

THE BULLETIN

Chapel Hill Bird Club

April, 2003

(Vol. XXXII, No. 4)

c/o Ginger Travis

5244 Old Woods Rd.

Hillsborough, NC 27278

Next meeting: Monday, April 28

Where: Binkley Baptist Church, corner of Willow Dr. and 15-501 Bypass next to University Mall in Chapel Hill. **Note that the meeting room may be in the Fellowship Hall**, if our regular room is still being renovated.

When: 7:15 p.m., refreshments; 7:30 p.m., meeting begins.

Program: Family relationships among Northern Mockingbirds including begging behavior of chicks. Amy Skypala, a doctoral student with Haven Wiley at UNC, will present the program, which is based on her research. The UNC main campus has a lot of mockingbirds wearing bracelets; we'll find out if Amy is the bander!

Next month: year-end potluck picnic and election

The CHBC meets September through May, and we have a fairly new tradition of ending the year with a lakeside picnic in May. This year's potluck picnic with elections will take place on Monday, May 19, at 6:30 p.m., at Lake Crabtree County Park. The park is on Aviation Parkway. Take I-40 east, and the Aviation Parkway exit will be just past RDU airport. Go south a short distance to the park entrance. There is no charge to enter the park. Bring a dish you can share and bring your own utensils and drink. We'll compile a bird list for the event while we eat, talk and vote.

Election slate

Kent Fiala is serving on the nominating committee. He reports that the slate of officers will be the same as those currently serving with the exception of secretary. Karen Piplani, who has completed three years as club secretary, recently began a new, time-consuming job. Karen has done an excellent job as secretary and has also organized the bringers of refreshments. We will really miss her. The list of current officers appears on pages 3-4.

Thanks to our field trip leaders

The last regular Saturday morning field trip took place April 19, and now the focus turns to spring bird counts. As always, thanks are due Doug Shadwick, field trip chair, for a fall, winter and spring's worth of weekly field trips, along with the January weekend trip to the coast. Many thanks, too, to the CHBC members who stepped in and led Saturday morning trips in Doug's absence: Bruce Young, Rob R. and Judy Murray. Good job, guys!

Spring bird counts need you!

No charge to participate; many eyes are needed. Beginners are welcome and will be teamed with more experienced birders.

Durham: 27 April (Sun.)

Contact: Mike Schultz, 919-490-6761
email: ross.gull@verizon.net

Chapel Hill: 4 May (Sun.)

Contact: Will Cook 919-660-7423
email: cwcook@duke.edu

Raleigh/Wake Co.: 10 May (Sat.)

Contacts: John Connors 919-977-0253
email: john.connors@ncmail.net
John Gerwin 919-715-2600
email: ncs1416@mindspring.com
Susan Campbell 910-949-3207
email: ncaves@utinet.net

Jordan Lake: 11 May (Sun.)

Contact: Carol Williamson 919-383-2364
email: cncbdr@aol.com

Wildathon coming May 3, seeks participants

info from Bobbie Collins-Perry

The Wildathon is an annual fund-raiser to benefit our local hotspot, Mason Farm Biological Reserve, as well as the national Audubon Society's coastal breeding sanctuaries in North Carolina and the local New Hope Audubon chapter's educational outreach

activities. In the past, teams competed to find the most species of birds on a given day, with donors contributing so much per species. That concept has expanded to counting other forms of life such as amphibians, reptiles, mammals and plants. Basically, anything goes. If you would like to lead a team, join a team or just support a team with your check, please call the organizer, Bobbie Collins-Perry at 403-8345 or email bobbiecp@yahoo.com.

I need monitoring help, Jordan and Falls Lakes

*by Brian Bockhahn, Park Ranger
Falls Lake Recreation Area*

With the budget crunch and being short staffed I will be in need of help on various monitoring studies at Falls and extending into Jordan Lake. Make your bird trip count for science! Falls Lake is north of Raleigh, NC; Jordan is south of Apex, NC

1. Tree Swallow nest boxes - I have expanded our network of swallow boxes this winter and will need volunteers to "adopt" a site to monitor. This would require visual inspection by BOAT or CANOE. 3 visits from mid-May -July. Anyone wishing to explore nesting potential at Jordan Lake is welcomed as well.

2. Cliff Swallow Nesting - Cliff Swallows nest in large numbers at various bridges over Falls and Jordan Lakes. Volunteers are needed to monitor sites by land, canoe or boat. 3 visits from Mid May - July.

3. Prothonotary Warbler Nest Box Network - I have volunteers who will install nest boxes in the Brickhouse Road Impoundment. Volunteers will be needed to monitor the boxes by CANOE or WADING. 3 visits during breeding season.

4. Osprey Nesting Platforms - Falls has 12 or so nest sites, not sure about Jordan. Volunteers needed to visually monitor sites by land or watercraft. Visits variable.

ALSO need help with SEVERAL other bird surveys, TREEFROG monitoring, MONARCH LARVA monitoring and much much more.

Anyone with knowledge or interests in other monitoring programs are welcomed for new studies. Anyone interested please contact me. Email: Brian.Bockhahn@ncmail.net
Phone: 919/676-1027

Cub Creek heronry numbers down in 2003

by Alan Johnston

I am once again monitoring activity at the Cub Creek Heron Colony just north of Jordan Lake off of Fearrington Road (S.R. 1008). The colony is much smaller this year. Last year at this time there were 50 active Great Blue Heron nests, and the first five chicks were hatched in the week before April 11th.

I started monitoring this year on Feb. 9th, at which time there seemed to be 33 nests left in fairly good shape from the previous year, and several adult herons were in the process of fixing up a few of them. On March 22nd I counted 26 nests. This morning (April 6th), 6 of those nests had been abandoned, with only a few remnant twigs remaining. There are now 20 active nests, with 23 adult herons in attendance at the time I visited (11:00 a.m.). The adults were sitting on 11 of the nests, and standing on the others. Several herons seemed to be poking around at the eggs, but there was no evidence yet of any chicks.

So, why is the colony smaller this year? Perhaps there is some dispersal of nesting sites, as new ones seem to be reported regularly on Carolinabirds. Perhaps the quality of nesting trees at this site is deteriorating over time. The large dead trees which have most of the nests are definitely deteriorating with most of the bark off now, and many limbs falling, and even some whole trees have collapsed. Perhaps it is the incredible impact of the beavers. The environment has clearly changed, with much of the area now in a stagnant, swampy condition. Predators? I noted a large group of Black Vultures hanging around last summer. The only Black Vultures seen today were in the distance. Most of the abandoned or now missing nests were at the periphery of the colony, which is now more tightly bunched.

Still, it was a wonderful Spring morning, and I counted 25 species of birds from my vantage point at the edge of the swamp. The loudest and most persistent were the Ovenbirds calling from several locations around the swamp.

Chimney Swift monitoring

forwarded to Carolinabirds

by Dennis Burnette, 3/31/03

. . . Once again this year we will be tracking the arrival of Chimney Swifts in North America. The first sighting for 2002 was March 5th, so the swifts could already be in south Texas. All reported sightings will be posted on our web site at: <http://www.concentric.net/~Dwa/page48.html>

Paul and Georgean Kyle

North American Chimney Swift Nest Site Research Project

1206 West 38th Street, Suite 1105

Austin, Texas 78705

phone / fax: (512) 266-3861

Visit our web page at:

<http://www.concentric.net/~Dwa>

Predator as prey: Red-shouldered Hawk is taken

by Ginger Travis

On Saturday, April 12, my neighbor Margie Stetson called me to say there were hawk feathers all over our road – a single-lane gravel track through the woods. I drove over to look and she joined me, and, sure enough, there were hawk feathers everywhere: fluffy body feathers and flight feathers, all over the ground beneath the nest tree (a white oak) and drifted north for about 75 feet or so. In hand they looked like adult feathers; the hawk must have been absolutely plucked bare. No body parts strewn about, just feathers. Through binoculars the nest looked like a pillow had burst in it – soft body feathers all over the stick nest, 40 feet up the oak in a three-way branching next to the main trunk. I saw that a bit of fresh red cedar decorated the nest – a sprig brought by the hawks not too long before one of the pair was killed. It was almost unimaginable to me that one of my favorite birds, which I think of as a big, powerful creature, had been slaughtered and plucked – which just shows how little I've experienced of predation.

Margie, her husband Bruce and I picked up a bagful of feathers from the ground and tried to guess which animal was powerful enough to take a fierce Red-shouldered Hawk. Raccoon? Red-tailed Hawk? Great Horned Owl? We have them all in the neighborhood. The owls are recent arrivals; they've come in the last four or five years.

I emailed Helmut Mueller, who has 50 years of experience studying hawks. His reply: "Either Raccoon or Horned Owl. It was most likely predated at night when incubating. It was probably consumed on the nest and whatever body parts were left are still up there. The amount of plucking leads me to believe that Horned Owl is the most likely culprit." When I asked if it was too late this year for the surviving bird to find another mate and try again, Helmut wrote back, "No, it is not too late. It depends on whether he can find a mate quickly. I assume that the female was the victim, since she usually incubates at night. I expect that they will re-nest at some distance from the old nest."

John Terres, in the Audubon encyclopedia, writes that Great Horned Owls are 18 to 25 inches long and have a wingspan of 36 to 60 inches. The female is larger than the male. Weight can range as high as about 2500 grams or about 5 lbs. A female Red-shouldered Hawk, Terres writes, may weigh about 1 lb. 8 oz. Terres lists an extremely wide range of prey items that have been taken by Great Horned Owls, which include skunks, weasels, mink, woodchucks, opossums, snakes, domestic cats, bats, grebes, wild ducks, Canada geese, swans, bitterns, small herons, coots, pheasants, domestic turkeys and chickens, guinea fowl, marsh hawks [Northern Harriers], Cooper's Hawks, Red-tailed and Red-

shouldered Hawks, and Barn, Barred, Long-eared, and screech owls. An Internet site known as the Owl Pages (www.owlpages.com) says Great Horned Owls may take prey 2 to 3 times larger than themselves; prey includes all other owls except Snowy. The only enemies of the Great Horned Owl are others of the same species, the occasional Northern Goshawk, and humans. The territory of a Great Horned Owl is about one square mile, according to the Owl Pages.

On Sunday just before noon, I heard the screams of a Red-shouldered Hawk in the skies above my yard. I hope the bird finds a mate – and a new nest tree remote from the hunting grounds of our neighborhood's top avian predator.

Meal worms: grow your own

Summarized from an article by Scott Shalaway in the Peoria Journal Star newspaper (6/15/02).

Note: CHBC members Maury and Marie Graves summer in Illinois. Maury sent me an interesting article last fall, which he clipped from the paper. Thanks, Maury! G.T.

Heavy users of meal worms, like CHBC member Shelley Theye, who feeds them to Baltimore Orioles in winter, might want to consider growing their own. Here are the directions:

Get a large plastic box with lid such as a sweater box. Put about 3 inches of wheat bran in it (or bran breakfast cereal, rolled oats or cornmeal). Cut an apple in half and push it into the bran, peel side down. Add 50 starter mealworms per square foot within the box. Cover with several layers of brown paper from grocery bags. Drill holes in lid to prevent condensation forming, and place lid on box. Mealworms and food must stay dry.

After several weeks, some mealworms will pupate, then turn into adult darkling beetles. Beetles will mate and lay eggs. Eggs hatch and produce mealworms – about a thousand per square foot of space during a breeding cycle.

The apple will be eaten and should be replaced. You should clean out the container and start anew every 3 months. A healthy box of mealworms is nearly odorless; a bad odor means it's time to clean the box. Starting several containers of mealworms at monthly intervals will allow you to produce evenly. Good luck!

CHBC officers

President: Joe Bearden, 844-9050

Email: chickadeebirders@earthlink.net

Vice-president, Raleigh-Durham: Karen Bearden, same contact info as Joe Bearden

Vice-president, Chapel Hill: Judy Murray, 942-2985

Email: jmurray@unc.edu

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Webmaster, mailing list manager, Carolinabirds list owner,
checklist compiler: Will Cook Email: cwcook@duke.edu
Bulletin editor: Ginger Travis, 942-7746
Email: ginger_travis@unc.edu

Sightings (checklist raw material)

compiled by Will Cook

(A year and a half's worth of notable sightings; these will appear in two parts, this month and next.)

10/20/01 - Black-and-white Warbler (1) - Orange Co. - Ginger Travis
11/2/01 - Pine Siskin (10) - Orange Co. - Barb Brooks
11/5/01 - Rufous Hummingbird (1 female) - yard in Orange Co. - Ginger Travis. Banded by Susan Campbell
11/6/01 - Rufous Hummingbird (1 female) - yard in Orange Co. - Kent Fiala. Banded by Susan Campbell; departed 4/3/02.
11/8/01 - Red-breasted Nuthatch (1) - Durham - Pat Coin
11/8/01 - Merlin (1) - Ebenezer Pt and Seaforth, Jordan Lake - Dan Kaplan
11/9/01 - N Junco (1) - Durham - Pat Coin
11/10/01 - Red-throated Loon (1), Common Loon (2), Ruddy Ducks, Am Coots, Fox Sparrows - Ebenezer Pt, Jordan Lake - Doug Shadwick & CHBC
11/11/01 - Hooded Merganser (4) - Parkwood Lake, Durham - Pat Coin
11/11/01 - WESTERN GREBE (1) - Rollingview SRA, Falls Lake (Durham Co.) - Ricky Davis. Seen by many observers through 11/15. First Falls Lake record.
11/11/01 - AM. WHITE PELICAN (1) - I-85 bridge, Falls Lake (Durham Co.) - RD. Seen by several observers through 11/24.
11/11/01 - Lincoln's Sparrow (1) - Brickhouse Rd, Durham Co. - Will Cook
11/24/01 - Am. White Pelican (1) - I-85 bridge, Falls Lake (Durham Co.) - Steve Shultz
11/24/01 - Surf Scoter (1), White-winger Scoter (1), Greater Scaup (1) - Ebenezer point, Jordan Lake - Gordon Brown
11/25/01 - Lincoln's Sparrow (1) - Brickhouse Rd, Durham Co. - Bruce Young
12/1/01 - Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (1) - Big Woods Rd, Chatham Co. - Chapel Hill Bird Club
12/1/01 - Orange-crowned Warbler (1) - Farrington point, Jordan Lake - Jeff Phippen and Toni Rexrode
12/3/01 - Great Egret (3), N. Shoveler (2), N. Pintail (1), Bonaparte's Gull (400), Least Sandpiper (2) - Falls Lake - Harry LeGrand
12/6/01 - Baltimore Oriole (1 ad male) - yard in n Chatham Co. - Shelley Theye. Also seen 11/24 and 12/12.
12/8/01 - Red-breasted Merganser (6) - Ebenezer point, Jordan Lake - Pat Coin
12/9/01 - Tundra Swan (3), Lesser Scaup (175), Greater Scaup (3), Canvasback (1), Redhead (21), Common Goldeneye (1),

Red-breasted Merganser (5), Lesser Black-backed Gull (1, 1st winter), Great Black-backed Gull (1, 2nd winter) - Falls Lake - Ricky Davis
12/11/01 - Pine Siskin (55) - yard in n Chatham Co. - Shelley Theye
12/14/01 - Osprey (1) - Vista Point, Jordan Lake - Dan Kaplan
12/22/01 - Ruby-throated Hummingbird (1) - Ginger Travis's yard in Orange Co. - banded by Susan Campbell. Still present 1/20/02.
1/10/02 - N. Shoveler (7) - Martha's Chapel Rd., Chatham Co. - Shelley Theye and Jill Froning
1/11/02 - Black-and-white Warbler (1) - Durham - John Frederick
1/14/02 - Great Black-backed Gull (1 adult), Lesser Black-backed Gull (1 adult) - Hickory Hill (Redwood Road) boat ramp, Falls Lake - CHBC
1/19/02 - N Parula (1) - Lake Wheeler Park, Raleigh - Dave Murdock
1/20/02 - Common Goldeneye (1) - Hickory Hill (Redwood Road) boat ramp, Falls Lake - Josh Rose
1/21/02 - White-eyed Vireo (1) - Ellerbe Creek greenway trail, Durham - Dan Kaplan
1/30/02 - Blue-winged Teal (3), Greater Scaup (6) - Hwy 55 wastewater plant, Durham Co. - Rob Gluck
2/1/02 - Great Egret (1) - Butner Gamelands, Durham Co. - Jim Bloor
2/9/02 - Palm Warbler (1) - Old Hope Valley Farm Rd - Will Cook
2/19/02 - Fish Crow (1) - Durham - Pat Coin
3/1/02 - COMMON RAVEN (1) - Occoneechee Mtn, Orange Co. - Brian Bockhahn
3/3/02 - Osprey (1) - Mason Farm - Kate Finlayson
3/14/02 - Great Blue Heron - 32 active nests and 52 adult herons - Cub Creek, Jordan Lake - Alan Johnston
3/16/02 - Yellow-throated Warbler (1) - Mason Farm - Alan Johnston
3/23/02 - Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (1) - New Hope Cr impoundment on NC54, Durham Co. - Lisa Dailey. Also seen 5/19 and 5/25.
3/24/02 - Great Blue Heron nest (1) - Bolin Creek near Pinehurst Dr, Chapel Hill - Rob Gluck
3/25/02 - Ruby-throated Hummingbird (1) - Duke campus - Anne Phippen
3/26/02 - Solitary Sandpiper (1) farm pond in Hillsborough - Greg Dodge. Also seen 3/31/02.
3/29/02 - Ruby-throated Hummingbird (1) - Durham - Jeff Phippen
3/29/02 - Baltimore Oriole (1) - yard in n Chatham Co. - Shelley Theye. Departure date of overwintering bird.
3/30/02 - Vesper Sparrow (2) - Blackwood Division, Duke Forest (Orange Co.) - Jeff Phippen
4/1/02 - N Harrier (1), Palm Warbler (1) - Dairyland Rd, Orange Co. - Shantanu Phukan
4/1/02 - Ruby-throated Hummingbird (1) - yard in n Chatham Co. - Shelley Theye
4/1/02 - Chimney Swift (20) - downtown Chapel Hill - Ginger Travis

4/3/02 - Rufous Hummingbird (1) - departure date for bird overwintering in Kent's yard in Orange County - Kent Fiala. First seen 11/6/01.

4/7/02 - Caspian Tern (2), Forster's Tern (1) - Crosswinds Marina, Jordan Lake - Shelley Theye and Lee Van Malssen

4/7/02 - Mute Swan (6), Ruddy Duck (2) - gravel pit pond in NW Orange Co. - Barb Brooks

4/7/02 - Blackburnian Warbler (1) - Durham - Jim Bloor

4/13/02 - Dark-eyed Junco (2) - Orange Co. - Ginger Travis (departure date)

4/16/02 - Blue Grosbeak (1) - Orange Co. - Ginger Travis

4/18/02 - Blue-winged Warbler (1) - Mason Farm - Jeff Pippen

4/20/02 - Rose-breasted Grosbeak (1) - Durham - Edith Tatum

4/21/02 - Blue-winged Warbler (1) - Mason Farm - Elisa Enders

4/22/02 - Warbling Vireo (2) - Anilorac Farm, Orange Co. - Shantanu Phukan. Also present 4/28 and 5/9 (Kent Fiala). Back at the same spot where they've nested

4/25/02 - SWALLOW-TAILED KITE (1) - Haw River at 15-501, near Bynum, Chatham Co. - Chris Canfield. First report for Chatham County and only the second or third local sighting.

4/29/02 - Dickcissel (1 female) - Anilorac Farm, Orange Co. - Shantanu Phukan. Also 5/9 (Kent Fiala).

5/1/02 - Common Loon (7), Great Egret (9), Dunlin (1), Laughing Gull (1) - Falls Lake - Brian Bockhahn. Brian found 106 bird species in a 24-hour period, along with 10 species of mammals, 11 reptiles, 13 amphibians, 23 butterflies, 25 odonates, and 5 fireflies!

5/3/02 - Lesser Black-backed Gull (1 first-winter) - Crosswinds Marina, Jordan Lake - Doug Shadwick

5/4/02 - Rose-breasted Grosbeak (5 males) - yard in n Chatham Co. - Shelley Theye. Grosbeak(s) were seen daily for 12 days in a row (since 4/23/02).

5/5/02 - ANHINGA (5: 3 f, 2 m) - soaring over Watts-Hillandale neighborhood in Durham - Dan Kaplan. Definitely the biggest flock ever seen around here!

5/5/02 - Willet (11) - Farrington Point, Jordan Lake - Pat Coin, Steve Perry et al. (on Jordan Lake spring count). Quite rare in spring and an astounding number!

5/5/02 - Great Blue Heron (58 nests with 38 young and 47 adults) - Cub Creek, Jordan Lake - Alan Johnston et al.

5/8/02 - Gray-cheeked Thrush (1) - Duke Gardens - Jim Bloor

5/10/02 - Canada Warbler (1), Blackburnian Warbler (1) - Mason Farm - Mike Skakuj

5/14/02 - Dark-eyed Junco (1) - Zebulon - Debbie Merritt

5/15/02 - Blackpoll Warbler (5), Bay-breasted Warbler (1) - Mason Farm - Mike Skakuj

5/15/02 - BICKNELL'S THRUSH (1) - Cary - Gordon Brown. Seen; heard singing and calling. Also present 5/16/02. Only the second local report.

5/17/02 - Mississippi Kite (1), Broad-winged Hawk (1) - NC 751, Chatham Co. - Mike and Lois Schultz

5/19/02 - Northern Waterthrush (1) - Mason Farm - Sandy Cash

5/20/02 - Bank Swallow (1) - Jordan Lake - Mike Skakuj

5/21/02 - Black-throated Blue Warbler (1 female) - yard in Orange Co. - Ginger Travis

5/21/02 - Black-throated Green Warbler (2) - Durham - Charles Boyce

5/23/02 - Northern Harrier (1) - flying over 15-501 in Durham - Josh Rose

5/25/02 - Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (6), New Hope Cr impoundment on NC54, Durham Co. - Lisa Dailey

5/25/02 - Great Blue Heron - 51 active nests with 18 adult and 104 baby herons, Cub Creek, Jordan Lake - Alan Johnston. The first young were born shortly before 4/11.

6/15/02 - White Ibis (28 imm), Old Hope Valley Farm Rd., Jordan Lake - Cynthia Fox

6/16/02 - Cedar Waxwing (3), Norm's yard in Orange Co. - Norm Budnitz

6/16/02 - Great Blue Heron - nest with two chicks, Big Woods Rd., Chatham Co. - Shelley Theye

6/18/02 - Black-and-white Warbler (2) - near US 1 and NC 55 intersection, sw Wake Co. - Emily Minor

6/23/02 - Cedar Waxwing (2) - Umstead SP, Raleigh - Will Cook

6/24/02 - Sharp-shinned Hawk (1) - Chapel Hill - Helmut Mueller

7/7/02 - Black-and-white Warbler (1) - yard in Orange Co. - Norm Budnitz

7/7/02 - Great Blue Heron - summary of 2002 nesting at Cub Creek, Jordan Lake - during 8 visits between 3/14 and 7/7, recorded a total of 63 nests, maximum of 94 adults and 132 baby herons - Alan Johnston

7/10/02 - White Ibis (10 imm), Great Egret (6) - 751 bridge, Jordan Lake - Rob Gluck

7/14/02 - Black-and-White Warbler (1) - Mason Farm - Amalie Tuffin

7/19/02 - Caspian Tern (1) - Jordan Lake - Judy Murray

The 2002 shorebird invasion was definitely one for the record books, perhaps the best shorebird season locally since 1983, when Falls and Jordan lakes were finally filled. Due to an extreme drought, area lake levels were very low and mudflats and shorebirds plentiful from mid-July until the flooding rains came in mid-October. Ricky Davis kicked off the season with this outstanding report:

7/21/02 - WOOD STORK (2), Greater (5) and Lesser (3) Yellowlegs, Spotted (10), Solitary (7), Semipalmated (25), Western (11), Least (55), Pectoral (45), and Stilt Sandpiper (9) - New Hope Creek, Jordan Lake - Ricky Davis. Wood Storks were relocated 7/27 and 7/28. First sighting of Wood Stork for Jordan Lake, second local report.

7/21/02 - Greater Yellowlegs (1), Spotted (5), Solitary (1), Semipalmated (10), Western (3), Least (30), Pectoral (20), Stilt Sandpiper (1), and Sanderling (1) - Falls Lake - Ricky Davis

7/21/02 - Cedar Waxwing (3), American Redstart (1), Black-and-White Warbler (1) - Mason Farm - Amalie Tuffin

7/22/02 - American Avocet (2 ad), Short-billed Dowitcher (1 ad) - New Hope Creek, Jordan Lake - Mike Skakuj

7/24/02 - Killdeer (102), Semipalmated Plover (3 ad), Pectoral Sandpiper (87), Semipalmated Sandpiper (76), Stilt Sandpiper (2 ad) - New Hope Creek, Jordan Lake - Mike Skakuj

7/27/02 - Great Egret (120), White Ibis (6), Am. Black Duck (2), Semipalmated Plover (6), Stilt Sandpiper (12) - New Hope Creek, Jordan Lake - Jeff Pippen

7/28/02 - Black Tern (1 in breeding plumage), Wood Stork (1) - New Hope Creek, Jordan Lake - Matt Chytka, Rick Payne et al.

8/3/02 - Willet (1), Ruddy Turnstone (1) Black-bellied Plover (1) Western Sandpiper (1) Least Sandpiper (29) Semipalmated Sandpiper (27) Semipalmated Plover (12) Stilt Sandpiper (7) Pectoral Sandpiper (64) Greater Yellowlegs (2) Lesser Yellowlegs (83) Spotted Sandpiper (16) Solitary Sandpiper (3) Killdeer (93) - New Hope Creek, Jordan Lake - Mike Skakuj et al.

8/3/02 - Great Blue Heron (75), Great Egret (60), Snowy Egret (1), Little Blue Heron (12), White Ibis (1), Glossy Ibis (2), Mallard (25), Bald Eagle (6), Black-bellied Plover (1), Semipalmated Plover (20), Killdeer (50), Lesser Yellowlegs (25), Solitary Sandpiper (1), Spotted Sandpiper (5), Semipalmated Sandpiper (150), Western Sandpiper (6), Least Sandpiper (25), Pectoral Sandpiper (50), Stilt Sandpiper (16), Purple Martin (5), N Rough-winged Swallow (2), Barn Swallow (50), Cliff Swallow (1) - Morgan Creek, Jordan Lake, Chapel Hill Bird Club

8/8/02 - White-rumped Sandpiper (1 ad), BAIRD'S SANDPIPER (1 adult) - New Hope Creek, Jordan Lake, Mike Skakuj

8/11/02 - Black-Bellied Plover (5), Semipalmated Plover (63), Greater Yellowlegs (2), Lesser Yellowlegs (25), Solitary Sandpiper (6), Willet (2) (Olive Grove area), Spotted Sandpiper (12), Ruddy Turnstone (1), Sanderling (3), Semipalmated Sandpiper (80), Western Sandpiper (14), Least Sandpiper (100), White-rumped Sandpiper (70), Pectoral Sandpiper (130), Stilt Sandpiper (15), Short-billed Dowitcher (1) - Falls Lake - Ricky Davis

8/16/02 - Stilt Sandpiper (24, 22 ad, 2 juv), Black Tern (1) - west from Lake Ridge Airport, Falls Lake - Mike Skakuj

8/17/02 - Ruddy Turnstone (1), American Avocet (1), Willet (1), Pectoral Sandpiper (162, including 1 leucistic individual), Baird's Sandpiper (1), Black Tern (3), Little Blue Heron (3), Snowy Egret (1) - New Hope Creek mudflats, Jordan Lake - Mike Skakuj and CHBC

8/18/02 - PIPING PLOVER (1), Black Tern (9), Willet (1) - Olive Grove Church Road mudflats, Falls Lake - Bert Fisher and Les Todd

8/18/02 - RED KNOT (1) - New Hope Creek mudflats, Jordan Lake - Doug Shadwick

8/19/02 - Wilson's Phalarope (5), Blue-winged Teal (6) - New Hope Creek mudflats, Jordan Lake - Doug Shadwick

8/21/02 - Piping Plover (1), Stilt Sandpiper (6, 4 ad, 2 juv), Wilson's Phalarope (1), Caspian Tern (2), Black Tern (1) - Falls Lake, Mike Skakuj, Will Cook

8/21/02 - MARBLED GODWIT (1) - 751 bridge, Jordan Lake - Bruce Young

8/22/02 - Wilson's Phalarope (8, 7 juv 1 ad) Stilt Sandpiper (9, 2 juv 7 ad) Pectoral Sandpiper (142) Western Sandpiper (23 juv) Marbled Godwit (1 juv) Short-billed Dowitcher (8 juv) Long-billed Dowitcher (1 juv) Black Tern (2) Blue-winged Teal (12) - 751 bridge, Jordan Lake - Mike Skakuj

8/22/02 - Sora (1) - New Hope Creek mudflats, Jordan Lake - Jeremy Hyman and Barbara Ballentine

8/23/02 - Western (25), Semipalmated Sand. (2), Least (5), Wilson's Phalarope (5), Short-billed Dowitchers (6 juv.), Black-bellied Plover (1), Lesser Yellowlegs (17), Greater Yellowlegs

(1), Black Tern (3), Snowy Egret (1) - 751 bridge, Jordan Lake - Mike Skakuj

8/25/02 - Ring-billed Gull (4), Caspian Tern (4), Snowy Egret (4) - Jordan Lake - Ginger Travis

8/25/02 - Semipalmated Plover (8), Lesser Yellowlegs (54), Stilt Sandpiper (14, 6 ad 8 juv.), Pectoral (82), Western (38, 37 juv., 1 ad) Semipalmated Sand. (13 juv.) Least (39 juv.), Short-billed Dowitcher (13, 4 ad, 9 juv.), Wilson's Phalarope (6 juv.), Little Blue Heron (3 juv.), Caspian Tern (2 ad), Forster's Tern (1 ad) - 751 bridge, Jordan Lake - Mike Skakuj

8/25/02 - BAIRD'S SANDPIPER (3), PIPING PLOVER (1), Short-billed Dowitcher (15), Sanderling (5), Caspian Tern (4) - Cheek Road causeway, Falls Lake - Bert Fisher, Leto Copeley, and Les Todd

8/26/02 - Black-bellied Plover (1 ad), Semipalmated Plover (12), Lesser Yellowlegs (32), Solitary Sandpiper (1), Stilt Sandpiper (16, 12 juv. 4 ad.), Pectoral Sandpiper (53), Western Sandpiper (59, 57 juv. 2 ad), Semipalmated Sandpiper (36 juv.), Least Sandpiper (35), Wilson's Phalarope (8 juv.) - 751 bridge, Jordan Lake - Mike Skakuj

8/29/02 - Dark-eyed Junco (1) - Morrisville, Wake Co. - Doug Shadwick

9/1/02 - SACRED IBIS (1) - Lake Orange, Loretta Lowe. This presumed escape, which was photographed, was also seen in a couple of other spots in the state, including Greensboro!

9/2/02 - Sanderling (1), White-rumped Sandpiper (37), Baird's Sandpiper (1), Black Tern (18), Caspian Tern (4) - Little Lick Creek and Panther Creek, Falls Lake, Mike Skakuj

9/2/02 - RUFF (1) - Ellerbe Cr, Falls Lake - Les Todd. Les's description: "This bird is mostly brown above with splotches of black on the neck, breast, and a bit on the flanks. The first impression is a long-legged, long-necked, but plump-bodied, dark shorebird. Very erect posture. Bill is dark with reddish tint toward base, about the same length (maybe a bit longer) than the length of the head, stout at the base and drooping slightly at the tip. Legs are yellow-green and extend beyond the tail in flight." Not relocated. There are two other local reports.

9/4/02 - Pied-billed Grebe - Durham Co. - Pat Coin

9/7/02 - American Golden-Plover (1 adult in breeding plumage), White-rumped Sandpiper (3), Northern Harrier (1) - Falls Lake, CHBC

9/8/02 - Buff-breasted Sandpiper (1 juv.), Least Sandpiper (227) - Falls Lake - Mike Skakuj

9/8/02 - Little Blue Heron (1), Great Egret (178), Great Blue Heron (78), Virginia Rail (1), Northern Harrier (1), Merlin (1), Semipalmated Plover (9), Lesser Yellowlegs (65), Spotted Sandpiper (1), Sanderling (3), Semipalmated Sandpiper (45), Western Sandpiper (75), Least Sandpiper (185), White-rumped Sandpiper (37), Baird's Sandpiper (1), Pectoral Sandpiper (80), Short-billed Dowitcher (5), Stilt Sandpiper (12) - Ellerbe Cr mudflats, Falls Lake (Durham Co.) - Bert Fisher and Les Todd

9/11/02 - Great Blue Heron (70), Great Egret (210), Semipalmated Plover (5), Pectoral Sandpiper (6), Least Sandpiper (70), Semipalmated Sandpiper (5), Western Sandpiper (1), White-rumped Sandpiper (2), Sanderling (5) - Falls Lake - Jeff Pippen

To be continued next month.