 1-2; \$5 for 3+ = \$ _____

TOTAL DUE GOS = \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Mail to: GOS, P.O. Box 1684, Cartersville, GA 30120



Fall is my favorite birding period. Although several warbler species are less colorful in the fall, many still are in good breeding plumage as they head south. Dispersing breeding birds can turn up in really odd places, like Atlanta's first Roseate Spoonbill or the American White Pelican that appeared briefly at ELHLAF. Hurricanes often drive pelagic birds to shore, but bad weather does not seem to account for the four widely scattered sightings of the Magnificent Frigatebird, as a species that is usually only seen once every five or so years. Why this fall, unlike so many in the past, did we have four sightings of the very rare Mourning Warbler? Then in late fall, early reports of an invasion by a number of species (Red-breasted Nuthatch, Evening Grosbeak) that are erratic visitors to our state promised that winter would not be dull. Yes, this fall was a very exciting one for me. Please try to get your reports for the winter period in as soon as possible so that your best sightings can be presented to Audubon Field Notes. A more complete set of field notes for this fall will appear in The Oriole.

...Jeff Sewell

The deadline for the next reporting period - Winter 1995-96 (December through February) is March 15, 1996.
Send reports to: Jeff Sewell, 4608 Westhampton Drive, Tucker, GA 30084

Abbreviations include: CRNRA - Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, north of Atlanta; ELHLAF - E.L. Huie Land Application Facility in Clayton County; KMT - Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Cobb County; NWR - National Wildlife Refuge; SCSP - Sweetwater Creek State Park; WMA - Wildlife Management Area..

August - November 1995

RED-THROATED LOON - Very rare for the Atlanta area was a bird found at SCSP on 25 Nov. by Pierre Howard.
EARED GREBE - It appears that the Rum Creek/Plant Scherer area is the most reliable place in the state to find this species. One bird was reported on 11 Nov. (Terry Johnson, OAS), six on 18 Nov. (Jeff Sewell, Carol Lambert, AAS) and 11 on 20 Nov. (Pierre Howard).
SHEARWATERS - On a pelagic trip out from Savannah on 20 Aug. 45 Cory's and 20 Audubon's shearwaters were seen by Bill Blakeslee et al. A dead Audubon's Shearwater was found at Jekyll Island on 5 Aug. by George Griffith.
WILSON'S STORM-PETREL - Five birds were seen off St. Simons Island on 2 Aug. by Brad Winn.
AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN - An amazing record was a bird which spent about 30 minutes at the ELHLAF on 23 Aug. It was reported by a co-worker to Carol Lambert who quickly went up and saw and photographed the bird but unfortunately it left before anyone else could get down to the facility. Surprisingly this is the second record for the ELHLAF as another worker produced a photo of a flock he saw on an adjacent lake just a few years ago. More expected was the flock of five seen from the Cumberland Island ferry on 27 Aug. by Brad Parks.
MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD - There were an amazing total of four reports this period. Larry Edmonds reported one from Jekyll Island on 6 Aug. Doris Cohrs saw one in Buttermilk Sound on 19 Aug. Lydia Thompson, Brad Winn and Mike Chapman saw one in McIntosh County on 20 Aug. and the last one was seen at Tybee Island on 7 Oct. by Paul Johnson.
WURDEMANN'S HERON - This hybrid was reported from the Youman's Pond area in Liberty County on 16 Aug. by Giff Beaton et al. As far as I know, this is the first report of this hybrid for the state.
TRICOLORED HERON - Rare for the piedmont were sightings at the ELHLAF on 19-21 Aug. (Jeff Sewell, Ted Sechinger), at the Ocmulgee National Monument near Macon from 5 Aug. (Ty Ivey et al.) through 9 Sept. (Barbara Edwards, Lisa Morely), at the Macon Brickyards on 2 Sept. (Ty Ivey, Dan Guynn, Paul Johnson), in the Peachtree City vicinity on 8 and 12 Sept. (David Cree) and one in Laurens County on 16 Sept. by Tommy Patterson.
REDDISH EGRET - This species continues to increase along the coast, there is even conjecture by some observers that there is a possibility of the bird's nesting in the state before too much longer. One bird was seen in the Buttermilk Sound area on 19 Aug. (Doris Cohrs), four were seen in McIntosh County on 20 Aug. (Lydia Thompson, Brad Winn, Mike Chapman), four were seen at St. Catherines Island also on 20 Aug. by Hunter Patterson, and one was seen at Sapelo Island on 22 Aug. (Doris Cohrs). In Sept. four were still at St. Catherines on 14 Sept. (Brad Winn) and one at Sea Island on 16 Sept. (Brad Winn). In Oct. single birds were seen by a number of observers from Jekyll Island north to Wassau Island.
BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - Rather rare for the Macon area was a bird at the Macon Brickyards on 2 Sept. (Ty Ivey et al.).
ROSEATE SPOONBILL - One of the rarest sightings for the period was Atlanta's first record of a Roseate Spoonbill when Jim Wilson spotted one at Echo Lake in NE Atlanta on 19 Aug. The bird was seen again the next day but then disappeared. Also way out of range were the two birds seen by Brock Hutchins at the Eufaula NWR on 30 Sept.
FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK - Very unusual was the observation of seven birds at Cumberland Island on 2 Sept. by Craig Faanes. This species is generally seen later in the fall.