

watching one eagle that was in the nest, she saw the other fly from a floating log to the nest. From her position she could not tell what happened at the nest but she believed that food had been taken to it. On 21 and 30 April, she observed both adult eagles, one perched on the nest, the other in a tree close to the nest-tree.

During May, all hands were so busy with various other projects that no one had time for watching the eagles. On 28 May, however, I received a most pleasant surprise: I saw an almost fledged eaglet in the nest!

Next day (29 May) ranger Robert Burnett and I went in a flat-bottomed motorboat to within about 100 yards of the nest and took pictures with a 200-millimeter lens. One adult eagle that flew around us several times, in what appeared to be an effort to lure or drive us away from the nest and its young, opened and closed its mouth repeatedly, making a rough, growling cluck that was inaudible more than 40 yards away.

On 1 June, Burnett and I returned to the nest-tree by motorboat, this time equipped with a 500-millimeter lens on our Canon 35-millimeter camera. We got very good closeups of a parent eagle sitting on a limb above the nest while the young one sat on the edge of the nest. After the parent finally flew to a tree about 200 yards east of the nest, we cautiously circled the nest-tree at about 30 yards and took closeup shots of the youngster on the edge of the nest. It turned its head to watch us but did not appear to be frightened at all.

On 9 June, Harry Smith and I returned to the nest and took more pictures. The wind, gusting to about 25 miles per hour, made for some interesting shots of the old bird attempting to alight.

On 13 June, one of our secretaries, Virginia Tobey, observed an adult eagle sitting in a large tree west of the nest-tree and the eaglet in a tree east of the nest-tree. We now knew that the eaglet was flying. I checked again on 16 and 19 June, on each date seeing the eaglet in a tree well away from the nest.

In late June or early July (date uncertain), wind blew the nest and nest-tree down. We set to work immediately putting up a pole and platform for the eagles, hoping that they would accept it and proceed with another nesting.

STAR ROUTE 4, BOX 182, SALLISAW, OKLAHOMA 74955, 27 JULY 1981.

### GENERAL NOTES

**Possible Garganey Teal in Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.** — On the morning of 2 May 1979 an unfamiliar small duck was on the lake near the house on our ranch near Durham, Roger Mills County, west-central Oklahoma. It was by itself about 200 yards from the front porch. Viewed through a 20X spotting scope, its chief features were a white line running from just above the eye to the back of the head, a pronounced dark bar or two on the flanks, and narrow, pure white stripes above the wing. I inspected it several times, being more puzzled each time I looked. The weather was bad (air chilly; some rain; stiff wind from north), but the light was good.

I called Thelma Fox, in Amarillo, Texas, asking her to come to see the bird and to bring some books that had colored illustrations. She and her sister,

Marguerite Hollar, came that afternoon. When they arrived the strange duck was not on the lake. At about 1630, however, it returned, this time with a flock of about 40 Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*), five American Wigeons (*A. americana*), and two Northern Shovelers (*A. clypeata*). We all watched it for about 45 minutes, saw it well, compared it with the figures in the colorplates, and decided that it could be nothing but an adult drake Garganey Teal (*A. querquedula*), an Old World species that had never been seen in Oklahoma and only rarely reported from anywhere in North America.

We did not, admittedly, know anything about aberrant drake Blue-winged Teal, some of which may resemble the drake Garganey in certain ways (see head drawings by Robert M. Mengel in Palmer (Ed., 1976, Handbook of North American birds, Vol. 2, Part 1, p. 464, Yale Univ. Press, New Haven and London). — Rena Ross, 2805 Travis St., Amarillo, Texas 79109, 15 May 1980.

**Goldfinches and waxwing drinking maple sap.**—On a mild, warm Sunday in mid-January 1981 (exact date not recorded) the possibility of netting and banding some American Goldfinches (*Carduelis tristis*) in our yard in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County, central Oklahoma appealed to me, so I went out to see if the branches of a maple tree would allow a mist net to be hung there without too much trouble. Having decided to give the operation a try, I pruned away two branches, each about half an inch in diameter. I applied no pruning paint to the wounds and sap immediately began to drip from them.

While watching through a window a short time later, I saw a goldfinch alight on one of the freshly cut branches. At once it began drinking the sap. Presently another goldfinch arrived, drove the first one away, and started drinking. A birdbath under the maple, and only a few feet away, was filled with fresh water. For some reason the sap was obviously more to the little birds' liking than the water.

About three weeks later, I saw a Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) drinking sap at the same branch.—Patricia L. Muzny, 1209 Southwest 47th St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73109, 5 March 1981.

**Exceptionally low American Robin's nest.**—On the afternoon of 10 April 1981, my Natural History students and I discovered the nest of an American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) in a bushy 7-foot eastern red cedar (*Juniperus americana*) in open woods bordering Wolf Creek in Lawton, Comanche County, southwestern Oklahoma. The nest contained three small chicks whose eyes were still closed. We neither saw nor heard a parent robin nearby. The nest measured about 4½ inches (11.5 centimeters) from top to bottom; its rim was 2 feet 8½ inches (82.5 centimeters) from the ground. When I returned to it and photographed it on 21 April it was empty. Bent (1949, Bull. U.S. Natl. Mus. 196: 55) states that American Robins have been known to nest "anywhere from on the ground up to 75 feet in a tree . . ." For Oklahoma, the lowest nest on record apparently was 3 feet up (Nice, 1931, The birds of Oklahoma, p. 142). — Jack D. Tyler, Department of Biology, Cameron University, Lawton, Oklahoma 73505, 1 May 1981.