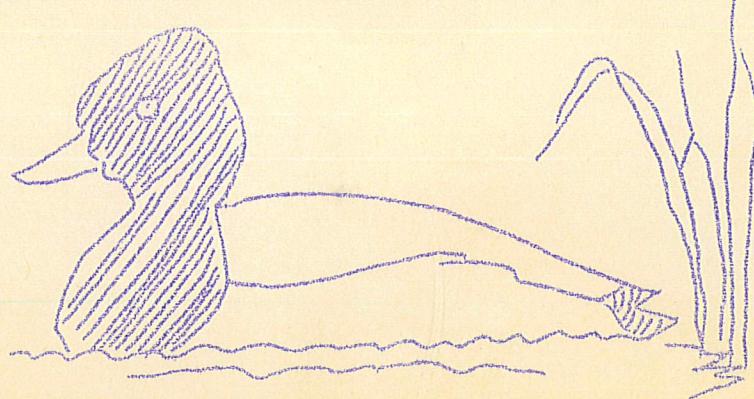


the lesser
Squawk.



Published at Charleston, S.C., by the Natural History Society, January, 1964, Vol. XI NO. 8
Editor and Publisher, Mrs. Robert H. Coleman, 1299 Old Towne Road, Charleston, S.C.

• • • OFFICERS • • •

President, E. Burnham Chamberlain, P.O. Box 3039, Charleston, S.C.

Vice-President, Edwin L. Blitch, III, Route 1, Box 374, S. Riverview, Charleston, S.C.

Secretary-Treasurer, B. Rhett Chamberlain, Route 1 Box 48, Wadmalaw, S.C.

Executive Committee: E. B. Chamberlain, E. L. Blitch, B. R. Chamberlain, Mrs. F. Barrington, T. A. Beckett, Mrs. R. H. Coleman, I. S. Metcalf, I. S. H. Metcalf, E. A. Cutts and J. M. Norlbeck.

~ ~ ~ o ~ ~ ~
PROGRAM FOR JANUARY

January 14

Regular Meeting, 8:00 p.m., Lecture Room, Charleston Museum
Ernest A. Cutts: Antarctic Journey, Color Slides.

January 19

Short Field Trip to Mt. Pleasant Causeway
Leave Museum, Charleston at 7:00 a.m.

Leader, B. Rhett Chamberlain

BIRD MOVEMENT IN JANUARY

(in Charleston area)

Arrivals

Jan. 7 White Pelican

Departures

13 Fulvous Tree Duck (The Chat)* 24 Snowy Owl
18 Western Kingbird 31 Brant

Casuals and Accidentals

Eared Grebe (Dawn)* Great Crested Flycatcher
Blue-faced Booby Vermilion Flycatcher
Reddish Egret Purple Martin (Chamberlain, Coleman)*
Cinnamon Teal Northern Waterthrush
Harlequin Duck Dickcissel
Harlan's Hawk Green-Tailed Towhee

Snow Bunting (Coleman)*

*If the date is not taken from South Carolina Bird Life, the authority is given.

MIGRATION DATA
(Charleston area)

The editor has received from Mr. Ellison A. Williams, Chairman of the Committee on Migration Reports, a tabulation of the data sent to him on Dec. 10 by members of the Society concerning (I) the arrival dates of winter residents and fall transients, and (II) departure dates of summer residents and fall transients. Lists I and II which follow are a modified form of these tabulations.

I. Arrival dates of Winter Residents and Fall Transients.

Name	Number of observers	Earliest date	Observer with earliest date
Common Loon	1	Nov. 10	T.A. Beckett
Horned Grebe	1	Oct. 16	T.A. Beckett
Gannet	1	Nov. 20	The Barringtons
Canada Goose	4	Oct. 7	T.A. Beckett
Dbl.-crested Cormorant	2	Oct. 29	E.L. Blitch
Mallard	2	Sep. 20	T.A. Beckett
Black Duck	1	Oct. 18	T.A. Beckett
Gadwall	2	Sep. 22	T.A. Beckett
Pintail	3	Oct. 29	T.A. Beckett
Green-winged Teal	1	Oct. 18	T.A. Beckett
Blue-winged Teal	4	Aug. 17	T.A. Beckett
Cinnamon Teal	1	Dec. 15	T.A. Beckett
American Widgeon	2	Sep. 22	T.A. Beckett
Shoveller	3	Oct. 19	T.A. Beckett
Redhead	2	Nov. 24	T.A. Beckett
Ring-necked Duck	2	Oct. 16	T.A. Beckett
Lesser Scaup	4	Oct. 16	T.A. Beckett
Bufflehead	2	Nov. 10	T.A. Beckett
Ruddy Duck	2	Oct. 5	T.A. Beckett
Hooded Merganser	4	Nov. 2	T.A. Beckett
Red-breasted Merganser	4	Nov. 10	T.A. Beckett
Golden Eagle	1	Nov. 17	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Peregrine Falcon	1	Oct. 18	T.A. Beckett
Pigeon Hawk	2	Oct. 29	E.B. Chamberlain
Sparrow Hawk	5	Jul. 12	T.A. Beckett
Broad-winged Hawk	2	Oct. 17	E.B. Chamberlain
Sora	1	Sep. 21	T.A. Beckett
Killdeer	4	Oct. 9	T.A. Beckett
Common Snipe	4	Aug. 13	E.L. Blitch
American Woodcock (per.?)	1	Nov. 30	E.L. Blitch
Solitary Sandpiper	1	Sep. 26	T.A. Beckett
Lesser Yellowlegs	4	Sep. 10	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Knot	1	Oct. 15	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Bonaparte's Gull	1	Dec. 7	E.A. Williams
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	Sep. 2	T.A. Beckett
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	5	Oct. 12	L.L. Blitch
Eastern Phoebe	6	Aug. 26	T.A. Beckett
Tree Swallow	4	Aug. 11	E.R. Cuthbert
Bank Swallow	1	Sep. 20	T.A. Beckett
Cliff Swallow	1	Sep. 10	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	Oct. 8	E.A. Williams
Brown Creeper	1	Nov. 24	T.A. Beckett

Name	Number of Observers	Earliest date	Observer with earliest date
House Wren	2	Oct. 2	T.A. Beckett
Winter Wren	2	Oct. 26	E.L. Blitch
Short-billed Marsh Wren	2	Oct. 18	T.A. Beckett
Catbird	4	Sep. 19	T.A. Beckett
Hermit Thrush	6	Oct. 10	The Barringtons
Swainson's Thrush	4	Aug. 28	T.A. Beckett
Gray-cheeked Thrush	5	Aug. 31	T.A. Beckett
Veery	2	Sep. 26	T.A. Beckett
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	6	Sep. 29	T.A. Beckett
Water Pipit	2	Nov. 17	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Cedar Waxwing	2	Oct. 31	T.A. Beckett
Black and White Warbler	4	Aug. 7	T.A. Beckett
Orange-crowned Warbler	3	Sep. 26	T.A. Beckett
Yellow Warbler	4	Aug. 25	T.A. Beckett
Magnolia Warbler	2	Sep. 27	T.A. Beckett
Black-thr. blue Warbler	1	Oct. 4	T.A. Beckett
Myrtle Warbler	6	Oct. 19	The Barringtons
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	Sep. 27	The Barringtons
Palm Warbler	2	Sep. 18	T.A. Beckett
Ovenbird	2	Sep. 15	E.B. Chamberlain
Northern Waterthrush	2	Aug. 27	T.A. Beckett
Louisiana Waterthrush	2	Aug. 19	T.A. Beckett
American Redstart	3	Aug. 8	E.R. Cuthbert
Bobolink	2	Sep. 1	Mrs. Dorothy Glover
Brownheaded Cowbird	4	Aug. 9	Mrs. H.S. Pettit
Baltimore Oriole	2	Sep. 15	Chamberlain, Blitch
Dickcissel	1	Aug. 29	Mrs. H.S. Pettit
Eastern Goldfinch	2	Nov. 3	T.A. Beckett
Purple Finch	1	Dec. 12	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Red-eyed Towhee	3	Oct. 22	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Savannah Sparrow	3	Oct. 15	T.A. Beckett
Grasshopper Sparrow	1	Dec. 15	T.A. Beckett
Vesper Sparrow	3	Oct. 22	T.A. Beckett
Slate-colored Junco	6	Oct. 26	E.L. Blitch
White-throated Sparrow	8	Oct. 7	T.A. Beckett
Fox Sparrow	2	Oct. 29	E.L. Blitch
Swamp Sparrow	5	Oct. 11	T.A. Beckett
Song Sparrow	7	Oct. 9	E.A. Williams

Reports were received from the following members: The Barringtons(26), T.A. Beckett(66), E.L. Blitch(32), E.B. Chamberlain(14), Miss Betty Clark(3), Mrs. R.H. Coleman(26), E.R. Cuthbert(10), Mrs. Dorothy Glover(17), the Metcalfs(4), Mrs. H.S. Pettit(2), E.A. Williams(26), making a total of 224 observations of 81 species by 11 observers. This would seem to be the best record for some time. In 1961 we had a total of 184 observations and in 1962 we had 164. Much credit for the greater number of observations is due to the constant and careful bird-banding work of Ted Beckett.

II. Departure dates for Summer Residents and Fall Transients.

Name	Number of Observers	Latest date	Observer with latest date
Yellow-cr. Night Heron	2	Dec. 2	T.A. Beckett
Cattle Egret	2	Sep. 22	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Glossy Ibis	1	Oct. 30	T.A. Beckett
Fulvous Tree Duck	1	Dec. 9	T.A. Beckett
Mississippi Kite	1	Jul. 25	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Purple Gallinule	1	Sep. 27	T.A. Beckett
Solitary Sandpiper	1	Nov. 5	T.A. Beckett
Gull-billed Tern	2	Sep. 7	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Least Tern	1	Oct. 10	T.A. Beckett
Black Tern	2	Sep. 7	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5	Oct. 16	T.A. Beckett
Chuck-will's widow	1	Sep. 3	Mrs. Dorothy Glover
Night Hawk	2	Oct. 14	T.A. Beckett
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	6	Oct. 28	T.A. Beckett
Chimney Swift	5	Oct. 22	T.A. Beckett
Eastern Kingbird	2	Sep. 29	T.A. Beckett
Gr. Crested Flycatcher	3	Oct. 23	T.A. Beckett
Acadian Flycatcher	1	Sep. 9	T.A. Beckett
Eastern Wood Pewee	2	Sep. 27	The Barringtons
Bank Swallow	1	Sep. 20	T.A. Beckett
Cliff Swallow	1	Sep. 10	Mrs. R.H. Coleman
Purple Martin	2	Oct. 24	T.A. Beckett
Wood Thrush	3	Oct. 13	T.A. Beckett
Swainson's Thrush	4	Oct. 27	T.A. Beckett
Gray-cheeked Thrush	2	Nov. 1	T.A. Beckett
Veery	2	Oct. 19	The Barringtons
Red-eyed Vireo	2	Oct. 12	The Barringtons
Prothonotary Warbler	1	Oct. 2	T.A. Beckett
Swainson's Warbler	1	Aug. 30	T.A. Beckett
Parula Warbler	3	Sep. 29	E.R. Cuthbert
Yellow Warbler	4	Oct. 16	E.A. Williams
Magnolia Warbler	1	Sep. 27	T.A. Beckett
Black-thr. blue Warbler	1	Oct. 4	T.A. Beckett
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	Sep. 1	T.A. Beckett
Northern Waterthrush	3	Oct. 29	E.R. Cuthbert
Louisiana Waterthrush	1	Sep. 19	T.A. Beckett
Kentucky Warbler	1	Sep. 17	T.A. Beckett
Yellow-breasted Chat	1	Dec. 6	T.A. Beckett
Hooded Warbler	2	Oct. 14	T.A. Beckett
American Redstart	4	Oct. 16	T.A. Beckett
Bobolink	3	Oct. 27	T.A. Beckett
Orchard Oriole	1	Aug. 26	T.A. Beckett
Baltimore Oriole	1	Nov. 28	E.A. Williams
Summer Tanager	4	Sep. 14	Mrs. Dorothy Glover
Blue Grosbeak	2	Sep. 3	Mrs. Dorothy Glover
Indigo Bunting	2	Nov. 22	T.A. Beckett
Painted Bunting	3	Dec. 3	T.A. Beckett

Reports were received from: The Barringtons(12), T.A. Beckett(41), E.L. Blitch(1) E.B. Chamberlain(4), Mrs. R.H. Coleman(11), E.R. Cuthbert(9), Mrs. Dorothy Glover(11), the Metcalfs(1) and E.A. Williams(7), making a total of 97 observations with 47 species and 9 observers. Thus it is easily seen that late departure dates are much harder to record than early arrivals. The editor hopes that members will examine these reports carefully and call attention to any mistakes in order that they may be corrected before they become permanent records. To be of any value this information should be checked against the early arrival and late departure data as shown in South Carolina Bird Life in order that they may be used in a possible revision of that book.

Burnham Chamberlain says that Mrs. C.D. Miller reports a Hummingbird inside of her greenhouse on Dec. 6. This could possibly be a Rufus Hummingbird as there are some winter records of this bird in this area.

Hybrid Scaup.

On December 15th, the writer was skinning out some duck specimens when Mr. J.D. Hastic came in with what appeared to be a very large Scaup. He remarked that it ~~had~~ had the very noticeable green gloss of the Greater Scaup.

Measurements of the bird leaned toward the Lesser Scaup as did the wing pattern. In most reference books there is no overlap in most measurements of the two species.

Mr. E.B. Chamberlain was asked to check the bird for his opinion as to the possibility of a hybrid. He too agreed that with the exception of the horn measurement there was every indication the bird was a hybrid and the skin was so labeled.

T.A. Beckett, III

RANDOM NOTES.

Venus in the southwest, rising higher and higher above the horizon, is growing more brilliantly beautiful as it travels towards its eastern elongation, that point when it is farthest east of the sun. In early January it and Saturn will travel near each other (apparently) for a short time. Jupiter is still high in the heavens and noticeably bright, but will begin to sink towards the west as winter advances. Late in February Venus and Jupiter will be close enough together (as seen from Earth) to add their double splendor to the magnificence of the winter skies.

..... For the seventeenth consecutive season the Barringtons have had an Orange-crowned Warbler at their bath and feeder, -late this year, being recorded for the first time December 6.

..... Yes, we think The Lesser Scaup's "plumage" is much more sleek since being printed on one side of the page only.

December 1963

L.S.B.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Lady Luck smiled ^{as} on for a change and the morning of the Christmas Bird Count Saturday, Dec. 28 was beautifully clear, though slightly frosty. Thirty seasoned bird counters assembled at the usual starting place, the junction of highways 17 and 41 while it was still dark. One team, the Edwin Blitches and the Roy Bakers, being younger and hardier than some of us, was in the field by 5:00 a.m. to listen for owl calls and when they joined us reported four Barred and one Great-horned Owl. Another team spent the night on a small boat near Bull's Island and canvassed the adjacent waters from dawn till dark.

The final count from 9 teams was 154 species and approximately 25,750 individuals, our best winter record. Some uncommon species were 4 Bald Eagles, 1 Red-breasted Nuthatch, American Merganser, Gray-cheeked and Swainson's Thrushes and 1890 Oyster Catchers. This area has the biggest winter population of Oyster Catchers on the Atlantic coast.

Thanks to the David Freemans of Two Cedars the party had a most pleasant place under the trees for lunch and for comparison of notes.

Thanks are also due to Mr. Henry Johnson, the new manager of the Cape Romaine Refuge, for "ferrying" the party to and from Bull's Island.

The following members and friends took part in the count.

H. E. Armstrong, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Baker, Francis Barrington, T. A. Beckett III, T. A. Beckett IV
B. R. Chamberlain, Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Blitch, E. B. Chamberlain, David Chamberlain, E. C. Clyde of Effingham, S. C., E. A. Cutts, Mrs. R. H. Coleman, J. H. Dichi, R. D. Edwards (McClellanville)
Mrs. Dorothy Glover (Osborne, S. C.) John Horlbeck, Peter Manigault, I. S. H. Metcalf,
John Metcalf, Mr. & Mrs. B. F. McGuckin, Dr. & Mrs. B. B. Owens (New Haven, Conn) Newton Seebeck (Aikin, S. C.) Miss Elizabeth Simons, A. M. Wilcox, and E. A. Williams.

CAROLINA BIRD CLUB FIELD TRIP

The mid-winter field trip of the Carolina Bird Club will be held at New Holland, N.C. (Lake Mattamuskeet) January 17-19, 1964.

Field trips during the morning and afternoon of Saturday, Jan. 18 will include Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter refuges. Large numbers of geese and Whistling Swans should be seen.

Reservations should be made direct/ by ~~1/16~~ with Mr. Jack Osborne, manager of the Mattamuskeet Lodge. Registration will be at the Lodge 2:00 p.m. and after on Friday, Jan. 17.