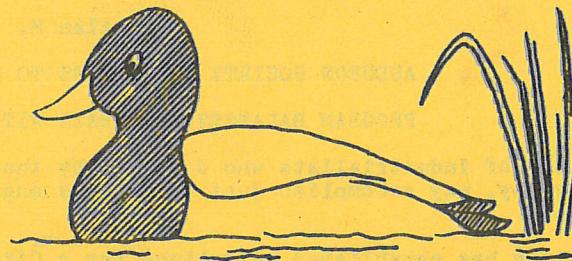


the lesser

# Squawk



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Your National Audubon Society, Chapter, September 1974, Volume XXV No. 9

#### SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

No monthly meeting in September

No bird study group in September

Field Trip, Saturday, September 14

The September field trip will be a botanical and ornithological tour in the Cainhoy Huger area of the Francis Marion National Forest. Those wishing to take part should meet at the Charleston Museum at 7:30 A.M. Saturday, September 14.

#### SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL WORKSHOP

The National Audubon Society's Southeastern Regional Workshop is scheduled for November 1, 2, and 3, 1974 in Atlanta, Georgia. It will provide an opportunity for chapter leaders and members at large throughout the Southeast to meet with each other as well as many members of the National Audubon Society staff. Several workshops and panel discussions are scheduled on chapter interests, activities, and projects, and representatives of all chapters are expected to attend. For further information, contact your chapter president.

#### Audubon Wildlife Theatre

I hope you have been watching this show on Channel 7. It is broadcast at 7:30 P.M. Monday through Thursday. These wildlife films are well done and delightful viewing.

#### President's Message

Let me take this opportunity to issue a call for help during the upcoming year. There are so many local environmental issues to deal with that our conservation committee is becoming overloaded and consequently our effort will be much diluted. Please volunteer to serve on this committee if you have any spare time at all. We would like to break it up into several sub-committees to deal with each issue individually, instead of trying to tackle all the issues in one committee.

I would also like to thank Jack Pratt, Jr. for his considerable effort in arranging the Audubon Wildlife Film series for the upcoming year. It looks like a tremendous series of films and I hope as many members as possible can take advantage

THE LESSER SQUAWK  
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of this program. If it is a big success, we hope to move to a larger auditorium next year in order to accomodate more people.

Alan M. Bills

AUDUBON SOCIETY 'CITATIONS TO INDUSTRY'

PROGRAM BALANCES BRICKBATS WITH BOUQUETS

Encouragement of industrialists who do right by the environment, says the National Audubon Society, may accomplish just as much as angry protests against those who don't.

So the Society has established guidelines for a Citations to Industry program through which local Audubon chapters can give industry a public pat on the back for outstanding environmental actions and accomplishments. Nine chapters, so far this year, have voted such citations; the recipients include a steel plant that installed an advanced type of water pollution control equipment, a paper company that has organized a major recycling program, and a radio station that has consistently backed conservation causes in its broadcasts.

The guidelines of the new program ask Audubon chapters to give citations only for specific acts and accomplishments by "identifiable segments of industry" in the chapter's own community. It is stressed that such a citation is not necessarily an endorsement of the entire plant or operation, much less of an entire corporation or industry. And the chapters are warned against public relations "snow jobs" when the corporation is only carrying out environmental protection measures required under law.

Audubon President Elvis J. Stahr said it was hoped that the program might, for example, give help and encouragment to an industrial administrator who "sticks his neck out and insists on spending corporate dollars to do more than a minimal job of pollution abatement (or reclamation, or natural area protection, or what have you) and who would feel severely let down if his company got little or no public credit, even from the segments of the public who claim to be most interested in the environment." The chapters are urged to publicize their citations as widely as possible.

Stahr added that the program for giving industry credit where credit is due doesn't mean the Society will be any less ready to assign blame when industry is at fault.

Honored for installation of a biological water-treatment plant of a new design at a coke plant in West Virginia was the Weirton Division of National Steel: the citation was by the George M. Sutton Audubon Society of Bethany, W. Va. The Jersey Shore Audubon Society plans to present a citation to radio station WJLK in Asbury Park, N.J., and on Long Island, N.Y., the Moraine Audubon Society cited the Jet Paper Stock Corp., of Central Islip, which has recycled thousands of tons of corrugated boxes, newspaper, computer paper and other paper products in a program which, among other things, has shown good environmental citizenship can also develop into a profitable business.

The Lahontan Audubon Society, Reno, Nev., made an award to William Lear, inventor and industrialist, for efforts in the area of pollution abatement. The Milwaukee Audubon Society honored the Federal Malleable Company for "voluntary environmental improvement" in the area of air quality, and two chapters honored companies for setting aside natural areas for nature study and nature education by the chapter or the community: Yakima Valley (Wash.) Audubon Society to the Boise Cascade Corporation and the Fargo-Moorhead Audubon Society to the American Crystal Sugar

Outlook Good For Kirtland's. There are now 432 Kirtland's warblers nesting in Michigan's lower peninsula, their only remaining nesting site, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is optimistic about the survival of this endangered bird in the third year of a cooperative effort with Nat'l Audubon and the State of Michigan to keep the warblers' nests safe from cowbird predation. Before the cowbird trapping and removal program was initiated, population of the species had dropped to an all-time low of 400 in 1971, after a 60% drop in numbers in the '60's.

Vermont Bottle Bill A Year Old. A bottle bill that requires a nickel deposit on beer and soft drink bottles and cans has survived a year's attempts by the canning and bottling industry to have it repealed or declared unconstitutional. The law does not require refillable containers, though Gov. Thomas P. Salmon has been pushing for a modified version of the Oregon bottle bill. Reports are the public enthusiastically favors retaining the law and Vermont highways and farms are markedly litter-free.

"Audubon Leader" - August 16, 1974

Audubon On the Air! The Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania recently aired a half-hour commercial television program over Pittsburgh's KDKA-TV. The interview-format program, which featured chapter members talking about local and National Audubon activities, together with some of the Society's TV spots and local slides, was very well received, reports chapter president David B. Freeland.

Space Photos Aid Wetlands. In a recent court case, Florida officials used Skylab satellite photos to help prove the exact extent of an area that qualified for state protection as an "environmentally critical area." The infra-red photos identified vegetation and hydrological features of 900 square-mile Green Swamp in Central Florida. As a result, developers needed official urging to shape their developments to the land instead of vice versa.

New Status for Dory's Bog. We are proud to report that Nat'l Audubon's Dory's Bog Preserve in Washburn, County, Wisconsin, has been designated an official "Scientific Area" by the State of Wisconsin Scientific Areas Preservation Council. A boardwalk is being constructed to permit educational and scientific use of the bog without injury to its "sensitive vegetation." Dory's Bog is sometimes the destination of field trips from the nearby Audubon Workshop at Hunt Hill.

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Company, in Moorhead, Minn.

An award by the Knob and Valley Audubon Society, Lanesville, Ind., went to the Floyd County School District in recognition of its outstanding environmental education program, and in Minnesota, the Austin Audubon Society cited the Austin City Council, the Cedar Valley Rehabilitation Workshop and two private garbage collecting concerns for the establishment of a recycling project "possible only because of the co-operation of all four groups."

#### Bird Movements in September

##### Arrivals

Date	Species	Date	Species	Date	Species
2	Blackpoll Warbler	12	Short-billed Marsh Wren	21	Song Sparrow
3	Eastern Phoebe	13	Hermit Thrush	22	Vesper Sparrow
	Magnolia Warbler		American Wigeon		Bewick's Wren
4	Shoveler	15	House Wren		Winter Wren
	Cape May Warbler		Catbird		Ruby-crowned Kinglet
5	Red Head	17	Red-breasted Nuthatch	25	Northern Phalarope
7	Marbled Godwit		Gray-cheeked Thrush	26	Black and white
	Wilson's Phalarope	18	Mallard		Warbler
	Tennessee Warbler		American Goldfinch	28	Red-eyed Towhee
8	Baltimore Oriole	19	Sharp-tailed Sparrow		Swamp Sparrow
9	Gadwall		Golden Plover	29	Myrtle Warbler
10.	Swainson's Thrush	20	Orange-crowned Warbler	30	Lark Bunting
	Water Pipit		Grasshopper Sparrow		Alder Flycatcher

##### Departures

4	Greater Shearwater	24	Yellow throated Vireo	28	Swainson's Warbler
8	Gray Kingbird		Phrothonotary Warbler		Chuck-will's-widow
14	Orchard Oriole	25	Sooty Tern	29	Bank Swallow
19	Noddy Tern	26	Blue-winged Warbler	30	Traill's Flycatcher
20	Bridler Tern				

If you see any of the birds listed under Arrival before the date indicated or those listed under Departure after the date indicated please be sure to report them to the Editor.

#### THE SKY-WATCHERS' GUIDE

Although the Sky-watchers' Guide was written for use during August, the persistent rains and cloud cover would have prevented its being of help to anyone most of the time. Perhaps some were vacationing in an area of the country where clear skies prevailed, and if so, you may have been fortunate enough to watch the Perseid meteor shower, which was discussed in the aforementioned article.

In September, the earth, once more, has a special role to play. On the 23rd, it will reach the Aurumal Equinox at 4:59 A.M. This is the halfway point between its summer and winter positions in relation to the sun. The sun will rise exactly in the east, and set exactly in the west, and daylight and darkness will be evenly divided over the whole earth.

The evening skies, this month, present much of interest for the observer. Mercury is once more an "Evening Star", low on the western horizon after sunset. By the 30th, it will remain in view for about an hour after the sun.

Over the opposite horizon, Jupiter will appear, right after sunset, and throughout the month it will be visible all night long.

About 8:00 o'clock on the 15th, the Summer Triangle will be high overhead. Bootes, containing orange-red Arcturus, will be approaching its setting just north of west, accompanied by Corona.

The Big Dipper has all but disappeared in the northwest, but Cassiopeia, (the crooked "M" or "W"), is climbing into excellent view in the northeast. For Sky-watchers in an area free of "light pollution", the Milky Way band may be seen arching overhead from northeast to southwest. Within this band, Cassiopeia, Cygnus, Lyra, and Aquila are located in that order. High in the east, (not included in the Milky Way), the Great Square of Pegasus has once more returned to view, proclaiming the arrival of autumn.

By the time Jupiter has reached the meridian at midnight, another planet will appear above the northeastern horizon. This is Saturn, recognized by its saffron-yellow color and steady light.

At dawn, as the sky grows brighter, Jupiter will approach its setting; Saturn will reach the meridian; and Venus will appear above the horizon a little north of east. Much of the brilliance will be absorbed in the increasing light of the approaching sun, yet it will continue to be seen after the other two planets have disappeared.

The skies in September, this year, offer special advantages for telescope owners. Except for a few nights after the Full Moon, which occurs on the first, Jupiter's satellites may be observed during the evening hours all month. Also, by focusing the telescope on any area of the Milky Way, the observer will be rewarded by the revelation of myriads of stars unseen by the naked eye. The splendor this revealed will not soon be forgotten! It staggers the imagination to realize that all these stars are in reality suns, - many of them much larger than our sun, - and that they are incorporated in the galaxy to which the Solar System belongs.

Elizabeth D. Simons

#### Traveling With The Griffins

Nature's door continues to swing wider for my husband Jesse and me and our summer thus far has been delightful. There is no end to the marvels and mysteries of the natural world and we grow increasingly attracted to it as we move leisurely along.

After ten weeks in southern Florida we came to Monroe, Ga. in mid-April to visit relatives, make some adjustments to our travel trailer and put in a garden for my mother. We worked hard for a month around her house and yard and finally to take a break, went fishing. It seemed such a pity to ignore the abundant bird life around the lake and I really thought I could handle a fishing pole and field glasses simultaneously. All went well for a while until my pole gave me the signal I had a catch. In letting go the field glasses hanging around my neck and reaching out to bring in the fish I lost my balance, fell and broke my right hand slightly below the wrist. The expression "Too many irons in the fire" was never more applicable.

Six weeks and two casts later, and considerably calmer, we were once again ready for the road to western North Carolina.

An unknown author said "Everyone needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul". We found such a place to set up residence on the side of a mountain overlooking

"Audubon Leader" - July 12, 1974

#### New Bill Would Change Estate Tax To Aid Open Space

Three members of the Maryland Congressional delegation say that present federal estate tax laws on land "actually act as an incentive for development" by valuing land for estate tax purposes according to the price it would bring, say, as a shopping center or industrial site. This bill would allow farmland to be assessed according to its value as farmland, as long as it continues to be used in that manner. The bill would aid in preserving open space and historic sites; would halt disruptive speculation of the type that's caused Maryland to lose 17% of its best farmland since 1964.

Jersey Swamp Preserved. A 3,855-acre salt marsh near Atlantic City, N.J. has been acquired by The Nature Conservancy and will be turned over to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to become part of the existing Barnegat Nat'l Wildlife Refuge. The Little Egg Harbor property, now safe from development, is an important stop-off point along the Atlantic Flyway for many migratory birds and a breeding ground for fin and shell fish.

Illinois Action. The newly-formed Roadsides Committee of the Audubon Council of Illinois is seeking to persuade county officials in the state to leave more roadside brush for wildlife. It is distributing a state conservation leaflet through its 12 chapters and working with the state to establish Roadside Information Centers on major Illinois highways...The Council has also passed a resolution asking the state to bar trucks transporting radioactive wastes from state highways under hazardous weather conditions.

"Egg-Plant" Success. Two of three bald eagle eggs transplanted from Minnesota to Maine in May hatched and the fledglings were accepted into Maine nests that month, reports the Fish and Wildlife Service. Pesticide residues have affected hatching in Maine in recent years, while the donor state's eagle population is comparatively healthy. This is the first such transplant with the bald eagle.

"Audubon Leader" - July 26, 1974

#### An Easy Way To Reach Your Congressman

There are many ways to reach your Congressman to express your opinion on issues of concern to you besides writing a letter (House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515, U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C. 20510). For \$2.00 each, Western Union makes available two different services: 1) the Public Opinion Message, 15 words not including address or signature, sent by Telex, applicable to elected officials only; 2) the Mail-O-Gram, 100 words not including address or signature with a toll free call (800-257-2211), sent to arrive the next day and applicable to anyone in the U.S. Hence it's a speedy vehicle for expressing views to members of the Executive and Judicial branches as well.

And, don't forget the phone; a great many Americans live within local-call distance of the home office of their Congressman.

From Sea To Shining... A recent oil spill off Long Island's (N.Y.) North Shore that temporarily closed 27 miles of beaches is only one of a continuing series of spills that have tainted Long Island Sound...Meanwhile, Federal authorities are attempting to refute claims that ocean-dumped sewage sludge rapidly approaching beaches on Long Island's South Shore presents an imminent health hazard; but they concede that the area's sewage treatment plants will have to find new dumping grounds within two years.

The Osborn Report

6-21	Shrike on Highway 165	1 White Ibis
	1 Wood Ibis at our pond	Red-shouldered Hawk
	3 Bluebirds	Little Blue Heron
	Green Heron	
6-22	6:30 to 8:00 A.M. our woods, pond and fields	
	American Egret	Painted Bunting
	4 Little Blue Herons (2 immature, 1 Calico, 1 Adult)	Cattle Egret
	3 Green Herons	Carolina Wren
	2 Red-shouldered Hawks	Mockingbird
	Flicker	Brown thrasher
	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Pair of Bluebirds
	Red-headed Woodpecker	Immature Bluegray Gnatcatcher
	Downy Woodpecker	Starling
	Crested Flycatcher	White-eyed Vireo
	Wood Pewee	2 Prothonotary Warbler (Pair feeding 2 young)
	Purple Martin	Parula Warbler
	Crow	Yellow-throated Warbler
	Chickadee	Yellowthroat
	Titmouse	Yellow-breasted Chat
	Cardinal	Hooded Warbler
	Blue Grosbeak	Common Grackle
	Summer Tanager	Cowbird
	Pileated Woodpecker	

35 species - 1 Observer - Weather perfect. Maybe the plans for next year could include a field trip here. We'd love to have the Society visit. Also saw an alligator; various turtles, frogs and wildflowers.

7-8 Female Blue Grosbeak carrying insect (shrubbery in front of house)  
Hairy Woodpecker  
Dawn song of the Wood thrush is thrilling!  
7-12 1 Wood Ibis over Rantowles Creek  
Hairy Woodpecker  
7-13 Bobwhite family at neighbor's house  
7-16 8 Bluebirds enjoying a cooling bath in our ground - level basin this scorching evening. Dried and preened themselves on power lines across yard.  
7-18 2 Wood Ibis soaring over back pasture.  
7-19 Brown thrasher setting on nest on limb hardly one foot above Lynn's swing! Undisurbed by our activity beneath, they built the nest and occupied it while we moved around daily.  
7-21 At least 10 bluebirds on powerline over pasture.  
7-22 Shrike at Ravenel  
8-13 2 Shrikes on clothesline. First we've had here in months.  
8-16 Catbird calling from thicket across the road.  
8-18 Shrike in Phillip's yard. 7 Bluebirds on powerline  
  
Due to the rains I have not been able to check on the hatchings in the various nests; but we do have families of Bobwhite, Cardinals, Thrashers, Mockingbirds and White-eyed Vireos. Some of the bluebirds are immature.  
8-19 Shrike in yard at sunrise.

Dot Glover

Lake Junaluska where we spent five weeks. During this time there was hiking, birding, rock collecting and berry picking and jelly making. Also mountain fairs, craft shows and dancing or clogging festivals. This was all accomplished in spite of rain every day which dampened nothing seriously except my plans to study constellations. There was only one clear night.

We received a coveted invitation to go on a field trip at the Audubon residential colony at Cedar Mountain, N. C. six miles south of Brevard. This necessitated a trip across the mountain through Nantahala National Forest and an over night stay near the colony in order to be on hand at nine in the morning.

Mr. William Partington, Director of Environmental and Information Center, Winter Park, Fla. was the naturalist in residence at the colony at this time and leader of the field trip.

We moved off into an area where plant life of almost every species native from Maine to Ga. was to be found. Our path led us along clear streams, beside lakes, through areas where the overhead foliage closed over our heads and we walked in pristine dim green forests far removed from every civilized distraction. We nibbled on several species of mushrooms - one very hot variety - and ate berries we'd picked and washed in the stream.

Mr. Partington pointed out wolf spider, princess pine, rattle snake orchid, fox grape, buffalo or oil nut, pink lady slipper, orange fringe orchid, jack in the pulpit with berries and many other plants. I wished fervently I had taken Richard's botany course at the Citadel. As I jotted down names of the above plants mentioned, our leader suggested I add to my list the exotic ragweed. It took a while for this bit of humor to come through - the word "exotic" threw me.

Best regards to all our friends in Charleston.

Hilda C. Griffin

Birding in Germany

We wish to share with you one part of a very enjoyable five weeks spent in or near Germany. We arranged to visit our daughter, Carol, and son-in-law (Lt. Enrique Janer) who are stationed at Budigen, West Germany. They live in the top floor of a new house in Ekertshausen which is about thirty-five miles north of Frankfurt. Their apartment includes a balcony overlooking neat, well-kept gardens with farmland beyond. It is the last house on the street next to a little park maintained by "friends of the birds." Our entire visit was dedicated to adding the European birds to our life list. Picture-taking was only secondary.

We left Charleston by mid-morning on May 20 and flew by New York to Frankfurt, arriving at 7:30 A.M. the next morning. Carol and Enrique met us at the airport and drove us to their apartment. I am sure that we saw English Sparrows and Starlings along the way, but the first new bird we saw was a pair of Redstarts, perched on an electric wire just outside the window, welcoming us with an enthusiastic song. This accomplished, they proceeded to their nesting area and we saw no more the rest of the trip. We did see the Black Redstart often and called it our castle bird because we learned to look for it near each old castle we visited and were not disappointed. Our first real surprise was to find that the source of a song equal to that of our Mockingbird was coming from a robin-sized black bird with a bright yellow bill that they call simply the Blackbird. It was quite common and sang often.

Using the apartment as home base we ventured out on foot and by car always with

our glasses at the ready. We went as far north as Amsterdam, Holland, and the Hartz Mountains in Germany and as far south as Austria and Switzerland. Holland was the only place that was near the seacoast so we picked up many of the shore birds there. The Great Crested Grebe was nest'ing in the canals near the windmills so we got a close-up look at them. We saw a male swim out, then dive under water and return with a small fish which he fed to a young one perched on his mother's back for a ride. We later found a Great Snipe and a Redshank with young in a polder or open pasture. One of them pecked at the other's young and a fight ensued. A Curlew stayed in the distance but a Skylark tried to attract our attention or someone's by flying straight up from the ground, then returning, singing all the while. Lapwings were seen over a wide area.

In southern Germany at Garmisch, we ventured up Zugspitz, the highest mountain in Germany. We were met by a snow storm in June, but found an Alpine Chough, a Raven and a Hooded Crow in the area. We only passed briefly through Austria and Switzerland, but were able to add a few new birds in each country.

On the entire trip we logged just over a hundred species identified with about ten of them being duplicates of ones we had seen in the U. S. A. My favorites (John) were the Chaffinch and the Yellowhammer because their song was so uninhibited. My favorites (Mary) were many but I especially enjoyed a Garden Warbler that was feeding its young in its nest in a yard light just outside our hotel window or a Dipper that swam well in water, but continually bounced up and down when on land. We will not list all hundred species, but each is marked in our book (Birds of Europe by Bruun and Singer, purchased from the Audubon Bookshelf). We also ordered Peterson's Birds of Europe, but it never came. We just about found everything that we looked for except a Kingfisher, Hoopoe, Yellow Wagtail, Nightingale and Wryneck. We saw no Stork's nests, but one day we saw two White Storks near the road in full view.

The most elusive bird was the Chiff-Chaff which sings in treetops. We heard the bird everywhere, but could not identify it because the song sounded like a monotonous jeep, jeep, jeep to us. One day we identified it from an underside view, then just before we left, it came down beside us in a park and sang in full view. Woodpeckers were scarce, perhaps because of the tidy woods. We missed most owls, but other birds of prey were plentiful, but hard to identify from afar. Pheasants were very abundant but other gamebirds were somewhat confusing.

We stayed in small hotels or in farmhouses (complete with cows), but avoided all large cities, except Amsterdam. The cost varied from \$3.30 to \$9.50 per person with breakfast but no bath. Using a small car to travel and a supply of gas coupons that Carol and Enrique had saved, it was a great way to go. We spoke little German and many of them spoke no English, but it was no problem. Of course we saw flowers, scenery, castles, old towns, etc. but that was just icing on the cake.

On our way home on June 26 we added a Glaucous Gull to our list at the Kennedy Airport in New York.

John and Mary Reed

P.S.

I just can't leave out flowers all together. They may have been secondary to the rest of the party, but not to me. I was hampered in not hav'ng a wild flower book in English, and what few I saw in German were only of ones I already knew.

The wild lupines were spectacular; road sides would be solid masses of deep blue.

The same was true in other areas of the beautiful red wild poppy.

Around Oberammergau and Garmisch the cows eat wild flower hay. I'm sure their milk must taste of wild flowers. We sampled butter and cream in a farm home (Zimmer frei) which was delicious and very yellow, probably all the butter cups or ranunculus they were eating. Carol found a pretty purple orchid of the habanaria type. We also found Queen Ann's lace, a much more delicate variety than ours, delicate blue hairbells, wild geranium, blue forgetmenots, daisies and many I do not know.

The window boxes were spectacular everywhere we went. House plants were beautiful in windows. Much use is made of decorative grasses in flower beds. Fuchsia are spectacular inside and out. We were surprised to see so much rhododendron.

Mary Reed

#### Ironweed

A towering plant of September is an ironweed, Vernonia Neveboracensis, which one may expect to see along roadsides where rich, moist soils abound. The petals, as with other native ironweeds, are a deep purple and are borne atop stems that are usually over head high. The long, narrow leaves, along with the other above characteristics, readily distinguish this plant from all but two very close relatives, V. glauca and V. altissima, both being of only infrequent occurrence here.

The Vernonias are a large group. some six hundred species, of primarily tropical American distribution. A few of the tropical kinds are shrubs or even small trees. The name Vernonia was bestowed on these plants in honor of an English botanist by the name of Vernon.

Edmund R. Cuthbert

#### Observations

Date	Observation	Location	Observer
July 13	40 Black Terns	Kiawah Island	Pete Laurie
17	Monk Parakeet	U.S. Veg. Lab.	John Gervais and Perry Nugent
22	20 Wood Storks	U.S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
23	18 Wood Storks	Murphy's Island	Coots Donaldson and Mary Royall
26	1 Swallow-tailed Kite	Bacon's Bridge, Summerville	Frank Cuthbert
August 7	Immature Bald Eagle	U.S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
21	Black and White Warbler	U.S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
	Blue-winged Warbler	U.S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
23	Black and White Warbler	U.S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent

Report any sighting of interesting or unusual flora or fauna to the editor. Your observation could be more important than you think.