

unusual observations

by Pete Laurie

1 May	1 Parasitic Jaeger 11 Northern Phalaropes 11 Audubon's Shearwaters 1 Leach's Storm Petrel 2 Northern Gannets	Offshore " " " "	D. Forsythe " " " "
19 May	48 Stilt Sandpipers	Savannah River Spoil Area	D. & D. Forsythe D. Chamberlain
30 May	50+ Wood Storks	Bear Island	P. Laurie
4 June	1 Wood Stork	West Ashley	R. Miller
12 June	1 Red-throated Loon*	Charleston Harbor	P. Laurie
16 June	1 Warbling Vireo	Santee	D. & D. Forsythe
5 July	1 Imm. Roseate Spoonbill	Lady's Island	"
10 July	2 Yellow-breasted Chats	Santee River	Dana Beach
	1 Mississippi Kite	"	"
	3 Acadian Flycatchers	"	"
14 July	8 Black Terns	Bull's Island	D. Chamberlain
20 July	1 Black Rail (heard not seen)	Bear Island	D. & D. Forsythe
3 Aug	10 Swallow-tailed Kites	Santee Delta	B. McCord
9 Aug	200 Wilson's Storm Petrels	Sullivan's Island	H. Macmurphy

*Sprunt and Chamberlain list May 18 as the late date in South Carolina for this common winter resident.
On August 13 I watched a pair of Eastern Kingbirds feeding young in a nest at Fort Johnson. This may be a late nesting date in this area.

Dennis Forsythe reports: "American Robins seem to have expanded their nesting range onto the coast. Not only did I have several pairs in my traditional spot of Bowman, SC, but Donna and I saw a pair in Ravenel on July 20. Also a pair was breeding on Stocker Drive in Charleston. And I have reports of a breeding pair on the Isle of Palms (fide David Huff), several pairs in the Jedburg-Knightsville area, Dorchester Co. (fide F. Seabury), and Hobcaw subdivision (fide R. Skanchy)."

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Typesetting Courtesy
of
Cypress Gardens

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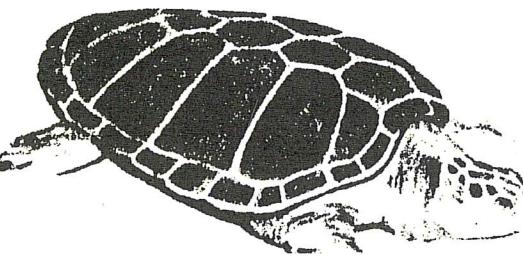
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Curley L. Watters
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Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464



THE lesser SQUAWK

CHARLESTON
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Your National Audubon Chapter



AUDUBON ADVENTURES PLANNING FOR AN EDUCATIONAL YEAR

Planning is underway to place Audubon Adventures in 100 Trident Area classrooms this year. This program is a continuation of the National Audubon Society's efforts as a national leader in conservation and environmental education.

Several million children learned about the natural world through their participation in the former Junior Audubon Clubs during the course of several earlier decades. The Society and Charleston Natural History Society is now proud to present an updated and timely educational program for young people, which is available through the efforts of the more than 500 Audubon Chapters throughout the United States.

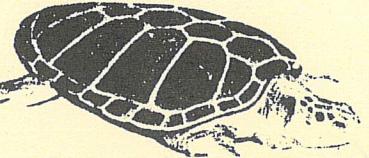
Audubon Adventures is for elementary school classes and other groups of children in grades 3-6. Developed and written by professional educators with a special interest in environmental education, *Audubon Adventures* is issued on a bimonthly basis. An enrolled class receives 32 *Audubon Adventures* newspapers for children and the companion *Leader's Guide* of background information and activity ideas for the teacher. Each April, Adventures classes celebrate Audubon month with a poster and activity guide.

This year's *Audubon Adventures* topics are:

August/September	Bats
October/November	Deciduous Trees
December/January	Sea Turtles
February/March	Owls
April/May	Amphibians
June/July	Butterflies and Moths
	Oceans: The Atlantic

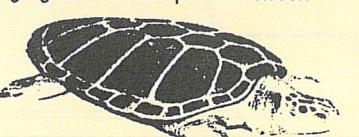
CONSERVATION CORNER

Hayes Patterson



SPA VS. DANIEL ISLAND - After months of debate the SC State Ports Authority and the Harry F. Guggenheim Foundation have finally decided that maybe they can co-exist on Daniel Island. This controversy is primarily a land use issue. Both industrial and residential development can be accomplished in an environmentally sensitive manner, but neither typically are. The Guggenheim Foundation has announced their development design team, which includes noted town planner Andre' Duany. Mr. Duany is famous for his "village concept" of land use, as featured in our May meeting program on coastal development presented by Dana Beach. I've seen several presentations of this concept, and the case studies generally look like upscale developments with service oriented economies located in rural settings. Heavy industry has been noticeably absent. Unfortunately, industry is a fact of modern life and necessary for the employment and goods it provides. Shipyards, paper mills, port terminals and chemical plants are not the sort of neighbors people like to have within walking distance of their homes. The factories located within the cities were one of the original forces in America's move to the suburbs years ago. Daniel Island will present Mr. Duany with a unique opportunity to expand his concept and incorporate a more realistic and diversified economic base into his village. If he's successful, the result should have a much broader appeal for twenty-first century America.

CORP OF ENGINEERS - The entrance to Charleston Harbor is being widened and deepened by the Corp. Dredges which recently completed work in Brunswick and Savannah Georgia, have begun working in Charleston. While in Georgia, onboard observers documented 37 turtle deaths from turtles being drawn through the dredge. The dredges operate 24 hours a day while the observers were only on board for 12 hours a day. When this project was proposed in 1989 the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) suggested that dredging should take place between



October and February, when the turtles are not normally in the harbor area. However, this condition was not included in their final agreement. The NMFS agreed to allow the dredging to kill up to 25 loggerheads (a threatened species) or 2 green or 2 Kemps Ridley turtles (both endangered species). Dredging began on August 1, again with an observer on board only 12 hours a day. The dredges are using an experimental turtle excluder device and the observers noted no turtle deaths during their watches for the first 14 days of operation. The Coastal Conservation League, the National Wildlife Federation, the Environmental Defense Fund and the Center for Marine Conservation joined forces and have threatened the Corp. with a lawsuit for violation of the Endangered Species Act if the dredging is not postponed until October. The Corp. halted work on the 14th to reassess the project and met with NMFS officials on the 15th. They decided that they thought it would be ok to continue the dredging but deferred the final decision to the Washington office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. We hope that by the time you read this cooler heads in Washington will have prevailed and the Corp. will not use its "license to kill."

CHARLESTON COUNTY COUNCIL - Last year Charleston County Council funded a part time environmental prosecutor, Assistant Solicitor Rob Wendt, in the 9th Circuit Solicitors Office. Mr. Wendt's efforts to criminally prosecute flagrant violators of environmental laws are beginning to have an impact. Mr. Carl Roberts, a branch manager for Sunox Inc., was recently sentenced to 3 years probation, 300 hours of public service and personally fined \$3,000. for directing his employees to illegally dump 84 gas cylinders in a pond off Arco Lane near I - 26. The cylinders contained hazardous waste and phosgene, and will cost over \$400,000. to clean up. A second case involving hazardous waste handling is currently in process. Many businesses simply factor the routine regulatory fines for violating environmental regulations into their operating cost (a new tax deduction bracket?). Criminal prosecution of individuals responsible for such violations is generating a new respect for environmental protection laws. These types of cases typically require far more research

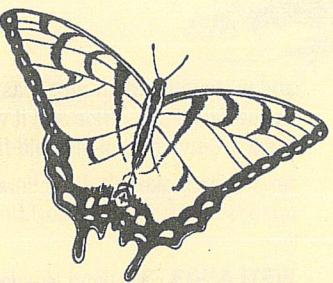
and preparation than most cases handled by the Solicitor's office and it would be great if County Council could find sufficient funding to make this a full time position or increase the number of part time positions.

WETLANDS - Wetland legislation in South Carolina is not dead yet, but all the action lately has been at the Federal level. In case you haven't heard by now, President Bush has reneged on his promise of *"no net loss of wetlands."* The existing regulations have too many loop holes to achieve no net loss, particularly if you consider loss of function. The President has proposed changing the scientific definition of a wetland to allow more development. The proposed change will remove many isolated short term wetland, like the prairie potholes out west. The agricultural, silvicultural, real estate development and business communities have coordinated their efforts, and it will be difficult to fight this change. Much like the petroleum industries increased publicity about how good oil drilling is for the arctic region, you may now notice an increase in publicity on the negative effects and "unfairness" of wetlands regulations.

GOOD NEWS!!!
NEW REDUCED PRICES
BIRD SEED SALE
DETAILS NEXT MONTH

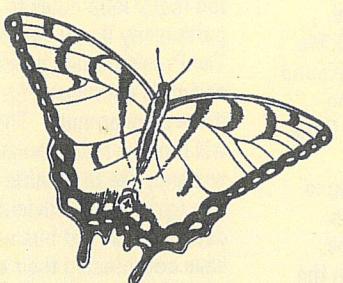


CNHS
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT
Sunday December 29
Watch for updates!
Steve Compton
Mary Pringle
Co-chairs



A Note From Your Editor:

Thank you for getting all this wonderful information to me. Please remember that it is important to me that I have Squawk information by the 15th because I must fit editing and typesetting days into my work schedule.. There is also a possibility that I will be leaving this area after the first of the year so if anyone is interested in doing the editing and typesetting for the Squawk please give me a call.



Teacher In-service

The Soil Conservation League is sponsoring a Teacher In-service Day for Charleston County teachers on September 27. Morgan McClure is the person in charge. Call him at 724-4671. Rudy Mancke will be a featured speaker and Cypress Gardens will be presenting some hands on activities.

Alpha And Omega
by Pat Leonard

*The Swallowtail emerged from pupa at dawn.
I saw it hanging, bejeweled,
From a parsley plant, suspended
Like a precious moment.*

*At dusk, on a lagoon, I saw
The mysterious Black Swan,
Intruder from another continent.
Black on black against dark water,
He might have passed unnoticed,
Had I not been alerted.
I could barely make him out;
He almost made my heart stop.*

*May day began with a butterfly's birth
And ended with a black swan,
Feather-marked indelibly in memory.*