

CONTINENTAL BIRDLIFE

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 6, DECEMBER 1979

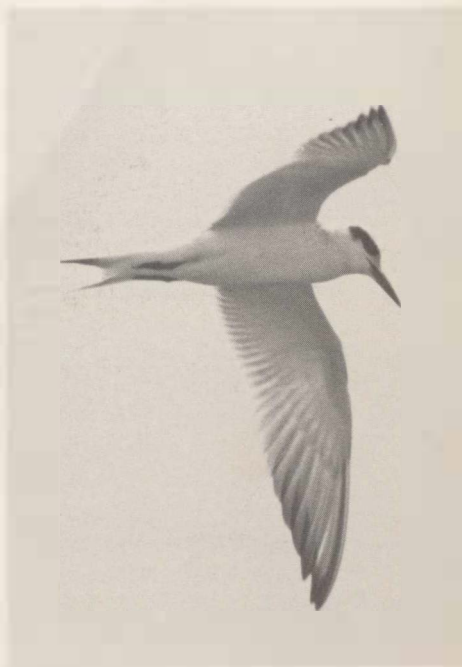
CONTENTS

- 133 Plumage Variation in Female Black-throated Blue Warblers
/ *Kenneth C. Parkes*
- 136 Additions to "The Birds of Suriname" / *Thomas H. Davis*
- 146 Answer to Snap Judgment 5 / *Wayne Hoffman*
- 147 News and Notices
- 148 Book Reviews / *Edited by Elaine Cook*
- 155 Recent Literature in Field Ornithology
- 160 Announcement: Scheduling and Subscription Renewals

Snap Judgment 6

On an autumn day at a southern beach, you look up to see a tern flying past. To what species does it belong?

The answer, a discussion of the criteria for identification, and the name of the photographer will appear in the February 1981 issue of *Continental Birdlife*.





CONTINENTAL BIRDLIFE

A JOURNAL OF NORTH AMERICAN FIELD ORNITHOLOGY

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 6

DECEMBER 1979

CONTINENTAL BIRDLIFE

A Bimonthly Journal of North American Field Ornithology

Editor / KENN KAUFMAN

Associate Editor / JANET WITZEMAN

Assistant Editor / ELAINE COOK

Photographic Consultant / ROBERT A. WITZEMAN

Design Director / MARILYN HOFF STEWART

Production Advisor / JAK A. KEYSER

Production & Circulation / JANET WITZEMAN

Effective with Volume 2, subscriptions are \$12.00 annually in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, \$13.50 elsewhere. All subscriptions are by calendar year. Make checks or money orders payable to Continental Bird Observatory, Inc.

Address all communications to:

Continental Birdlife
Post Office Box 43294
Tucson
Arizona 85733

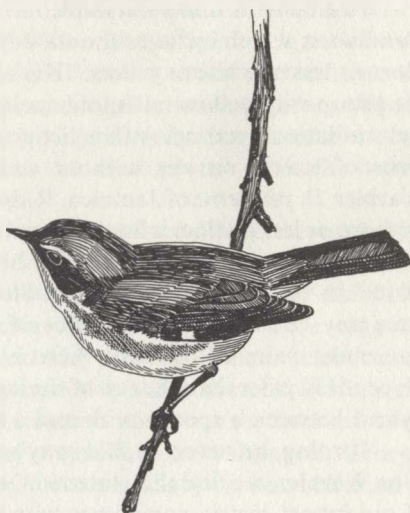
Drawings in this issue: Magpie Tanager *Cissopis leveriana* on p. 144 and Adeline Penguins *Pygoscelis adeliae* on p. 152 by Marilyn Hoff Stewart; Black-throated Blue Warbler *Dendroica caerulescens* on p. 133, Olive-sided Flycatcher *Nuttallornis borealis* on p. 136, and Sandhill Crane *Grus canadensis* on p. 154 by Kenn Kaufman.

Cover photograph: A Long-billed Curlew *Numenius americanus* follows the receding tide at Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico. Photographed in late autumn 1979 by Dr. Robert A. Witzeman.

CONTINENTAL BIRDLIFE

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 6, DECEMBER 1979

*Discovery of an
unusual specimen prompts
a leading ornithologist
to re-examine . . .*



Plumage Variation in Female Black-throated Blue Warblers

KENNETH C. PARKES

For the past several years, Mr. William Bartolo of Youngstown, Ohio, has been salvaging dead birds at the WFMJ-TV tower in Youngstown on behalf of Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh. Among the birds picked up on 13 October 1977 was an obscure warbler that Mr. Bartolo had some difficulty in identifying. At first, I, too, found it puzzling. The body color was basically that of a female Black-throated Blue Warbler *Dendroica caerulescens*: dark greenish above, dirty white washed with dull buffy yellow below, with sides and flanks of a nondescript color partaking of green, gray and buff. The abdomen was whitish, the under tail coverts distinctly washed with yellowish buff. There were *no* distinct markings of any kind on body, wings, or tail. When the bird was made up into a study skin, the preparator, Christopher C. Fichtel, noted that it had a partially pneumatized cranium and a small bursa of Fabricius — in other words, a bird in its first basic plumage, or HY (hatching year) of banding terminology. The ovary appeared immature.

As a student of hybrid warblers, my first reaction was of course that this bird must be a hybrid. If so, then one of the parents had to be a Black-throated Blue Warbler, not only because of the general body color but also because the outer webs of the rectrices were faintly washed with bluish gray. The hybrid theory was invoked to account for the lack of any distinct whitish markings.

I knew that the whitish speculum at the base of the primaries is often obscure or even missing in first-year female Black-throated Blue Warblers, as correctly shown on plate 52 of Peterson (1947) (although both the plate caption and the text are

misleading in their clear implication that this plumage of fall "immatures" is found in *both sexes*). I had, however, wrongly believed that distinct white spots on the rectrices constituted a consistent character of the genus *Dendroica* (except in the Yellow Warbler *D. petechia*, in which the tail-spots are yellow).

This belief is understandable in view of Ridgway's (1902) diagnosis of the genus *Dendroica*, which includes the statement "inner webs of lateral rectrices always with more or less of white or yellow." His key to the species of *Dendroica*, after disposing of the group with yellow tail-spots, includes a couplet in which the first choice is "Inner webs of lateral rectrices with a distinct patch or spot of white;" the alternative, "Inner webs of lateral rectrices without white spots," applies *only* to the Arrow-headed Warbler *D. pharetra* of Jamaica. Ridgway explains in a footnote that *D. pharetra* has "a more or less distinct white terminal *margin*, but no approach to the form of a spot." Thus this one species accounts for his deliberately vaguely worded "more or less of white" in the generic diagnosis quoted above. The Youngstown specimen does not have any "distinct patch or spot of white" on the rectrices. On each of the two outermost pairs of rectrices there is a subterminal area, vague in outline, that is perceptibly paler than the rest of the inner web. It looks like what one might expect of a hybrid between a species with and a species without distinct white tail-spots.

Turning, however, to Ridgway's actual description of the female Black-throated Blue Warbler, we find this statement, said to apply to both age classes, "the inner web of outermost rectrix sometimes with an indistinct paler, rarely whitish, subterminal spot." Thus Dwight (1900) obviously erred in stating that the female Black-throated Blue Warbler in "first winter plumage" (= first basic plumage) lacks the "white blotches" in the tail he described for the adult. The Youngstown specimen, by having the indistinct light patch on the *two* outermost pairs of rectrices, actually has more tail markings than called for by Ridgway. Examination of additional specimens indicates that such markings on the second outermost rectrices are not uncommon in adult females, but no other first-year female matched the Youngstown bird. In any case, few if any females of this species would be identifiable using Ridgway's key, which calls for all *Dendroica* except *pharetra* to have "a distinct patch or spot of white" on the lateral rectrices. In only a few adult female specimens are these spots anything like "distinct."

The most detailed plumage descriptions that have appeared in the literature of North American birds since Ridgway are those of Oberholser (1974). His description of the rectrices of the female Black-throated Blue Warbler is accurate, but he failed to note that the white spot at the base of the primaries may sometimes be lacking. Neither Oberholser nor Ridgway nor any of the other descriptions I have read makes any allowance for absence of the whitish or yellowish superciliary line; in fact, field guide descriptions and book illustrations in general indicate this line as highly conspicuous. In the Youngstown specimen the pale superciliary is almost completely lacking, and it undoubtedly would have been invisible under field conditions. The specimen is asymmetrical in its facial markings. On the left side there are grayish white feathers only immediately above and below the eye, nowhere near closely enough approaching to be called an eyering. On the right side, four or five feathers posterior to the supraorbital mark are whitish *at the base only*, so that no light "line" is visible when the feathers are lying in their normal position. Oddly enough, I find that asymmetry in the relative development of the superciliary line is fairly common in both age classes of females of this species.

The only color plate I have seen that portrays both the adult and "immature" females of the Black-throated Blue Warbler is that of Peterson (1947), in which the

under tail coverts are shown as whitish in both age classes. Robbins (1964) describes the underparts of adult females as "pale buffy yellowish" and their under tail coverts as "cream." He gives no general underparts color for "immature" females, but describes the under tail coverts as "yellowish." In virtually all of 30 female specimens of the nominate race (not counting nestlings), the under tail coverts are either concolorous with the lower abdomen or noticeably paler. In the Youngstown specimen, the crissum is distinctly of a richer buff than the adjacent lower abdomen, which is whiter than the more anterior underparts. This brightness of the under tail coverts, together with the reduction or absence of markings already described, led briefly to a consideration of the Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas* as the other parent while the hybrid theory was still entertained.

The Youngstown specimen is *structurally* typical of the Black-throated Blue Warbler, and it must simply be considered as a variant of that species — there is no need to invoke hybrid origin. Descriptions of females in their first fall should be amended to include the possibility of the superciliary line as well as the white wingspot being absent, and the under tail coverts being noticeably richer buff than the abdomen. When compared with the rest of the series in Carnegie Museum of Natural History, the Youngstown specimen is seen to exhibit the extreme condition in both of these characters. It is approached in crissum color by a specimen from Roswell, Georgia collected 28 October 1917, and in reduction of the superciliary by one collected at Beaver, Pennsylvania on 16 September 1909.

LITERATURE CITED

- DWIGHT, JONATHAN, JR. 1900. The sequence of plumages and moults of the passerine birds of New York. *Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci.* 13: 73-360.
- OBERHOLSER, HARRY C. 1974. *The Bird Life of Texas*. Austin and London, University of Texas Press.
- PETERSON, ROGER TORY. 1947. *A Field Guide to the Birds*, 2nd revised and enlarged ed. Boston, Houghton Mifflin.
- RIDGWAY, ROBERT. 1902. The birds of North and Middle America. *U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull.* 50, Part 2.
- ROBBINS, CHANDLER S. 1964. A guide to the aging and sexing of wood warblers (Parulidae) in fall. *EBBA News* 27: 199-215.

Author's address: Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

The small nation of Suriname, on the northern rim of South America, has become a favorite destination for traveling birders. This summary of recent discoveries will aid the visitor in knowing what to look for.



Additions to The Birds of Suriname

THOMAS H. DAVIS

In 1968 Francois Haverschmidt published *Birds of Surinam* (now spelled "Suriname"). This book presented a modern account of a little-known avifauna, graced with numerous, lavish illustrations by Paul Barruel.

In 1968 a 'modern' account of the Suriname avifauna detailed mainly the coastal and savanna habitats within 60 kilometers of the coast, and what I regard as "transitional forest" along the Afobaka highway from Phedra and Brokopondo south to Afobaka Lake. This transitional forest contains elements of savanna and interior forest types, as well as coastal species inland along the broader rivers. At that time only scattered specimen reports existed for much of the interior, and virtually nothing from elevations exceeding 200 meters. In 1968, 600 species were listed for Suriname.

Birds of Surinam attracted much attention from amateur and professional ornithologists. Notable among the latter was Gerlof Mees; his widespread investigations and subsequent publications form the backbone of my summary below. The avifauna of the Sipaliwini savanna on the Brazilian border, the Voltzberg — Raleigh Falls area, and Brownsberg at 500m elevation are now reasonably well known. Yet there are still fertile fields for investigation — higher elevations (exceeding 1000m at Tafelberg), Brazilian border forests, and the offshore shelf waters.

This report presents a summary of 56 species additions to Haverschmidt's work. These include published and unpublished specimen and sight records through 1979 segregated into two categories. Where published accounts gave subspecies designations these are repeated here; otherwise the subspecies question is ignored. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow the works of R. Meyer de Schauensee and others (1966, 1970, 1978). In general, specimens credited to either Mees or Renssen are deposited in the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie at Leiden, the Netherlands.

Part 1. Specimen records (39), banding recoveries (2), and sight reports supported by overwhelming documentation (6):

GREATER SHEARWATER

Puffinus gravis

In June 1974 a number of dead shearwaters were found along the coast east of Paramaribo. One of these birds was preserved and sent to the Museum of Natural History in Leiden, Netherlands, where it was pronounced an immature Greater in emaciated condition (Mees 1976).

LITTLE EGRET

Egretta garzetta

A nestling banded 11 June 1968 at Doñana, Spain (San Sebastian scheme, Ring No. H15215) was shot 3 June 1969 at Paramaribo (Th. A Renssen, *vide* A.L. Spaans). Occurrence of this Old World egret in Suriname is surprising but perhaps not totally unexpected, as there are previous records for the eastern Caribbean region at Barbados, Martinique, and Trinidad (Meyer de Schauensee 1966).

(GREAT) SKUA

Catharacta ssp?

Remains washed ashore 5 May 1976 along the Nickerie coast — “. . . the best at this moment is to give the record without subspecific identification . . . [but] the bird belongs to one of the ssp. breeding in the Southern hemisphere” (A.L. Spaans, in prep.).

ROSEATE TERN

Sterna dougallii

Spaans (1978) notes the absence of Suriname reports in literature “but data from the Bird Banding Laboratory indicate that several Roseate Terns banded in U.S.A. have been recovered in Surinam.”

A search of the files at the Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland, revealed five Suriname recoveries processed through August 1978, as follows:

- 483 - 86482. Caught due to injury near Paramaribo at the mouth of the Suriname River. Reported by a letter dated 3 December 1955.
 533 - 90107. Recovered without details near Nickerie at the mouth of the Corantijn River. Reported by a letter dated 8 March 1955.
 533 - 90788. Caught by hand at Afobaka Lake 4 March 1955. Although this locality lies about 130km inland, there exists another record for a storm-blown seabird at this large man-made lake: a Sooty Tern *S. fuscata* was found dead here 15 January 1964 (Haverschmidt 1968).
 553 - 91177. Shot near Nickerie. Reported by a letter dated 1 December 1955.
 563 - 99575. Caught due to exhaustion near Nickerie 29 November 1957.

— *Note: all of these birds were banded in Massachusetts under Dr. Oliver L. Austin's permit. The records are included here with the kind permission of Dr. Ian C. T. Nisbet.*

Suriname apparently lies at the far periphery of the wintering range for the North American population of Roseate Tern. Meyer de Schauensee (1966) states that they winter chiefly in the eastern Caribbean and adjacent Atlantic and cites no definite records east of Venezuela. The tabulation of recoveries received from the Bird Banding Laboratory included the entire Guianan region with over 200 Guianan recoveries, the five above-mentioned Suriname recoveries, and only one French Guianan recovery.

PEACH-FRONTED PARAKEET

Aratinga a. aurea

Three specimens collected 30-31 January 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna (Renssen 1974a). Also recorded by Mees and Spaans in other months of the year, probably resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

FERRUGINOUS PYGMY-OWL

Glaucidium brasilianum phaloenoides

One collected 21 January 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna in a Mauritia Palm swamp (Renssen 1974a).

SEMICOLLARED NIGHTHAWK

Lurocalis semitorquatus

This species was noted for the Guianas by Meyer de Schauensee (1966), although not included for Suriname by Haverschmidt (1968). The author, with Guy Tudor, Michael Gochfeld, G. Stuart Keith, and others, has observed this distinctive dark short-tailed nighthawk in Suriname on numerous occasions. The small size of these birds suggests one of the northern subspecies but one of the southern migratory races might also occur in the summer months. This species prefers forest edge and small clearings. Months of observation are late January to early April, and early November, at the following localities (see Figure 1):

1. About 200m east of the Afobaka highway along the Carolina road.
2. Five kilometers west of Kraka along the Zanderij road.
3. Several kilometers north of Brownsweg along the road to Berg en Dal.
4. Brownsberg Nature Park, mainly at the guesthouse clearing and the intersection of the Mazaroni Plateau and main jeep roads.
5. Along the Coppename River en route from Witagron (Bitagron is a frequent misspelling) to Raleigh Falls.
6. Foengoe Island at Voltzberg — Raleigh Falls Nature Reserve, at the airstrip and over the Coppename River.

RUFIOUS NIGHTJAR

Caprimulgus r. rufus

Collected 26 October 1965 near Brownsweg (Mees 1968).

WHITE-COLLARED SWIFT

Streptoprocne zonaris

This large, distinctive-looking swift was first observed 14 February 1974 at Foengoe Island (T.H. Davis, G. Tudor *et al.*). It has subsequently been noted in flocks of up to 30 individuals here and at nearby Voltzberg in the months of March, April, August, and September (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.). Whether these sightings pertain to migrants or to a breeding population is not yet clear.

GREAT-BILLED HERMIT

Phaethornis malaris

Collected along the Suriname River at Ligolio 19 July 1965 and Brokopondo 1 March 1966 (Mees 1977).

HORNED SUNGEM

Heliactin cornuta

Collected 26 January 1966 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1968). Also recorded here by Mees and Spaans in other months, probably resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

LONG-BILLED STARTHROAT

Heliomaster l. longirostris

Collected 10 February 1966 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1968).

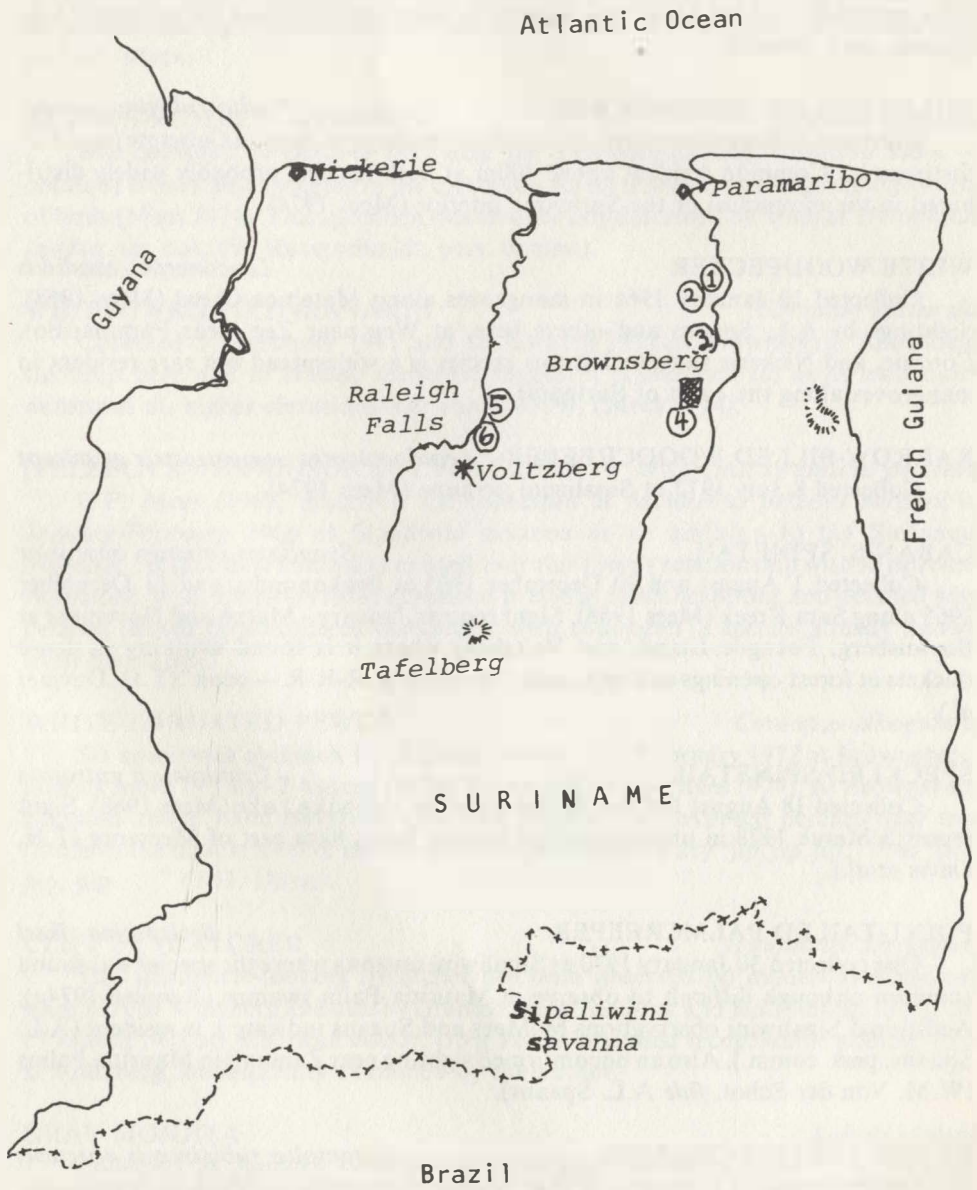


Figure 1. Numbers 1-6 represent localities of sightings of the Semicollared Nighthawk *Lurocalis semitorquatus* in Suriname. See text for details.

CAMPO FLICKER

Colaptes c. campestris

Two specimens collected 15 February 1966 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1968). Also recorded here by Mees and Spaans in other months, may be resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

GOLDEN-OLIVE WOODPECKER

Piculus rubiginosus spp.

Collected at Brownsberg (ssp. *P. r. poliocephalus*) and Nassau Gebergte (ssp. *P. r. fortirostris*). Common resident above 400m at both locales, probably widely distributed in the mountains of the Suriname interior (Mees 1974).

WHITE WOODPECKER

Leuconerpes candidus

Collected 10 January 1966 in mangroves along Matapica Canal (Mees 1968). Sightings by A.L. Spaans and others here, at Weg naar Zee (near Paramaribo), Coronie, and Nickerie suggest that this species is a widespread but rare resident in mangroves along the coast of Suriname.

NARROW-BILLED WOODCREEPER *Lepidocolaptes angustirostris griseiceps*

Collected 8 July 1972 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1974).

CABANIS' SPINETAIL

Synallaxis cabanisi obscurior

Collected 1 August and 30 December 1965 at Brokopondo, and 11 December 1965 along Sara Kreek (Mees 1968). Sight reports January - March and November at Brownsberg, Foengoe Island, and Voltzberg where it is found skulking in dense thickets at forest openings and edge, calls "K-IR-R-R-R-R — cook" (T.H. Davis *et al.*).

SPECKLED SPINETAIL

Cranioleuca gutturata

Collected 18 August 1965 at Njoenkondre on Afobaka Lake (Mees 1968). Sight report 5 March 1978 in undergrowth of swamp forest 8km east of Meerzorg (T.H. Davis *et al.*).

POINT-TAILED PALMCREEPER

Berlepschia rikeri

One collected 30 January 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna where the species was found common although difficult to observe in Mauritia Palm swamps (Renssen 1974a). Additional Sipaliwini observations by Mees and Spaans indicate it is resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.). Also an unconfirmed sighting near Zanderij in Mauritia Palms (W.M. Van der Schot, *vide* A.L. Spaans).

RUDDY FOLIAGE-GLEANER

Automolus rubiginosus obscurus

One collected 12 February 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna — obtained from a pair observed feeding in the lower trees, vines, and undergrowth of high forest surrounding the savanna (Renssen 1974a). Also an individual was studied and tape-recorded in March 1978 at Brownsberg by G.F. Mees, T.H. Davis *et al.* Copies of Davis' tape are filed in the Library of Natural Sounds, Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. This bird's dawn call consisted of the phrase "ku - coi" repeated endlessly at 2 - 3 second intervals (T.H. Davis).

TAWNY-THROATED LEAFSCRAPER

Sclerurus mexicanus macconnelli

Collected 27 January 1966 and 18 June 1972 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1974).

BLACK-TAILED LEAFSCRAPER

Sclerurus c. caudacutus

One collected 21 February 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna in the undergrowth of high forest surrounding the savanna (Renssen 1974a). Also recorded here in June and July by G.F. Mees.

RUFIOUS-RUMPED ANTWREN

Terenura callinota

One collected 14 October 1972 near the Tafelberg airstrip, elevation 300m — obtained from a pair foraging in the crown of a forest tree among a large mixed swarm of birds (Mees 1974). This specimen was erroneously described by Mees as *Hylophilus puellus*, sp. nov. (F. Haverschmidt, pers. comm.).

WHITE-THROATED MANAKIN

Corapipo gutturalis

Collected 5 December 1971 and 18 January 1972 at Brownsberg. Additional sightings here and at Nassau Gebergte suggest it is confined to, or at least more numerous at, higher elevations (i.e. above 470m) (Mees 1974).

[PELZELN'S = SWAINSON'S FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus swainsoni pelzelni*]

G.F. Mees (1968) described the collection of *Myiarchus pelzelni pelzelni* in January-February 1966 at Sipaliwini savanna as an addition to the Suriname avifauna. At that time confusion existed over this form's relationship with *Myiarchus swainsoni*. W.E. Lanyon (1978) explained previous misconceptions and detailed why *pelzelni* should be considered conspecific with *swainsoni* (a species already known from Suriname).

WHITE-THROATED PEWEE

Contopus albogularis

Six specimens obtained 13 December 1971 — 25 February 1972 at Brownsberg, plus six more 19 July - 7 August 1972 at Nassau Gebergte (Mees 1974). At Brownsberg common above 400m elevation, calls and forages from exposed perches near tree trunks in the middle level of the forest. Its daylong call is a dry "jip, jip, jip . . ." or "pip, pip, pip . . ." (T.H. Davis).

CLIFF FLYCATCHER

Hirundinea ferruginea

This distinctive-looking flycatcher has been observed on numerous occasions since 1976 at Voltzberg and nearby Granmisibergi (de Jong and Holthuijzen 1977). On 17 March 1978 an American visitor, Greg Toffic, obtained recognizable photographs at Voltzberg, subsequently examined by the author.

GRAY MONJITA

Xolmis cinerea

Collected 24 January 1966 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1968). T.A. Renssen (1974b) observed a pair feeding two small young on 30 January 1970 at Sipaliwini. He noted this species "rather common in all scrub areas, behaving much like Tropical Kingbirds *Tyrannus melancholicus* and easily recognized by the white wing stripes." Also recorded by Mees and Spaans in other months (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

RUFIOUS SIDED PYGMY-TYRANT *Euscarthmus rufomarginatus savannophilus*

Two specimens collected 26 and 30 January 1966 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1968). Also recorded here by Mees and Spaans in other months (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

BEARDED TACHURI

Polystictus pectoralis brevipennis

Collected 24 January 1966 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1968. Note: in this paper Mees uses the archaic generic title *Habrura*). Also recorded here by Mees in other months.

SUIRIRI FLYCATCHER

Suiriri suiriri affinis

Collected 1 and 7 February 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna in open scrub on rocky hills (Renssen 1974a). Also recorded here by Mees and Spaans in other months, probably resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

SEPIA-CAPPED FLYCATCHER *Leptopogon amaurocephalus obscuritergum*

Collected 28 December 1971, 23 February and 19 August 1972 at Brownsberg, and 4 October 1972 at Tafelberg (Mees 1974).

SHARPBILL

Oxyruncus cristatus hypoglaucus

Collected 20 and 27 August 1972 at Brownsberg where it was found solitary or in pairs, sometimes mixed bird swarms, perhaps uncommon but not rare. Also observed once on the Nassau Tablelands (ca. 500m), which suggests a wide distribution in the mountains of Suriname (Mees 1974). At Brownsberg males advertise from the canopy with a high-pitched, buzzy "e-e-e-e-e-e-you-u-u-u-u" (T.H. Davis, in prep.).

WHITE-THIGHED SWALLOW

Neochelidon t. tibialis

Collected 16 February 1966 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1968. Note: reported in this paper as *Neochelichon*, evidently through a typographical error).

WING-BANDED WREN

Microcerculus b. bambla

Collected 12 September 1965 at Avanavero Falls on the Kabalebo River (Mees 1968). Three or more singing males were noted in early February 1979 at Brownsberg; tape-recordings of one of these birds (by T.H. Davis) are on file in the Library of Natural Sounds, Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

CHALK-BROWED MOCKINGBIRD

Mimus s. saturninus

One collected 3 February 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna in a Mauritia Palm swamp; two pairs were observed in the area (Renssen 1974a). Also recorded here by Mees and Spaans in other months, probably resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

YELLOWISH PIPIT

Anthus l. lutescens

An adult male and two young were collected 28-29 January 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna. "The species was quite common in the grassy hills where we observed short songflights high in the air during which the two white outer tail feathers were very conspicuous" (Renssen 1974a). Also recorded here by Mees and Spaans in other months, resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

BLACK-WHISKERED VIREO

Vireo a. altiloquus

Collected 17 December 1967 near Phedra (Haverschmidt 1970).

TROPICAL PARULA

Parula pitiayumi

"A moderately common member of mixed flocks on Brownsberg (at higher

elevations) . . . seen frequently . . . The fact that we did not observe the species on Nassau may possibly be significant" (Mees 1974). Numerous observations at Brownsberg; tape-recording of a singing male (by T.H. Davis) on file in the Library of Natural Sounds, Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

WHITE-SHOULDERED TANAGER

Tachyphonus l. luctuosus

Collected 24 July and 4 October 1965 and 7 March 1966 at Brokopondo, also seen at Avanavero Falls on the Kabalebo River (Mees 1968). Males observed among canopy foraging flocks in January 1979 near Zanderij and at Voltzberg (T.H. Davis, P. Donahue *et al.*). This would appear to be an uncommon member of canopy flocks, at least in savanna and transitional forest.

HEPATIC TANAGER

Piranga flava ssp.

Ssp. *P. f. saira* collected 24 January 1966 at Sipaliwinisavanna (Mees 1968). Also recorded here by Mees and Spaans in other months, probably resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

Ssp. *P. f. haemalea* collected 17 December 1971 atop the Mazaroni plateau at Brownsberg, and 7 August 1972 at Nassau Gebergte ca. 500m elevation. An uncommon, solitary mountain bird with a preference for forest edge (Mees 1974).

In his 1974 paper Mees questions whether these two forms are conspecific, the former inhabiting open lowland savanna, the latter mountain forest; see also Meyer de Schauensee 1966.

WHITE-RUMPED TANAGER

Cypsnagra hirundinacea pallidigula

Four specimens taken 24-30 January 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna, where it was found "very common in the dry savannah areas, living in pairs or family parties. They were very restless and noisy, their very loud and clear call being similar to that of [the Black-capped Mockingthrush] *Donacobius atricapillus*. They were seen feeding in bushes and small trees" (Renssen 1974a). Also recorded here by Mees and Spaans in other months, probably resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

MAGPIE TANAGER

Cissopis leveriana

First observed in August 1976 at Foengoe Island at the Voltzberg — Raleigh Falls Nature Reserve (Zimmerman 1977). A single pair continues to reside here in dense thickets bordering the airstrip and others have been found in nearby similar habitat on the opposite bank of the Coppename River (A.L. Spaans, T.H. Davis *et al.*).

RED-AND-BLACK GROSBEAK

Periporphyrus erythromelas

At Brownsberg a group of three or four pairs was encountered 27 February 1972, the males in full song; one of them was collected. There is also an observation of a single male at Nassau Gebergte (Mees 1974).

CAPPED SEEDEATER

Sporophila b. bouvreuil

Collected 24 and 31 January and 5 February 1966 at Sipaliwini savanna (Mees 1968). Also recorded here by Mees and Spaans in other months, probably resident (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).

WHITE-BELLIED SEEDEATER

Sporophila leucoptera cinereola

Collected 28 January 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna. Mixed flocks of this species

with *S. lineola* and *S. plumbea* were observed several times, feeding on grass seeds in the drier parts of the savanna (Renssen 1974a).

YELLOW-BELLIED SEEDEATER

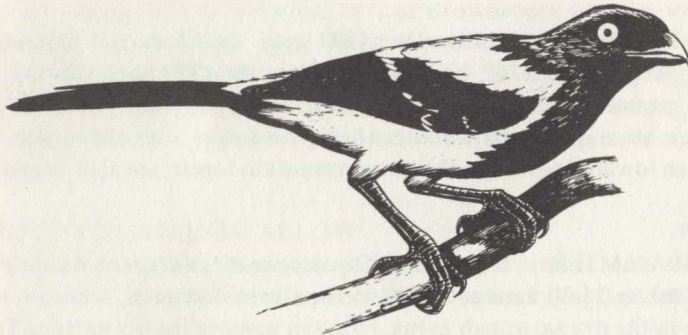
Sporophila nigricollis

This distinctive-looking seedeater was observed in the wild and in captivity during early 1966 at the Sipaliwini airstrip (Mees 1968). Also observed here in September 1972 (A.L. Spaans).

STRIPE-TAILED YELLOW-FINCH

Sicalis citrina browni

One collected 3 February 1970 at Sipaliwini savanna. "Two pairs observed in the steep rocky hills covered with some open scrub and a few small trees. The males were singing in treetops and were shy and difficult to approach" (Renssen 1974a). G.F. Mees did not encounter this species at Sipaliwini during June-July 1972 but Spaans found it in flocks in September of that year — a migrant species? (A.L. Spaans, pers. comm.).



Magpie Tanager
Cissopis leveriana

MARILYN HOFF STEWART

Part 2. Hypotheticals — lone sight reports (9):

LESSER SCAUP

Aythya affinis

At the Marienburg sugar estate near Paramaribo, a pair was observed 22 November and a single male 29 November 1968 (Renssen 1974a).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER

Calidris bairdii

Observed 14 September 1971 at a lagoon near Motkreek (A.L. Spaans, in prep.).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT

Limosa haemastica

Observed 9 October 1972 along the coast near Weg naar Zee 10km northwest of Paramaribo (A.L. Spaans, in prep.).

BLACK-HEADED GULL

Larus ridibundus

Fifteen individuals reported 20 February 1970 at Paramaribo Harbor in the company of Laughing Gulls *L. atricilla*, Large-billed Terns *Phaetusa simplex* and other *Sterna* terns (Emanuel Levine, Richard A. Sloss, Eugene T. Mudge). While this number of individuals might seem remarkable, and the report constitutes the first record for South America, there are numerous records for the species in the northern and eastern Caribbean area (Bond 1971), with records of multiples in Puerto Rico (Buckley and Buckley 1970).

SCISSOR-TAILED NIGHTJAR

Hydropsalis brasiliana

Pair observed 26 June 1972 at Sipaliwini savanna on a grassy hillside with dispersed blocks of granite and open stony patches (Mees 1974).

FIERY-TAILED AWLBILL

Avocettula recurvirostris

Male observed 11 July 1978 at Voltzberg foraging "among abundant purple leguminaceous flowers, at heights of 1-2 meters. These plants were growing in several large clumps in the middle of otherwise bare rock" (Trail 1978).

EASTERN KINGBIRD

Tyrannus tyrannus

Observed 26 February 1970 at Nickerie (Emanuel Levine, Richard A. Sloss, Eugene T. Mudge).

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER

Nuttallornis borealis

Observed 15 March 1977 about 2km south of Brownsweag, perched on a dead stub projecting above the forest (T.H. Davis, Karl Overman *et al.*).

SUMMER TANAGER

Piranga rubra

Male observed 11 March 1978 at the Paramaribo Botanical Gardens (Robert Laskowski, Michael Gochfeld *et al.*).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am especially grateful to Arie L. Spaans for the wealth of information he forwarded me: without his kind assistance it would have been impossible to produce this compilation; he also read and commented upon the manuscript. Valuable input was also received from François Haverschmidt, Emanuel Levine, and Gerlof Mees. Michael Jenkins of the Nieuwe Grond Plantation, Suriname, translated Dutch papers; Guy Tudor reviewed the manuscript; and STINASU (Stichting Natuurbehoud Suriname) provided arrangements for my Suriname visits. F. Haverschmidt deserves added recognition for the inspiration his book provided me and so many others to visit Suriname and study its birds.

LITERATURE CITED

- BOND, JAMES. 1971. *Birds of the West Indies*. Second edition. Boston, Houghton Mifflin.
- BUCKLEY, P.A., AND F.G. BUCKLEY. 1970. Notes on the distribution of some Puerto Rican birds and on the courtship behavior of White-tailed Tropicbirds. *Condor* 72: 483-486.
- HAVERSCHMIDT, F. 1968. *Birds of Surinam*. Edinburgh and London, Oliver & Boyd Ltd.
- _____. 1970. Black-whiskered Vireo in Surinam. *Auk* 87: 584.
- DE JONG, B.H.J., AND A.M.A. HOLTHUIJZEN. 1977. Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea*, a new species for the Surinam list. *Ardea* 65: 203.
- LANYON, WESLEY E. 1978. Revision of the *Myiarchus* flycatchers of South America. *Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.* Vol. 161: Article 4.
- MEES, G.F. 1968. Enige voor de avifauna van Suriname nieuwe vogelsoorten. *Le Gerfaut* 58: 101-107.
- _____. 1974. Additions to the avifauna of Suriname. *Zoologische Mededelingen* 48: 55-67 with Pl. 1.

- _____. 1976. Mass mortality of *Puffinus gravis* (O'Reilly) on the coast of Suriname (Aves, Procellariidae). *Zoologische Mededelingen* 49: 269-271.
- _____. 1977. Zur verbreitung von *Phaethornis malaris* (Nordmann) (Aves, Trochilidae). *Zoologische Mededelingen* 52: 209-211.
- MEYER DE SCHAUENSEE, RODOLPHE. 1966. *The Species of Birds of South America*. Wynnewood, Pa., Livingston.
- _____. 1970. *A Guide to the Birds of South America*. Wynnewood, Pa., Livingston.
- _____, WILLIAM H. PHELPS, JR., AND GUY TUDOR. 1978. *A Guide to the Birds of Venezuela*. Princeton, N.J., Princeton University Press.
- RENSSEN, TH. A. 1974a. Twelve bird species new for Surinam. *Ardea* 62: 118-122.
- _____. 1974b. New breeding records from Surinam. *Ardea* 62: 123-127.
- SPAANS, ARIE L. 1978. Status of terns along the Surinam coast. *Bird-Banding* 49: 66-76.
- TRAIL, PEPPER W. 1978. Sight records of two species new for Surinam. *Ardea* 66: 184-185.
- ZIMMERMAN, DALE A. 1977. A sight record of the Magpie Tanager in Surinam. *Am. Birds* 31: 233.

Author's address: 9446 - 85 Road, Woodhaven, NY 11421.

This gull portrait appeared on the rear cover of the October 1979 *C.B.*, labeled only as a late September photograph from somewhere over North American waters. Can you identify the bird?

Answer to Snap Judgment 5

WAYNE HOFFMAN



This obviously is a subadult of one of the large *Larus* gulls. It is much too dark to be a Glaucous *L. hyperboreus*, Iceland *L. glaucoides*, or Glaucous-winged *L. glaucescens* gull, and the heavy bill, large head, heavy shoulders, and broad rounded wings all point to a bird of at least Herring Gull *L. argentatus* size; California Gulls *L. californicus* and all smaller species can be forgotten. The saddle of grey adult plumage on the back, the heavily marked tail, and the primary pattern together identify the bird as a second winter subadult (second basic plumage). Possibilities include Great Black-backed *L. marinus*, Lesser Black-backed *L. fuscus*, Herring, Western *L. occidentalis*, Slaty-backed *L. schistisagus*, and Thayer's *L. thayeri* gulls, and various hybrid combinations. The Slaty-backed, Great Black-backed, and Lesser Black-backed gulls would all have much darker dorsal saddles, so they can be

eliminated. The wings and tail are much too dark for Thayer's Gull, which would have narrower wings and would appear less robust. The gray of the saddle is rather pale for a Western Gull (although those from Oregon and Washington are much paler than California birds) and the banded appearance of the tail, the pale inner primaries, and the extraordinary pattern of the secondaries all point against Western Gull. This leaves as possibilities Herring Gulls and several hybrid combinations. Herring X Glaucous, Herring X Glaucous-winged, Herring X Great Black-backed and Western X Glaucous-winged have been reported in North America in recent years. Lesser Black-backed X Herring is known from Europe and one Slaty-backed X Glaucous-winged pair was found recently in Siberia.

The contrasty tail and wing patterns argue against subadults of Herring X Glaucous-winged, Herring X Glaucous, and Western X Glaucous-winged, which all have pale, obscurely marked tails and relatively pale primaries. Herring X Great Black-backed should have a darker saddle and more heavily marked upper wing coverts. Herring X Lesser Black-backed is possible but should appear less robust and might be expected to show more white in the tail. Nothing is known about the appearance of subadult Slaty-backed X Glaucous-winged hybrids.

Actually, there is little about the bird that is outside the range of variation of the North American Herring Gull. The dark marks on the secondaries are more prominent than on most North American individuals, and the tail shows much more contrast. Although the possibility of a hybrid cannot be ignored, the photo matches United States National Museum specimens of the large Siberian race of Herring Gull, the Vega Gull *Larus argentatus vegae*. The bird was photographed in the northern Gulf of Alaska in late September 1975.

Author's address: Department of Biology, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL 33620

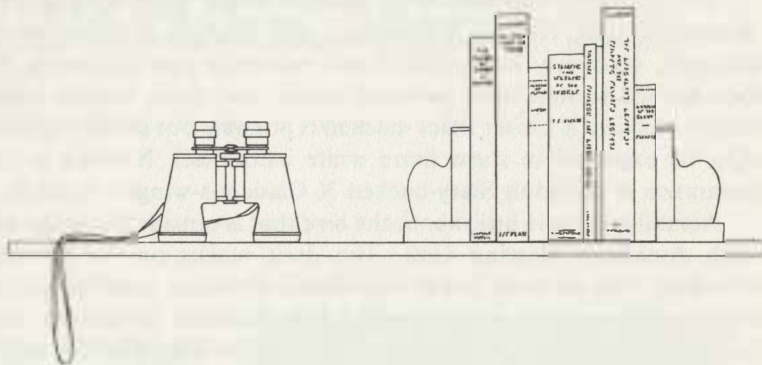
News and Notices

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE FRONT — In the preceding issue ("News from the Field Guide Front," *CB* 1 (5): 127) we mentioned a new field guide in the works under the aegis of the National Geographic Society. Our timing was unfortunate, because by the time that issue was printed a shuffling of personnel on the Geographic guide had already occurred. Rather than making another definitive statement here which might be subject to further revision, let us simply say that not all of the luminaries mentioned are still involved with the project; but (despite some ruffled feathers) work on the book continues.

Reviews

Edited by

ELAINE COOK



To a Young Bird Artist: Letters from Louis Agassiz Fuertes to George Miksch Sutton — Commentary by George Miksch Sutton. 1979. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press. ix + 147 pp., illus. \$9.95.

Publisher's address:
University of Oklahoma Press
1005 Asp Avenue
Norman, Oklahoma 73109

Louis Agassiz Fuertes was an American painter of birds, active in the first quarter of this century, whose reputation has proven quite durable. His name still draws instant recognition today, more than fifty years after his death. Fuertes was not the first bird painter, nor the best ever; but he was one of the first to make a comfortable living at it (and thus devote sufficient time to developing his skill), and certainly the most talented of his era. As such, he had a strong influence on many young ornithologists and artists who later became influential themselves, thus keeping his reputation alive. Perhaps ironically, his name has survived better than his artwork, which is rarely seen today.

Some recent writers have persisted in claiming that Fuertes was the greatest bird painter who ever lived. This is a disservice to the man's memory, for such hyperbole invites, even demands, contradiction: surely in this expanding field there are half a dozen artists working today who can match Fuertes's best. Better to remember him as one who, in his own era, raised the discipline to a new level, setting a new standard of excellence for subsequent generations. That is enough; there is no need to subject him to petty comparisons against those who followed.

In 1915, at the height of his career, Louis Fuertes was a very busy man. Aside from the massive demands of his artwork, he had a family to raise, lectures to deliver, community activities in which to play an active role. The last thing he needed (or so we might imagine) was to receive persistent letters from a teenaged boy asking for artistic advice. Yet not only did Fuertes receive such letters, he wrote long, thoughtful, eloquent responses; and his youthful correspondent, George Miksch Sutton, went on to become an ornithologist-artist-author admired around the world.

Unquestionably Fuertes had a profound influence upon Sutton — affecting his artwork, his ornithological career, even his basic philosophies of living. The recipient of such a life-changing experience might in some cases feel fiercely possessive about it, as if the correspondence were too personal a treasure to be shared with anyone. Fortunately for the rest of us, Sutton is too large a man to harbor such selfish considerations; he has generously chosen to publish the letters he received from Fuertes — accompanied by a narrative which fleshes out the man, the subjects discussed, and the era in which the correspondence took place. The resulting slim, unpretentious volume is a classic, a gem. In some ways, it is one of the most important bird books published during this decade.

Although I found the book delightful from beginning to end, there is one note which may prove jarring for some readers: the occasional reference to birds shot for use as artistic subjects. Such a practice would certainly be inappropriate for beginning bird painters today, but it must be remembered that near the turn of the century *all* aspiring ornithologists (not only the artists) were taught to collect specimens as a first step toward knowledge, even as beginning entomologists today make insect collections. Sutton and Fuertes followed the tradition of Audubon, combining science and art with a very real sense of reverence for living things; the birds that died for the sake of human knowledge they brought back to life, painstakingly, on paper or canvas. Having this kind of background gave Sutton an intimacy of experience with the *individual* birds depicted, of a sort that could be matched by few bird painters working today. And — make no mistake — Doc Sutton really loves birds, in a way that is thoroughly unsentimental but profound; this feeling shines through his writing, his artwork. If squeamish readers will set aside any feelings of antipathy raised by the references to collecting, they will find *To a Young Bird Artist* quite rewarding.

For this is indeed a rare and special book. One should not presume, because of the title, that it will be of interest only to beginning bird portraitists. The Fuertes letters range through subjects far removed from birds and the techniques for depicting them. So does Sutton's commentary, to an even greater degree. Yet even those sections dealing exclusively with bird art may be read with pleasure by the non-artist. Sutton's modest but candid prose, reliving his early efforts, triumphs and failures, is a profile of earnest young ambition to excel; while between the lines of Fuertes's letters we may read the patience, pride, and occasional exasperation of a generous mentor with a promising protege.

What emerges in this volume is a slice of cultural history, illuminated by a unique view of two great men: Fuertes as a teacher, Sutton as a student. Those of us who believe that the history of bird appreciation is worth recording must regard this book as a classic. And we must be impressed (and grateful, too) that Dr. Sutton, still of keen mind and productive in his eighties, continues to enrich the birdwatching literature. —

— K. K.

Penguins — Roger Tory Peterson. 1979. Boston, Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin. x + 238 pp., illus., col. photos, map. \$25.00.

Publisher's address:
Houghton Mifflin Co.
2 Park Street
Boston, Mass. 02107

Today's question: Can Roger Tory Peterson get away with writing a bird book that has less than universal importance?

The question is not meant in a disrespectful way, nor is it put entirely in jest. At a rather early age Peterson became the best known popular-ornithologist in North America; by the time he was ready to travel more widely, it was a short step up to being the best known in the world. In recent years it has occasionally seemed that he was most famous for being famous: the superlatives had been used up, and writers copied each other endlessly in describing his world-reknown. It has become de rigeur, when instituting a new award or medal in popular conservation or ornithology, to present the award first to Peterson: the effect is to legitimize the award as much as to honor the man.

Although Peterson has remained modest and unassuming in the midst of all this, his books have long reflected his center-stage role. First, of course, there were the Field Guides, carried by every birdwatcher. Then there was *Birds Over America*, which summarized his impressions of birding on this continent. Its coverage was thorough, complete; there was no room for a sequel. *Wild America*, co-authored with James Fisher, interpreted all the natural wonders of all of North America for both American and European audiences. Another Fisher-Peterson collaboration, *The World of Birds*, was of global significance. A common denominator of all these books was their wide appeal. All were appropriate to, and contributed to, RTP's phenomenal reputation.

Now what would happen if he were to write a completely different, thoroughly offbeat sort of book? Suppose he were to write an informal, chatty book about a single family of birds. Suppose — for the sake of argument — that he chose an odd, atypical family of birds, one that the majority of birdwatchers never get to encounter in the wild. Would that break his string of universally-significant books? Perhaps. Does he care about that? I doubt it. Roger Tory Peterson has just written a book about his favorite family of birds, the penguins. I get the impression that he wrote it just for fun. And you can read it for precisely the same reason.

In overall appearance this is a sort of penguin scrapbook, presenting a visual effect which is not displeasing. The margins are very broad, allowing room for numerous Peterson drawings, most of which are purely decorative rather than illustrating any vital point. Many of these margins lack drawings, however; and these empty margins, the large typeface, and the amount of space left between lines and paragraphs all contribute to the airy, informal feeling of the book. The reader feels invited to browse, rather than necessarily reading the fairly extensive text from beginning to end.

Peterson is a talented writer. This point is not often emphasized. It is more fashionable to promote him first as an artist (a fashion instigated, no doubt, partly by dealers of limited-edition art prints); even the dust-jacket of *Penguins* starts off by describing RTP as a bird painter. However, this book is clearly not intended to stand

or fall on the basis of its artwork. The artwork, and even to some extent the photographs, are there to enliven the text. This, primarily, is a book to be *read*.

Very enjoyable reading it is, too. Although Peterson's affection for the penguins is often discernable, he skirts sentimentality. Moreover, he succeeds in communicating a little of what life must be like for a penguin, without slipping into anthropomorphism — which must have been a difficult task. Peterson does have something of a tendency to ramble (both in his writing and in his public speaking), but this does not detract at all from the total effect: the anecdotes he tosses in are always interesting, even when they are not directly relevant, and their inclusion adds to the relaxed air of informality. Clearly Peterson is having fun, saying what he wants to say, not bowing to any dictum about brevity. On the other hand, when pursuing some particularly dramatic subject (such as the response of Adelle Penguins *Pygoscelis adeliae* to the sudden appearance of a patrolling predatory seal, or the harsh conditions under which Emperor Penguins *Aptenodytes forsteri* choose to raise their young), Peterson's prose can be as direct and tight-lined as anyone's.

In examining the many black-and-white drawings scattered through *Penguins*, I could not resist the temptation to compare them to another series of Peterson drawings: those done to illustrate *Wild America*. I have always felt that the latter, taken as a group, ranked among Peterson's finest work — indeed, among the finest nature art I've seen anywhere. They are mostly done in a scratchboard technique, sharply black and white; all of them have a studied, precise, finished look; all appear ready to be framed. The drawings done for *Penguins* are of a different style, more sketchy, less exact, filled in with an ink wash technique. Although I found these somewhat less pleasing intrinsically, their style is well suited to the informal air of the penguin book. (Incidentally, *Penguins* contains two drawings — fur seals on p. 150, and Least Auklets *Aethia pusilla* on p. 203 — lifted straight from *Wild America*, allowing the reader to compare the styles directly.)

These sections of color photographs add much to the interest and decorative quality (and, no doubt, to the price) of the book. Few of the photos struck me as outstanding works of art, but all are of good quality and appear to be reproduced well.

Although the book deals entirely with the Southern Hemisphere and mostly with the Subantarctic and Antarctic regions, far removed from this continent, something about Peterson's current position among field ornithologists in North America is unwittingly revealed by the omission of one subject: the identity of skuas. Keen field observers here have recently paid great attention to the skuas (genus *Catharacta*). This surge of interest has been brought about partly by taxonomic questions (the six recognized forms have been claimed to constitute anything from one to five species) and largely by the realization that more than one of the forms or species may occur off the North American coastlines. As a result, all expert birders living in seaboard states have developed some basic knowledge and a deep curiosity about the taxonomy, distribution and field identification of the skua forms; any expert who had the chance to visit southern waters would undoubtedly devote much time to studying skuas. But the subject goes unmentioned in *Penguins*. To be sure, there are several mentions of skuas (as neighbors to and predators of penguins), even photographs and drawings, but they are never given any identity. This omission seems to reflect a mild irony: although Peterson's reputation was founded upon his Field Guides (the cornerstones of recognition afield), it has been decades since he has made any original contribution to the serious study of field identification — or even displayed much interest in it.

But that is all right. Peterson's appeal is to the masses, not to the somewhat

lunatic fringe of experts. While the great majority of people with a simple interest in birds will not care about the complex taxonomy of the skuas, they will love Peterson's penguins. They will also learn a great deal about the birds, about the ecological relationships of life forms in the far southern oceans, and about the importance of conservation efforts in remote regions. But they will learn all this without working at it: the whole book is pleasant fare, attractively served up; it goes down like ice cream. Roger Tory Peterson is to be congratulated for having done a superb job, once again, in bringing nature to the general public. — K. K.



Adelie Penguins
Pygoscelis adeliae

Birds: readings from Scientific American — with introductions by Barry W. Wilson. 1980. San Francisco, California: W. H. Freeman. viii + 276 pp., illus. \$17.95 hardbound; \$8.95 paperbound.

Publisher's address:
W. H. Freeman and Company
660 Market Street
San Francisco, California 94104

Twenty-five articles on birds originally published from 1952 to 1979 in *Scientific American* are collected in this book. *Scientific American* has built a reputation of publishing rigorously accurate articles on scientific subjects, such as high energy physics, written by experts in the field so that the subject can be understood by scientists from other fields and by the general public. The articles in this collection discuss the diversity of birds, bird flight, migration and navigation, evolution, behavior, physiology and song, and interactions between birds and humans.

Some of the articles in the collection are true classics, such as C. J. Pennycuik's 1973 study of the soaring flight of vultures as viewed from a motorized glider, Timothy C. and Janet M. Williams' 1978 examination of oceanic mass migration of land birds, Stephen T. Emlen's 1975 publication on the ability of Indigo Buntings to orient by the stars, and William T. Keeton's 1974 summary of homing pigeon orientation by sun, stars, polarized light, magnetism, and possibly smell and ultrasound. Other interesting articles reprinted here include the study of breeding isolation between Thayer's, Herring, Glaucous, and Iceland gulls, by Neal Griffith Smith and a 1970 examination of the effects of persistent pesticides on bird reproduction, written by David B. Peakall.

The collection would be well suited as supplementary reading for an ornithology course. It will also be good reading for any birdwatcher interested in a survey of "scientific" ornithology from the last three decades. The paperback edition is sturdy, should survive normal use with no ill effects, and at \$8.95 is an excellent value. — E. C.

Working Bibliography of Owls of the World — Richard J. Clark, Dwight G. Smith and Leon H. Kelso. 1978. *National Wildlife Federation, NWF Scientific/Technical Series, No. 1.* xiv + 391 pp. \$9.00.

Working Bibliography of the Bald Eagle — Jeffrey L. Lincer, William S. Clark and Maurice N. LeFranc, Jr. 1979. *National Wildlife Federation, NWF Scientific/Technical Series, No. 2.* xi + 219 pp. \$9.00.

Publisher's address:
Raptor Information Center
National Wildlife Federation
1412 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

The bibliography may well be a format unfamiliar to many of our readers. Basically this is a list of citations to books or journal articles on a particular subject, or by a particular author. Bibliographies are surprisingly scarce in ornithology (in the agricultural literature, by contrast, you trip over them constantly). The few available bird bibliographies are either on such esoteric subjects or are sufficiently expensive to preclude their purchase by most of us. The two reviewed here, however, are exceptions to both generalizations; they are inexpensive, and they are on subjects of considerable general interest for birdwatchers.

The cores of both bibliographies are their lists of citations (5000 for owls and 2000 for the Bald Eagle) to journal articles and books on their respective subjects. Both citation lists cover literature up to about 1977 or 1978 and appear commendably complete. The only gap that immediately springs to mind is that Bent's essay on the Bald Eagle, published in his life histories series, is not included in the Bald Eagle bibliography. The accuracy of the citations, however, is rather more variable. I checked twenty-five of the citations in the owl bibliography and found one author's last name spelled incorrectly, one citation with an incorrect page number, one citation without the date of publication, and several minor spelling errors. Nine of the ten entries I checked in the Bald Eagle bibliography were perfect but the page numbers of the tenth were in error. I was pleased to find only these few errors; other bibliographies oftentimes have as many as 20% of citations marred with major errors.

The owl bibliography begins with a discussion of how to use the book, taxonomy and distribution of owls, and a list of English and foreign language common names of the world's owls. After the list of citations, there are indices by geographic subdivision and genera (e.g., California — *Tyto*), genus and subject category (*Otus* — anatomy), and by genus (*Athene*).

The Bald Eagle bibliography begins with a discussion of the Bald Eagle's current status, then after the citations there is a permuted keyword index (which results in entries similar to those in the owl bibliography, but interfiled in one alphabetical sequence) and a dictionary with definitions of the keywords.

Both of these bibliographies would be worthy additions to the bookshelves of field ornithologists interested in the birds of prey. — E.C.

The Larousse Guide to Birds of Britain and Europe — by Bertel Bruun, illustrated by Arthur Singer. 1978. New York: Larousse. 319 pp., illus., maps. \$7.95 (paperback).

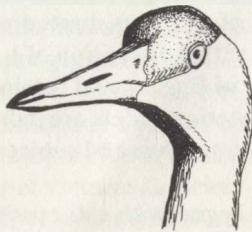
Publisher's address:
Larousse and Co., Inc.
572 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10036

You may already own this book. It was published by McGraw-Hill as *Birds of Europe*, and before that under the title *The Hamlyn Guide to Birds of Britain and Europe*. If you don't own the book, Peterson's *Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe* (1974, 3rd edition, Boston: Houghton Mifflin) is more accurate and comprehensive (even though its format is slightly less convenient). —E.C.

Proceedings 1978 Crane Workshop — James C. Lewis, Editor. 1979. Fort Collins, Colorado: Colorado State University. iii + 259 pp., figs., tabs. Price not known.

Publisher's address:
Colorado State University Printing Service
Fort Collins, CO 80523

These proceedings of the second Crane Workshop, 6–8 December 1978, Rockport, Texas include the full text of thirty-six papers presented at the meeting. The papers are arranged in four groups: cranes along the Platte River of Nebraska (7 papers), useful techniques in management of Sandhill Cranes (8 papers), distribution and status of cranes (6 papers), and ecology of cranes (15 papers). Most of the papers are concerned with Sandhill Cranes *Grus canadensis*, but Whooping Cranes *G. americana*, Siberian Cranes *G. leucogeranus*, and Hooded Cranes *G. monacha* are also discussed. Worthwhile for anyone with a particular interest in the Gruidae. —E.C.



Recent Literature in Field Ornithology

IDENTIFICATION AND RELATED TOPICS

- Atkin, Keith. 1979. Flight characters of Leach's Petrel. *Br. Birds* 72(7): 334-336.
— With photographs.
- Binford, Laurence C. 1978. Lesser Black-backed Gull in California, with notes on field identification. *West. Birds* 9(4): 141-150.
- Boswall, Jeffery. 1979. Flight characters of Wilson's Petrel. *Br. Birds* 72(7): 330-334.
— With photographs. Note that photo #182 is mislabeled, and actually depicts a British Storm-Petrel, as noted in *Br. Birds* 72(8): 386.
- Braithwaite, Dave. 1979. Underwing of Little Auk. *Br. Birds* 72(7): 344-345.
— The dark underwing of the Dovekie (= Little Auk) should prevent confusion with small juvenile Common Puffins, which have pale underwings.
- Britton, David. 1979. Identification of Bonaparte's Gull. *Br. Birds* 72(7): 339-340.
— As compared to Black-headed Gull.
- Byrkjedal, Ingvar. 1978. Variation and secondary intergradation in SW-Norwegian Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* populations. *Ornis Scand.* 9(1): 101-110.
— *P. a. apricaria* and *P. a. altifrons*.
- Hall, George A. 1979. Hybridization between Mourning and MacGillivray's warblers. *Bird-Banding* 50(2): 101-107.
- Harding, B.D. 1979. Identification of Grey-checked and Swainson's thrushes. *Br. Birds* 72(7): 346-348.
— Very brief discussion.
- Mather, John R. 1979. Identification of Little and Reed buntings. *Br. Birds* 72(8): 387-388.
- Morley, Christine; R.E. Elliott; and R.A. Hume. 1979. Three letters concerning variations in Herring Gulls. *Br. Birds* 72(8): 389-392.
- Passmore, Michael F., and Robert L. Jarvis.

1979. Reliability of determining sex of Band-tailed Pigeons by plumage characters. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 7(2): 124-125.

- Rabbits, Brian. 1979. Page, Douglas, and Peter Greaves. 1979. (Two notes.) Leach's Petrels foot-pattering on water. *Br. Birds* 72(7): 334.
- Rose, Laurence N. 1979. Turnstones in near-complete summer plumage in January. *Br. Birds* 72(8): 386-387.
- Smith, Donald A. 1979. Call of Booted Warbler. *Br. Birds* 72(8): 387.
- Stavy, M., D. Gilbert, and R.D. Martin. 1979. Routine determination of sex in monomorphic bird species using faecal steroid analysis. *Int. Zoo Yearb.* 19: 209-214.

TAXONOMY AND NEW FORMS

- Frenkel, M.J., and J.M. Gillespie. 1979. Proteins of beaks: possible use in taxonomy of birds. *Aust. J. Zool.* 27(3): 443-452.
- Jollie, Malcom. 1978. Phylogeny of the species of *Corvus*. *Biologist* 60(3): 73-108.
- Schuchmann, Karl-L. 1978. Allopatrische Artbildung bei der Kolibrigattung *Trochilus*/ Allopatric speciation in the hummingbird genus *Trochilus*. *Ardea* 66(4): 156-172.
— In German with an English summary. The Streamertail, a spectacular Jamaican hummingbird, is here split into two species.

RARA AVES

- Gilbert, Sheryl. 1979. The Hawaiian goose or Nene *Branta sandvicensis* breeding programme at the National Zoological Park, Washington. *Int. Zoo Yearb.* 19: 139-143.
- Hirsch, Udo. 1979. Studies of west Palearctic birds. 183. Bald Ibis. *Br. Birds* 72(7): 313-325.
— With many photographs.
- Shoumatoff, Alex. 1978. Science takes up medie-

- val sport to help peregrines. *Smithsonian* 9(9): 58-65.
- Verner, Jared. 1978. California Condors: status of the recovery effort. *U.S. For. Serv. Pac. Southwest For. Range Exp. Stn. Gen. Tech. Rep.* PSW-28, 30 pp.
- Wilbur, Sanford R., Robert D. Mallette, and John C. Borneman. 1979. California Condor Survey, 1978. *Calif. Fish Game* 65(3): 183-184.
- Zimmerman, David R. 1978. A technique called cross-fostering may help save the Whooping Crane. *Smithsonian* 9(6): 52-63.

DISTRIBUTION — NORTH AMERICA

- Clauson, Barbara L. 1979. Minnesota's first Townsend's Warbler. *Loon* 51(3): 141-142.
- Dixon, Keith L. 1978. A distributional history of the Black-crested Titmouse. *Am. Midl. Nat.* 100(1): 29-42.
- Eckert, Kim. 1979. First Boreal Owl nesting record south of Canada: a diary. *Loon* 51(1): 20-27.
— Five photographs.
- Fisk, Erma J. 1979. Fall and winter birds near Homestead, Florida. *Bird-Banding* 50(3): 224-243.
— With much detailed information from 7-year banding study.
- Gill, Robert J. 1979. Status and distribution of the California Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*). *Calif. Fish Game* 65(1): 36-49.
- Gochfeld, Michael. 1978. Terns in traffic. *Nat. Hist.* 87(6): 54-61.
— Common Tern colonies on Long Island; with particular mention of Jones Beach.
- Heusmann, H.W. 1979. Current status and mortality rates of Massachusetts Mourning Doves. *Bird-Banding* 50(3): 256-262.
- Hoechlin, Don. 1979. Yellow-crowned Night Heron in California. *West. Birds* 9(4): 177-178.
- Hubbard, John P. 1978. The status of the Northern Shrike in New Mexico. *West. Birds* 9(4): 159-168.
- Jones, Stephen G. 1979. Preliminary survey of raptor species in the Manti Division, Manti-LaSal National Forest. *Great Basin Nat.* 39(2): 155-160.
- Kiff, Lloyd F. 1978. Probable Black Rail nesting record for Alameda County, California. *West. Birds* 9(4): 169-170.
- Koenig, Walter D., and Pamela L. Williams. 1979. Notes on the status of Acorn Woodpeckers in central Mexico. *Condor* 81(3): 317-318.
— Three localities on route 40 in Durango and Sinaloa.
- Lewis, David B., and W. Breck Tyler. 1978. First record of the Blue-faced Booby from the Pacific coast of the United States. *West. Birds* 9(4): 175-176.
- Manolis, Tim. 1978. Status of the Black Rail in central California. *West. Birds* 9(4): 151-158.
- Melville, Nel Marie; Mrs. Eugene Binder; and Ronald L. Huber. 1979. (Three notes on Rufous Hummingbirds in Minnesota.) *Loon* 51(1): 9-14.
- Webb, Bruce E., and Jeanne A. Conry. 1978. First record of a Lesser Black-backed Gull in Colorado. *West. Birds* 9(4): 171-173.

DISTRIBUTION — OTHER AREAS

- Bell, D. Graham. 1979. Paddyfield Warbler in Cleveland. *Br. Birds* 72(7): 348-351. Meek, E.R., and B. Little. 1979. Paddyfield Warbler in Northumberland. *Br. Birds* 72(7): 353-357.
— Both with photos, detailed discussion of identification in the field and in the hand.
- Carr, Gail Speaker. 1979. Greater Shearwater in Costa Rica. *Condor* 81(3): 323.
— Single record, partial skeleton found beached.
- de Macedo-Ruiz, Hernando. 1979. 'Extinct' bird found in Peru. *Oryx* 15(1): 33-37.
- Douthwaite, R.J. 1978. Geese and Red-knobbed Coot on the Kafue Flats in Zambia, 1970-1974. *East Afr. Wildl. J.* 16(1): 29-47.
- Hafner, Heinz, Alan Johnson, and John Walmsley. 1979. (The Camargue bird report 1976-1977) *Compte rendu ornithologique camarguais pour les années 1976 et 1977. Terre Vie* 33(2): 307-324.
— In French with English summary.
- Leslie, R., and C.M. Lessells. 1978. The migration of Dunlin *Calidris alpina* through northern Scandinavia. *Ornis Scand.* 9(1): 84-86.
- Nazarenko, A.A. 1979. On the history of avifauna of subalpine landscape of the Siberian and Far-Eastern mountains. *Zool. Zh.* 58(11): 1680-1691.
— In Russian with an English summary.
- Perry, Donald R. 1979. The Great Potoo in Costa Rica. *Condor* 81(3): 320-321.
— Mainly notes on roosting behavior.
- Roux, Francis, Roger Maheo, and Alain Tamisier. 1978. (The exploitation of the Basse Valley of Senegal (tropical winter quarter) by three species of palearctic and Ethiopian ducks.) *L'Exploitation de la Basse Vallée du Senegal (Quartier d'hiver tropical) par trois espèces de canards palearctiques et Ethiopiens. Terre Vie* 32(3): 387-416.
— In French, with English summary. White-

- faced Tree Duck, Garganey, Pintail.
 Shiflett, Jim, and Nancy Jane Reid. 1980. **Feathered treasures of the Sierra Madres: the Thick-billed Parrot and the Maroon-fronted Parrot.** *Chihuahuan Desert Discovery* no. 7, pp. 10-12.
- Thiollay, J.M. 1979. (Structure and dynamics of an avian community of a southern Chihuahuan desert (Boson De Mapimi, Mexico)) Structure et dynamique du peuplement avien d'un matorral aride (Bolsón de Mapimi, Mexique). *Terre Vie* 33(4): 536-589.
 — In French, with English summary.
- Trail, Pepper W. 1978. **Sight records of two species new for Surinam.** *Ardea* 66(4): 184-185.
 — Violaceous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea* and Fiery-tailed Awlbill *Avocettula recurvirostris*.
- Voisin, J.-F. 1979. **Observations ornithologiques aux Iles Tristan da Cunha et Gough.** *Alauda* 47(2): 73-82.
- Vuilleumier, Francois. 1978. (Remarks on sampling of a rich avifauna in western Ecuador.) **Remarques sur l'échantillonnage d'une riche avifaune de l'ouest de l'Ecuador.** *Oiseau Revue Fran. Ornithol.* 48(1): 21-36.
 — In French, with English summary.
- ECOLOGY AND BEHAVIOR (LIFE HISTORY INFORMATION)**
- Amadon, Dean. 1979. **Of curassows and barometers.** *Audubon* 81(6): 56-67.
 — With paintings by Albert Earl Gilbert from *Curassows and Related Birds*.
- Bayer, Range D. 1979. **Great Blue Heron attacks Horned Grebe.** *Bird-Banding* 50(3): 264-265.
- Bluhm, Cynthia K. and E. Kevin Ward. 1979. **Great Horned Owl predation on a Short-eared Owl.** *Condor* 81(3): 307-308.
- Bock, Carl E., Jeffrey B. Mitton, and Larry W. Lepthien. 1978. **Winter biogeography of North American Fringillidae (Aves): a numerical analysis.** *Syst. Zool.* 27(4): 411-420.
 — Uses Christmas bird count "data."
- Buxton, Lucinda, Jenny Slater, and Leslie H. Brown. 1978. **The breeding behaviour of the shoebill or whale-headed stork *Balaeniceps rex* in the Bangweulu Swamps, Zambia.** *East Afr. Wildl. J.* 16(3): 201-220.
- Calder, William A. III. 1978. **The Kiwi.** *Sci. Am.* 239(1): 132-142.
- Chandler, R.J. 1979. **Two urban Pied Wagtail roosts.** *Br. Birds* 72(7): 299-313.
- Cruz, Alexander. 1978. **Adaptive evolution in the Jamaican Blackbird *Nesopsar nigerrimus*.** *Ornis Scand.* 9(2): 130-137.
- Dymond, J.N. 1979. **Great Grey Shrike singing at Short-eared Owl in winter.** *Br. Birds* 72(8): 387.
- Eley, J. William, Gary R. Graves, Theodore A. Parker III, and David R. Hunter. 1979. **Notes on *Siptornis striaticollis* (Furnariidae) in Peru.** *Condor* 81(3): 319.
 — Spectacled Prickletail; with notes on behavior.
- Fitzner, R.E., and W.C. Hanson. 1979. **A congregation of wintering Bald Eagles.** *Condor* 81(3): 311-313.
 — Results of a long-term study on the Columbia River in Washington.
- Foreman, Larry D. 1979. **Flock size and density of Common Mergansers in northwestern California.** *Calif. Fish Game* 65(2): 124-127.
- Gleason, R.L., and T.H. Craig. 1979. **Food habits of Burrowing Owls in southeastern Idaho.** *Great Basin Nat.* 39(3): 274-276.
- Houston, David C. 1978. **The effect of food quality on breeding strategy in Griffon vultures (*Gyps* spp.)** *J. Zool., Lond.* 186(2): 175-184.
- Kemp, Alan C. 1978. **A review of the hornbills: biology and radiation.** *Living Bird* 17: 105-136.
- Kilham, Lawrence, and Patricia O'Brien. 1979. **Early breeding behavior of Lineated Woodpeckers.** *Condor* 81(3): 299-303.
- King, Bernard. 1979. **Roof-nesting by Great Black-backed Gulls.** *Br. Birds* 72(7): 340-343.
- Ligon, J. David. 1978. **Reproductive interdependence of Pinon Jays and Pinon Pines.** *Ecol. Monogr.* 48(2): 117-126.
- McClure, H. Elliott. 1979. **Nesting of the White-whiskered Tree Swift in Malaya.** *Condor* 81(3): 308-311.
- Mader, William J. 1979. **First nest description for the genus *Micrastur* (Forest Falcons).** *Condor* 81(3): 320.
 — Nest of Collared Forest-Falcon found in Venezuela.
- Mannan, R. William. 1979. **American Redstart assists at Yellow Warbler nest.** *Bird-Banding* 50(3): 263.
- Marti, Carl D., and Stephen W. Everett. 1978. **Polygyny in Utah dippers.** *West. Birds* 9(4): 174.
- Moynihan, M. 1978. **An "ad hoc" association of hornbills, starlings, coucals, and other birds.** *Terre Vie* 32(4): 557-576.
- Murton, R.K., and Janet Kear. 1978. **Photoperiodism in waterfowl: phasing of breeding cycles and zoogeography.** *J. Zool., Lond.* 186(2): 243-283.
- Newton, I., and M. Marquiss. 1979. **Sex ratio among nestlings of the European Sparrowhawk.** *Am. Nat.* 113(2): 309-315.
- Roberts, Robert C. 1979. **The evolution of avian food-storing behavior.** *Am. Nat.* 114(3): 418-438.

- Short, Lester L., and Jennifer F.M. Horne. 1979. **Vocal displays and some interactions of Kenyan honeyguides (Indicatoridae) with barbets (Capitonidae).** *Am. Mus. Novit.* no. 2684, 19 pp.
- Six short notes by single authors. 1979. **Gulls and terns perching on wires.** *Br. Birds* 72(7): 343-344.
- Slud, Paul. 1979. **Calls of the Great Potoo.** *Condor* 81(3): 322.
- Stepanjan, L.S. 1979. **Possible relations of *Ibidorhyncha struthersii* and notes on the history of the family Haematopodidae (Aves).** *Zool. Zh.* 58(11): 1671-1679.
— In Russian with English summary.
- Summers, R.W., and M. Waltner. 1979. **Seasonal variations in the mass of waders in Southern Africa, with special reference to migration.** *Ostrich* 50(1): 21-37.
- Thiollay, Jean-Marc. 1978. **(Migration of raptors in East Africa: ecological adaptations to seasonal fluctuations of ecosystem productivity.) Les migrations de rapaces en Afrique occidentale: adaptations ecologiques aux fluctuations saisonnières de production des écosystèmes.** *Terre Vie* 32(1): 89-133.
— In French, with English summary.
- Thiollay, J.M. 1978. **Population structure and seasonal fluctuations of the Falconiformes in Uganda National Parks.** *East Afr. Wildl. J.* 16(3): 145-151.
- Walsberg, Glenn E. 1977. **Ecology and energetics of contrasting social systems in *Phainopepla nitens* (Aves: Ptilonotidae).** *Univ. Calif. Berkeley Publ. Zool.* Volume 108. 63 pp.
- Wilkinson, R., and C.R. Huxley. 1978. **Vocalizations of chicks and juveniles and the development of adult calls in the Aldabra White-throated Rail *Dryolimnas cuvieri aldabranus* (Aves: Rallidae).** *J. Zool., Lond.* 186(4): 587-505.
- Willard, David E. 1979. **Comments on the feeding behavior of the Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*).** *Biotropica* 11(2): 158.
- Williams, Timothy C., and Janet M. Williams. 1978. **An oceanic mass migration of land birds.** *Sci. Am.* 239(4): 166-176.
- Winkler, Hans, and Lester L. Short. 1978. **A comparative analysis of acoustical signals in Pied Woodpeckers (Aves: Picoides).** *Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.* 160(1): 1-110.
- Woffinden, Neil D., and James A. Mosher. 1979. **Ground nesting and aggressive behavior by the Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*).** *Great Basin Nat.* 39(3): 253-254.
- Yocum, Charles F., R.J. Bogiatto, and J.C. Eshelman. 1978. **Migration of American Coots wintering in northwestern California.** *Calif. Fish Game* 64(4): 302-305.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Blandamer, J.S., and P.J.K. Burton. 1979. **Anatomical specimens of birds in the collections of the British Museum (Natural History).** *Bull. Br. Mus. (Nat. Hist.) Zool.* 34(4): 125-180.
- Enemar, Anders, Bengt Sjostrand, and Soren Svensson. 1978. **The effect of observer variability on bird census results obtained by a territory mapping technique.** *Ornis Scand.* 9(1): 31-39.
- Haemig, Paul D. 1979. **Secret of the Painted Jay.** *Biotropica* 11(2): 81-87.
— Presents a thesis that *Cyanocorax dickeyi*, e.g. Tufted Jay, was introduced to western Mexico by ancient man.
- Janzen, Daniel H. 1978. **Predation intensity on eggs on the ground in two Costa Rican forests.** *Am. Midl. Nat.* 100(2): 467-470.
- Meritt, Gail F., and Dennis A. Meritt, Jr. 1979. **Hand-rearing and nutrition of nestling night-hawks *Chordeiles minor* at Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago.** *Int. Zoo Yearb.* 19: 256-257.
- Plenge, Manuel A. 1979. **Type specimens of birds in the Museo de Historia Natural "Javier Prado," Lima, Peru.** *Occas. Pap. Mus. Zool. La. St. Univ.* no. 53, 13 pp.
- Prater, A.J. 1979. **Trends in accuracy of counting birds.** *Bird Study* 26(3): 198-200.
- Rahn, Hermann, Amos Ar, and Charles V. Paganelli. 1979. **How bird eggs breathe.** *Sci. Am.* 240(2): 46-55.
- Tindle, R.W. 1979. **Tourists and the seabirds in Galapagos.** *Oryx* 15(1): 68-70.
- Zoological Society of London. 1979. **Census of rare animals in captivity 1978: Birds.** *Int. Zoo Yearb.* 19: 388-397.
— U.S. collections include: Waldrapp *Gerrhonotus eremita* — three in Philadelphia; Steller's Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus pelagicus* — one in San Diego; Harpy Eagle *Harpia harpyja* — four in Los Angeles; and Monkey-eating Eagle *Pithechophaga jefferyi* — two in Los Angeles.
- Zoological Society of London. 1979. **Species of birds bred in captivity and multiple generation births 1977.** *Int. Zoo Yearb.* 19: 305-344.
— U.S. breeding records include: Elegant Crested Tinamou *Eudromia elegans*, 37 born in the Bronx zoo; King Penguin *Aptenodytes patagonica*, one born in St. Louis; Spix's Guan *Penelope jacquacu*, 5 born in Houston; Nocturnal Curassow *Nothocrax urumutum*, 7 born in Houston; Sunbittern *Eurypyga helia*, one born in the Bronx; and Great Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo*, five born in San Diego.

FULL TITLES, AND PLACES OF PUBLICATION, OF SERIALS REFERRED TO ABOVE

- Alauda** Societe d'Etudes Ornithologiques, Paris, France. **American Midland Naturalist** University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana. **American Museum Novitates** American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York. **American Naturalist** University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois. **Ardea** Nederlandse Ornithologische Unie, Arnhem, Holland. **Audubon** National Audubon Society, New York, New York. **Australian Journal of Zoology** Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, Melbourne, Australia. **Biologist** Phi Sigma Society, Charleston, Illinois. **Biotropica** Association for Tropical Biology, c/o Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. **Bird-Banding** Northeastern Bird-Banding Association, Concord, Massachusetts. **Bird Study** British Trust for Ornithology, Hertfordshire, England. **British Birds** Macmillan Journals Limited, London, England. **Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History** American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York. **Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History), Zoology Series** British Museum (Natural History), London, England. **California Fish and Game** California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, California. **Chihuahuan Desert Discovery** Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute, Alpine, Texas. **Condor** Cooper Ornithological Society, Los Angeles, California. **East African Wildlife Journal** Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, England. **Ecological Monographs** Duke University Press for the Ecological Society of America, Durham, North Carolina. **Great Basin Naturalist** Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. **International Zoo Yearbook** Zoological Society of London, London, England. **Journal of Zoology** Academic Press for the Zoological Society of London, London, England. **Living Bird** Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. **Loon** Minnesota Ornithologists Union, Minneapolis, Minnesota. **Natural History** American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York. **Occasional papers of the Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University** Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. **Oiseau et la Revue Francaise d'Ornithologie** Societe Ornithologique de France, Paris, France. **Ornis Scandinavica/Scandinavian Journal of Ornithology** Scandinavian Ornithologists' Union by Munksgaard International Booksellers and Publishers, Copenhagen, Denmark. **Oryx** Fauna Preservation Society, c/o Zoological Society of London, London, England. **Ostrich** Southern African Ornithological Society, Johannesburg, South Africa. **Scientific American** Scientific American, Inc., New York, New York. **Smithsonian** Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. **Systematic Zoology** Society of Systematic Zoology, c/o Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. **La Terre et la Vie** Societe Nationale de Protection de la Nature, Paris, France. **U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, General Technical Report** Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, Berkeley, California. **University of California Publications in Zoology** University of California Press, Berkeley, California. **Western Birds** Western Field Ornithologists, California. **Wildlife Society Bulletin** Wildlife Society, Washington D.C. **Zoologicheskii Zhurnal** Akademiia Nauk SSSR, Moscow, USSR.

Important Announcement: Schedule Shifts

This issue completes the first volume of *Continental Birdlife* — the first of many, we believe. This, our first foray into publishing, has been tremendously gratifying so far. The personal satisfaction of seeing the journal roll off the press has been greatly augmented by the letters we've received: literally hundreds of letters bearing congratulations, encouragement, constructive criticism. Were we somewhat different in our psychological makeup, we might have filled this issue with laudatory letters from big names in the bird world. But although modesty militates against this, we want to express our deep appreciation to all who wrote. Every note of praise was savored, every criticism was carefully considered. Perhaps we cannot please everyone, but we can and will take all opinions into account.

One of our major concerns in producing *CB* has been pursuit of the elusive goal of complete accuracy. To this end, we have spent hundreds of hours double-checking facts in the library, the museum and the field; we have harrassed various experts with repeated long-distance calls for information; and as a final step, we have performed an eternity of proofreading. The search for accuracy is sometimes educational, sometimes merely tedious, always time-consuming. But we believe that the goal of accuracy merits every minute we've spent upon it, and we were pleased that some readers wrote to agree with this sentiment.

Another major concern of ours has been the problem of publishing on schedule. When we first conceived of *CB* it was a bit daunting to see the popular bird journals that always arrived quite late — including some that had been in existence for a decade and more, even some that were very professional in outward appearance. It was clear to us beforehand that publishing must involve pitfalls and delays which we could not predict without experiencing them ourselves. So we resolved to pay close attention to all aspects of scheduling throughout the production of Volume One . . . to experiment, to experience all the kinds of delays that were possible.

We have certainly succeeded in experiencing delays. Our first number, dated February, was not out until May 1979; now that we're nearing completion of the 1979 volume, 1980 is more than half gone. We've fallen farther behind because of our experimentation with all possible production methods: many of our trials were in fact errors. But now we know all about the time factors involved. Now we could publish on perfect schedule — if it were possible to start over . . .

The main point of this announcement is that we are, in a way, starting over. Invoking a plan conceived some time ago, we are skipping 1980 entirely (it is leap year, isn't it?), and beginning Volume Two with the February 1981 issue — which will actually reach all subscribers during February 1981. This jump in scheduling will allow us to catch up completely without any corner-cutting or compromise on quality. It will also herald some other alterations in *CB*: you will notice some changes in design, and some new features; the number of pages per issue will increase substantially.

These changes (like everything else) will cost money. No one will be too surprised to learn that we are raising our subscription rate. However, in gratitude to those who supported us during our formative year, we are offering them a special renewal rate: all Volume One subscribers are invited to receive Volume Two at 1979 rates (\$9.00 in the U.S., \$10.50 elsewhere) if the renewal is sent in before December 31, 1980. Those who have already (with heart-warming faith) renewed their subscriptions for 1980 will automatically receive the 1981 issues.

We hope you will all join us for what promises to be a fascinating year.

