



Volume 17, Number 9

March 2---New Beginnings Adoptions from Tupelo will be our program

March 9---Jamie Timbes

March 16---Jason Grisham

March 23---Steve Knight

March 30---Chris Porterfield—The St Jude Golf Classic

The Swallows return to San Juan Capistrano on March 19th of each year. This tradition was called a miracle and is celebrated by fiestas, and even had songs written about it—but are you aware that we in Corinth, Mississippi have a similar occurrence? We'll call it the "Return of the Cedar Waxwings to Corinth". On this date, February 24th, the Waxwings were here in all of their glory, gang-swooping to our cherry trees, lining the power cables and having a general good time before traveling on back to their summer homes up north.

I first noticed this phenomenal event in 1970 and even noted the date of February 23rd on that year. In 1971, it was February 24th. Over the years (and I did miss a few,) it was always between the 20th and the 25th. The birds usually have a few scouts that arrive a few days earlier to scope the situation. On or about the 24th, the rest of the flock arrives in all of their glory. As feathered tourists, they should be welcomed, even though they can't sign in at Kristy's Tourist Center.

The Mayor and Alderpersons could have a little celebration in the parking lot across from Joe McKewen's studio and maybe offer the flock leaders the keys to the city and also a little birdseed for refreshments. After all, they have had a long, arduous trip and might appreciate the opportunity to freshen up a bit.

Another reason to really appreciate their annual visit is that they harvest the red berries and recycle them on the cars and streets saving Bynam's crew from having to sweep them up.

We have a Slugburger festival, a Hog Wild festival, a Chile Cook-off, a 10k Coke Race and several other events so why not a Waxwing arrival festival? It would seem that the main supporters would be the car washes since they get some real business from the birds. There are all kinds of smaller events that could be added—coming to mind immediately would be a grocery cart race, a chitlin cooking, a high-heel 100 yard dash—for men and women—use your imagination, we could have a ball. We might even rate an article in *The Kiwanis Magazine*.

BTW: Should you like to know more about the swallows, look at <http://www.sjc.net/swallows/> on the web.

Brought to you by yr ob'st sv't, Bilroy X. Caruth, who has culture to spare