

Lake Purdy on 26 Dec (DCH). In flocks of 10-12, 59 Greater Yellowlegs were counted flying downriver at dusk on 2 Jan at Decatur (TAI et al.) Knots were recorded frequently on Dauphin Island in the same area and most commonly after freezes, maxima 40 on 8 Jan & 14 Feb, and 52 on 15 Feb (LRT). The latest Dunlin for the Mt. Region was in the Fall report and the latest for the Tennessee Valley were 3 on 25 Nov at Wheeler Refuge (RMB & RGB); the first instances of wintering inland, Lake Purdy through 3 Feb (HHW & PAR) and Eufaula Refuge through 13 Feb, 5 birds (LAE), may mean a scarcity of adequate coastal habitat. Late news of the Buff-breasted Sandpiper; 28 Aug at Wheeler Refuge (MLB) earliest for Tennessee Valley; 14 Sep at Battleship State Park, 9 birds (HMS); 15 Sep at Fort Morgan, 5 (HMS), 15 Sep at Dauphin, 3 (REH, MEM & LRT) added to the Birmingham records (see Fall report) indicate an excellent flight. At Mobile, 33 Avocets on 24 Dec (LRT), about half the highest 20-year max, were the highest this winter; 7 of them showed up on Dauphin on 17 Feb (LRT).

Gulls - Ring-billed Gulls seemed to be more numerous than usual inland at Wheeler Refuge, 501 on 2 Jan (MLB) and at Columbus, Ga, 457 on 2 Jan (LAW); but on the coast were far outnumbered by Herring and Laughing Gulls. Bonaparte's appeared plentiful on the coast especially at Gulf Shores 23-24 Jan (A.O.S.) and inland at Wheeler, 22 on 22 Dec (MLB), a record 33 on 3 Jan (MLB), and 6 on 23 Jan (MLB & ROH); at Phenix City, 8 on 2 Jan (LAW). On 12 Feb on Dauphin Island, a flock of 150 Laughing Gulls showed black heads (LRT).

Woodpecker, Flycatcher, Martin, Crow - Thanks to the locating of a new flock (WFC) a highest ever of 17 Red-cockaded Woodpeckers were recorded on the Birmingham count on 26 Dec (B.A.S.) The early Vermilion Flycatcher on Dauphin in Fall report should read 4 (not 8) Oct. First Purple Martins were noted on 6 Feb at Spring Hill (JLD), on 7 Feb at Mullet Point (RY) and Chickasaw (fide MAG); 9 Feb at Dauphin (LRT); 20 Feb at Marion (HHK), and 24 Feb at Birmingham (HHW). Fish Crows were in Lee County near Phenix City on 17 Feb (LAW).

Nuthatch, Thrushes, Waxwing - The only Red-breasted Nuthatches anywhere were 2 near Birmingham on 26 Dec and 17 Jan (RRR, EGR & JVP). The late Wood Thrush reported on 27 Oct (see Fall report) is exceeded by one belatedly reported for 11 Nov 1969. Twelve Eastern Bluebirds were on Dauphin on 27 Jan (LRT). Cedar Waxwings were well scattered most of the winter, possibly because there were no hackberries to concentrate them in January and February, as normally happens; however, a flock of at least 1800 in an abandoned nursery in Birmingham on 26 Dec (TAI & JMI) gave that count a double highest ever of 1949.

Blackbirds - These birds continue to cause comment in the press about their large concentrations, often in the millions. As long as they have sufficient food, they are not going to be killed off easily. Man himself is the one who provides them with food by his wasteful harvesting techniques and by feeding livestock in the open. As long as this happens, we will have herds of blackbirds. Birmingham, not being agricultural, had few blackbirds until recently. About 100,000 of them roost inside the dynamite plant at Watson, Jefferson Co., where matches and firearms are prohibited. Each morning the birds fan out southward into the city and suburbs to feed on man's tremendous amount of discarded food. As noted under Winter Bird Surveys above, blackbirds can comprise ¼ or more of the local birdlife in winter. A male Baltimore Oriole, a much more interesting blackbird, was seen in Dothan on 8 Jan with Robins feeding on dogwood berries (MLH).

Finches - The date of the large number of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks near Jasper is 2 (not 20) Oct. A male Black-headed Grosbeak visited Lee Ola Dewberry's Smyer Lake feeder from about 20 Jan to at least 24 Feb (LOD, HHW and many); the second inland winter record, first north of the Fall Line. Northern finches were few and far between, understandable in the face of reports of abundant food in northern forests. The few Pine Siskin records (from Birmingham and Mobile only) served to emphasize its scarcity, yet showed that, like the Red-breasted Nuthatch, the species does occur every winter. The probable source of these few birds is the Smokies. Most Birmingham feeders report just a few Purple Finches, but Gaynell Hayward's in Roebuck had 25-30 daily since 9 Nov. Away from these feeders the birds are just about absent. With one exception, nothing unusual has been reported for sparrows all winter. On 15 Feb a Tree Sparrow, only the second positively identified in Alabama, was in a yard in Decatur (CG); the temperature was 5° with 2 inches of snow on the ground. This same weekend, probably the coldest of the winter, 130 Tree Sparrows were counted in Nashville, Tenn. and 9 banded (MLB).

Observers (reporters in capitals) - THOMAS Z. ATKESON, Lois P. Archer, Alabama Ornithological Society, J. Russell Bailey, ANDREW K. BATES, Raymond D. Bates, R. M. Bays, MICHAEL LEE BIERLY, Birmingham Audubon Society, R. G. Bisbee, J. H. Blackwood, Carl H. Bullion, G. Bradley Carlisle, P. F. CHANDLER, Walter F. Coxe, Lee Ola Dewberry, J. L. Dorn, S J, MARY A. GAILLARD, Carolyn Garrett, Harry Geeslin, Henry H. Grammer, Marion L. Hanahan, Roger O. Harshaw, Gaynell Hayward, R. E. Hayward, Dan C. Holliman, John M. Imhof, Thomas A. Imhof, J. E. Keeler, CURTIS L. KINGSBERY, HELEN H. KITTINGER, Ronald D. Kittinger, Richard J. Kittinger, Louise McKinstry, Al D. Miller, Ann L. Miller, Margaret E. Miller, James V. Peavy, Morton H. Perry, M. F. Prather, Elberta G. Reid, ROBERT R. REID, Pat A. Riley, HENRY M. STEVENSON, Sam Tate, James C. Thompson, LIB R. TOENES, Marion M. Waters L. A. WELLS, Harriett H. Wright, Joe L. Wright, R. York.

1036 Pike Road
Birmingham, Alabama 35218



NEW BIRD DATA from the LOWER COASTAL PLAIN

- David H. Turpin -

While a resident of Brewton, Escambia Co., Ala., I had opportunity to make observations of local birdlife which resulted in the following new extreme records of occurrence in the Lower Coastal Plain. Status, written after the locality, is for Lower Coastal Plain, and is marked e for early, l for late, s for spring, and f for fall.

Pied-billed Grebe	15 April 67, 1, Brewton, ls
White Ibis	10 March 64, 2, Brewton, es
Am. Widgeon	9 October 69, 5 males, 7 females, Uriah, ef
White-winged Scoter	9 February 67, 1 imm or female, Brewton, first record
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	7 November 65, 1, Brewton, lf
Chuck-wills-widow	9 July 66, 1, Brewton, lf
Chimney Swift	21 March 65, 2, Brewton, es
Barn Swallow	1 Aug 65, 5, Brewton, lf; 26 Oct 65, 2, Evergreen, lf
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4 October 65, 1, Repton, Conecuh Co., ef
Brown Creeper	16 October 64, 1, Repton, ef
Catbird	13 September 64, 2, Brewton, ef
Robin	2 April 66, 1, Pollard, ls

(continued on page 14)

ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Treasurer's Report, April 24, 1970 - October 24, 1970

INCOME:

Dues	\$ 89.00
Registrations, (Spring Meeting, 126 @ 1.00) (Less rental, projector - 7.50)	118.50
Total	207.50

EXPENSES:

Birdlife (3) issues	651.91
1. Volume 17, Nos. 3 & 4 ----- (Birmingham-Southern College)	236.40
2. Volume 18, No. 1 ----- (Wright's Letter Shop)	233.07
3. Volume 18, No. 2 ----- (Wright's Letter Shop)	182.44
Treasurer: Sybil Hanks	14.69
Postage -----	3.00
Postage, badges, (2) pens -----	11.69
Meetings: (Door Prizes)	22.45
Robert R. Reid, Jr. (Fall Meeting, 1969) ----- (Spring Meeting, 1970) -----	4.75 17.70
Blanche Chapman Estate:	100.00
Bequest transferred from checking account to special fund/B.T.N.B.	
Miscellaneous	.10
(1) Debit Memo	
Total	794.91

SUMMARY:

Balance in checking account/April 24, 1970	774.23
Income	207.50
Total	981.73
Expenses	794.91
Total	186.82
Balance in checking account/October 24, 1970	186.82

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS: B. T. N. B.

Life Membership Fund, 5 Memberships @50.00	250.00
Int./Sept. 30, 1970	74.97
Special Fund: Bequest, B. Chapman Estate	100.00
Total	424.97

TOTAL ASSETS:

Balance in checking account/October 24, 1970	186.82
Balance in savings account/ B.T.N.B./Sept. 30, 1970	424.97
Total	611.79
Total in A. O. S. Treasury/October 24, 1970	611.79

Respectfully submitted,

Sybil Hanks, Treasurer

OFFICIAL LIST OF THE BIRDS OF ALABAMA

Categories:

1 APRIL 1971

"C" for Current - includes all substantiated species with 3 or more records since 1920. To be substantiated, a species must have 1. a documented preserved specimen or recognizable part thereof; or 2. a recognizable documented photograph, preferably in color; or 3. any other documented recognizable concrete evidence (nest); or 4. at least 5 acceptable sight records by at least 3 reputable observers. One banding record or specimen not preserved is here equivalent to 2 sight records. For a sight record to be acceptable, the observer (s) must convince the compiler of the correctness of the identification. (This sub-category with no specimen or photo is marked (s) after the name.)

"A" for Accidental - includes all species with one or two records since 1920.

"E" for Extirpated - includes all species with no records since 1920 or which no longer occur in the state.

"X" for Extinct - includes all species which no longer exist anywhere.

"I" for Introduced - includes all well-established non-native species.

"H" for Hypothetical - includes all species not substantiated for the "Current" category (see above) or whose bona-fide wildness is in doubt.

Other species not listed occur in the wild unquestionably through the agency of man and some of them may eventually become Introduced species. In Alabama these include many waterfowl, gallinaceous birds, and others such as Ringed Turtle Dove, Budgerigar, Roadrunner, Black-billed Magpie, Village Weaver, and Pyrrhuloxia. In many cases, especially categories C4, A, and H, the number of state records is noted in parentheses after the name.

The right-hand column lists extreme dates of occurrence for the species in Alabama and their seasonal status with this legend: P - Permanent Resident, W - Winter, S - Summer, B - Breeding positive, b - Breeding probable. Where two seasons are noted, the principal one is listed first. Transients and visitors are recognized from the dates of occurrence. This list contains all information available to the compiler as of date at top.

C Com Loon	W 3 Oct - 31 May; summers
C Red-throated Loon (s) (14)	W 1 Nov - 1 May
A,H Red-necked Grebe (2)	W 14-15 Dec, 26 Dec
C Horned Grebe	W 30 Sep - 13 May
C Eared Grebe (13)	W 24 Nov - 13 Apr
C Pied-billed Grebe	WPB
A Greater Shearwater (2)	S July, 29 Sep
E Sooty Shearwater (1)	
A,H Wilson's Petrel (1)	27 Aug
10 A,H White-tailed Tropicbird (2)	20 Oct, 2 Aug
C White Pelican	W 18 Sep - 7 Jun; summers
C Brown Pelican	P
H Brown Booby (4)	S 11 - 14 Apr; 18 Jun, 6 Jul, 26 Aug
C Gannet	W 29 Nov - 10 May; summered