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The Colorado Field Ornithologist is a quarterly journal devoted to the field study of birds in Colorado. Articles and notes of scientific or general interest, and reports of unusual observations are solicited. Send manuscripts, with photos and drawings, to David W. Lupton, Editor; Serials Section, Colorado State University Libraries; Fort Collins, Colorado 80521. Membership and subscription fees: Full member \$5.00; Library subscription fees \$5.00. Submit payments to Sadie Morrison, Treasurer; 1283 Elizabeth Street, Denver, Colorado 80206. Request for exchange or for back numbers should be addressed to the Editor. All exchange publications should likewise be sent to the Editor's address.

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COVER PHOTO: Mississippi Kite fledgling thirty days old, banded and photographed August 25, 1971 by Babette Cranson at the kite colony east of La Junta, Colorado.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gilded Flicker in Colorado?

145 Esther Drive
Security, CO 80911
February 24, 1972

Dear Mr. Lupton:

Upon reading issue number 10 of the Colorado Field Ornithologist, I was greatly distressed by the fact that an undocumented record for a Gilded Flicker was included in the 1970 Colorado Springs Christmas Count. To my knowledge, the Gilded Flicker has never before been recorded in Colorado. After seeing this, I contacted Dominic Bartol, the count compiler, and found that he himself had seen the bird and had a photograph of it. I visited Mr. Bartol the next day and found the picture lacking in detail, and his recollection of the bird's plumage hazy. Mr. Bartol also informed me that he had sent, on request, the photo and details to Jack Reddall, but has received no further reply. I do not know what conclusions Mr. Reddall reached, but I believe the record must be documented (explaining why the bird was not a hybrid) or withdrawn in the next issue of the Colorado Field Ornithologist.

Ironically, this same issue opens with a letter to you from Van Remsen urging the creation of an accurate, detailed reporting system for rare birds. As you mentioned in your reply to Mr. Remsen, Sam Gadd presented such a plan to the CFO Board of Directors in June of 1970, but no progress has been made in the matter. I sincerely hope the CFO will take immediate action to implement such a system. Obviously such a program is a must if the Colorado Field Ornithologist wishes to continue as a serious journal devoted to the science of field ornithology in Colorado.

Yours truly,

Michael P. Schultz

Editor's Note:

The Editor agrees -- the Gilded Flicker (Colaptes chrysoides) has never before been recorded in Colorado. Its normal range is saguaro desert in southern Arizona and southeastern California, and it could easily be confused with the Yellow-shafted Flicker (Colaptes auratus) and the Red-shafted Flicker (Colaptes cafer).

Mr. Schultz's letter further exemplifies the need for an accurate, detailed reporting system for rare and unusual bird sightings in Colorado. In this case of the Gilded Flicker, it was included in the 1970 Colorado Springs Christmas Count list on the strength of its inclusion in American Birds, April, 1971, p. 450. It is listed in American Birds in bold print without further details, corroboration, or explanation as "seen in area count period, but not on count day." A search of the 1970 Colorado Springs Christmas Count results in Aikorns (Volume 12, no. 3, Jan.-Feb., 1971) did not reveal this sighting at all!

In view of the above circumstances it appears that the record of Gilded Flicker in Colorado may not be satisfactorily documented and should be considered hypothetical pending more conclusive information.

Editor, CFO

Black-eared Bushtit: a valid species?

161 Del Mar Circle
Aurora, CO 80010
March 1, 1972

Dear Mr. Lupton:

I have received our interesting issue #10, Colorado Field Ornithologist

Page 19: Black-eared Bushtits by Dave Griffiths.
New species to Colorado.

I am wondering if you have read the articles in two Auk's about them? Auk, October, 1967, Vol, 84, No. 4, pages 503 through 528, by Ralph J. Raitt. "Relationships between Black-eared and Plain-eared forms of Bushtits (Psaltriparus)"

and July, 1969, Vol. 86, No. 3, page 570: "Change in facial coloration in a bushtit" by Barbara McKnight.

Inasmuch as Dave Griffiths' report is in July when young birds are on the wing, I am wondering about the validity of recognizing this as a first record for Colorado?

Sincerely,

Mildred O. Snyder

Editor's Note:

Mrs. Snyder is correct in questioning the validity of the Black-eared Bushtit as a distinct species. Raitt concluded that both the Black-eared Bushtit and the Common Bushtit should be considered the same species. On the basis of the fifth edition of the A.O.U. check-list (1957) which lists the Black-eared Bushtit as a separate species, I had cited this observation as a new species to the Colorado state bird list. The next edition of the A.O.U. check-list, when published, should settle the question of the validity of this "species."

Editor, CFO

The Editor welcomes further comments regarding these and other matters of interest to the members of the Colorado Field Ornithologists.

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TENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
Colorado Field Ornithologists
May 20-21, 1972
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MISSISSIPPI KITE NESTING IN COLORADO

Babette F. Cranson
Ornithology Research Center
Otero Junior College
La Junta, Colorado 81050

The Mississippi Kite (Ictinia misisippiensis) has been regarded as a casual visitor to Colorado. According to Bailey and Niedrach (1967), "Breninger saw a specimen in Denver which was said to have been taken near Trinidad (Cooke, 1897), and Aiken observed a bird in Dead Man's Canyon, southwest of Colorado Springs during the summer of 1873 (Warren and Aiken, 1914)."

Since 1968, observations of the Mississippi Kite in Colorado have been more frequent. On August 21, 1968, at 10:30 a. m., William C. Andersen observed three adult kites while they were feeding in the air above Otero Junior College, La Junta, Otero County, Colorado. Similar sightings were noted by Mr. Andersen and myself on August 22, 25, 28, 29, 31, and September 3, 1968, with a maximum of six kites sighted--four adults and two immatures. This information was released to Dr. Donald W. Janes and subsequently published in the Pueblo Audubon Club Checklist (1969) and the Pueblo Audubon Club News Bulletin (Decker and Janes, 1969).

On June 14, 1969, at 11:00 a. m., Mr. Andersen observed three adult kites circling over the sand dunes six miles east of La Junta. On August 28, 1969, I observed seven kites over the La Junta High School. There were several other sightings that year, the last on September 2. No more than seven kites were seen at any one time.

In 1970, there were no spring sightings of Mississippi Kites in the La Junta vicinity; however, in May 1970, Paul Julian and Hugh Kingery (Lupton, 1970) reported two Mississippi Kites over the Cimarron River in Baca County. Mr. Andersen and I made our first kite sighting for 1970 when they appeared over Otero Junior College on August 18. We had almost daily sightings thereafter until September 3, 1970, with a maximum of seven individuals--four adults and three immatures.

The first sighting in 1971 was made on May 27 (Davis, 1971). On May 30 I observed two Mississippi Kites over the Arkansas River, slightly east of La Junta. On May 31, I observed eight kites feeding in this same area. The site of these observations later proved to be the area of the first recorded nesting of the Mississippi Kite in Colorado.

Habitat:

The nesting colony is situated in Otero County in a northerly bulging ox-bow of the Arkansas River, slightly east of La Junta. The

northern side of the river is bordered by a few cottonwood trees and corn fields. The inside of the bow, where the kites were nesting, contains almost exclusively a grove of cottonwood trees and tamarisks. The cottonwood trees range in height from 40 to 65 feet, averaging about 50 feet and having a diameter of six to eight inches. The tamarisks range from eight to twelve feet in height. Other vegetation consists of grasses; cottonwood saplings, three to ten feet in height; willow, three to twelve feet in height; and a few Russian olive trees, ten to twenty-two feet in height. Typical xerophytic plants grow on the southern side of the grove. Those most common are buffalo grass, rabbit brush, and yucca. Less abundant are sagebrush, opuntia, and cholla.

Nest:

Of the six nests found, five were within the grove and one was on the north side of the river. All nests were located in cottonwood trees averaging 42 feet in height. Nest height off the ground averaged 30.8 ± 2.2 feet. The nests were well constructed, and built, in all cases, on a main branch of the tree. The nests were constructed almost exclusively of twigs from cottonwood trees, varying from nine to twelve inches in length, broken at one end and budded on the other. All of the nests were lined with fresh sprigs of cottonwood and willow. I do not know if lining material was altered frequently while the kites were incubating, but after the young had hatched, it appeared that fresh lining material was added every day. This adding of material probably accounts for the flattened nest shape when the young are ready to fledge.

The average dimensions of the nests were 12 ± 1 inches long and 10 ± 2 inches wide with some twigs extending from the main body of the nest, giving it a maximum length of 25 ± 1.5 inches and a maximum width of 19 ± 2 inches. The depth of the nests were 6.5 ± 0.5 inches. The nest cup was 6 ± 0.5 inches in width and 2 ± 0.5 inches in depth.

Contents of nests:

It has been established that the Mississippi Kite is a slow breeder, producing only one, two, and very rarely, three young per year (Bent, 1937). Mr. Andersen and I found one young each in five of the six nests. The other nest, containing two young, is worthy of special attention. When found on July 31, 1971 this nest contained one downy young and one young nearly fully feathered, indicating an age difference of over two weeks. When compared to the ages of the young in the other nests, an interesting pattern emerged. Rather than the usual clustering of ages around a certain date, as noted by Fitch (1963), we found two distinct clusterings. Three of the seven young were of downy age and four were nearly fully feathered. A possible explanation of this is that the laying of a pipe line through the nesting area on June 6, disturbed the nesting adults. Robinson (1957) quoted Sutton's statement that, "the period of incubation was at least

twenty-nine and probably not more than thirty-one days." Using this to calculate the egg laying dates, the seven eggs were probably laid around May 28, May 29, June 4, June 6, June 18, June 20, and June 25. If the three pair of nesting adults, accounting for the latter dates, had set up nests in trees which were ripped out near June 6, then they probably would have re-nested two weeks later, Bent (1937), around June 20.

Other data that supports this explanation is the placement of the nests in respect to the position of the pipe line. The nests containing the older kites averaged 230 yards from the pipe line. Those nests containing the younger kites averaged 130 yards away, with one on the edge of the pipe line clearing. If the original nest tree had been torn down, the kites probably would have re-nested as close as possible to the original site. Thus the proximity of the nests containing the younger kites to the pipe line gives support to the re-nest hypothesis. I am still unable, however, to give a concrete explanation for the occurrence of two young with a two-week age difference being raised in one nest.

Feeding:

The Mississippi Kite, which is noted for its soaring, almost effortless flight, catches its prey and usually eats it while in the air. I often watched kites feeding on the wing. They did this by thrusting their talons forward with the food and bending their head down to meet it in the middle of the body (drawing b). Often kites feed while perched, and several times I have observed a kite feeding on the ground.

Food remains, which were mainly found in the nests, consisted primarily of grasshoppers, cicadas, and dragonflies. A few Monarch butterflies and beetles were also eaten. The pellets found in the nest and below the perch trees consisted of grasshopper and other insect remains. No remains of birds, amphibians, or reptiles were found. Fitch (1963) stated, after reviewing many published records on the Mississippi Kite, that predation on vertebrates must be rare and needs further verification. Seibel (1971) noted the kites to have fed on Chimney Swifts and Robinson (1957) found a significant number of leopard frog and bullfrog remains in the nest. Prey eaten by the kites, therefore, seems to vary within colonies, possibly relating directly to the animals which live in the area.

Nest sanitation:

Each of the six nests was kept fairly clean and odorless. Fecal matter was not expelled onto the nests; however, remains of insects, pellets, and egg shells were found in the nests. The egg shells and a few pellets, which were probably expelled by a "sitting" adult, were covered by lining material. A few pellets were lodged in the outer twigs.

Robinson (1957) noted that food remains were often left in the nests until in advanced stages of decay. We noticed that food remains, such as insect wings and legs, were often left in the nests.

Defense of nest:

The adults took an active part in defending their own nest and the nests of the other kites in the colony. Fitch (1963) substantiated this observation. I noticed the adults to be accompanied by what was assumed to be the previous year's young. At times there were six kites-adults and immatures-taking active part in the defense of one nest or circling overhead. Defense of the nest consisted of a series of rapid dives, often within a few feet of the observer, climaxed on the upward swoop by the phew phew call. Fitch (1963) very accurately described the call as "a whistle in which the first syllable is short (lasting about one-fourth of a second) with a rising inflection, clipped off short, while the second syllable has a downward inflection, and is drawn out to two or three times the length of the first syllable." Defense of the nest heightened at a point about one week before the egg had hatched and continued throughout the growth of the young.

Plumage:

Of the almost thirty kites which I saw during the summer, twelve were adults, seven were fledglings, and approximately seven were immatures. The adult male kite (drawings a,d) has a greyish-blue body which lightens into a whitish throat and head. The primaries and the slightly notched tail are almost black, with the primaries showing chestnut patches when a bright sun is above the bird. The chestnut color does not appear as pronounced as in Bailey and Niedrach's book (1967: plate 25), and does not serve as an adequate field mark; however, the white patch on the upper secondaries shows very distinctly. The female bird, which is slightly larger than the male, has the same color pattern, but is noticeably darker overall.

Fledgling kites (cover photo), have a beige body streaked with cinnamon-brown and greyish tail with three dark bands. The white patch that is apparent on the adult, is less noticeable on the fledgling.

Immature birds (drawing c) resemble the fledglings in the three-line banded tail, but lack the streaked body. Like the adult, the immature male is lighter in color than the female.

Pre-migratory flights:

During the nesting season the kites foraged for food in areas adjacent to the nesting **site**. After the young fledged, the flights encompassed a greater area. Mr. Andersen observed four adult kites over



Babette
Granson

the college on August 27. During the adult's flights, the young stayed near their nest, sometimes joining the other young in the air. On September 9, we saw one adult and one fledgling over the college. It became a habit to watch for the kites over the college every day from 9:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m., when all that was necessary was to look in all directions in order to see at least one kite. The dates and times of these 1971 pre-migratory flights correspond to those of Mr. Andersen's sightings in 1968. Thus, possibly the kites he saw in 1968 were ones which had begun nesting in the area at least four years ago.

The kites migrated south in groups with the immatures leaving first and the adults and young last. The last sighting of a kite was on September 30, 1971 (Lupton, 1971) when Mr. Andersen and I saw the youngest fledgling kite foraging over the Arkansas River.

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FEBRUARY BIRDING IN SOUTHERN ARIZONA

George R. Shier
Route 1, Box 821
Golden, Colorado 80401

My wife and I set out for southern Arizona from Golden, Colorado on February 5, 1971 amid the first flakes of an oncoming snow storm. By the time we reached Pueblo, Colorado, we were under a blue sky in sunshine that stayed with us almost all of the three weeks we were away.

Cave Creek, above Portal, in the Chiricahua Mountain Range of southeastern Arizona was our first objective. We spent February 7 and 8 at Stewart Campground, a comfortable stopping place under Live Oaks and various evergreens. Flocks of bright-eyed Mexican Juncos were common. There were also the Bridled Titmouse and the Mexican Chickadee which we had found previously, in numbers, across the range at Chiricahua National Monument. We found our first and only Arizona Woodpecker in the campground where it was engrossed in feeding on larvae under the bark of a tree in a large shrub clump and permitted us to watch at close range.

Although we were too early for the spring migrants, we visited the refuge established by the Nature Conservancy on Sonoita Creek, immediately below the town of Patagonia. The refuge stretches along the creek behind fenced boundaries for a long way. Visitors are free to enter and walk about. In the refuge we met some local birders and enjoyed a visit about Arizona birds. We observed many of the species that winter here, but our visit was principally to look around with a view to returning another time, in late spring.

Looking for Bendire's Thrasher, we went to Saguaro National Monument near Tucson on February 10. We found one while walking on a nature trail. We were able to follow and observe it for a time as it flitted among the scattered bushes. At first glance we were reminded somewhat of a Hermit Thrush, out of place, but the bright eye and pale marking are distinctive.

The Olive Warbler has been reported from Mt. Lemmon, north of Tucson, in February. We spent a pleasant night in Rose Canyon under tall pines, but failed to turn up an Olive Warbler there, or elsewhere. Neither did we hear any owls.

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in southwestern Arizona was high in our expectations. Formerly, the Monument campground was often overloaded and crowded by people who came to sit in the sun, but in 1971 the overnight fee was raised to \$2.00 and we found some vacant sites in this beautifully designed campground, even on the long George Washington holiday weekend. Over 200 sites have been spread on surfaced lanes amid

fine stands of Ironwood, Palo Verde, Creosote Bush, Organ Pipe Cactus, Saguaro Cactus, Cholla Cactus and other desert plants. Gilded Flicker, Gila Woodpecker and Curve-billed Thrasher fill the air with calls and many other desert species are found in the campground.

On February 12 we sat at Dripping Springs, a small, but dependable water hole in the side of a low ridge. We watched the desert birds come and go and eventually a small group of Rufous-winged Sparrows came in a tight, alert group, easily separated from the Brewer's Sparrows and Chipping Sparrows there at the same time. Although we were about thirty feet from the birds, the rufous wing patches were useless as a field mark. The best marks were the divided crown and the clear-cut head and throat marks.

We made trips up the Bull Pasture Trail on February 13 and 14. This trail is in the rugged Ajo Mountains. It is 1 3/4 miles long and the climb is 1,000 feet on a winding, self-guiding nature trail amid interesting plants. We saw the usual desert birds along the trail plus some Rufous-crowned Sparrows, Oregon Juncos, Rufous-sided Towhees and Black-chinned Sparrows that had not been common elsewhere in the park. The season had been very dry and the presence of permanent waterholes in the Bull Pasture area supported a considerable bird population. The Bull Pasture area is a large bench, surrounded by cliffs under the ridge of the Ajo Mountains. Cattle could be fenced in with a small amount of fencing. It is a good place to spend a day with birds and binoculars. The water is in potholes in the bottom of ravines in the Bull Pasture.

In 1960 we had visited Quitobaquito Springs in the southwest corner of the park. On that first visit of February 9, we had found many hummingbirds at Quitobaquito. Masses of thornbush had started to bloom, but the cottonwoods were still bare. Costa's Hummingbird and Black-chinned Hummingbird males were numerous, each trying to guard a perch and court females with power dives. We had been able to also identify at least one each of the Blue-throated Hummingbird and Allen's Hummingbird.

In 1971 we went to Quitobaquito on February 15. The dry, warm weather had advanced the season. The cottonwoods were in leaf. The thornbush was past its prime. There were a number of female hummingbirds, but we saw no males. The scene was so different than our expectations, that we gave up our permission to remain overnight nearby in a primitive campground and left the area.

On February 16 we headed for Yuma and Palm Canyon in extreme southwestern Arizona hoping that we might find Leconte's Thrasher and Abert's Towhee (we didn't). Palm Canyon proved to be a steep gash in the west side of the Kofa Range in the Kofa Game Refuge. We stopped in the parking area at the foot of the canyon in mid-afternoon and walked up the canyon to see the rare and unique Arizona Palms which have persisted here in small numbers isolated in small crevices in the north wall of the canyon.

We spent the night in the desert in the shelter of Ironwood and Palo Verde trees below the canyon and looked for non-existent birds. It rained lightly in the night and snowed at Tucson. The next morning we returned to the canyon. The bird activity was provided by Costa's Hummingbirds. In the big wash-out of the canyon we found clumps of a leafless "hummingbird bush" in scarlet bloom. Each clump was the property of a male hummingbird and we enjoyed watching their efforts to defend territory and court an occasional female. One female Anna's Hummingbird was identified by the dark throat spot. No other species were seen.

We soon returned to Organ Pipe Cactus Monument for a few more days. On February 19, we started our third trip up the Bull Pasture Trail at 9:00 a. m. Rock depressions were full of water and birds were abundant, especially wrens along the lower trail.

Most of the wrens were Bewick's Wren, common in this area, but there were some House Wrens and a puzzling wren or two which Marie, my wife, pointed out as being different. I suggested that it must be an immature House Wren as we were generally familiar with all of the wrens on the park checklist. However, when we returned to the camper at the foot of the trail, we checked our books and concluded it could only be the unexpected Brown-throated Wren. It is found nearby to the south in Sonora and to the east in the Santa Rita Range. We concluded that the recent rain had made water available and that the numerous wrens were migrating while the conditions were favorable.

During the night of February 20, while in the Organ Pipe Cactus Campground, Marie and I were both awakened by the nearby calls of an owl. We listened at open windows. The calls started with a scream, immediately followed by three hoots. This is as described by Pough in his Audubon Western Bird Guide for the Spotted Owl which was on the park checklist. After a time I determined to search with a flashlight, but the calls ended before I went out. We listened to Harold Holt's owl calls from his records. The rising scream checked with what we heard, but the record continued with the dog-like barking which Pough mentions as also given by the Spotted Owl, the female's call being higher than the male's call. The record call was listed as at a nest. Our call was undoubtedly elsewhere and probably made by a male as the hoots had a deep tone, unlike those of our local Great-horned Owl, which is also on the park checklist.

Our last unexpected bird was found the next afternoon while walking through the campground. It was a warbler, feeding in one of the many creosote bushes. As it deliberately searched each bush, the thin foliage of the creosote bushes provided scant cover and it was easy to observe the field marks, or absence of marks, except for the white underparts. It was a warbler that I had not previously identified and I went for the field guide. It proved to be Lucy's Warbler and when Marie went back with me we soon located it in another creosote bush and followed it from bush to bush until at last it flew off into the desert.

When we left Arizona on February 25, it was reluctantly. We will go back. As spring advances, a dozen or so additional species will appear for the nesting season and there are always the hawks and owls peculiar to the Arizona border area to provide an unexpected and often uncommon sound or sight. The attractive and shaded campgrounds at Chiricahua National Monument, Cave Creek, Cochise's Stronghold, Madera Canyon, Mount Lemmon and elsewhere in the Coronado National Forest offer some shelter from the heat of the desert floor in the late spring months. Although the Tucson, Phoenix and Yuma areas may be thronged with winter visitors in February and March, we found many attractive uncrowded locations away from these centers, suitable for our use.

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DUES

Dues payments in the amount of \$5.00 per year (beginning in 1972) were due on January 1st and payable to Miss Sadie Morrison, Treasurer, Colorado Field Ornithologists, 1283 Elizabeth Street, Denver, Colorado 80206. Dues are considered delinquent for the calendar year after the annual CFO convention in the spring.

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UNUSUAL OBSERVATIONS

compiled by
William A. Davis
308 Country Club Park
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

Common Loon -- Two were seen at Antero Reservoir in Park County on September 9, 1971 by Mike Schultz. This is an early fall record.

Brant (species unknown) -- One brant (species unknown) either Brant (Branta bernicla) or Black Brant (Branta nigricans) was observed on January 17, 1972 by Wilbur N. Ladd, Jr. at Turk's Pond, four miles southeast of Two Buttes, Baca County. The bird was in the company of approximately 50,000 Canada Geese and was seen flying about fifty yards away from the observer. Mr. Ladd was unable to distinguish which of the two species of brant it was. There are few records for either species of brant in Colorado. See: Pakulak, Allan J., Carroll D. Littlefield and Ronald A. Ryder, "Black Brant Observed in Larimer County, Colorado." Colorado Field Ornithologist 5:5-7 (1969).

Blue Goose -- Three birds were sighted by the Paul Julian party on the Bonny Reservoir Christmas Count, Yuma County, on January 2, 1972. The birds were standing on the edge of the ice about 175 yards from shore in the company of two Snow Geese. All six observers viewed the birds with a 30x scope.

On January 19, 1972 one immature Blue Goose was trapped, banded and photographed by Colorado Division of Game, Fish and Parks personnel while feeding with Canada Geese on the shoreline of Two Buttes Reservoir, ten miles northwest of Two Buttes, Baca County. There are few Colorado records for this species.

Black Duck -- One adult male was trapped and banded (no. 567-64939) by Colorado Division of Game, Fish and Parks personnel at Chestnut Slough, Milliken, Weld County on January 29, 1972.

Piping Plover -- One seen at C. F. & I. Lakes, south of Pueblo on August 29, 1971 by Mike and Lois Schultz and Van Truan.

Whimbrel -- Four seen at C. F. & I. Lakes, south of Pueblo on September 4, 1971 by Mike and Lois Schultz. They were compared with a Long-billed Curlew, and were seen again on September 5 by Van Truan.

Greater Yellowlegs -- Two were seen near Security, El Paso County, on October 30, 1971 by Mike and Lois Schultz and Sam Gadd. This is a late record.

White-rumped Sandpiper -- A single bird was seen at Antero Reservoir in Park County on June 12, 1971 by Hugh Kingery. It was identified by the white rump when flushed. So far as your compiler is aware, this is the first Colorado record west of the prairies.

Flammulated Owl -- Heard by Lois Webster on July 16, 1971 at Hahn's Peak Village, Routt County.

Spotted Owl -- A questionable sighting of this rarely seen bird was made by Mr. and Mrs. Bert Schaugency on July 16, 1971 at 8:30 p. m. about three miles east of Aspen, Pitkin County. They observed a large, earless owl which they first thought to be a Barred Owl sitting on an electricity pole for about five minutes. Because of the poor light, they do not wish to call this a positive record. It is reported so that others may be on the lookout in this area.

Saw-whet Owl -- Heard calling from March 25 through March 29, 1971 in Estes Park, Larimer County, by Warner A. Reeser. Mr. Reeser writes as follows: "On your inquiry on the Saw-whet Owl, I did hear it call for several days just south of my home. However, when a Great Horned Owl started calling, the Saw-whet moved out rather abruptly. I first heard it calling March 25, 1971. It called from 9:00 p. m. until 10:00 p. m. that date. On March 26, it called from 8:00 p. m. until 10:15 p. m. On March 28, it started calling at 7:15 p. m. and called regularly until 9:30 p. m. On March 29, the Saw-whet called from 8:30 p. m. on, but the calls were quite faint--it had moved further on to the south. I never heard it after that. I tried to find it during the days when it was calling, but was not successful."

Allegra Collister, in her "Birds of Rocky Mountain National Park" (1970), lists only one previous Estes Park record--April 10, 1957.

Black Swift -- On July 28, 1971, Bob Buttery and Jim Cruse observed six Black Swifts on the northwest slope of Pikes Peak, in Teller County, at about 13,000 feet. This is the first record, so far as your compiler is aware, of this species in the Pikes Peak area.

Rufous Hummingbird -- Seen on October 4, 1971 by Dr. William A. Davis in Grand Junction. All three species of common fall hummingbirds (Rufous, Black-chinned and Broad-tailed) stayed into late September on the western slope despite the cold weather earlier that month. Many were young birds which could not be identified. The last seen could be clearly identified as a young male Rufous Hummingbird, a late record for this species.

Least Flycatcher -- Dr. Peter Hall reports that this species was seen and heard by several experienced observers for several days between June 19

and 27, 1970 and again June 19 and 26, 1971. The location was at 7,600 feet elevation, just below Buckhorn Ranger Station on the eastern slope of Pennock Pass, Larimer County, in an aspen grove. The bird seemed to be on territory, though no nest was found.

Curve-billed Thrasher -- On June 6, 1970 Claire and Dannette Griffiths observed a Curve-billed Thrasher at close range about twenty miles southeast of Pueblo. On November 20, 1971 Dave Griffiths reported seeing this species about ten miles northeast of Pueblo on what is called Bacalite Mesa. On November 27, 1971 Dave Griffiths again observed two Curve-billed Thrashers on Bacalite Mesa and followed them for some distance across a rabbit-brush covered prairie. First records for Pueblo County.

Black-throated Blue Warbler -- Seen in Pueblo on October 2 and 4, 1971 by Dave and Claire Griffiths, Donna Bregenzer and Don Bowman.

Townsend's Warbler -- One reported on October 26, 1971 by Dr. A. Sydney Hyde, at Gunnison. Seen in a sleet storm, this is a late record.

Hooded Warbler -- One male observed October 20 and 21, 1971 at Great Sand Dunes National Monument, Alamosa, in back yard of residential area. Observers are Mr. Richard A. Wilt and Mr. and Mrs. James Carrico.

Red-winged Blackbird -- A male albino of this species was observed and collected by Dr. Dale Hein and Alan White at a feedlot on Highway 14, approximately three miles east of Ault, Weld County on December 12, 1971.

Scarlet Tanager -- A male Scarlet Tanager was observed at the Dick Krogh residence in Estes Park on May 26, 1971 by Warner Reeser. It was later photographed by Lois Mathews and stayed in the area about one month.

Allegra Collister, in her booklet "Birds of Rocky Mountain National Park" (1970), lists only one previous record for this area-- a male in Moraine Park, July 1, 1963.

CFO MEMBERSHIP LIST -- ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS

compiled by
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Hill, Mrs. Dixon H., Jr., 3320 Duffield St., Loveland, CO 80537
Porter, David K., 1415 N. College Ave., Apt. 2, Fort Collins, CO 80521
Reddall, Jack W., 4450 S. Alton St., Englewood, CO 80110
Wooding, Jerry L., Colorado Rocky Mountain School, Carbondale, CO 81623

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Library Exchanges

Massachusetts -- Miss Hope Atkinson, Librarian, Manomet Bird Observatory,
Box 0, Manomet, MA 02345. Publications - Manomet Bird Observatory.
Annual Report; Manomet Observer.

New York -- Mrs. Joyce R. Connor, Secretary, Genessee Ornithological
Society, 657 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607. Publication -
Goshawk.

Ireland -- Mr. David Scott, Hon. Secretary, Irish Wildbird Conservancy,
Granite Cottage, Ulverton Road, Dalkey, County Dublin, Ireland.
Publication - Irish Bird Report.

CORRECTIONS

General Membership

Anderson, William C. - change to Andersen

Hill, Warren H. - change of address to: Box 81, Hyde Park, NY 12538

Library Exchanges*

Texas -- Texas Ornithological Society, add the publication Texas Ornithological Society. Bulletin.

* Address changes are not listed.

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