

occurred during spring and summer, seasons when the human population on the Keys was once considerably lower than at present. Also, Screech Owls are less vocal during winter, and no Screech Owl has been recorded on Upper Keys Christmas Bird Counts since these counts were initiated in 1955. — John C. Ogden, *National Audubon Research Dept., 115 Indian Mound Trail, Tavernier, Florida 33070.*

Orchard Oriole holding food with the feet. — Clark (1973, Bird-Banding 44: 91-99) summarized the records of passerine birds holding food with the feet and suggested that this behavior might be useful as a taxonomic character in certain families. Holding food with the feet has been reported for less than 145 (Clark 1973) of the more than 5000 species of passerines (Mayr 1946, Auk 65: 64-69). Of the 22 North American icterids (AOU Check-list of North American birds, fifth ed., Baltimore, Amer. Ornithol. Union), Clark (1973) lists 6 species as holding food with the feet, including the Northern Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) but not the Orchard Oriole (*I. spurius*).

On 5 October 1976 at the Archbold Biological Station, Lake Placid, Highlands County, Florida, I saw a female Orchard Oriole hold food with its feet. Perched among grape vines (*Vitis* sp.) along the edge of a fallow field, the bird seized a grape with its bill and transferred it to its left foot. Then, while holding the grape against the perch, it picked at the grape with its bill several times. Unfortunately I observed this behavior only once, as the bird was wary and did not remain in view for long.

This type of food holding, "clamping" (Clark 1973), is the most frequent method used by passerines holding food with the feet including 5 of the 6 North American icterids listed by Clark (1973): Northern Oriole, Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*), Boat-tailed Grackle (*Q. major*), Common Grackle (*Q. quiscula*), Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*). — Fred E. Lohrer, *Archbold Biological Station, Rt. 2, Box 180, Lake Placid, Florida 33852.*

Report on the 1977 spring meeting. — The 1977 spring meeting of the Florida Ornithological Society was hosted by the Archbold Biological Station and the Highlands County Audubon Society at the Lake Placid Holiday Inn on 22-24 April. Co-chairmen were Fred E. Lohrer and Miriam Beck who along with their local committee received loud plaudits for their skilled planning and management.

Field trips (attended by 164 on Saturday and 110 on Sunday) went to Highlands Hammock S. P., Indian Prairie, ABS, and Fisheat-