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Southern Atlantic Coast Region

RICKY DAVIS

Due to weather, this fall season was a good one for birders! Temperatures were cooler than normal and there was a number of strong cold fronts bringing northwest winds (and migrants) to our Region, especially in late September. Precipitation ranged from less than normal (August, November) to higher than normal (September, October). And in North Carolina, one cannot forget the unwelcome visit by hurricane *Fran*. Apart from hurricane sightings, some of the more interesting birds included North Carolina's first Groove-billed Ani, Georgia's second Townsend's Warbler, and an intriguing report of a White-chinned Petrel off North Carolina.

Abbreviations: C. Hatt. (*Cape Hatteras, NC*); E.L.H. (*E. L. Huie Land Application Facility, Clayton Co., GA*); H.B.S.P. (*Huntington Beach State Park, SC*); K. Mt. (*Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, GA*); N.C.B.R.C. (*North Carolina Bird Records Committee*).

Loons to Wood Stork

Inland Red-throated Loons were noteworthy in Georgia, where one was at L. Juliette, Rum Creek W.M.A., Nov. 4 (TJ) and another was on L. Lanier Nov. 21 (GB, AB). In North Carolina one was on Salem L., *Forsyth*, Nov. 4 & 10 (RS *et al.*). The only report of Pacific Loon came from the most regular location in the Region, Figure Eight I., NC, where one was present Nov. 30 (DC). A Red-necked Grebe at Sullivan's I., SC Nov. 23 (BS, GB, B&BM) was hopefully a sign of things to come for the winter. The Eared Grebe continues to increase in the Region. This fall's best counts included \leq five at L. Juliette, GA Nov. 23 (JS *et al.*), \leq six at L. Lanier, GA Nov. 21 (GB, AB), and \leq nine at the Goldsboro, NC, Wastewater Treatment Plant through the fall (ED).

Pelagic birding off North Carolina was quite productive. Exciting *Pterodroma* reports included a peak count of 247 Black-capped Petrels off Hatteras Aug. 4 (BP *et al.*); another Fea's Petrel off Oregon Inlet Aug. 10 (TM *et al.*); and \geq 8 sightings of Herald Petrel Aug. 3–18 (TM *et al.*, MT *et al.*, BP *et al.*). In the unexpected and amazing department was the report of a **White-chinned Petrel** observed October 12 & 17 ENE of Oregon Inlet (RF). There is one previous report of this species in the Northern Hemisphere: A bird was photographed near Galveston, TX Apr. 26, 1986. The North Carolina bird was photographed (although not well) and the report is under review by the N.C.B.R.C. This occurrence proves that much remains



to be learned about the distribution of our pelagic avifauna, especially during the underbirded middle to late fall period.

SA On the evening of Sept. 5, hurricane *Fran* hit the North Carolina coast in the Cape Fear region near Wilmington. Through the night the storm moved in a NNW track, carrying it through Raleigh, and then in a northerly direction out of the state. By daylight Sept. 6, as the storm was moving into Virginia, it became apparent that many observers in the path of the storm would not be at the local lakes (Abbreviations: Jordan L. = JL, Falls L. = FL, L. Pinehurst = LP, L. Auman = LA) to check for storm-deposited birds. Luckily, many birders came from the west and east of the storm path and made it to the lakes. What they found was truly impressive. Whereas hurricane *Bertha* in July did not bring any pelagics inland, this storm exceeded expectations (as it did in many ways!). The diversity of species and the high number of individuals was astounding, too much to put in detail here. Some of the best birds and highest totals included: Black-capped Petrel (one at JL); Sooty Shearwater (one at FL); Audubon's Shearwater (one at JL); Leach's Storm-Petrel (singles at JL and LP); Wilson's Storm-Petrel (three at JL); storm-petrel sp., probably White-faced (one at JL); Red-necked Phalarope (41 at JL and 35 at FL); Parasitic Jaeger (one at JL); Laughing Gull (232 at JL, 125 at FL); Royal Tern (120 at JL); Sandwich Tern (15 at JL); Com. Tern (150 at JL); Forster's Tern (75 at JL); Least Tern (10 at LA); Bridled Tern (4 at JL); Sooty Tern (3 at FL); and Black Skimmer (six at JL). At Jordan L., many shorebirds were carried by *Fran*; highlights included six Marbled Godwits, six Willets, and 15 Black-bellied Plovers. Also, the resulting flooding of areas downstream a week later provided habitat (flooded fields) for migrating shorebirds. Some of the more interesting reports were 15–17 Am. Golden-Plovers Sept. 12–15 and one–two Hudsonian Godwits Sept. 13–15 at Goldsboro, NC. The study of storm-transport of birds is fascinating and much remains to be learned. Let's hope that future storms will be less damaging, but still provide more insight into this phenomenon.

Manx Shearwaters are usually winter visitors and spring migrants off our coast, but this fall there was an impressive number of reports. Two were off Hatteras Aug. 10 & 11 (BP *et al.*); one was off Oregon Inlet Aug. 12 (TM *et al.*); and three were off Hatteras Sept. 29 (BP *et al.*). The always exciting White-faced Storm-Petrel was found off Oregon Inlet Aug. 5 (SB, TM *et al.*). The report of 91 Band-rumped Storm-Petrels off Oregon Inlet Aug. 10 (TM *et al.*) almost certainly involved some duplication, but still provided probably a record one-day count for this much-sought-after species.

In North Carolina, White-tailed Tropicbirds were reported on 4 different occasions, with the best total being three off Hatteras Aug. 24 (BP *et al.*). In South Carolina, where they are encountered much less frequently, one was found out of Murrell's Inlet Oct. 12 (JP). The only report of Masked Booby was of an immature seen from shore near Avon, NC Aug. 1 (BT). American White Pelicans were found at several coastal sites in all 3 states, with the best count once again coming from the St. Mary's, GA, area with ≤ 60 in November (SW, *vide JS*). Much rarer inland, one was at Ben Hall L., *Laurens*, GA Sept. 23–Oct. 4 (TP). The Anhinga also provided several noteworthy inland reports with an excellent total of 27 at the Macon, GA, brickyards Aug. 4 (JA, TI); and, very rare in the Atlanta area, one was found at Lawrenceville Oct. 23 (KT, *vide JS*). This season's only Magnificent Frigatebird report was of one seen flying S over the dunes at Duck, *Dare*, NC Sept. 6 (CS), no doubt due to hurricane *Fran*'s passage.

Most long-legged waders were found inland throughout the Region in average numbers. Reddish Egret reports were down somewhat compared to past seasons, but still were in all 3 states. Roseate Spoonbills were in excellent numbers in the usual Brunswick, GA, area, with the best count being 30 Sept. 21 (PH). Much rarer was the single spoonbill found inland in *Putnam*, GA Sept. 9 (BD). Wood Storks also provided some excitement with high counts including 96 at the Macon, GA, brickyards Aug. 4 (JA, TI), 105 at Sunset Beach, NC, in August (DH, MM), and an impressive 254 in *Beaufort*, SC Sept. 21 (LG, BF, LC). The farthest inland was one at Commerce, *Jackson*, GA Aug. 11 (JP, JC).

Waterfowl to Cranes

An imm. Tundra Swan at L. Juliette, GA Nov. 11 (TJ) was quite rare; the first in middle Georgia since 1972! The Mute Swan at Pea Island N.W.R., NC since the

summer was present throughout the fall and was joined by two more Aug. 3 (NB) Greater White-fronted Goose reports included one early at Pea Island N.W.R., NC Oct. 22 (WI) and two at L. Mattamuskeet, NC Nov. 16 (BH, WF). Snow Geese were found throughout the Region, with reports scattered coastally and inland. In North Carolina, the rare but increasingly expected Ross' Goose was at Pea Island N.W.R., Nov. 13 & 22 (JWa, CG) and ≤ 2 were at L. Mattamuskeet Nov. 10 & 17 (JH, HW).

Two Cinnamon Teals were found: One eclipse male was at the Bodie I., NC, Lighthouse pond Oct. 20+, when it had obtained its full color (KF, m.ob.); and another male was at the Savannah Spoil Site, *Jasper*, SC Oct. 18 (SC). North Carolina had the only reports of Eur. Wigeon with one male at L. Mattamuskeet Nov. 17 (RD *et al.*) and ≤ 4 males at Pea Island N.W.R., Nov. 15 (ST *et al.*). Good Com. Eider reports included one–two at H.B.S.P., SC Nov. 30 (m.ob.) and six flying S past Kill Devil Hills, NC Nov. 16 (HW). Rare inland was the Oldsquaw at Cane Creek Res., *Orange*, NC Nov. 27 & 28 (JPi, CE). Even more unusual were the three Oldsquaw found on L. Lanier, GA Nov. 21 (GB, AB), which are rare anywhere in that state. The only inland scoter was the White-winged at L. Juliette, GA Nov. 9 (TJ, v.o.).

Single Swallow-tailed Kites were rare and unusual at Ft. Jackson, *Richland*, SC Aug. 29 (*vide RC*); Augusta, GA Sept. 9 & 14 (CZ, AW *et al.*); and Piedmont N.W.R., GA Oct. 2 (*vide JS*)—a rather late date. Counts of migrating hawks seemed to be down this year. As a rule, Cooper's Hawks continued to increase, while Sharpshinned continued to decrease. The peak Broad-winged Hawk counts included 1459 at Kerr Scott Res., NC Sept. 29 (*vide AM*) and 1082 at Pilot Mt. State Park, NC Sept. 21 (TG). Two Golden Eagles at Carolina Sandhills N.W.R., SC Nov. 4 (PR) were very rare for the upper coastal plain of that state. Merlins and Peregrine Falcons were widely reported this fall, with several inland sightings for all 3 states. One hopes this trend continues.

Common Moorhens provided 2 rare nesting records in August in the Macon, GA, area, where young were seen at the brickyards and at L. Wildwood (PJ, TI). American Coots seemed to be everywhere, with reported numbers being up across the Region. Sandhill Cranes made news outside of their normal Georgia migration path. In South Carolina one was over the Savannah Spoil Site Nov. 15 (SC). In North Carolina one was at the Cherry

Point Air Station, *Craven*, Nov. 3 (JFe, *vide* JF) and two were present along the Yadkin R., *Forsyth*, July 30–Aug. 18 (RV, *vide* RS), an unusual date and a first county record.

Shorebirds to Alcids

Inland Black-bellied Plovers were found in average numbers in the Region. American Golden-Plovers were found more than usual, with some of the best reports being seven at the E. Georgia Turf Farm, *Bulloch*, GA Sept. 4–5 & 11 (RCh *et al.*) and 13–14 at the Orangeburg, SC sod farm Sept. 19–22 (ST, PW, LG, BF, LC). Of interest was the report of two Black-necked Stilts at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC on the absurdly late date of Nov. 9 (SC). This species normally leaves the Region in September! Inland Am. Avocets are always noteworthy. This fall one was found dead at Jordan L., NC Aug. 25 (RD); one was near Townville, SC Aug. 25 (B&BM, SG); and one was at L. Murray, SC Sept. 23 (LG, MTu, DD). Also, a new Regional high count of avocets was the 925 at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Oct. 30 (SC)! Amazing was the 14 Willets found inland at Falls L., NC Aug. 21 (JSt). Normally this species occurs away from the coast as singles or very small groups. The Upland Sandpiper migration was about normal in most areas, but in Georgia it was better than usual. There were at least 4 reports in that state, with three in *Bulloch* Sept. 1–5 (RCh) being the best. In South Carolina, the best total came, as usual, from the Orangeburg sod farm with >20 Aug. 31 (LG, BF, MTu, DD). Hudsonian Godwit numbers were down this fall, with two at Hatteras Inlet, NC Aug. 29 (BL) and two at Bodie I., NC Lighthouse pond Oct. 7 (DE). Inland peeps were about average, being found sparingly throughout the Region. One exception was the Baird's Sandpiper. Reports of this species included one near Townville, SC Aug. 25 (B&BM, SG); one at the Bucksport Sod Farm, *Horry*, SC Sept. 7 (JP); and one at the Orangeburg Sod Farm, SC Sept. 13 (ST). Also of note were one at Beaufort, SC Sept. 19 (ST) and an amazing count of five near Brunswick, GA Oct. 2 (GB, JFl, KD)—probably a record state and Regional one-day total! Another species having one of its best fall seasons was Buff-breasted Sandpiper. There was one report for North Carolina, seven from South Carolina, and seven from Georgia. Highlights included a peak of eight at the Orangeburg, SC Sod Farm Sept. 7 (LG), and an impressive peak of 20 at the Macon, GA Super Sod Farm Sept. 7 (GG, *vide* JS), for what may be a record one-day total! This season's

Ruffs were found at Bodie I., NC Lighthouse pond Aug. 23 (RM, LT, LC, BF) and at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Nov. 9 (SC). Some interesting Wilson's Phalarope reports included four at Brunswick, GA Sept. 21 (PH); 12 in Latta, *Dillon*, SC Sept. 6 (LG), no doubt due to hurricane *Fran*; and an amazing total of 21 at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Aug. 21 (SC).

Long-tailed Jaegers were present off North Carolina in good numbers. Five Aug. 24 & 25 and six Sept. 29 were off Hatteras (BP *et al.*). Also, one was rare from the point at C. Hatt., Sept. 28 (BP, TH, JH *et al.*). The only skua was one not identified to species off of Hatteras Aug. 24 (BP *et al.*). Rare inland gulls included a Laughing at E.L.H., GA Aug. 8 (CL) and a well-described ad. Franklin's at L. Auman, *Moore*, NC Nov. 1 (D&LDo), providing about the 7th or 8th record for that state. The C. Hatt., NC area once again hosted a California Gull Nov. 27 (J&PW). Lesser Black-backed Gulls continue to increase in the Region. This fall saw good numbers arriving in the usual areas of North Carolina, and Georgia even had good numbers with \leq four birds in the Jekyll I./St. Simon's I. area (m.ob.) and one–two at Tybee I. (SC). The always exciting Sabine's Gull was reported once—two were off Hatteras Sept. 29 (BP *et al.*).

Rare and unexplainable inland occurrences of Royal Tern involved singles at L. Gaston, NC Aug. 4 (RD) and L. Auman, *Moore*, NC Sept. 29 (D&DDo). Other good inland tern reports included >75 Commons and >20 Forster's at L. Auman, NC Sept. 29 (D&DDo) and 45 Blacks at the Goldsboro, NC, Wastewater Treatment Plant Sept. 4 (ED). Three Roseate Terns at C. Hatt., NC point Aug. 2 (BP) provided the only report. Excellent offshore tern counts included 355 Commons Sept. 29, 28 Bridleds Aug. 25, 13 Sooties Aug. 10, and 139 Blacks Aug. 25—all off Hatteras, NC (BP *et al.*). The only alcids seen were two Razorbills at Figure Eight I., NC Nov. 30 (DC).

Doves to Vireos

The spread of Eur. Collared-Doves continues, with new locations in South Carolina and Georgia. The farthest inland reports involved four all fall in W. Columbia, SC (RC) and one in *Clayton*, GA Aug. 13 (CL). White-winged Dove is becoming regular in fall in the Region. Singles were at Litchfield Beach, SC Nov. 3 (B&BM) and Pea Island N.W.R., NC Nov. 3 (JWr *et al.*). One of the best birds this season was the **Groove-billed Ani** observed one day only at Atlantic Beach, NC Oct. 14 (GH) The bird's characteristic bill, shape,

calls, and behavior were noted during the short period of observation. This provided the first record for North Carolina (p.a. by the N.C.B.R.C.). Enders continued his netting of N. Saw-whet Owls this fall near Halifax, NC. This year he banded five different birds during November, nothing compared to last year's record migration, but still impressive when compared to other years. Always a good find, two Whip-poor-wills were at Jekyll I., GA Nov. 30 (GB, BHa, BDr). Common Nighthawks staged a good migration in several areas, with the best total being 355 at Stone Mt., GA Sept. 4 (PB). Another good migratory movement involved the >1000 Chimney Swifts seen near Halifax, NC Sept. 24 (FE).

Hummingbirds continued to appear across the Region, with many reports of *Archilochus* (>10) and *Selasphorus* (>12) hummers. At least one was an ad. ♂ Rufous at Woodstock, GA Nov. 21 (GB, AB). It sure would be nice if more ad. ♂ hummers came into the Region!

Georgia had the only Olive-sided Flycatcher reports, with singles at Fernbank Forest Aug. 24 & 31 (GS), Peachtree City Sept. 2 (DCr), and Marietta Sept. 9 (GB). Among the *Empidonax* flycatchers, Georgia once again struck it rich. Yellow-bellieds included \leq three at Ocmulgee N.M., Macon, Sept. 13–14 (JA, TI *et al.*), one at Fernbank Forest Aug. 21 & 23 (GS, MO), and two each banded at Jekyll I. and Butler I. (D&DCo). Also "Traill's" Flycatchers were banded, with two at Jekyll I. and five at Butler I. (D&DCo). Willow Flycatchers were identified at K. Mt., GA Oct. 1 (GB, BDr) and at Patriot's Pt., *Charleston*, SC Oct. 5 (LG, MTu). Least Flycatchers were identified in all 3 states, with the best counts being two each at the Macon, GA brickyards Sept. 2 (TI *et al.*) and at Pea Island N.W.R., NC Sept. 14 (JL). Western Kingbirds were harder to come by, with the only reports being singles at Cumberland I., GA Oct. 18 (KA, JHa, BZ), Pea Island N.W.R., NC Oct. 26 (RP), and Willowbrook Plantation, SC Nov. 30 (HH *et al.*). As always, any Gray Kingbird n. of the Brunswick, GA, area is noteworthy. This year one was at Buckhall Landing, *Charleston*, SC Aug. 22 (B&BM) Scissor-tailed Flycatcher is becoming regular in the Region with reports every year now. One was in *Georgetown*, SC Sept. 26 to at least Oct. 5 (WA *et al.*, LG *et al.*).

Some interesting swallow reports included an impressive total of 20,150 Trees at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC Oct. 11 (SC); a late N. Rough-winged at Goldsboro, NC Nov. 16 (ED); and an amazing 210 Banks at the *Peach*, GA, sod

farm Sept. 1 (PJ). A good count of six Com. Ravens was had e. of their usual range during the fall at the Kerr Scott Res., NC hawk watch (AM).

The thrush migration got mixed reviews once again. Numbers seemed to be down in most areas, but some exceptions were noted. Peak pre-dawn counts at K. Mt., GA, included 10 Veeries Oct. 11 (GB, BDr, KT), two Gray-cheekeds Sept. 14 & 25 and Oct. 1 (GB, BDr, BHa, KT), 60 Swainson's Sept. 25 (GB, BHa, AB), and 26 Woods Sept. 14 (GB, Bdr, PH). Other interesting reports included >20 Veeries at Beaufort, SC Sept. 20–22 (PW); two very late Gray-cheekeds at Pea Island N.W.R., NC Nov. 3 (JWr); and a very late Swainson's at Wilmington, NC Nov. 12 (GW). Also, the hard-to-identify Bicknell's Thrush was reported once, with one at Beaufort, SC Sept. 20–22 (PW). Warbling Vireo reports totaled 4, a surprising number for this very rare migrant. Single birds were at H.B.S.P., SC Sept. 18 (JP), Jordan L., NC Sept. 21 (JPi), Salvo, NC Sept. 25 (H&ELi), and L. Phelps, NC Oct. 5 (RD). The more common Philadelphia Vireo was found in good numbers, with the best counts being four–six at Roanoke I., NC, late September and early October (JL, JF, RD, BH); four at K. Mt., GA Sept. 24 (BHa); and four at the Chattahoochee R. National Recreation Area, GA Sept. 24 (BDr).

Warblers to Finches

The warbler migration was considered by many to be one of the best in years. A good number of cold fronts came through from mid-September–October and the resulting NW winds really brought in the migrants. Several areas had excellent coverage and therefore good counts of several species. The K. Mt. area produced good numbers, including six Golden-wingeds Sept. 18 (PH), 35 Tennesseees Oct. 12 (GB), 17 Chestnut-sideds (GB *et al.*), 23 Black-throated Greens Oct. 11 (GB, BDr, KT), and seven Cerulean warblers Aug. 6 (GB, LG, KD, BZ). Another area with good numbers was Roanoke I., NC, with highlights being 12 sightings of Nashvilles from Sept. 2–Oct. 11 (JL), 10 Chestnut-sideds from Aug. 29–Oct. 5 (JL); nine Blackburnians from Sept. 18–Oct. 10 (JL); and five Wilson's from Sept. 16–Sept. 23 (JL). The rarer of the two Blue-winged x Golden-winged hybrids, the Lawrence's, was found twice! One was at K. Mt., GA Sept. 13 (PRy) and the other was on Roanoke I., NC Sept. 18 (JL, DP). Other warbler highlights included one of the best Nashville Warbler migrations in years, with birds found

across the Region in sometimes multiple counts (m.ob.); 75–100 N. Parulas at New Bern, NC Oct. 9 (BH); late Chestnut-sided, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, and Am. Redstart at Simpsonville, SC Nov. 2 (PW); a late Black-throated Blue at K. Mt., GA Nov. 4 (GB, AB, KD); an "Audubon's" Yellow-rumped at Harris Neck N.W.R., GA Nov. 24 (CEb); a late Black-throated Green at West Point L., GA Nov. 3 (BPs); a rare and late Prothonotary banded at Jekyll I., GA Oct. 3 (D&DCo); a late Hooded on Bogue Banks, NC Nov. 2 (BH); and many Wilson's across the Region (m.ob.). The best Parulid of the season had to be the **Townsend's Warbler** on Jekyll I., GA Oct. 18–20 (SWr, DM, m.ob.). The bird was seen by many, photographed, and represented only the 2nd record for the state (the first one was in 1992, also on Jekyll I.)! The very rare Mourning Warbler was found twice; one was in s.e. Pitt, NC Aug. 17 (JL) and one was in Bucksport, Horry, SC Sept. 14 (JP, CEa).

Late grosbeaks included a Rose-breasted at Ft. Macon, NC Nov. 3 (ED) and a Blue at Savannah N.W.R., SC Nov. 3 (RCh). Also in the late department was an Indigo Bunting at Winston-Salem, NC Nov. 4 (RS, RB). Dickcissel reports included two at Litchfield Beach, SC Sept. 14 (RC, CEa), one at Pea Island N.W.R., NC Sept. 15 (R&PT, RD) and Oct. 20 (RD), and one banded at Jekyll I., GA Oct. 5 (D&DCo). Clay-colored Sparrows staged one of their best migrations ever in the Region. In Georgia one was banded at Jekyll I. (D&DCo), another was seen there Oct. 20 (CH), and one was at Cumberland I., Oct. 2 (SW). One was found at H.B.S.P., SC Sept. 14 (ST). On the North Carolina Outer Banks, there was a rash of reports. Clay-colored were seen at several sites from Sept. 19 (JF) to Nov. 4 (MM). The best counts included three at Pea Island N.W.R., Oct. 6 (ED) and an amazing six at Pea I., Oct. 20 (RD *et al.*) for a record one-day total. Lark Sparrows also were in good supply in North Carolina, with one–two birds present at Pea I. on several dates (JL, JF, BP, H&ELi), \leq two at Rodanthe in mid-September (JF, RD), one at Frisco Sept. 16 (PM), one in the Morehead-Beaufort area Sept. 15 (BH, WF), and one in Richlands Oct. 21 (NM). In South Carolina one was at Folly Beach Oct. 5 (LG, MTu). Interesting Henslow's Sparrow reports all came from South Carolina and included one at Carolina Sandhills N.W.R., Nov. 16 (PR); one at the Savannah Spoil Site Nov. 3 (RCh *et al.*); one at Santee N.W.R., Oct. 26 (B&BM), and one at Ridgeville, *Dorch-*

ester, Oct. 28 (SCn), which was running around on pavement at the observer's feet! The only Le Conte's Sparrow reported was at Santee N.W.R., SC Nov. 4 (JP *et al.*) Lincoln's Sparrow reports were down, but the K. Mt., GA, area had a mild invasion! One was there Oct. 11 (GB, BDr, KT), an impressive three were found Oct. 27 (GB, JFl), and one was seen Nov. 4 (GB, AB, KD). The only Lapland Longspur reported was one at Jordan L., NC Nov. 10 (RD). Snow Buntings made news, with the best reports being a flock of 30 on Bodie I., NC Nov. 29 (KF), <12 at H.B.S.P., SC mid-November+ (m.ob.), and three at Ft. Pulaski, GA Nov. 28+ (SR, v.o.). Yellow-headed Blackbird reports included one at L. Hartwell, SC Sept. 8–14 (SWr, SG, CB, PW, B&BM), and one at E.L.H., GA Oct. 27–28 (JS, CL, BB, GB *et al.*). There was only one report of Shiny Cowbird—at H.B.S.P., SC Nov. 23 (B&BM). Thankfully, the prediction of rapid colonization into the s.e. states has not yet materialized! There were reports of small numbers of Purple Finches entering the Region this fall, but still not in the numbers that would occur 10 years ago. And, finally, one Pine Siskin in Lilburn, GA Nov. 7 (MD) and one flock of 15 Evening Grosbeaks in *Chester*, SC Nov. 9 (AC, GI) didn't exactly portend of a winter finch invasion this winter!

Corrigenda

The two Black-legged Kittiwakes reported from Walter F. George L. Dam, GA Dec 1, 1995 (*AFN* 50:160), provided the 2nd (not first) inland Georgia record, as one was reported from Columbus, GA May 1993. The three Red-necked Grebes reported from L. Lanier and Buford L. Dam, GA (*AFN* 50:158), involved the same birds. The two sites are the same, just different names. The L. Lanier birds were present at the dam area from Jan. 28 (JS, CL, GB) until Mar. 16 (PH).

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Florida Region

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After experiencing two years of above-average tropical storm activity, the 1996 season produced only one tropical system that effected the Region. Tropical storm *Josephine* crossed the upper Peninsula October 7–8. Although this was a relatively minor storm, it did produce a number of storm-driven waifs in the Gainesville area. Other than this, the Region's weather was uneventful. Many fronts that passed over were dry and did not produce notable fallouts of migrants. A weather-related fallout was noted in Jacksonville September 14 after the passage of a cold front. Several days of rain produced another notable fallout in northeastern Florida October 5–6. During this period twelve species of warblers were reported in a Jacksonville yard and twenty species were recorded at nearby Fort George Island. This system reached south Florida October 10–11, when significant fallouts were noted at Bahia Honda State Park and at Key West. The only other notable fallout was at Dog Island November 3, where high numbers of arriving winter residents were noted.

There were few notable trends evident during this season. There seemed to be fewer of the uncommon sparrows—such as Clay-colored and Lincolns—reported than in recent seasons. Blue-winged and Golden-winged warblers were well reported, including an astonishing one-day count of 18 Blue-wingeds in *Alachua* September 21. The previous high count for the Region had been just seven. There was no sign of an invasion by winter finches, and even American Goldfinches were virtually unreported. There were a number of notable rarities. Two species of alcsids, Razor-bill and Dovekie, were recorded. The latter is probably only the second ever reported from the Gulf

Coast. The presence of Horned Lark, Lap-land Longspur, and Snow Bunting provided almost a complete sweep of the Atlantic dune-front vagrants. Only Savannah (Ipswich) Sparrow was missing. Other notable rarities included the Region's ninth Say's Phoebe and fourth Varied Thrush.

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Abbreviations: C.P. (*County Park*); D.I. (*Dog I., Franklin Co.*); F.D.C.P. (*Ft. DeSoto C.P., Pinellas Co.*); M.I.N.W.R. (*Merritt Island N.W.R.*); P.P.M. (*Polk County Phosphate Mines*); S.C.C.P. (*Saddle Creek C.P., Polk Co.*); S.L.C.P. (*Sawgrass Lake C.P., Pinellas Co.*); S.M.N.W.R. (*St. Marks N.W.R., Wakulla Co.*); S.R.A. (*State Recreational Area*); W.S.S.P. (*Wekiva Springs S.P., Orange Co.*).

Loons to Waterfowl

Only two Red-throated Loons were reported. One at Huguenot City Park, Jacksonville, Nov. 23 (PP) was in an expected location, but one at Bivans Arm, *Alachua*, Nov. 28+ (JH) was a very rare inland occurrence. A Com. Loon at D.I., Aug. 25 (DE, LM) and another at St. Marks Light, *Wakulla*, Sept. 22 (HH) both had probably summered. The 40 Pied-billed Grebes at S.M.N.W.R., Sept. 13 (DE, LM) probably represented the arrival of wintering migrants. The only

