



Loggerhead Shrike



The Piedmont Birder

HUNTINGTON BEACH STATE PARK 2001



Clapper Rail

PBC's Thanksgiving weekend trip was to South Carolina's coast, just south of Myrtle Beach, led by Don and Carolyn Allen. Huntington Beach State Park offers a variety of coastal habitat and in the winter is home to many waterfowl. The tidal marshes of the park offer rich nutrients for many birds. We saw a pair of Bald Eagles, Loggerhead Shrike, Northern Harrier, Osprey, many species of Egret and Heron, White Ibis, and Clapper Rails.

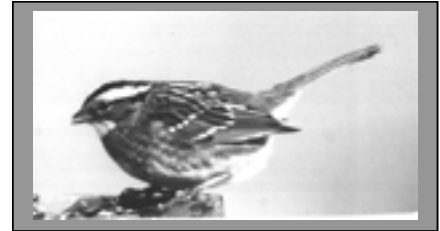
A vigorous walk out to the jetty gave us a different picture. On the beach were Sanderlings, 5 species of gulls, the ever-present Pelicans, 3 species of Terns, and Double-crested Cormorants. Hundreds of birds swarmed around the salt ponds on the other side of the dunes: Dowitchers, Dunlins, Black-bellied, Piping and Semipalmated Plovers, and Greater Yellowlegs. The jetty was populated by a number of very tolerant Ruddy Turnstones and some fleeing Purple Sandpipers. Common Loons bobbed in the inlet and Northern Gannets dove in the sea just off shore.

Returning through the dunes we chased and identified (with the expert help of Herb Hendrickson) two species of Sharp-tailed Sparrows, the Nelson's and the Salt Marsh. These had formerly been lumped as two variants, but the ornithologists have recently decided they are truly separate. The

-see Huntington, p 5.

2001 WINTER BIRD ARRIVALS

by Dennis Burnette



White-throated Sparrow

photo by Charlie Campbell

Forsyth Audubon often publishes spring arrivals, fall arrivals, and migration sightings in their newsletter. The Chapel Hill Bird Club not only does that, but also has made up a list of arrival and departure dates from the reports that they have accumulated over the years. I think it would be interesting for us to start doing the same thing.

I have been collecting arrival dates of our winter birds and have been pleased that quite a few of our members have participated. I suspect that there would be even more participation if the membership could see what everyone else is spotting. It also might generate more interest among some of the backyard bird watchers to watch their feeders and maybe even to join us on field trips.

Members who have additional sightings (species or earlier dates) are requested to contact Dennis Burnette to have them added to the list.

-see Winter Bird Arrivals, p. 3



Hooded Merganser

Jan-Feb., 2002
Volume 13, Number 1

Newsletter of the
Piedmont Bird Club
PO Box 38833
Greensboro, NC 27438-8833
<http://www.greensboro.com/birdclub>
Editor: Louise Brown

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The next deadline for newsletter items is Feb. 15, 2002. I would like to include a phone number and/or e-mail address for leaders and coordinators of any events. Please let me know if you do not want these published in the newsletter or on the website.

Call Louise Brown at 274-3691 or E-mail at piedmontbirder@aol.com.

Officers

- President:** Emily Tyler
- Vice President:** Phil Crisp
- Recording Secretary:** Deirdre
- Secretary:** Bledsoe
- Corresponding Secretary:** Barbara Jones
- Treasurer:** Susan Weimer
- Members-at-Large:** Lynn Moseley
Jean Murphy

From the President's Perch

by Emily Tyler



Snowy Owl

What incredible birding opportunities there have been in the past couple of months! It has been such fun watching the first arrivals among our winter birds (see **Winter Birds**, p. 1). My first purple finch, a female, appeared on October 24 and the second, a male, showed up on December 17. December 10 brought a front with our first rain in weeks and cooler temperatures and marked a special day with the arrival in my yard of a Brown Creeper, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Fox Sparrows among the regulars. The Pileated Woodpecker, although a permanent resident, also made a rare appearance that day.

Very rare birds showed up in Guilford County and the State during this period. In mid-November I joined birders from all around at the Tickle residence in Gibsonville to see the Broad-tailed Hummingbird, a resident of the Rocky Mountains where I first saw it in June 2000. The bird was still being seen there as of December 24, feeding more on insects than from the nectar feeders.

On December 2, Lynn Moseley, Carolyn Allen and I made our way to the N.C. Coast south of Fort Fisher to see a Snowy Owl, a life bird for all three of us. This was an extraordinary experience, not only being successful in locating that magnificent bird, but having the beach virtually to ourselves that Sunday morning, with the temperature in the low 70's. We first drove two miles to the end of the beach that was accessible to 4-wheel drive vehicles, and en route were greeted by a Peregrine Falcon sitting on a post. While waiting for the tide to subside in a couple of places, we watched Sharp-tailed (both species) and Seaside Sparrows in the grasses behind the dunes. Then we walked at least a mile and a half to the location where we finally located the owl. What a thrill!

-see President ,cont', p. 5

Bald Eagle UPDATE



On October 23, with the help of Jim Millican, neighbor to the Bald Eagle nest at Lake Higgins, and Rob Rogg, a Greensboro tree surgeon and former Alaska naturalist, we installed an artificial nest platform 50 feet up the white oak tree that was the site of the original Bald Eagle nest. The platform consists of a series of 2x4's in a triangular shape, with 6" boards against the back side of the base to form a low "backstop." We placed a few branches from the old nest on the platform -- just to give the eagles a hint! Pictures were taken during and after the construction process, and I'll bring some to the next meeting.

As of late November, eagles had been observed at Lake Higgins a couple of times, but no nesting activity has occurred yet. One of the real attractions of Lake Higgins for these birds is the small trout pond located near the marina. Once trout are stocked (usually in early November), the eagles appear regularly in the early mornings to feed, before the gates open to the public. Unfortunately, recent warm weather has delayed the stocking of the pond, since trout require water temperatures below 55 degrees. It may be that the success of our new nest depends on the presence of trout in the Lake Higgins pond.

As far as I know, this is the first artificial nest platform for Bald Eagles in North Carolina. I estimate that there is a 50/50 chance that the birds will accept this site. So keep your fingers crossed, and stay tuned!

*-Lynn J. Moseley, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Biology
Guilford College*



BOG GARDEN FIELD TRIP

11/10/2001

We saw 35 species in all at the Bog Garden. The weather had been beautiful the few weeks prior to this trip, great for birders and outdoor activities, bad for the drought conditions. The birds were plentiful and cooperative when we went to the Bog Garden. Amongst the usual suspects, woodpeckers, nuthatches, Cardinals, Towhees, Chickadees, etc., there were abundant White-throated Sparrows, displaying themselves and their lovely song, as well as other winter birds, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Yellow-rumped Warblers, (affectionately known as "butter-butts"), Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, and Juncos. We were delighted by a very cooperative Hermit Thrush, feeding on berries.

There were a small but surprising number of species of ducks and waterfowl: a Kingfisher, Shovelers, a Ruddy Duck, and a Coot as well as the expected Mallards and Canada Geese.

Dennis Burnette led an extended trip to the Greensboro lakes, where we saw a single Bufflehead on Trosper pond, Pine Warblers, Wood Duck, and Pied-billed Grebe on Buffalo Lake, and Gadwall, Hooded Merganser, Cormorant and Ring-billed Gulls on Lake Townsend.

-Louise Brown



SEAGROVE 12/1/2001

Lynn and Dennis Burnette led their annual birding/potting trip to Seagrove. We had a respectable list of 26 species for the event at which birding is interspersed with shopping forays into the pottery shops.

Our "Best Bird" was a Loggerhead Shrike, which we spotted in a field near an intersection of two country roads, moving from bush to fence to grass. We also saw a number of raptors: Red-shouldered and Red-tailed Hawks, Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Kestrel, Phoebe, as well as a number of the smaller birds, Juncos, Chipping Sparrows, Kinglets, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Chickadees.

-Louise Brown



-WINTER BIRD ARRIVALS, continued from p. 1

Common Loon: 11/09/01. Emily Tyler found 8 Common Loons on Lake Townsend.

Pied-billed Grebe: 10/31/01. The Allens saw Pied-billed Grebes at Lake Brandt, and on 11/03 Louise Brown saw one at Country Park. On 11/04 Dennis & Lynn Burnette saw a few Pied-billed Grebes in several spots in the lakes north of Greensboro. On 11/09 Emily Tyler saw several Pied-billed Grebes on Lake Townsend.

Horned Grebe: 11/09/01. Emily Tyler found an Horned Grebe on Lake Townsend.

Double-crested Cormorant: 11/04/01. Dennis & Lynn Burnette noted a few Double-crested Cormorants in several locations in the lakes north of Greensboro.

Green-winged Teal: 11/26/01. Dennis Burnette noticed two Green-winged Teal, a male and female, in the pond on the Jamestown Campus of GTCC. On 11/28 Lynn Moseley saw four Green-winged Teal at the upper end of Lake Brandt off the 220 bridge.

Northern Shoveler: 11/10/01. On a PBC field trip members saw Northern Shovelers at the Bog Garden and on Buffalo Lake. On 11/13 a female Northern Shoveler was spotted in the pond at the Jamestown campus of GTCC by Dennis Burnette. On 11/26 Dennis again saw a female Shoveler on the same pond.

Gadwall: 11/04/01. Dennis & Lynn Burnette found 23 Gadwalls in a cove off of Lake Townsend north of Greensboro. On a PBC field trip on 11/10 members saw 39 Gadwalls in a cove at Lake Townsend.

Ring-necked Duck: 11/03/01. At Country Park, Louise Brown saw a couple of Ring-necked Ducks. On 11/04 Dennis & Lynn Burnette spotted about a dozen Ring-necked Ducks on Buffalo Lake in Greensboro.

Bufflehead: 11/10/01. One Bufflehead was located on Trosper pond on a PBC field trip. Dennis and Lynn Burnette counted 11 on Trosper Pond on 11/18 and 48 on Trosper Pond on 11/25.

Hooded Merganser: 11/10/01. Five Hooded Mergansers were seen in the Yanceyville St. cove of Lake Townsend on a PBC field trip.

Ruddy Duck: 11/05/01. Judith Pate reported seeing a male Ruddy Duck at Lake Townsend off Plainfield Rd. in Greensboro. On 11/09 Emily Tyler saw a Ruddy Duck on Lake Townsend north of Greensboro. On 11/10 PBC field trip members saw Ruddy Ducks at the Bog Garden and on Buffalo Lake.

American Coot: 11/09/01. Emily Tyler reported about 50 American Coots in a raft on Lake Townsend near her neighborhood in Browns Summit. Members saw coots on a PBC field trip on 11/10.

Common Snipe: 11/28/01: Lynn Moseley saw 8 Common Snipes on the mudflats at the upper end of Lake Brandt off the 220 bridge.

Ring-billed Gull: 11/10/01. A small flock of Ring-billed Gulls was in the middle of Lake Townsend on a PBC field trip.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 10/08/01. Don and Carolyn Allen spotted a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in their yard in Greensboro. Lynn Moseley noted one on 10/19 in Greensboro, and Louise Brown also reported seeing one in that same week. On 11/08/01 Jane Lewis heard two Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers. On 11/10 PBC field trip saw at least two Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers at the Bog Garden.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 10/29/01. While walking a trail in Bur-Mil Park north of Greensboro, Don Allen spotted a Golden-crowned Kinglet. On 10/30 Louise Brown and Judith Pate saw one on a trail near Lake Brandt. On 11/07 Jane Lewis found many Golden-Crowned Kinglets.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 10/21/01. Carolyn and Don Allen found a Ruby-crowned Kinglet on the Nat Greene Trail in Greensboro. On 11/02 Nancy Prairie saw her first-of-season Ruby-crowned Kinglets in her crepe myrtle trees at her Greensboro home. On 11/03 Louise Brown saw some at Country Park. On 11/07 Jane Lewis spotted "dozens" of Ruby-crowned Kinglets.

Winter Wren: 10/28/01. Emily Tyler saw a Winter Wren in Irving Park, and Don and Carolyn Allen saw one at Starmount Park, both locations in Greensboro. On 11/05 Jane Lewis saw her first one of the season at her property near Asheboro in Randolph Co.

Hermit Thrush: 10/28/01. Don and Carolyn Allen saw four Hermit Thrushes in Starmount Park in Greensboro. On 11/07 Jane Lewis spotted two Hermit Thrushes. On a PBC field trip on 11/10 members saw one and possibly two Hermit Thrushes at the Bog Garden.

American (Water) Pipit: 11/23/01. Elizabeth and Henry Link discovered American (Water) Pipits on the mudflats at the Plainfield Road end of Reedy Fork Creek about a 1/2 hour hike in from the road.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 10/28/01. Don and Carolyn Allen found Yellow-rumped Warblers in Starmount Park in Greensboro. On 10/30 Louise Brown and Judith Pate birded a trail near Lake Brandt where they saw lots of Yellow-rumped warblers. On 11/10 members saw Yellow-rumped Warblers while on a PBC field trip.

Chipping Sparrow: 10/31/01. The Allens saw Chipping Sparrows at Lake Brandt.

Swamp Sparrow: 11/10/01. A probable Swamp Sparrow was seen at Plainfield Marsh during a PBC field trip.

White-throated Sparrow: 10/20/01. Dennis Burnette heard a White-throated Sparrow at Congregational Church of Christ as the PBC group was preparing to leave on the field trip. On 10/21 Jane Lewis found some on her property near Asheboro in Randolph Co. On 10/22 the Allens saw them in their Greensboro yard. On 10/24 Emily Tyler spotted them in her yard in Browns Summit.

Dark-eyed Junco: 10/28/01. Don and Carolyn Allen had their first Dark-eyed Junco of the season in their yard in Greensboro. On 11/02 Nancy Prairie saw her first juncos at her Greensboro home, and Emily Tyler had her first juncos in Browns Summit. On 11/06 Lynn Burnette enjoyed watching a single Dark-eyed Junco around the feeders on her deck in Greensboro. On 11/10 members saw Dark-eyed Juncos while on a PBC field trip.

Purple Finch: 10/24/01. Emily Tyler spotted a female Purple Finch in her yard in Browns Summit. On 10/28 Nancy Prairie saw five (3 females and 2 males) eating black oil sunflower seeds and dogwood berries at their home in Greensboro. On 10/31 Judith Pate had Purple Finches (2 females and 1 male) in Browns Summit.

-continued on page 4

WINTER BIRD ARRIVALS				
compiled by Dennis Burnette				
<i>Locations in Greensboro or Guilford County unless otherwise noted.</i>				
BIRD	NUMBER	DATE	SPOTTER	PLACE
Common Loon	8	11/09	Emily Tyler	Lake Townsend
Pied-billed Grebe	several	10/31	Don & Carolyn Allen	Lake Brandt
Pied-billed Grebe	1	11/03	Louise Brown	Country Park
Pied-billed Grebe	several, in varied spots	11/04	Dennis & Lynn Burnette	Lakes north of Greensboro
Pied-billed Grebe	several	11/09	Emily Tyler	Lake Townsend
Horned Grebe	1	11/09	Emily Tyler	Lake Townsend
Double-crested Cormorant	several, in varied spots	11/04	Dennis & Lynn Burnette	Lakes north of Greensboro
Green-winged Teal	1 m, 1 f	11/26	Dennis Burnette	pond on GTCC Jamestown
Green-winged Teal	4	11/28	Lynn Moseley	Lake Brandt
Northern Shoveler	several	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Bog Garden, Buffalo Lake
Northern Shoveler	1 f	11/1	Dennis Burnette	pond on GTCC Jamestown
Gadwall	23	11/04	Dennis & Lynn Burnette	cove off Lake Townsend
Gadwall	39	11/10	PBC Field Trip	cove off Lake Townsend
Ring-necked Duck	2	11/03	Louise Brown	Country Park
Ring-necked Duck	12	11/04	Dennis & Lynn Burnette	Buffalo Lake
Bufflehead	1	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Trosper Pond
Bufflehead	11	11/18	Dennis & Lynn Burnette	Trosper Pond
Bufflehead	48	11/25	Dennis & Lynn Burnette	Trosper Pond
Hooded Merganser	5	11/10	PBC Field Trip	cove off Lake Townsend
Ruddy Duck	1 m	11/05	Judith Pate	Lake Townsend
Ruddy Duck	1	11/09	Emily Tyler	Lake Townsend
Ruddy Duck	several	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Bog Garden, Buffalo Lake
American Coot	50	11/09	Emily Tyler	Lake Townsend
American Coot	several	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Lake Townsend
Common Snipe	8	11/28	Lynn Moseley	Lake Brandt
Ring-billed Gull	several	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Lake Townsend
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	10/08	Don & Carolyn Allen	Greensboro backyard
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	10/19	Lynn Moseley	Greensboro
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	10/19	Louise Brown	Greensboro backyard
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	11/08	Jane Lewis	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Bog Garden
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	10/29	Don Allen	Bur-Mill Park trail
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	10/30	Louise Brown, Judith Pate	Lake Brandt trail
Golden-crowned Kinglet	many	11/07	Jane Lewis	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	10/21	Don & Carolyn Allen	Nat Greene Trail
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	11/02	Nancy Prairie	Greensboro backyard
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	several	11/0	Louise Brown	Country Park
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	dozens	11/07	Jane Lewis	
Winter Wren	1	10/28	Emily Tyler	Irving Park
Winter Wren	1	10/28	Don & Carolyn Allen	Starmount Park
Winter Wren	1	11/05	Jane Lewis	Randolph County
Hermit Thrush	4	10/28	Don & Carolyn Allen	Starmount Park
Hermit Thrush	2	11/07	Jane Lewis	
Hermit Thrush	1	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Bog Garden
American (Water) Pipit	several	11/23	Elizabeth & Henry Link	Reedy Fork trail
Yellow-rumped Warbler	several	10/28	Don & Carolyn Allen	Starmount Park
Yellow-rumped Warbler	lots	10/30	Louise Brown, Judith Pate	Lake Brandt Trail
Yellow-rumped Warbler	several	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Bog Garden
Chipping Sparrow	several	10/31	Don & Carolyn Allen	Lake Brandt
Swamp Sparrow	1	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Plainfield Marsh
White-throated Sparrow	1	10/20	Dennis Burnette	CUCC parking lot
White-throated Sparrow	several	10/21	Jane Lewis	Randolph County
White-throated Sparrow	several	10/22	Don & Carolyn Allen	Greensboro backyard
White-throated Sparrow	several	10/24	Emily Tyler	Brown Summit backyard
Dark-eyed Junco	several	10/20	Don & Carolyn Allen	Greensboro backyard
Dark-eyed Junco	several	11/02	Nancy Prairie	Greensboro backyard
Dark-eyed Junco	several	11/02	Emily Tyler	Brown Summit backyard
Dark-eyed Junco	1	11/06	Lynn Burnette	Greensboro backyard
Dark-eyed Junco	several	11/10	PBC Field Trip	Bog Garden
Purple Finch	1 f	10/24	Emily Tyler	Brown Summit backyard
Purple Finch	3 f, 2 m	10/28	Nancy Prairie	Greensboro backyard
Purple Finch	2 f, 1 m	10/31	Judith Pate	Brown Summit backyard

-Calendar, cont' from p. 6.

• **Saturday, March 2**

Field Trip: A&T Farm. Meet at 8 a.m.

Easy hike around a farm pond and along the edge of wet woodland. Always a good trip, this is our best site for Common Snipe. Wear water-resistant shoes, dress in layers. Leader: Emily Tyler.

• **Saturday, March 16**

Field Trip: NC Zoo. We will visit the Reynolds Aviary and other areas that house the zoo's bird collection. Bring money for the entrance fee and lunch. Leader: Louise Brown.

Address changes and additions

New Member:
Theresa Galati

Check out our web site!

It has some previous field trip reports, links to other sites of interest to birders and also our Calendar of Events.

<http://www.greensboro.com/birdclub>

WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED

433 Pisgah Church Road
Greensboro, NC 27455
282-4458

PBC members get a 10% discount on all regularly priced items in the store- mention your membership when you make a purchase!

THE WILD BIRD HOUSE

3612 Spring Garden St.
Greensboro, NC 27407
Phone 336-294-7833

has generously offered members of PBC a 10% discount on bird seed and on anything in the store (except items already discounted.)



-Huntington, cont' from p. 1

Nelson's has a lot more yellow on the breast, interestingly the very same yellow ocher as the winter color of the dune grasses they appeared in. The Salt Marsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow, while it shares the same facial markings, a gray patch on the cheek with a yellow ocher stripe both above and below it, has no yellow on the breast, and is more streaked.

Another pond in the park was home to a number of ducks, Ring-billed, American Widgeon, Black Duck, Gadwall, Coots, and a Moorhen.

Saturday we went to the Georgetown Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is like a fancy sauna to quite a number of birds. Green-winged Teal, both Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Coots, Shovelers, and Cormorants abounded.

An automotive mishap led us to a garage, neighbored by a small grove of trees in which a variety of noisy black birds were roosting. One of the mechanics there shared our enthusiasm, pointing out to us the "little'uns" and the "big'uns." There were actually more kinds than that, as the flock contained Grackles, Boat-tailed Grackles, Starlings, American Crows, Fish Crows, and at least one Brown-headed Cowbird!

Automotive troubles solved, we proceeded to Brookgreen Gardens, where we spent some time chasing and identifying a Western Kingbird. Other birds seen there were Phoebes, Yellow-rumped Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Turkey Vultures, Carolina Wren, Chipping Sparrows, Cardinals, Blue Jays. A splinter group spotted a Seaside Sparrow on Pawley's Island. I saw White-winged Scoters for the first time when I took a walk on the beach. Collectively we saw 116 species of birds!

-Louise Brown



White-winged Scoter

-President's Perch, from p. 2

The Club's Thanksgiving trip to the S.C. Coast, including Huntington Beach State Park, Georgetown, Brookgreen Gardens and other locations in the vicinity, was a huge success. The trip total for species was upwards of 114. One of the more unexpected sightings was three turkeys on the side of a rural SC road on the way home! What a wonderful way to end the trip. We are most grateful to Carolyn and Don Allen, our leaders for the weekend.

The Holiday Dinner on December 13 provided excellent food and fellowship followed by the members' slide show which was enjoyed by all. This year's favors were donated by Grace Draper who has moved recently to Heritage Green and wanted to leave her treasured collection of birding knick-knacks in good hands. Thanks to Grace for her thoughtfulness and generosity. We also appreciate the donation of several items as door prizes, particularly a handsome bird house from Wild Birds Unlimited on Pisgah Church Road.

We were saddened by the news of Ed Morrison's death on December 7. He was a loyal birding spouse who for decades accompanied Lib to our programs, holiday dinners, picnics and other functions. We will miss him greatly.



PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Date _____

Name(s) _____

Telephone _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Individual ___ Family ___ New ___

Renewal _____

Note: One year's dues are payable from May Through December, \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families.

Mail Payment to: PBC, Box 38833, Greensboro, 27438-8833

Calendar

Reminder: If you are interested in going on a field trip, always contact the Leader prior to the trip. If the Leader receives no calls, the trip may be cancelled.

• **Tuesday, January 1**

Field Trip: New Year's Day Bird Walk, 9:00 a.m. or so - call for exact time. Again this year we will usher in the new year with a morning bird walk followed by breakfast at a member's home. Leader: Sharon Gallimore: 665-1713.

• **Thursday, January 17**

MEETING: Duck, Duck, Goose. Audio: Dennis Burnette, Visual: Judi Durr.

Dennis and Judi will team up to help us brush up on our duck identifications. This will be most helpful in preparing us to spot all the great waterfowl we will see on our upcoming trip to Jordan Lake. *Bird of the Season:* Diving Birds - Red-breasted Merganser (Lynn Burnette)

• **Saturday, January 19**

Field Trip: Jordan Lake for Eagles and Ducks, meet at 8:30 a.m.. This is a good trip to find wintering birds and possible rarities. We will meet in Greensboro and carpool. Leader: Dennis Burnette.

• **Friday-Sunday, January 25-27**

Carolina Bird Club Winter Meeting. Three days of field trips and evening programs in Nags Head, NC on the Outer Banks. Information: Dennis Burnette.

• **Saturday, February 2 and possibly Sunday, February 3**

Field Trip: Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge near Charlotte and nearby Sandhills NWR across the South Carolina line near McBee. We will drive south about an hour and 45 minutes for our club's second organized excursion to Pee Dee NWR where we hope to see wintering waterfowl. After lunch we will continue south across the South Carolina line to look for Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. If there is enough interest, we will spend the night and explore the Congaree Swamp National Monument near Columbia before returning home after lunch. Call for meeting place and time. Leaders: Lynn and Dennis Burnette.

• **Saturday, February 16**

Field Trip: Waterfowl on the Greensboro Lakes. Meet at 9:00 a.m. Ducks, geese, grebes, mergansers, and gulls are our target birds on this tour of the lake overlooks. Dress warmly and bring a thermos of something hot; the wind off the lakes can be chilling. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. No walking. Leader: Dennis Burnette.

• **Thursday, February 21, 7:30 p.m.**

MEETING: The Role of Birds in Disease Transmission

Speaker: Bruce Harrison, Ph.D., Medical Entomologist with the

NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Dr. Harrison will focus on the West Nile Virus for his presentation but will be prepared to answer any questions we may have about other diseases carried by birds or insects.

Bird of the Season: Diving Birds - Common Loon (Emily Tyler)

-continued on page 5



Piedmont Bird Club
PO Box 38833
Greensboro, NC 27438-8833