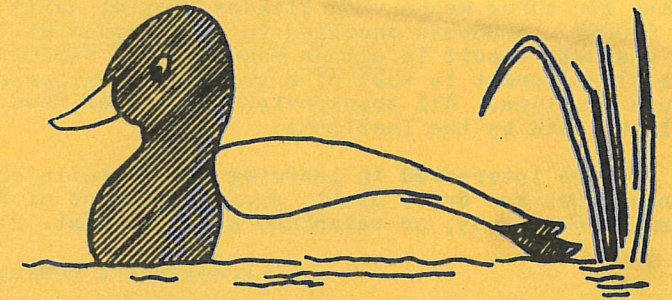


the lesser

Squawk



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Your National Audubon Society Chapter, May 1975, Volume XXVI No. 5

MAY ACTIVITIES

Monthly Meeting - Tuesday, May 13, 1975 at 8PM

Charleston Museum Lecture Hall

PROGRAM

Rhett Talbert, Jr. will show a movie on his work with
the sea turtles on Kiawah.

FIELD TRIP, SUNDAY, MAY 18, 1975

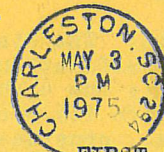
In keeping with a tradition established over the years, this month's field trip will be a visit to Wambaw Creek to see Swallow-tailed and Mississippi Kites. Wambaw Creek is located in the Francis Marion National Forest north of McClellanville, and is the northern-most known nesting area for the Swallow-tailed. Julian Harrison predicts that at least one of these magnificent birds will fly over the bridge on Echaw Road between 12:15 and 12:45 p.m. EDST! In any event, however, the bridge is an excellent vantage point to look down upon Prothonotary, Hooded, and Black-throated Green Warblers, an occasional alligator, Brown Water Snakes, and spider lilies in bloom. At low tide, the antics of fiddler crabs along the shore seem strangely incongruous with those of the more typical inhabitants of the cypress swamp. Several stops at points of interest will be made along the old Georgetown highway en route to Wambaw Creek. These will include St. James Santee Church. Meet Julian Harrison in front of the Charleston Museum at 7:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 18, 1975, for what should be an interesting trip.

Adventure in Learning

A special environmental institute course for teachers will be sponsored by The Citadel during the first session of the 1975 Summer School. This program is partially funded by a grant from the Belle Baruch Foundation and is sponsored by the S. C. Council on Environmental Education. The course is open to indi-

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viduals who are planning to teach, currently teaching or have taught in the recent past. Enrollment at The Citadel is limited to 25 students. The program lasts for three weeks with classes meeting daily (Mon. through Fri.) from 8:30AM to 5:00PM. Students enrolled in the program will receive three semester hours of graduate credit in either Education or Biology (course is cross-referenced). The class format is that of a traveling seminar with daily field work throughout South Carolina. All transportation, out-of-town lodging, and out-of-town meals will be paid by the Institute.

If you are interested in learning more details concerning this program, please contact Dr. Wm. Bruce Ezell, Jr., Department of Biology, The Citadel, Charleston, S. C., 29409, or telephone 577-6900 (Ext. 2181 or 2203).

President's Message

Since this will be my last letter as president, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed to making my job easier during the past two years. I have enjoyed this position very much and I believe we have made some positive advances for the cause of conservation during the past two years. Our membership has increased from around 250 memberships to the current figure of 460 memberships, which surely makes us the largest (?) conservation organization in Charleston. On this same subject, the current Whittell challenge grant competition which National Audubon is sponsoring to try to increase membership, finds our chapter in 3rd place in the S.E. (Georgia, S. C., Fla. and Alabama) with around 30% increase (101), since January of this year. Only the Columbia and Augusta chapters are ahead of us out of some 65 chapters! This is an excellent showing for us considering the fact that we have not had a concentrated campaign to increase our membership. Let's see if we can all find one friend who would like to join Audubon. This would double our membership immediately!

On another subject, I would like to thank Westvaco Corporation for their generous gift of \$100.00 which helped send Anne Pratt to the National Audubon Convention in New Orleans as our official chapter delegate.

Please try to make it to the May meeting (May 13) in order that we may elect a new slate of officers and the Executive Committee with a large vote of confidence.

Alan M. Bills

Why You've been hearing chirping noises

By Clayton Jones

Boston...Welcome back to ...the brown pelican...the Peregrine falcon...the wood thrush...and a flock of other bird species now more numerous in the United States.

Some are bouncing back after a decade of threatened extinction.

Ornithologists are uncertain why American bird populations are booming, but they say the turning point might be the virtual ban on DDT use in the U. S. two years ago.

Large doses of that pesticide in the 1950s and '60s wound up creating egg shells so thin that they broke beneath the weight of a parent bird.

scheduled to begin markup on the bill April 10. Environmental Education Act grants have been of key importance. The Office of Environmental Education received over 1300 proposals for 1975 grants totalling around \$52-million yet will be able to give only about 80 grants totalling \$1.9-million. Audubon chapters and affiliates have been making educational contributions locally and statewide with projects funded by the Act. However, one of the reasons given by the Subcommittee for not including a request for Environmental Education Act funds (none were requested by the Administration) was that they had received no indication of interest from the public.

Schlitz Center in Spotlight. The new Interpretive Education Building at the Schlitz Audubon Center outside of Milwaukee has been selected as one of only two honor award winners this year by the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Windows and skylights in the building were placed to permit maximum sunlight in winter and shade from high trees (untouched by construction) in summer. Heat loss was minimized by burying utility areas into a hillside. This is the first time the AIA offered recognition for energy conservation as an important trend in design.

EPA to Monitor Reserve Mining. Following last month's Court of Appeals order that the Reserve Mining Company find an on-land disposal site for its taconite wastes, the Environmental Protection Agency has created a task force to check the progress of site selection (see Leader, 3/28/75 and Audubon, March 1975).

"From Rails to Trails" is a report prepared by the Citizens Advisory Committee on Environmental Quality to inform the public about the availability of some 200,000 miles of abandoned rail tracks throughout the country that could easily be converted into trails for hiking, biking and skiing -- at minimal expense. Although National Audubon favors revitalization of the railroads, we recognize that some abandonments may be justified and that the unused roadbeds offer good recreational opportunities. \$1.50 per copy, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 20402

Endangered Species Update. The Fish and Wildlife Service is studying 29 species of fish for possible classification as "endangered" or "threatened." Included in this 21-state review is the Alabama cavefish, which has become specialized to the point of losing both its protective coloration and sight; fewer than 100 survive. Butterflies, crustaceans and mollusks are also being reviewed this year. And 50 "recovery teams" for this country's most endangered species will be at work by mid-year.

Officers

President: Alan M. Bills, 116 Presidents Circle, Summerville, S. C., 29483

Vice-President: Richard D. Porcher, Jr., Biology Department, The Citadel, Charleston, S. C., 29409

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Jack Pratt, P.O. Box 251, Sullivan's Island, S. C., 29482

Members at Large: Perry Nugent, Julian R. Harrison, III, W. Bruce Ezell, Hans J. Heller, Mrs. Daniel Huger, Mrs. Berkeley Grimball and Dennis Forsythe

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Items for publication in The Lesser Squawk should be submitted in writing to the Editor by the 20th of the month.

In our testimony, prepared by Sally Robinson of our Washington office, we point out that when the auto industry was working on the catalytic converter, it proved itself capable of increasing fuel efficiency and improving engine performance at the same time it met emission standards. Further, we suggested that the unforeseen problems of the catalytic converter in creating sulfuric acid can be met by increasing low-sulfur gasoline now for two model years of catalyst-equipped cars, and could phase in desulphurization to handle increased numbers of catalyst-equipped cars as they come into use in accordance with the present emission standard timetable."

Concerning conversion to scrubbers, we point out that while problems still exist in installation and operation, many industries have committed themselves to working them out despite the complaints of the American Electric Power System, the nation's largest electric power conglomerate. By late 1974 more than 90 stack-gas scrubbers were "in use, under construction, or planned."

Hearings On Hell's Canyon Recreation Area; Other News The Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs held hearings April 10 on H.R. 30, the bill to establish the Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area. The moratorium set by Congress on utility applications to build two dams to flood the canyon is due to expire September 11 of this year. Passed by the Senate, the bill died in the House last year in the log-jam of last-minute delays on other legislation. The bill prohibits the dams, designates the Hell's Canyon walls as wilderness and includes all provisions sought by environmentalists. It has the backing of governors, congressmen, and all national conservation organizations. The House Interior Committee wants to report the bill out by the end of this month; passage before September is needed...The National Park Service will be holding hearings in early May on the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in Utah for protection of the Escalante Canyon region...the Environmental Protection Agency has proposed national drinking water standards and is holding public hearings this month... In testimony submitted for the record on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's interim regulations for state coastal zone management programs, we urged amendments to "include requirements that all relevant federal agencies provide an opportunity for public participation in the formulation of policy statements, procedures, and other rules or requirements they may see fit to establish as state programs are developed."

Fire Ant Program To Be Terminated By Agriculture? Agriculture Secretary Earl L. Butz has announced that the fire ant control program of aerial spraying of Mirex in the southern states will end June 30. But his announcement is widely viewed as an effort to stir up political opposition against the findings of the Environmental Protection Agency. EPA has been conducting hearings since 1973 to determine whether to further restrict or ban Mirex, a suspected carcinogen which is already known to have adverse environmental effects. Spraying is presently restricted by EPA in aquatic areas. In his announcement, Butz blamed EPA's restrictions on Mirex for the program's failure, and he claimed that fire ants can be "eradicated with only negligible effects on the environment."

In the EPA hearings, at which National Audubon and Orleans Audubon are also a party, USDA is a proponent of continued use of Mirex. It is believed that Butz hopes that in addition to pressuring EPA to ease present restrictions, southern congressmen will push for enactment of legislation to overrule EPA.

Environmental Education Act Lacks '76 Funds The House legislation for 1976 education appropriations contains no funding request for grant aid under the Environmental Education Act. The full House Committee on Appropriations was

Today, after active campaigns to reverse the downward slide of more than 30 bird species affected by DDT, bird watchers in the U.S. now predict a song-filled spring. In fact, they say, noise from the whistles, chirps, coos, shrieks, honks, buzzes, and warbles of abundant flocks of migrating birds could be resounding.

Some birds - such as the California condor and the whooping crane, with only about 50 left of each - remain perilously close to extinction. Environmentalists caution that land-use practices, hunters, and pollutants threaten other populations, too.

Some considered pests

But there is no doubt that certain species, such as the barn swallow, red-wing blackbird, common grackle, and cowbird, are so plentiful that they are considered pests in certain areas.

In February, the U.S. Army unsuccessfully tried to kill an estimated 12 million to 14 million blackbirds roosting on the Kentucky-Tennessee border after the birds caused a health hazard to people and animals, potential aviation hazards, and serious crop damage.

Other factors are contributing to the bird boom. More people are putting out winter bird feeders. Suburban and highway landscaping provides trees, lawns, shrubs, and flowers suitable for nesting sites. Milder winters recently and tougher hunting laws save some birds from slaughter.

A harbinger of the fluctuating flocks was the landing of a rare Siberian gull, called a Ross's gull, on the shores of Massachusetts this March. The nation's bird watchers flocked by the hundreds to catch a glimpse of this bird's unexpected stopover in the U.S.

A yearly bird census conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Chandler S. Robbins, director of nongame bird studies and co-author of "Birds of North America," shows other highlights:

* Cardinals, mockingbirds, titmice, goshawks, herring gulls, Carolina wrens, red-eyed vireos, morning doves, robins, white-tailed kites, and wood thrushes show healthy flocks and signs of expanding territories.

* The cattle egret, an African heron introduced to the U.S. through South America several years ago, has increased an average 12 percent a year since 1966 while the Western house finch is conquering the East at 22 percent a year.

* In June, the Peregrine falcon will be reinstated east of the Rockies where it has been extinct as a breeding bird since the early 1960s when this hunter of other birds nearly succumbed to pesticides.

Ornithologist Dr. Thomas J. Cade of Cornell University recently discovered how to breed Peregrine falcons in captivity. He plans to release more than 20 nestlings to abandoned manmade nests from the Midwest to Massachusetts.

Ungainly favorite

Field investigators see rays of hope for the brown pelican, the ungainly favorite of sandy beaches and mangrove thickets, as it reclaims some of its lost

territory on the nation's Southern shores. DDT once brought a calamitous population crash to the osprey, a shoreline fishhawk, in the Northeast. But the technique of "double-clutching" - transferring eggs from a nest in one state to another - has helped the osprey fledge young birds in its old territories.

Other shore birds are returning, says Dr. William Drury, director of the scientific staff at Massachusetts Audubon Society. The snowy egret, the black-crowned night heron, the glossy ibis, the common eider, and the great black-backed gull have boosted their populations by up to 20 percent, he says.

The endangered Hawaiian goose, once down to a few dozen, has risen to a colony of close to a thousand.

The level of DDT in migratory songbirds dropped almost 90 percent in five years, from 1969 to 1973, as DDT use was being cut down, according to Dr. David W. Johnston of the University of Florida.

From THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR - 3/26/75

Bird Movements in May		
Date	Species	Date
2	White-rumped Sandpiper	5
4	Black Tern	Baird's Sandpiper
5	Wilson's Petrel	Wilson's Phalarope
		Noddy Tern
		12
		Magnificent
		Frigatebird
		17
		Northern Phalarope
		19
		Audubon's Shearwater

Departures		
Date	Species	Date
1	Canada Goose	11
	Black Duck	Vesper Sparrow
	Green-winged Teal	Hooded Merganser
	Ruddy Duck	Stilt Sandpiper
2	Slate-colored Junco	Wilson's Phalarope
3	Hermit thrush	Evening Grosbeak
	Song Sparrow	12
4	Kirtland's Warbler	Great Black-backed Gull
5	House Wren	13
	Worm-eating Warbler	Common Loon
	White-crowned Sparrow	14
6	Robin	Roseate Tern
7	Ring-necked Duck	Myrtle Warbler
	White-tailed Kite	15
8	Grasshopper Sparrow	White-winged Scoter
9	Peregrine Falcon	Short-billed Marsh Wren
	American Golden Plover	Gray-cheeked thrush
10	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Ovenbird
	Savannah Sparrow	16
11	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Pigeon Hawk
	Orange-crowned Warbler	17
	Blackburnian Warbler	Cape May Warbler
		Chestnut-sided Warbler
		White-throated Sparrow
		18
		Magnolia Warbler
		Red-throated Loon
		19
		Gadwall
		Mid
		Upland Plover
		Swamp Sparrow

behalf of one aspect of the inner city environment, New York State Senator Carl McCall pointed out that people are the endangered species in the inner city and that problems of survival are the first priority of their environment. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Russell E. Train noted that America's energy and environmental problems are to a large degree the result of the hazardous pattern of our urban growth, and that a major problem of urban areas has been urban spread rather than urban congestion or lack of space.

Conferees met in long hours of workshops over the two days ranging from air pollution to transportation to housing and land use. They came up with sets of recommendations of urban problems which will be published and distributed. Regional follow-up action is being planned by many organizations represented there, and NCUE-sponsored meetings are tentatively being planned for Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and Denver this summer. Chapters interested in receiving papers from the workshops and in participating in NCUE meetings or planning urbanist-environmentalist meetings of their own should get in touch with Lys McLaughlin, Council on the Environment for the City of New York, 51 Chambers Street, New York, N. Y. 10007. The National Audubon Society was a major organizer of the conference.

NEW SECRETARY OF INTERIOR TO BE APPOINTED; PRESIDENT'S CHOICE TO BE STANLEY K. HATHAWAY, WYOMING STRIP MINE AND PREDATOR CONTROL ADVOCATE

President Ford has announced he will appoint Stanley K. Hathaway, former governor of Wyoming and an advocate of strip mining and predator poisons as Secretary of the Interior replacing Rogers C. B. Morton, whom Ford has appointed as Secretary of commerce.

As governor, Hathaway promoted strip mine development. Among other actions, he leased out all state lands that were available for strip mining after the Interior Department placed a moratorium on leasing on all federal lands for coal. He has opposed wilderness and wild and scenic river areas protection, requested and secured open seasons for shooting golden eagles under the Bald and Golden Eagle Act, and asked for the reinstatement of the poison Compound 1080 for predator control. He backed the proposed Grand Teton jetport which conservationists opposed. Environmentalists nationwide are asking by letter, telegram, and petition that the choice be withdrawn.

The Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs (Henry M. Jackson, Wash., Chairman) is expected to begin hearings on confirmation promptly after the appointment is made official. Appointments to the Cabinet have to be confirmed by majority.

We Oppose Delay In Federal Air Quality Standards The House and Senate are holding a series of hearings to consider the Clean Air Act of 1970. The Administration and many quarters would like to amend it by extending the Act's deadlines to speed up coal use, or for fuel economy, or because of problems that have developed. President Ford's legislation (H.R. 2650, S. 594) asks for a 5-year delay on auto emission standards to give time for improvement of auto efficiency; continued conversions to coal by power plants, and 10-year authorization for use of tall stacks or intermittent controls for plants in isolated areas. On another front, EPA Administrator Russell E. Train has granted a one year extension of the auto emission standards because of health hazards from sulfuric acid mist created by the catalytic converter. He now wants Congress to extend the deadlines for hydrocarbon and carbon monoxide emissions for another two years because of this concern. Numerous other weakening amendments have been proposed for the Clean Air Act. A bill to strengthen it, H.R. 4369, has been submitted by Representatives G.E. Brown, Jr. (Cal) and R. L. Otting (N.Y.), and is generally backed by environmentalists.

the gift of the late Floyd T. Starr, of Philadelphia, and his heirs. The purpose of the project will be to work out, and to demonstrate, ways of producing timber and growing crops profitably while at the same time encouraging wildlife, preserving natural ecosystems and enhancing landscape values. The Society expects to work in conjunction with nearby universities and other qualified research organizations.

Victory in Refuge Suit. Some two years ago National Audubon entered as an intervenor on the side of the Interior Department in a suit regarding restriction of vehicular traffic along the beach at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge near Virginia Beach. Virginia (near the North Carolina border). A U. S. District Judge has ruled that "escalating use of the beach...is inimicable to the use of the property as a wildlife refuge" and property owners will, by and large, have to gain access by other routes. Area developers are appealing the decision; if it holds it should offer good precedents for other refuge conflicts now brewing.

She Died in Search of Eagles. An Audubon researcher in the second year of a three-year study of eagles at Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge (Sumner, Missouri), Judith Southern died in a plane crash last month while tracking eagles she had banded with radio transmitters. The 32 year old doctoral student was, according to her unit leader, "an excellent scientist and was aware of the risks necessary to carry out some of the work in the field." National Audubon will continue to support the project that Judith Southern so ably began.

New Education Aids. Audubon's Education Services Department has completed revision of its entire "Audubon Nature Bulletin" series to the new format. A new addition, Solar Energy: A Promising Alternative, brings the number of Bulletins up to 73; the complete set is available for \$22.50...The Audubon Tree Study Program has been revised. The \$3.65 kit includes a student study booklet, teacher's manual and four-color wall chart; kit items are available separately, too.

Leaflets Available. The St. Paul Audubon Society has new leaflets on six subjects: urban wildlife, purple martins, leg-hold traps, snowmobiles, bluebirds, and noise. The urban wildlife leaflet is \$4 per 100 copies, the others are \$3.50 per hundred. For further information write: Jon Belisle, 2594 Brookview Dr., St. Paul, MN 55119

Nature Center Job. The Audubon Center in Greenwich needs a secretary for Director/Bookstore Manager. The right person should have good office skills, including dictaphone, be able to work independently and enjoy the out-of-doors. Send resumes to Audubon Center in Greenwich, 613 Riversville Rd., Greenwich, Conn. 06830

AUDUBON LEADER - April 11, 1975

FIRST OF ITS KIND: NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN ENVIRONMENT IS ATTENDED BY 350 URBANISTS, LABOR REPRESENTATIVES, ENVIRONMENTALISTS, CITY COUNCILMEN

Environmentalists, urbanists, and representatives of civil rights organizations, labor, industry and city government from around the U. S. met in New York City this month at the National Conference on the Urban Environment. The first meeting of its kind, it was an important exchange of ideas and views between urbanists and environmentalists on both the joint and differing problems which they are traditionally working to improve.

Several different aspects of the problem of urban environment improvement were expressed at general sessions of the conference. Rene Dubon, NCUE chairman, reminded conferees that the urban problems of the 19th century were much worse than those of today but that, nevertheless, there is great need for combined efforts by divergent groups on specific issues of common concern. Speaking on

The Sky-Watchers' Guide

From dusk to dawn, during the month of May, the planets and the moon have much to offer to Sky-watchers. Soon after sunset, Venus may be discerned high in the western segment of the sky, and as twilight deepens, Mercury will be seen nearer the horizon at an angle to the northwest. On May 1, the red star, Aldebaran, will be located about half-way between these two planets. Mercury will continue to climb into view, and by May 12, it will be located northeast of Aldebaran, with the crescent moon in a line between the red star and Mercury. On the 16th, Mercury will reach its greatest eastern elongation, not setting until 9:00 p.m., - about an hour before Venus.

At the beginning of the month, Saturn, the third planet to be seen in the evening sky, is high in view to the northeast of Venus, but as Venus climbs upward, Saturn will be moving downward toward the horizon. On May 23, the two will rendez-vous and set together between 10:00 and 11:00 p.m.

A special drama is scheduled to commence at 11:00 p.m., (E.S.T.), on May 24. The Full Moon will then enter the earth's shadow as it moves along its path around our planet. A few minutes later, the moon will resemble a round cookie with a bite taken out of its eastern edge. This is the beginning of a total eclipse of the moon. An hour and four minutes later, it will be entirely submerged. However, the moon will not disappear from view. Because of Earth's atmosphere through which the red rays of the sun penetrate, the moon takes on a coppery-red hue, and this softened light reveals its true, spherical shape. A little after 1:30 a.m., the moon will begin to emerge from Earth's shadow. The brilliant, thin crescent appearing on the eastern side will grow wider until, by 2:36 a.m. on May 25, the shadow will disappear completely, and the round face of the moon will shine supreme in the dark sky. The use of binoculars will greatly enhance the entire experience for the observer.

During the hours between sunset and midnight, the constellations of spring will move toward their setting, in order that those of summer may take their places. Castor and Pollux, in Gemini, will make their last appearance until next December, and Leo the Lion will follow them north-westward.

If the observer is in an area free from bright lights, a very faint, but interesting group of constellations may be traced. By first locating Regulus, the brightest star in Leo, and looking about ten degrees southwest of it, an irregular circlet of very faint stars may be discerned. From this circlet, a long, zigzag line of stars straggles southeastward for about seventy-five or eighty degrees. This represents the head and body of Hydra, the Water Snake. About midway of its body is a small triangle of stars, with the apex touching the reptile's back. The triangle is called Crater, the Cup. Nearer the Snake's tail is an irregular, four-sided figure, known as Corvus, the Crow. A good imagination will enable one to see in this figure a bird, head downward, tail upward, with outstretched wings, coming in for a landing. An interesting fact about Corvus is that directly south of it at this time, the famous Southern Cross may be located from the latitude of the extreme southern tip of Florida.

High in view, just southeast of the meridian, brilliant orange-red Arcturus may be seen. Just as the "Pointers", the two outer stars in the bowl of the Big Dipper, direct the eye to the North Star, so the last star in the handle of the Big Dipper "points" to Arcturus; and Arcturus, in turn, "points" to the white first magnitude star, Spica which is a little to the northeast of the Crow.

Two of the planets are "Morning Stars", this month. Between 2:00 and 3:00 a.m., Mars will rise, followed by Jupiter, about thirty minutes later.

Elizabeth D. Simons

April Field Trip

The April field trip to I'on Swamp and neighboring areas was easily one of the best so far this year. At least thirty CNHS members and their guests formed a lengthy safari of cars for the trek into the "wilds" of I'on, Willow Hall, and Big Wambaw swamps on Sunday, April 13, 1975. It was a fine day, and certainly not a disappointing one, for nearly fifty species of birds were seen, including several of special interest, and the botanists amongst us identified at least thirty-six different kinds of plants, many of which were in bloom. A list of the plants, prepared by Emily Grimbail, is given below.

Our initial stop was the first bridge over the upper reach of the Wando River (only ca. 30 feet wide at this point) on I'on Swamp Road. Black-throated Green Warblers were singing high in the cypresses, but they managed to elude the searching binoculars of the observers below. However, fine views of a White-breasted Nuthatch, Gnatcatchers in profusion, Myrtle Warblers changing into spring plumage, and Blue Flag irises in bloom were a few of the real treats at this stop. Before proceeding on to the second bridge where I'on Swamp Road crosses an old rice canal, a short side trip to an interesting water-lily bestrewn borrow pit pond was made. Unfortunately, only a few unusually silent Wood Ducks greeted us there and quickly departed. At the second bridge, several White Ibises and Great Egrets feeding along the edge of the canal erupted in a sudden show of flashing white as we arrived. A number of our group hiked along the southwest bank of the canal into the swamp, but except for the quiet beauty of the area, little of special interest was seen. Back along the road, noisy vireos, including the Yellow-throated, put on a show, and were seen by all.

The next stop for our safari was an extensive tupelo pond behind the high embankment of an old tram line adjacent to Willow Hall Road. This pond usually produces water birds of various kinds and an occasional alligator, but not on this day. Further along Willow Hall Road, we came to Cooter Creek, a feeder stream of Awendaw Lake. Here, as at the other bridges, hopes were high for a sighting of Swallow-tailed Kites, but these were not to be fulfilled until later in the day. Below the bridge, the first few flowering spikes of Golden Club were beginning to appear. After leaving the bridge, Julian Harrison led the group to a spot on Forest Road 224 covered by the blooms of Purple Butterwort, one of this area's several kinds of carnivorous plants. Here also were a few early blooming Grass Pink orchids. At this point in our trip, watches, stomachs, and the sun indicated that noon was fast approaching, so most of us adjourned to the bluff overlooking the intracoastal waterway at Buck Hall for lunch and a bit of relaxation.

After lunch it was decided that those of us who remained would hike a portion of the Swamp Fox Trail adjacent to an arm of Awendaw Lake. There the best find was a Swallow-tailed Kite which seemed to follow us as it circled over the trees along the trail. It is possible that a nest was located nearby. This bird had an apparent gunshot wound, a hole in one of its wings, but seemed to have no difficulty in maneuvering in flight. Another special treat on the afternoon leg of our trip was an excellent view of a Black-throated Green Warbler, normally a canopy species.

Julian R. Harrison

use and disposal of hazardous or potentially harmful substances," and EPA enforcement authority for issuing penalties and for seizure of products which violate the law...She also submitted comments opposing action on S. 229, a bill that would give an exception for interstate sale of scrimshaw (decorative products made from whale ivory or bone) under the 1973 Endangered Species Act ban on interstate sale of endangered species products as setting a "dangerous precedent".

Supreme Court Says U.S. Owns Right To Off-Shore Oil The Supreme Court has ruled that the U. S. has ownership rights over off-shore oil as part of its jurisdiction over foreign commerce rather than the coastal states. This action removed an obstacle to the Department of Interior's tract nominations for exploratory oil drilling in the Atlantic (see Leader 2/28). But continued opposition to hasty off-shore oil development is expected from environmentalists, and actual leasing could not begin before at least a year...The Senate Interior and Commerce Committees are holding hearings on a number of bills asking off-shore drilling exploration by the government rather than by private industry but Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton has testified in opposition to the proposal largely on grounds of cost...The General Accounting Office has released a report highly critical of the government's outer continental shelf oil leasing plan...The House Interior Committee has reported out H.R. 49, a bill to establish National Petroleum Reserves in the U. S. However, reserve development would be prohibited in national parks, wildlife refuges, wilderness and wilderness study areas and wild and scenic rivers areas. Naval Petroleum Reserve # 4 in Alaska, the largest existing reserve in the U. S., contains wildlife habitat and species of extraordinary value which must be protected in the face of development.

Reserve Mining Clean-Up Upheld By Appeals Court In a compromise ruling, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals has agreed that the Reserve Mining Company's air and water asbestos cancer-threatening discharges are illegal and cause a "potential threat to human health," but says they do not warrant a plant close-down as per a lower federal court ruling of last year. The company charged that some 3,000 jobs would be lost in such a shut-down. (See March AUDUBON, "Corporate Responsibility in Silver Bay.") The court asked for steps to be taken for immediate reduction of air emissions, but gave the company "reasonable time" to put an end to its waste disposal into Lake Superior, both for site-selection and construction of land-disposal facilities. However, the Environmental Protection Agency, which along with private conservation organizations filed the suit in 1972, is given authority to ask for further rulings from the court if Reserve Mining is seen not to be proceeding ahead in changing its waste disposal operations.

EPA Chief Train Denies Petition For Use Of DDT EPA Administrator Russell E. Train has denied Louisiana's petition for emergency use of DDT (Leader, 3/14/75). The state wanted to spray some 2.25 million pounds of DDT over 450,000 acres of cotton this summer to control infestations of the tobacco budworm. Train pointed out in his decision that no new evidence has been presented affecting the 1972 cancellation order on DDT and that alternative pesticides are available. He said the use of several million pounds of DDT in Louisiana would likely result in widespread environmental contamination, and that the 1972 evidence that DDT exposes a cancer risk is still true today. "Evidence since then tends to augment this cancer hazard," said Train, who added that evidence provided at these hearings by National Audubon and others "convince me that the cancer hazard is not as 'remote' as previously thought."

NEW SANCTUARY WILL BE SITE OF UNUSUAL RESEARCH DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

The Silver Bluff Plantation, a 3,000-acre former quail-shooting preserve at Jackson, S. C., has been given to the Society for a novel research and demonstration project,

Diversion Unit, the half-billion dollar irrigation and channelization plan for 250,000 acres of land in North Dakota. Garrison was one of the "Terrible Twenty" water resource projects Dr. Stahr urged President Ford to drop as inflation-ary and environmentally harmful last fall. It would engender huge economic costs far out of proportion to benefits, would violate two international treaties with Canada, disrupt seven national wildlife refuges and take more land out of agriculture production than it would put in. National Audubon has been devoting a major effort to educate the public about Garrison and opposes all further funding. The Public Works Subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations has scheduled its hearings for public witnesses on all 1976 public works appropriations (including Garrison Diversion Unit) for April 28-May 8 (Subcommittee Chairman: Rep. J. L. Evins, Tenn.).

Don't miss the scathing report on Garrison Diversion in the March AUDUBON, "Dr. Strangelove Builds a Canal." Another recently released comprehensive analysis of all aspects of this boondoggle is "A Scientific and Policy Review of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Initial State, Garrison Diversion Unit," by the Washington-based Institute of Ecology. The technical editor of the report is Dr. Gary Pearson, Vice-President of Jamestown Audubon. It is available at \$2.00 from Environmental Impact Assessment Project, Institute of Ecology, R. 300, 1717 Mass. Avenue NW, Washington D. C. 20036

We "Generally Endorse" Senate BLM Organic Act Testifying by invitation before the Environment & Land Resources Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee, Washington Representative Cynthia Wilson "generally endorsed" S. 507, the proposed National Resource Lands Management Act. The bill sets up rules and regulations for management of U. S. public domain lands (last year it was passed by the Senate but killed in the House). "Without an organic act," said Wilson, "many of the uses and abuses which conflict with wildlife and other public values go unchecked, because BLM does not have clear authority to stop them nor personnel to oversee the land." She cited abuses to public lands, urged language to require public notice of proposed changes in lands classification and also suggested that the Secretary of the Interior be asked to review public lands to see if any could be included in the National Park, National Wildlife Refuge, and other systems (in addition to Wilderness areas, already covered by the bill).

We Submit Legal Petition On Grazing In Refuges National Audubon has called on the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service to issue environmental impact statements for its grazing and haying programs in National Wildlife Refuges. In a formal petition sent to Lynn A. Greenwalt, Director of the Service, the Society's counsel wrote that "the Society strongly believes that the issuance of grazing permits is a major action by a Federal Agency that has significant effect on the environment." The F&WS plans to initiate a new plan of permits for haying and grazing for five years in refuges. In 1974 alone there were some 1200 grazing and haying permittees in some 2-million acres of refuge habitat, bringing in about \$1-million in revenue. In 1972, some 3.5-million acres were being grazed. Grazing and other cover removal activities in refuges has high adverse effect on waterfowl, causing increased predation, pollution of adjacent wetlands, nest loss and egg trampling, and other problems.

We Comment On Toxic Substances, Scrimshaw Bills In a letter sent by invitation to Senator Warren G. Magnuson, Chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, Washington Rep. Cynthia Wilson supported legislation for control of toxic substances, S. 776, and urged that it contain provisions that would provide for: pre-market testing of chemicals; EPA regulatory authority for "manufacture, distribution,

Field Trip Francis Marion National Forest
April 13, 1975

Flowers

Atamasco Lily	<u>Zephyranthes atamasco</u>
Yellow Star Grass	<u>Hypoxis hirsuta</u>
Blue Eyed Grass	<u>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</u>
Sorrel	<u>Rumex hastatulus</u>
Sweet Bay	<u>Magnolia virginiana</u>
Sundew	<u>Drosera</u>
Oxalis	<u>Oxalis</u> -(yellow)
Lanceleaved Violet	<u>Viola lanceolata</u> (white)
Dogwood	<u>Cornus Florida</u>
Dwarf Azalea	<u>Rhododendron atlanticum</u>
Pinkster Flower	<u>Rhododendron nudiflorum</u>
Fetterbush	<u>Lyonia lucida</u>
Blueberry	<u>Vaccinium</u>
Yellow Jessamine	<u>Gelsemium sempivirens</u>
Lyre-leaf Sage	<u>Salvia lyrata</u>
Toad-Flax	<u>Linaria canadensis</u>
Squaw Root	<u>Conopholis americana</u>
Golden Club	<u>Orontium awuaticum</u>
Sunbonnets	<u>Chaptalia tomentosa</u>
Leather Flower	<u>Clematis crispa</u>
Viburnum	<u>Viburnum</u>
Butterwort	<u>Pinguicula caerulea</u>
Violet	<u>Viola</u> (blue)
Thistle	<u>Carduus</u>
Terrestrial Bladderwort	<u>Utricularia subulata</u>
Grass Pink Orchid	<u>Calopogon</u>
Green Adders Mouth Orchid	<u>Malaxis unifolia</u>
Blue Flag	<u>Iris virginica</u>
Coral Honeysuckle	<u>Lonicera sempivirens</u>

Ferns

Nettled Chain Fern	<u>Woodwardia areolata</u>
Royal Fern	<u>Osmunda regalis</u>
Cinnamon Fern	<u>Osmunda cinnamomea</u>
Ebony Spleenwort	<u>Asplenium platyneuron</u>
Bracken	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>
Resurrection Fern	<u>Polypodium polypodioides</u>
Lycopodium	
Hooded Pitcher Plant	<u>Sarracenia minor</u> blooming
saw this later - not with group	

Emily Grimball

A Bitter - Cress

Derrill Seavey recently found an infrequently seen plant of the bitter-cress group known as Cardamine bulbosa. It was a small patch, no more than a square yard, of these white-flowered plants growing in the deep shade of a low wood.

The flower stalks were about one foot high and each bore a dozen or so flowers about the size of stock blossoms.

Cardamines belong to the commercially important family Brassicaceae (Cruciferae): cabbages, mustards, radishes, collards, stocks, etc. In the genus we do have one very common species, i.e., *pennsylvanica*, which owing to its small size and tiny blooms is usually overlooked as a "weed." It grows under very wet conditions, often in standing water. *Cardamine pratensis* is one of the more beautiful wild flowers of Europe and some of its cultivated forms are used in flower gardens under the name cuckoo-flower or lady's smock.

Cardamine comes from two Greek words: kardia, heart and damas, subdue, referring to its alleged medicinal properties. The specific name of bulbosa alludes to the swollen rootstock of the plant.

Edmund H. Cuthbert

Observations

Date	Observation	Location	Observer
March 20	Fulvous Tree Duck	Kiawah	Burnham Chamberlain
March 27	Yellow-throated Vireo	I'on Swamp	Julian Harrison
29	American Bittern	Mayrants Reserve	P. Nugent, J. & M. Harrison & J & G Black
	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	2260 Dallerton Circle	Perry Nugent
April 3	Barn Swallow	U. S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
	Orchard Oriole	U. S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
	Rey-eyed Vireo	U. S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
April 5	House Wren	Mayrants Reserve	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
	Orange-crowned Warbler	Mayrants Reserve	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
	Kingbird	Mayrants Reserve	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
	2 King Rails	Mayrants Reserve	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
	Virginia Rail	Mayrants Reserve	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
	American Bittern	Mayrants Reserve	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
April 10	4 Black-necked Stilts	Capers Island	Pete Laurie
	Summer Tanager	2260 Dallerton Circle	Perry & Cris Nugent
11	Indigo Bunting	2260 Dallerton Circle	Perry & Cris Nugent
12	Q Wood Duck & 16 babies	Mayrants Reserve	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
13	2 Swallow-tailed Kites	Quail Arbor, Summerville	Roger Lambert
19	10 Bobolinks	U. S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
20	Crested Flycatcher	Fairlawn Plantation	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
	Acadian Flycatcher	Fairlawn Plantation	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
	Q Pied-billed Grebe & 5 babies	Mayrants Reserve	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
	Short-billed Marsh Wren	Mayrants Reserve	Pete Laurie & P. Nugent
	2 Bald Eagles	Rantowles Creek & U.S.17	John Mac Dougal
21	Blue Grosbeak	U. S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
23	17 Water Pipits	U. S. Veg. Lab.	Perry Nugent
26	Purple Gallinule	Mayrants Reserve	P. Nugent, S. Langston, B. Hooper, T. Beckett, and J. Harrison

The Osborn Report

March 17 Cattle Egret
Red-Shouldered Hawk
Sparrow Hawk

March 18	Red-Shouldered Hawk)	This hawk is a resident in the yard of
19	Red-Shouldered Hawk)	neighbors - Roy Phillips
April 1	Chuck-Will's Widow calling before dawn	
9	Mid-morning at a home in Ravenel I watched a <u>mockingbird</u> flashing as it gathered straw that had come from a cocoa doormat. The flashing was about 1/8 to 1/4 and before the bird picked up each piece of loose straw from the ground it would flash. The day was still and partly cloudy about 70°. I was inside a glass door and the bird was at the foot of the steps only a few feet away, keeping an eye on me but not disturbed.	
13	Hooded Warbler singing	
	Blue Grosbeak carrying straw across driveway	
	Carolina Wren has nest in rafters of garage	
15	Flock of White Ibis (50-75) probing mud of pasture. 2 Little Blue Herons and one American Egret with them	
18	Orchard Oriole singing in elm	
19	Crested Flycatcher calling at pond.	
	Green Heron	
	Wheeling flock of Wood Ibis - about 10 est., very high overhead	
	Anbinga	
	Prairie Warbler singing	
	Tree Swallow	
	Barn Swallow	
	Yellow Throated Warbler	
20	Woodthrush singing	

Dot Glover

AUDUBON LEADER - March 28, 1975

STRIP MINE BILL CLEARED BY SENATE 84-13 BY HOUSE 333-86; HOUSE ADDS AMENDMENT BARRING STRIP MINING IN ALLUVIAL VALLEYS; MARGIN OK FOR VETO

Strip mining control legislation was passed 84-13 by the Senate and 333-86 by the House, March 12 and 18 respectively, with sufficient majority in both houses to over-ride a Presidential veto if it comes (a two-thirds majority is needed). The Senate-passed bill was almost identical to the bill vetoed last year by President Ford; the House version included a major strengthening amendment to ban strip mining on alluvial valley floors. This is crucial for ranching in the arid West where underground water is close enough to the surface to support vegetation.

Other strengthening amendments were also accepted by the House, although amendments banning strip mining on national grasslands and on slopes greater than 20° did not get through. Serious weakening amendments offered by the Administration were killed, including an amendment to drop the ban on mining in national forests. The bills now go to joint conference to work out differences where it is hoped that the House bill amendments are retained. The conferees will be assigned sometime after the Easter recess.

PRESIDENT FORD ASKS \$12.5-MILLION FOR GARRISON UNIT IN NORTH DAKOTA; NATIONAL AUDUBON OPPOSES ALL FURTHER FUNDING ON THE WASTEFUL PROJECT

Despite recommendations to the contrary from the Office of Management and Budget, President Ford has asked \$12.5-million for 1976 funding for the Garrison