

BIRD OBSERVER

OF EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS



AUGUST 1982

VOL. 10 NO. 4



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OF EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

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Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts (USPS 369-850)

A bi-monthly publication

Volume 10, No. 4 July-August 1982

\$7.50 per calendar year, January - December

All correspondence should be sent to:

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

Bird Observer

462 Trapelo Road

Belmont, MA 02178

Second class postage is paid at Boston, MA.

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Subscription to BIRD OBSERVER is based on a calendar year, from January to December, at \$7.50 per year. Back issues to new subscribers are available at \$7.50 per year or \$1.25 per issue.

Advertising space is available on the following schedule: full page, \$40.00; half page, \$20.00; quarter page, \$10.00. Subscribers only may advertise one-of-a-kind birding items free of charge on a space available basis. Such announcements must be limited to 25 words. All advertising copy is subject to approval by the staff.

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FALL HAWK WATCH

The Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch is looking for volunteer observers. This fall, coordinated hawkwatches will be held throughout New England on the weekends of September 11-12, 18-19, October 2-3, and October 30-31. Observers are needed to hawkwatch on sites throughout eastern Massachusetts for all these dates.

Observers are also needed for the consecutive-day hawkwatch on Wachusett Mountain, in Princeton, from September 4 through October 11. If you want to see hawks and improve your ability to identify them, there is no better opportunity to do so than by participating in the Wachusett hawkwatch as often as possible.

To sign up for dates and sites, obtain further information on good sites, or inquire about hawkwatching, please contact:

Paul M. Roberts
254 Arlington Street
Medford, MA 02155 (617/483-4263
after 8 p.m.)



Peregrine Falcon
by John W. Taylor

Black-and-white photo of a full-color lithograph
(See page 181)

A HAWK-WATCHERS MECCA

by Jim Brett, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary

Birders need meccas, places where favorite species can be seen in good numbers and where comrades can gather to mull over experiences. Yet, only a minority of birders are able to visit these hot spots regularly and share the ultimate in "spectator sports." These are the lucky ones who can afford both the time and money. They are the envy of many others who must spend hours planning that once-a-year or even lifetime birding adventure. Certain meccas come to mind: Machias, Brigantine, Cheat Mountain, Corkscrew, Montezuma, Bull Island, Madera Canyon, Padre Island, Cape May and so on. The list is not endless, but extensive; each place commands its own following of birds and people.

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in eastern Pennsylvania certainly has become a unique birding mecca, one that is unparalleled on the birder's hot-spot list. Combine spectacular scenery, the ability to rub elbows with the high priests and priestesses of birding, and the passage of autumnal migrating hawks, eagles, and falcons, and you have a site of high distinction.

Let's plan a trip to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, high atop the Appalachian Mountains. Perhaps the best way to begin would be to read Hawks Aloft by the late Maurice Broun, the sanctuary's first curator. He tells how this mountaintop was snatched from the clutches of hawk shooters in 1934 by one of the most dynamic forces in conservation, Rosalie Edge, and how he carved a sanctuary of distinction from this rough-and-tumble place. Hawks Aloft sets the stage.

Next, purchase a copy of Feathers in the Wind, the definitive guide to the sanctuary and its hawk migration. Each species of eastern hawk is discussed, and you are provided with silhouettes, sketches, days of concentration at Hawk Mountain, span of migration, and some general natural history of the birds. Information on how to obtain these books is found at the end of this article.

One can't master from books the identification of the 14 species of diurnal raptors that pass by the mountain's lookouts. However, some familiarization is essential such as learning the basic silhouettes of the major groups: buteos, accipiters, falcons, eagles, Osprey, and harriers. An excellent study sheet, prepared by the New England Hawk Watch, is available from the sanctuary. From mid-August until early December, there are Hawk Mountain staff members on duty at one or more of the lookouts to instruct folks on hawk identification. This personalized attention is very important in

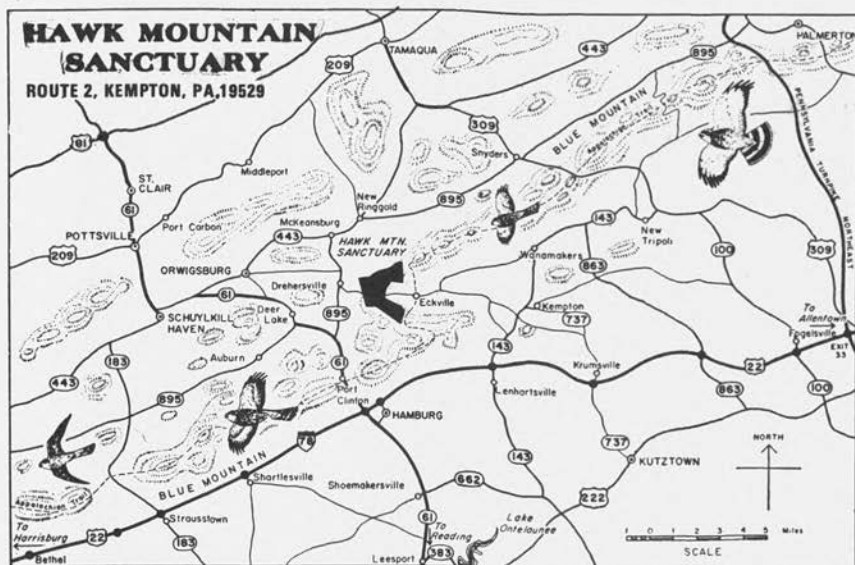
the sanctuary's dedication to education.

It is also valuable, we think, to become knowledgeable about the mountain's geologic history, the evolution of the great eastern forests, the cultural history of the Hawk Mountain area, the unsurpassed fall migration. All these are adequately discussed in the above publications.

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is such a mystical, magical spot that to come without a sense of the past or a feel for the total picture would be to cheat yourself out of a unique adventure.

There are many ways to approach the sanctuary. Using the interstate highway system, the trip can be rather effortless. Minimum driving time from eastern Massachusetts is eight hours, and I recommend Interstate routes 90-86-84-81. But diversity of countryside from Boston, westward through the Berkshires, into the Catskills of eastern New York state, and down to the Appalachians via the Pocono Plateau, might be reason enough to escape the high-speed, heavily traveled interstates. It would be a bonus if the trip coincided with autumn's flaming foliage. And if you have a copy of Pettingill's A Guide to Bird Finding East of the Mississippi, other birding attractions might be plugged into the trip.

Once you get within 30 miles of the sanctuary, use the map here. Of course, all you need do when you're near the mountain is ask a local resident. You'll normally receive quick and easy directions, some of which may bring you across local secondary roads winding through the beautiful Pennsylvania Dutch farmlands immediately to the north and east of the mountain. If you should get highly disoriented, phone the sanctuary (215-756-6961), and we'll pilot you in.



You can't do Hawk Mountain in one day - make the drive, hike (easily) to the lookouts, watch hawks, and return. Write Hawk Mountain for a list of accommodations. Unlike many birding areas, Hawk Mountain is rather isolated, but within 25 miles there are excellent-to-terrible motels and the same diversity of restaurants. Our list includes those facilities which we've come to know as the best for the money; these are the ones that cater to Hawk Mountain people year after year. The facilities range from farm-house boarding to moderately priced motels, and from sandwich shops to fine restaurants.

Also, campgrounds are scattered within 10 miles of Hawk Mountain. Each proprietor knows us and is eager to help the newcomer. Grocery stores are available within the same area. Albright's Mill, in Kempton, Pennsylvania, about eight miles to our east, is the nearest, and its staff is the most familiar with Hawk Mountain and the surrounding countryside. It is also one of the last general merchants in the area, and so a visit is in itself a treat.



June Greenawalt, Hawk Mountain's experienced receptionist, can help you plan your trip. A letter or phone call is all that's necessary. If you're coming in an organized group, we will set up accommodations, plan an orientation program upon your arrival, and introduce you to the mountain before you take to the lookouts. Few birding hot spots do more for you.

Although Hawk Mountain Sanctuary has natural highlights throughout the year, fall is phenomenal. Annually since the great ice sheet became secure in the Arctic, birds of prey have migrated southward from Canada along the Appalachian ridges, on their way to wintering grounds in the southern United States, the Caribbean Islands, or in the foothills of the Peruvian Andes.

The last days of summer, mid-August to early September, are warm and sultry; summer sometimes hangs on well into October. The staff begins its official count around the second week in August. At this time, a few strong cold fronts might develop in the north central states and Canada, and these climatological changes motivate birds of prey to migrate. Early arrivals, forerunners of up to 30,000 individuals, include the Bald Eagle and Osprey.

By the end of August, we can see up to six Bald Eagles a day and many more Osprey. The latter are often most numerous in the afternoon and early evening; to be on the North Lookout and witness a steady movement of these birds, some carrying fish, is a thrilling sight.

Of course, other hawk-watching spots are better known for sheer numbers of these species. See Heintzelman's A Guide To Hawk Watching In North America. But to sit on a bold promontory 1,000 feet above the surrounding farmland, on rocks that ages ago were sea bottom, and look eye-to-eye or maybe down onto the back of an Osprey or Bald Eagle in a late evening sun is a quality we're willing to trade for quantity anytime. The ridge position allows for this type of experience (see sketch), and the promontory is so positioned that one can gain almost a 280° panorama.



Hawk Mountain's regular hawk watchers have their favorite species and favorite time to be there. Many take vacation time or holidays for Broad-winged Hawk season. It spans September, and on the average the 17th has been the "charmed day" when more Broadwings are seen than on any other. Oh yes, there have been other "big days," from the 14th through the 24th, when exceptional numbers of Broadwings occur. A big day could be 10,000 Broadwings, or it could be THE big day, as was September 14, 1978, when over 21,000 were seen in just over six hours! That was a day when weather maps pointed to a washout. But it was also the day after more northerly observers (such as at Wachusett Mountain) had reported equally staggering counts.

As September closes, Broadwing numbers dwindle and Sharp-shinned Hawks build up. Developing cold fronts with chilly nights and breezy days produce good flights. For a long time, the staff has placed papier-mache Great Horned Owls atop long poles. During a good flight, Sharpies dive at the owls while zipping over the heads of the spectators. Fun! Then summer wanes, leaves begin to change, and Cooper's Hawks, Peregrine Falcons, Merlins, American Kestrels, and Northern Harriers dominate the scene. The most beautiful of eastern hawks, the Red-shouldered, arrives coincident with the peak foliage coloration. How exhilarating it is to gaze down on the brilliant plumage of an adult backdropped by the oranges, reds, and russets of the forest canopy. Nothing, however, compares to the Broadwing and Sharp-shin flights.

The next major raptor push occurs in mid-October with the Red-tailed flight. Stronger cold fronts with higher winds trigger the movement of these birds. Cooper's and Sharp-shins continue to pass, but in diminishing numbers. Northern Goshawks, a highly cyclic species, prefer the cold, blustery days of November.

Late October and early November also hint even more of winter, and it is the dyed-in-the-wool birder who can sit atop this mountain for eight hours in 30 mph winds and plunging temperatures. Yet, the experience is well worth the effort. This is Golden Eagle time! For many it is the high point of a birding career, to see a Golden Eagle, hackles ablaze, fly close to the lookout at eye level and unconcerned with a 50 mph wind. This occurs on many days, and when it does, a standing ovation erupts from the lookout.

Care is needed to keep the elements at bay: plenty of liquids to ward off hyperthermia, plenty of wool or down clothing, plenty of stamina. There are even bonuses for the hardy such as a late movement of Redtails or Goshawks, Golden Eagles moving in snow squalls, and the camaraderie of equally dedicated companions.

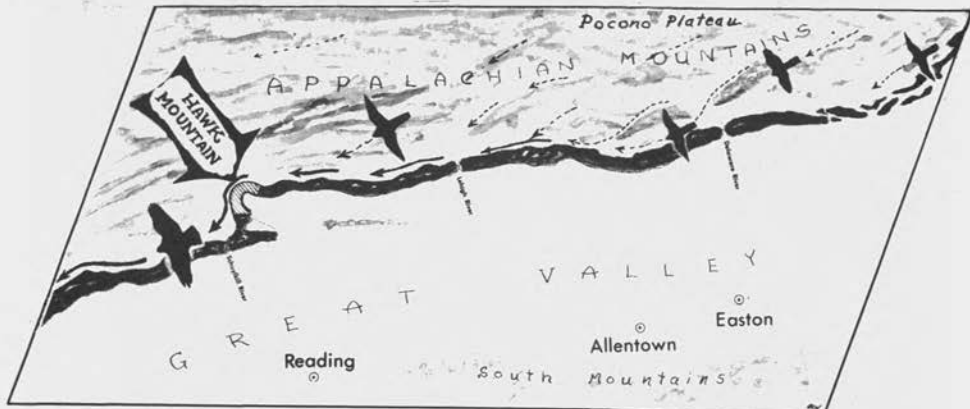
The usual day-pack, filled with warm or cold drink, snacks, and sandwiches needs no elaboration. No food is sold on the

sanctuary. To judge the amount of clothing necessary, we listen to forecasts of the high and low temperature for the day to come. As a rule, we subtract 10° to 15° from the low, considering this the effect of wind chill, and carry enough clothing to get us through an eight to ten hour day. It is always very easy to remove layers. The combination of wool and down is excellent. Those of us who "live" on the look-outs during the fall have found that down garments alone are not adequate. A heavy wool sweater and a light down or fiber-filled jacket can often get us through the coldest days. We always carry windbreakers bulky enough to slip over everything. There are also times when we've carried practically everything we owned and still froze.

I have only highlighted the hawk season. Interspersed from September through November are waterfowl crisscrosses and warbler movements. Often when the hawk flight is slow, birders search the forest for other species. "Hummer!" is echoed across the rocks as these feathered jewels whiz by. The elusive Pileated Woodpecker, a resident on Hawk Mountain, is available to the visitor who scans the forest on the north slope above the Schuylkill River. The Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Bird Checklist is a must for any visitor at any time of year; 243 species have been recorded since 1934.

The sanctuary is supported by a faithful corps, members of the Hawk Migration Sanctuary Association. They are our life-blood. Our invitation to become more than just a casual acquaintance of Hawk Mountain is the underlying message of any article about the sanctuary. We receive no support from any government agency.

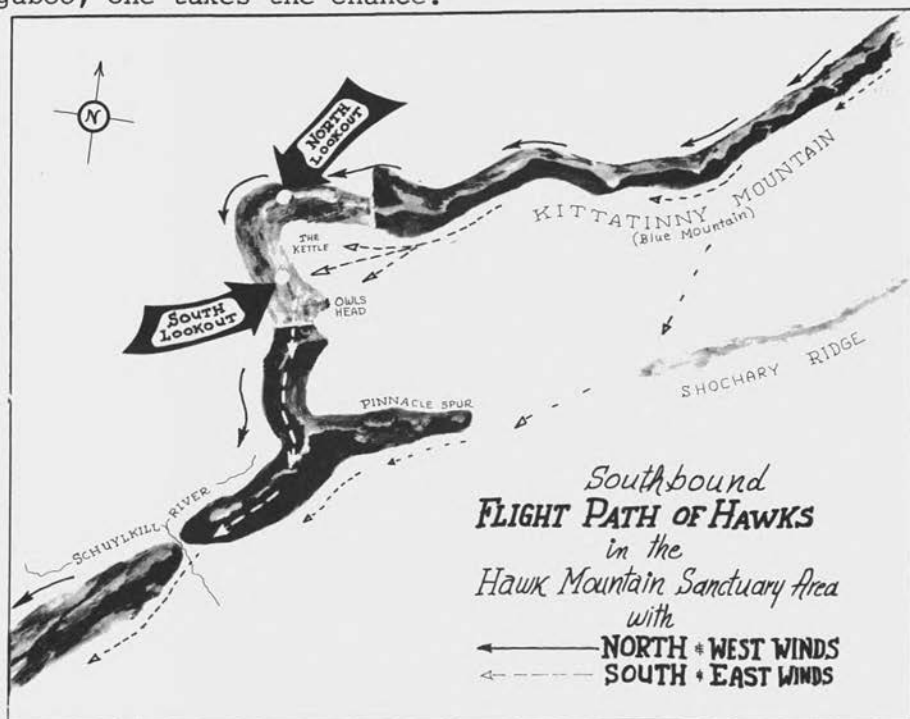
The Sanctuary Visitor Center should be your first stop when you arrive. There you will find a small sales area that contains a very complete selection of natural history materials. Film is available. If you haven't done it before, now is the time to become a Hawk Mountain member. By doing so, you will have free admission to the trail, as well as involvement in our work. (Nonmembers are charged an admission fee.)



In the Commons of the Visitor Center are displayed all of the species of raptors that migrate through our area. This exhibit enables you to learn the various shapes, sizes, and plumage variations of the representative age groups. Hawks, falcons, and eagles are suspended in mobile form from the ceiling. You enter the Visitor Center on a level above the mobiles and descend to the Commons - views from above and below. The history of the sanctuary and the ecology of raptors and their migration are also presented there. A raised relief map of the Appalachians covers a large section of the exhibit area, and visitors can follow the ridges and valleys from New England to Virginia as they walk down the staircase.

The Commons serves as a meeting area for introductory programs presented to nature and birding groups. Also, each Saturday evening through September and October, illustrated lectures are given there or in the outdoor amphitheater.

The migration of birds of prey, though sparked by many variables and unknowns, can be predicted rather accurately. The adage, "No wind-no hawks" works most of the time. In the "September doldrums" nary a breeze stirs, yet the Broadwings move though they do not concentrate. For most of the season, winds are necessary (see sketch). Hawk watchers are weather watchers. They look for the development of Canadian high-pressure cells that push cold fronts across New England. When conditions are right they hurry to the mountain; some will drive 100 miles in the predawn hours just to get here by daybreak for the first push of raptors. In most cases, when a trip is planned a long time in advance, weather remains the bugaboo; one takes the chance.



A good pair of binoculars is essential; any medium-priced glass is adequate. The binoculars' power is important; 7X pair won't allow you to pick up a kettle of Broadwings on the far ridge or to watch a distant eagle drift across the valley. Most veterans prefer 10X. Some stalwarts even bring 15X and 20X glasses - real neckbreakers. Spotting scopes are used on occasion when the lookouts aren't swarming with people. A scope mounted on a tripod can be very useful when attempting to identify a distant eagle but can be quite frustrating on a busy weekend.

It is very impractical to carry large photographic lenses to the lookout. Migrating hawks are difficult to photograph by the novice since they appear and disappear quickly. Those who have carried equipment to the lookouts and who have been patient have been rewarded with good shots.

The stage has been set. You've been introduced to Hawk Mountain and have been briefed on how to plan for a trip. After visiting us, if we can be of further help, don't hesitate to call or write. The Sanctuary Visitor Center is open every day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and longer on weekends in the fall. Trails are open till dusk.

See you on the mountain!

The materials listed below can be obtained at the following address: Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, R.D.#2, Kempton, PA 19529. Telephone: 215-756-6961. Orders are postpaid.

<u>Hawks Aloft</u> by Maurice Broun	\$8.95
<u>Feathers in the Wind</u> by Jim Brett	\$3.00
<u>A Field Guide for Hawks Seen in the Northeast</u> (silhouette sheet)	\$1.00
<u>Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Bird Checklist</u>	\$1.50

JIM BRETT, present Curator of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary and an active birder, has directed the educational services of the sanctuary for the past ten years.

PEREGRINE FALCON PRINT

The Hawk Migration Association of North America announces that, through special arrangement, it is offering for sale numbered, signed prints of this limited edition (500) Peregrine Falcon lithograph by John W. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor, an internationally recognized wildlife artist, is perhaps best known for his many featured illustrations in Virginia Wildlife. He has also served as artist-editor for the Maryland Department of Game and Fisheries and has been commissioned by the National Geographic Society and the National Wildlife Federation. Many will recall his Whistling Swans Christmas card for the NWF.

The full-color, full-sized print measures 16 inches by 20 inches.

For a limited time only, HMANA is offering this beautiful print to its members at a special price of \$20, including postage and handling. The price for nonmembers is \$30 postpaid. However, nonmembers can join the association, annual membership dues \$8, and purchase the print at the member's price of \$20, saving \$2 while obtaining a full year's membership in the association.

HMANA's membership benefits include a decal, a membership card, two newsletters a year, and special prices on HMANA's other publications, including rental of its sets of slides on hawks. More important, each member's dues help finance the research necessary to better understand the migration of and protect the welfare of our birds of prey.

Order your prints soon, and order additional prints for Christmas and birthday presents. Members can order more than one print at their special price of \$20.

To obtain your prints and join the association, send your name and address (printed), and a check made out to HMANA for the appropriate sum, to:

HMANA Print
254 Arlington Street
Medford, MA 02155

Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.

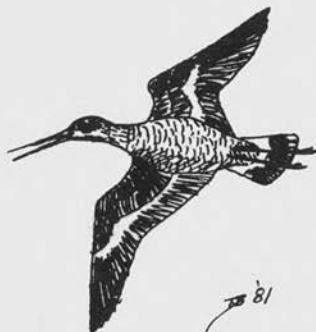
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THREE REMARKABLE OBSERVATIONS
OF PEREGRINE FALCON AT PLUM ISLAND

During late August and early September 1981, one or more Peregrine Falcons were very active about Plum Island. Over Labor Day Weekend, many birders were treated to nice looks at an immature Peregrine in the general vicinity of Stage Island Pool and Cross Farm Hill. Observers saw this bird in a variety of circumstances not unusual for a Peregrine: e.g., sitting perched in a tree overlooking Stage Island Pool, flying along the refuge road, and playing aerial chase with Northern Harriers. In addition, three parties of observers were privileged to witness the remarkable incidents described in the following field notes.

Chris Floyd

The Taking of a Woodchuck. At about 4 p.m. on August 29, 1981, as we were driving north past the Stage Island parking lot on Plum Island, we spotted a Peregrine Falcon over the marshy area between us and Cross Farm Hill (ahead and to the left of us). The bird was flying low from our left to our right on a line that intersected the road about fifty yards ahead of us. As the bird approached the road, it disappeared from our view behind a line of shrubs and small trees to the left of the road. Expecting to see the bird reappear ahead of us in a few seconds, we continued up the road. When the bird came into our view again, about five or ten seconds later than we expected, it was barely managing to lift off the ground with an animal in its talons. By the animal's brownish coloration, plump shape, furry tail, and overall length comparable to the falcon's, we could tell that it was a woodchuck, though perhaps not full-grown. It showed no sign of life. We could see that the falcon was an immature by the brown color of its upperparts and the dark streaking of its breast.

The labored manner of the falcon's flight was striking. Its wing strokes were very pronounced - high on the upstroke and deep on the downstroke. The flight feathers of its wings and tail seemed spread to maximum extent. The tilting of its wing was evident on every stroke. The cadence of its wingbeats gave the visual impression of a Peregrine flying in slow motion.

By the time the falcon reached the road, it had gained an altitude of about ten feet and its flight had become less labored. At this point it turned and began flying away from us along the road. As it repositioned its grasp on the woodchuck, it lost some altitude but then quickly regained it. Then it turned off to the right of the road and again disappeared from our view. We stopped at the crest of the road opposite Cross Farm Hill and scanned for the bird but did not see it again.

Glenn d'Entremont and Dave Brown
(as related to Chris Floyd)

The Taking of a Snowy Egret. At about 11:30 a.m. on September 3, 1981, while I was observing some Buff-breasted Sandpipers at "Plumbush," a Peregrine Falcon appeared directly over me at a height of no more than fifty feet. As the bird headed southeastward toward the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, I was able to get a reasonably good look at it through my binoculars (7x50). It appeared to be a large immature. Its large dark sideburns were very evident.

The Peregrine had flown about two hundred feet away from me when it quickly and with little effort swooped (not stooped) down upon a Black-crowned Night Heron standing in the marsh. The heron saw the attack coming and crouched just in time to elude the falcon's lowered talons. The falcon immediately regained a height of ten feet and attacked the heron again, but again missed. It then resumed its flight toward the refuge.

The Peregrine was flying in a steady line at a height of about fifty feet when, at a distance about a half mile away from me, a flock of about ten to fifteen Snowy Egrets flew up beneath it. The Peregrine flew down into the center of the flock of egrets, which were scattering in various directions, and emerged with one in its talons. The capture was made at a height of about twenty or twenty-five feet. With the egret in its grasp, the Peregrine flew around in two or three fairly tight circles and landed in the marsh very close to the location of the capture. I did not see the bird after this.

Clark Ewer

Predatory Play. On September 6, 1981, in the early afternoon, a Peregrine Falcon was observed by a number of people at the South Impoundment of Hellcat Swamp on Plum Island. It was a young bird with heavy dark breast streaking. A dark brown (?) band was evident on its left leg; no Fish and Wildlife Service band could be seen. When I first noticed the bird, it was perched on a low pile of dry vegetation near the north end of the impoundment mud flats. After a few minutes, it took flight and flew very low (one or two feet above the mud flat) toward the middle of the impoundment. Its flight was leisurely in manner. After flying a couple of hundred yards, it pounced upon a large grayish feather (probably a gull feather) attached at its base to some debris (possibly the remains of the fleshy part of a bird's wing). For the next minute or two, it repeatedly released the feather from its talons, tossed it away and pounced on it again. Then its attention was taken by a gnarled, dried-out plant root that it attacked much as it had the feather. With its wings held partly open, it hopped about with the root in its talons, picked at it with its bill, tossed it away, and recaptured it. It played with the root much as a cat would play with a mouse. The bird continued this activity for a few minutes and then flew away to the south.

George W. Gove

HOW TO REPORT PEREGRINE SIGHTINGS

In order to prevent the loss of valuable Peregrine Falcon sighting information, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has established their Wildlife Management office in Concord as the prime repository for all Peregrine sighting reports in New England.

Any Peregrine sighting should be reported to:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Mr. Rene M. Bollengier, Jr.
P.O. Box 1518
Concord, New Hampshire 03301
Telephone 603-225-9621

The basic information that should be obtained and passed on is: name of individual making the sighting and means (address and telephone number) of contacting that individual, date, and location of sighting. It is hoped that a pattern will emerge that will identify general localities of Peregrine use.

There have been two cliff nesting pairs of Peregrines in New England during the past two years. Some important sighting information may have been missed because it was passed on to individuals that were not aware of its value. Hopefully this can be avoided in the future. Information received will be consolidated annually by the Concord office, arranged in report form, and made available to cooperating agencies.

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BIRD BANDING ON NANTUCKET: HIGHLIGHTS OF 1981

by Edith Andrews, Nantucket

The Nantucket Banding Station began operation in 1955, when the use of Japanese mist nets was first authorized for banding in this country. The station's original project, known as Operation Recovery, was established by John V. Dennis. Through the years various other banders have conducted operations at the station during the height of fall migration. The station's project is now part of a project known as the Atlantic Flyway Review, which, as the name implies, covers the Atlantic Flyway from Nova Scotia to Florida. The project aims are to monitor numbers and distribution of migrants; to record arrival and departure dates; to make correlations with weather patterns; and to obtain data on weights, measurements, age, sex and plumage.

The Nantucket Banding Station is located in a small pine grove known as the Mothball Pines (after the name, "Mothballs," of a cottage there), near Hummock Pond and the barrier beach on the southwest shore of Nantucket Island. This location acts as a landfall for migrating land birds. The pines are Japanese Black Pines (*Pinus thunbergii*), an introduced species which resists wind and salt spray. Through the years the pines have grown and spread eastward.

Birds are captured in fine nylon Japanese mist nets stretched between poles in regular net lanes. Captured birds are removed from the nets, placed in holding cages and carried to the banding table for processing. Processing includes placing a numbered aluminum band on the leg, measuring the wing chord, checking the body for fat deposits, examining the skull to determine age, weighing the bird, and, finally, releasing it. Birds which are recaptured after banding are weighed again to determine changes in weight.

In the fall of 1981, the Nantucket Banding Station increased its activity with the assistance of Earthwatch volunteers, who helped especially in removing birds from the nets, in weighing birds, and in recording data. Nets were set in three different locations: in the woods, along the edge of the woods where bayberry and pokeweed grow, and along the shore of the pond near a growth of cattails. Four nets were set in each habitat. Data was kept on the productivity of each location as well as on the number of nets used and the hours of operation. Nets were opened at sunrise and furled at sunset except during times of bad weather, such as rain or strong wind.

In 38 days of operation, a total of 1812 new (unbanded) birds of 75 species were banded, and 330 were recaptured on days subsequent to banding. Totals for some species were without precedent: 171 Red-breasted Nuthatches (the former high

being 85 in 1975), 50 Black-throated Blue Warblers, and 20 Yellow-breasted Chats. Other species in abundance were Yellow-rumped Warblers (354), American Redstarts (101), Common Yellowthroats (97), and Blackpoll Warblers (89).

Another all-time high was the day's total of 272 new birds banded on 26 September. This day was preceded by two days of strong northwesterly winds. On 24 September, it had been impossible to open the nets; on 25 September, the nets had been open for 101 net-hours with 33 new birds banded. The "Big Day" (26 September) dawned overcast and calm, with winds becoming light easterly, where they remained for the rest of the day. All 12 nets were open for 12 hours, or a total of 144 net-hours. Birds were netted steadily throughout the day until 4 p.m., when numbers began to slack off. By the next day, the wind had shifted to the southwest, and only 30 new birds were banded in 66 net-hours.

Some of the most interesting species banded in 1981 were Sharp-shinned Hawk (1 male and 1 female), Merlin (1; 2 others escaped), Connecticut Warbler (1), Mourning Warbler (4), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (2), and Belted Kingfisher (1). Many other interesting species were observed in the vicinity of station, though not banded. Raptors reported included Peregrine Falcons swooping overhead, Ospreys, and even a Golden Eagle. Two Caspian Terns flew down the pond. Shorebirds, including Baird's and White-rumped sandpipers, swarmed over the barrier beach. A Yellow-throated Warbler was seen well by many in the vicinity of one of the nets, and a Prothonotary Warbler landed on the antenna of a car parked near the banding table.

In December, a band was found in an owl pellet collected in the Nantucket State Forest. This band had been placed on the leg of a Yellow-rumped Warbler on 6 October 1981 at Mothball Pines.

The Nantucket Banding Station now looks forward to the 1982 fall migration. Volunteer assistance with the banding project is sought for the period 28 August to 9 October. For further details, write to Bird Nantucket, Box 1182, Nantucket, MA 02554.

EDITH ANDREWS has banded birds on Nantucket for many years. As a student, she authored the Birds of Nantucket with Ludlow Griscom (Griscom and Folger, M.A.S., 1948) and has collaborated with Kenneth Blackshaw on the booklet titled, Birding Nantucket. During the fall migration of 1981, Edith directed an Earthwatch program at her banding station in the Mothball Pines.

EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS SPARROW SURVEY

by Nicholas and Oliver Komar, Newton

On October 18, 1981, local birders canvassed twenty communities of eastern Massachusetts, collecting data on preferred habitats and relative abundance of fall migrant sparrows. Twenty-three observers visited ten general habitats in search of all sparrow species of the family Fringillidae, including juncos. Data collected included the number of hours spent in the field and species subtotals arranged by habitat.

Table 1 ranks locations according to number of birds seen per hour. This statistic may have significance in determining preferred sparrow migration routes or detecting migration traps. It is interesting to note that the Squantum area yielded both the largest number of birds per hour (BPH) and the two most unusual finds of the survey: a Henslow's Sparrow (Ammodramus henslowii) and a "Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow (Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelii). The former, a bird very rarely seen in Massachusetts, is "nearly gone from the northeast" (Peterson, 1980), while the latter is a migrant "through the Great Plains region, casual east of the Mississippi River" (Peterson, 1947).

Special mention should be made of the "Ipswich" Savannah Sparrow (Passerculus sandwichensis princeps) that was found at Allandale Farm in Brookline. This subspecies is very rarely seen away from its preferred habitat of sand dunes and beach grass. J. J. Elliot (1968), in his description in Bent, reports the "Ipswich" Sparrow as being "casual inland in Massachusetts."

Table 1. Results from Different Locations.

Location	Party Hours	Birds per Hour	No. of Species (includes subspecies)	Most Abundant Sparrow
Squantum	6	74.50	12	D.-eyed Junco
Concord	2.25	60.89	7	Savannah
Lexington	2	48.00	9	Song
Milton	3	42.33	6	Song
Arl.-Camb.-Bel.	3	38.67	8	Song
Brookline	4.75	37.68	10	W.-throated
Salisbury-P.I.	6	37.00	10	Song
Wayland-Weston	8.5	28.12	10	D.-eyed Junco
Newton	14	27.86	9	Song
Winchester-Woburn	3.67	20.71	8	Song
West Roxbury	3	19.67	3	D.-eyed Junco
Medford	1.5	12.67	6	Savannah
Cambridge	2.5	12.40	4	Song
Saugus	3.5	7.71	4	Song
Waltham	2	4.00	2	W.-throated
Medfield	2	1.00	1	Field

Total Party hrs. = 67.67; avg. BPH = 32.14; total sp. = 18.

Table 2 presents a breakdown of the habitats in which the migrant sparrows occurred. Description of habitats was left to the discretion of the observer. It should be noted that the amount of effort expended in each habitat type varied considerably. For example, an alder swamp was visited in only one area, whereas thickets were visited in most areas. A "BPH" statistic was not computed for each habitat, although such a statistic would provide a better measure of sparrows' preferences than raw totals.

Table 2. Habitat Preference.

	Thicket	Dry Fields	Freshwater Marsh	Farm, Garden	Dumpsite	Wet Meadow	Forest	Cemetery	Salt Marsh	Alder Swamp
Locations	14	12	5	4	4	3	2	1	1	1
No. of Birds	818	610	91	284	132	78	68	55	34	4
Species:										
Savannah Sparrow	52	103	1	110	46	-	-	-	12	-
"Ipswich"	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Grasshopper	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Henslow's	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-
Vesper Sparrow	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Lark Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	167	115	3	26	34	-	60	55	-	-
Tree Sparrow	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chipping	15	6	-	3	5	-	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	50	33	-	24	9	1	-	-	-	-
White-crowned	43	40	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	-
"Gambel's"	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated	184	20	3	24	1	7	8	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lincoln's	9	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	27	40	38	24	2	12	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	265	243	44	65	33	58	-	-	10	3

Table 3 provides abundance ratings for the sparrow species recorded on the survey. Species are listed in order of decreasing relative abundance. It should be kept in mind that these results reflect only the abundances which existed at the time of our survey. The numbers of certain species, such as Fox Sparrow and Tree Sparrow, which peak later in the year, are probably underrepresented in this count.

Table 3. Abundance of Sparrows.

Species	Total	Maximum BPH	Location of Maximum
Song	721	28.50	Lexington
Dark-eyed Junco	460	20.33	Squantum
Savannah	324	23.11	Concord
White-throated	247	12.42	Brookline
Swamp	143	10.22	Concord
Field	117	6.17	Squantum
White-crowned	90	10.00	Squantum
Chipping	29	1.17	Squantum, Salis.-P.I.
Lincoln's	14	1.33	Squantum
Sharp-tailed	11	1.83	Salisbury-P.I.
Tree	6	.35	Wayland-Weston
Fox	4	.50	Squantum, Lexington
"Ipswich"	3	.33	Salisbury-P.I.
Vesper	2	.67	Medford
Grasshopper	1	.50	Lexington
Lark	1	.17	Salisbury-P.I.
"Gambel's"	1	.17	Squantum
Henslow's	1	.17	Squantum

It is hoped that this census will be continued in the future as a project of the Bird Observer Field Studies Committee. Future sparrow surveys should provide answers to the following questions: (1) When do migrational peaks of individual species occur? (2) How do weather conditions affect these peaks on a daily as well as a yearly basis? (3) Why is one specific location better for migrant sparrows than other locations in the vicinity?

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank all those who participated in the 1981 sparrow survey. Special thanks go to John Hines and David Brown, who each spent over eight hours in the field. Thanks also to John Hines and Michael Greenwald for helping with the compilation. The observers were B. Abrams, J. Andrews, D. Arvidson, J. Barton, F. Bouchard, D. Brown, R. Campbell, S. Carroll, G. Gove, M. Greenwald, J. Heywood, J. Hines, C. Jackson, N. Komar, O. Komar, M. Lynch, E. Mueller, M. Reinstein, R. Stymeist, L. Taylor, R. Walton, A. Wilson, S. Zende.

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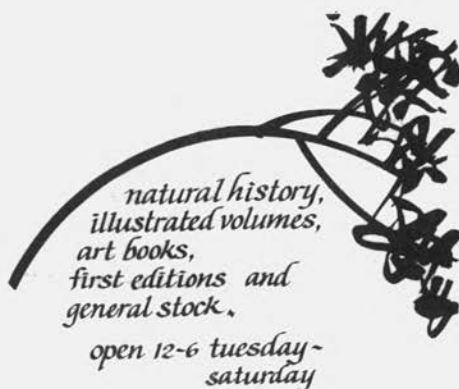
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NICHOLAS and OLIVER KOMAR, high school seniors, have been active birders for eight years and have served as trip leaders for Brookline Bird Club. Chosen for their special interest in ornithology, they appeared on the television series, "Quiz Kids." They have traveled in Mexico, Spain, Peru, and Costa Rica, primarily to bird.



1982 SPARROW SURVEY

The 1982 Eastern Massachusetts Sparrow Survey will be held in early October. To participate, contact Nick and Ollie Komar at 617-332-5509. Volunteers are needed.



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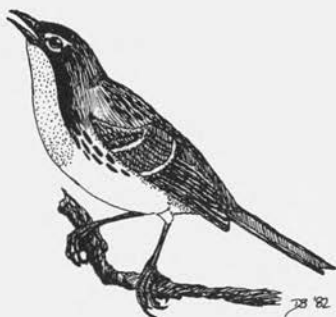
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Field Records:

May 1982



by George W. Gove, Robert H. Stymeist, Lee E. Taylor

May 1982 was not exactly filled with good weather for spring migration. There was only one day, May 19, with southwest winds, those most favorable for migration, and only eight other days of south or southeast winds. May was a little on the cool side; the temperature averaged 57.8°, 2.6° cooler than May 1981. This was the coolest May since 1974 (54.7°); the highest temperature was 84° on the 20th, after the only southwest wind of the month. The low degree mark was 44° on the 3rd and 12th. Rain totaled 2.58 inches, the most in any day was 0.70 inch on May 29. The most depressing weather news for migration watchers was the frequency of easterly winds. In the past the strongest daily winds have had an easterly component on an average of only thirteen days, ranging from six days in 1956 to twenty days in 1948. This May set a new record of twenty-three days! This had the effect of depressing the daily maximum temperatures at Boston and contributed to the month's below normal temperatures. In fact, some inland suburbs had a warmer than normal May; and this also probably contributed to a better migration in the Connecticut Valley of Massachusetts. R.H.S.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS

Common Loons were observed migrating especially during the last two weeks of the month from various locations including inland points. Breeding-plumage Red-necked and Horned grebes were noted early in the month, but only two Pied-billed Grebes were reported. A few Great Cormorants were found lingering in North Scituate and Plymouth as late as May 23.

Heron reports were scattered and not very noteworthy. Birders had trouble finding Cattle Egrets and Little Blue and Louisiana herons at their traditional haunts. Black-crowned Night Herons, however, continued to show an increase as shown by the number of reports received. At least twenty-five nests were found near Stage Island Pool at Parker River N.W.R., and many were found nesting on Monomoy. R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Common Loon:			
2	SRV, Nant. Sound	2, 16	SSBC, D. Briggs#
20;22	Mt.A.; SRV, Hingham	3, 1, 9	R.Stymeist#; R.Walton, SSBC
22,30	Stellwagen, Monomoy	11, 14	W.Petersen#, SSBC
30,31	Pocasset	20 mig., 40 mig.	P. Hallowell
Red-throated Loon:			
11	Ipswich	2-3	J.Berry
Red-necked Grebe:			
6	Marblehead	1 br. pl.	R.Heil
Horned Grebe:			
16	Lynn	1 br. pl.	R.Stymeist#
Pied-billed Grebe:			
1	P.I.	2	BBC
Sooty Shearwater:			
30,31	Nantucket	35+, 2	C.Faunce, E.+C.Andrews
Wilson's Storm-Petrel:			
20,22	off Plymouth, Stellwagen	12, 350	B.Cassie, W.Petersen
30	Nantucket	100-150	C.Faunce

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Gannet:			
2,21	Nantucket Sound	10, 25	D.Briggs#, F.Bouchard
22	P.I., Stellwagen	1, 25	R.Heil, W.Petersen#
Great Cormorant:			
8,15,23	N.Scituate	5+, 20, 3	W.Petersen#
22	Plymouth	1	W.Petersen#
Double-crested Cormorant:			
2,4,15	SRV, P.I., Ipswich	13, 290, 95+	SSBC, D.Spencer, J.Berry
16,26	Mt.A.;Cat I.(Salem Harbor)	50; 1400	L.Robinson; J.Nove, S.Ingalls
Great Blue Heron:			
2,6	SRV, Rockport	4, 7	SSBC, P.Stangel
11,12	Mt.A.	7, 3	M.Greenwald, J.Berry
Green Heron:			
	Reports of 1-7 individuals from various locations during the month		
Little Blue Heron:			
thr.	P.I.	1-3 (incl. 1 pied pl.)	v.o.
1,7	Squibnocket, S.Peabody	1, 1 ad.	V.Laux#, R.Heil
9,16,22	Marshfield	1	S.Smith# + v.o.
Cattle Egret:			
9,12	Marshfield, Beverly	6, 7	S.Smith, N.Claflin
16,22	Ipswich	1	R.Stymeist#, R.Heil#
26	Eagle I. (Salem)	12	J.Nove, S.Ingalls
Great Egret:			
thr.	Squantum	2-5	v.o.
4,8,9	P.I., Sandwich, E.Boston	1, 1, 1	D.Spencer, R.Pease, C.Jackson
16,28	Marshfield, Chappaquiddick	2, 2	BBC, BBC
Snowy Egret:			
thr.	P.I., Monomoy	max. 29, 30 prs.	nesting v.o., A.French
28,31	Chappaquiddick I.	25	BBC
Louisiana Heron:			
9,19	E.Boston, P.I.	1, 1	C.Jackson, A.Blaisdell
26,29	Monomoy, Chappaquiddick	1, 1	B.Nikula, BBC
Black-crowned Night Heron:			
thr.	P.I.	max. 60 ind. 25+ nests	R.Heil + v.o.
thr.	Monomoy	max. 70 ind. (nesting)	A.French#
26,27	Eagle I.(Salem), Belmont	21, 31	J.Nove#, L.Robinson
Yellow-crowned Night Heron:			
9,late May	W.Newbury, Duxbury	1 ad., 1	R.Stymeist#, K.Parsons
Least Bittern:			
22	Marshfield, P.I.	3, 1	D.Clapp, BBC
23	Wayland	2	R.Walton
American Bittern:			
4,8,18	P.I.	1, 2, 1	D.Spencer, BBC, BBC
4,5	Woburn, SRV	1, 3	G.Gove, R.Walton
11,16	Lynnfield, Ipswich	3, 1	W.VanCor#, D.Alexander
Glossy Ibis:			
thr.	P.I., Squantum	max. 19, max 20+	v.o., v.o.

WATERFOWL

Good numbers of Brant were noted all month at Squantum, Newburyport, East Boston, and Plymouth where about two hundred were still present as late as May 23. The staff at the Parker River N.W.R. continues to census the waterfowl on Plum Island and their counts are included in the tabulation below. The American Wigeon may be breeding on Plum Island; they were seen all month, but no young were observed. Oldsquaw numbered over a thousand in Newburyport Harbor and a few lingered at month's end. Late reports included a Bufflehead on May 30 and continued reports of good numbers of summering eiders and scoters. Harlequin Ducks were reported from Martha's Vineyard and East Orleans, and two King Eiders were noted at Squibnocket on Martha's Vineyard for nine days.

Most interesting is the report of a female Common Eider with two young seen in the outer Boston Harbor islands. This constitutes the first confirmed breeding of this species in Boston. R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Mute Swan:			
2,22	Westport, Ipswich	150, pr. w 5 cygnets	G.Gove#, R.Stymeist#

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Canada Goose: 4	P.I.	447 incl. 2 broods of 7 & 5	D.Spencer
Brant: thr. 9,23	Squantum, P.I. E.Boston, Plymouth	max 335, max. 500+ 450, 200	v.o. C.Jackson, W.Petersen
Mallard: 4,26	P.I.	128, 139	D.Spencer
Black Duck: 4,26	P.I.	883, 280	D.Spencer
Gadwall: 4,26;16	P.I.; Ipswich	101, 87; 66	D.Spencer; BBC
Pintail: 1;4,26	P.I.	8; 2, 5	BBC; D.Spencer
Green-winged Teal: 4	P.I.	109	D.Spencer
Blue-winged Teal: 4,26	P.I.	30, 31	D.Spencer
American Wigeon: 4	P.I.	2	D.Spencer
Northern Shoveler: thr.	P.I.	3-5	v.o.
Wood Duck: 11	Lynnfield	14	BBC
Ring-necked Duck: 1,2	Sterling, SRV	15, 2	H.Merriman, SSBC
Common Goldeneye: 8	N.Scituate	1	W.Petersen#
Bufflehead: 8,16,30	Lincoln,Nahant,Plymouth	4, 2, 1	R.Stymeist#
Oldsquaw: 11,23	Newburyport	1000+, 10	R.Heil, BBC
Harlequin Duck: 1,2	Squibnocket, E.Orleans	4, 2	W.Manter, A.Williams
Common Eider: 22,26 late May	Scituate, Salem Outer Boston Harbor	250+, 425 <u>1 f. w/2 yg.</u>	SSBC, J.Nove# J.Hatch
King Eider: 11-19	Squibnocket	2	W.Manter, V.Laux, A.Brown
White-winged Scoter: 2,16	Nantucket Sound, Lynn	2000+, 350+	D.Briggs#, R.Stymeist#
Surf Scoter: 15,22 28	Plymouth, Lynn Squibnocket, Oak Bluff	250, 2 6, 1	W.Petersen#, R.Stymeist# A.Brown#
Black Scoter: 16,22 28	Lynn, Scituate Squibnocket	28, 75 150	R.Stymeist#, SSBC A.Brown#
Ruddy Duck: thr.	P.I.	max. 13	v.o.
Common Merganser: 16,22	Ipswich, Newburyport	2 m., 1 m.	J.Berry, R.Veit
Red-breasted Merganser: 1,18	P.I.	40, 25+	BBC, J.Berry

RAPTORS THROUGH GALLINULES

A Mississippi Kite was observed in Littleton on May 16. This constitutes the sixth record for Massachusetts, five in the last seven years. Bald Eagles were noted at Provincetown, Sandwich, and Newburyport. Ospreys totaled at least forty-two individuals in the Westport area with increasing numbers also noted on Martha's Vineyard, where many platforms for encouraging Ospreys to nest have been built. There was a good Broad-winged Hawk flight reported from Cape Cod but only fair numbers from Wachusett and Watatic all spring. Eight Peregrines, at least five of which were adults, were noted during the month.

A King Rail was well observed in Lynnfield and others were heard calling there at various times during the month. A Virginia Rail with two young was noted at West Harwich at month's end. A Purple Gallinule visited a family in Falmouth where it was photographed walking on the cars in their driveway!

R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
<u>Turkey Vulture:</u>			
thr.,2	M.V., Dover	5, 2	W.Manter + v.o., C.Carruthers
5,9	P'Town, W.Newbury	5, 3	B.Nikula#, J.Heywood#
16	Ipswich, Milton	1, 4	BBC, SSBC
18	Westminster, Rowley	12, 2	R.Lawrence, D.Alexander
<u>Mississippi Kite:</u>			
16	Littleton	1	J.Baird
<u>Goshawk:</u>			
5,9	Winchester, Framingham	1 imm., 2	G.Gove, E.Morrier
<u>Sharp-shinned Hawk:</u>			
1;2,22	Dedham; Boxford, P.I.	1, 1; 2, 1	J.Marshall, P.Alden#; P.Roberts, BBC
8,18	N.Scituate, Wellesley	1, 1	W.Petersen, K.Winkler
<u>Cooper's Hawk:</u>			
7	Sandwich	1	R.Pease
<u>Red-tailed Hawk:</u>			
thr.	Ipswich	nest w/3 yg.	J.Berry + v.o.
<u>Red-shouldered Hawk:</u>			
1,2 on	Boxford, E.Middleboro	1, 1-2	P.Alden#, K.Anderson
16,20	Easton, Carlisle	2, 1	K.Ryan, R.Walton
<u>Broad-winged Hawk:</u>			
1	Wachusett, Eastham	74, 21	E. Mass. Hawk Watch
1	Lancaster, Boxford	15, 4	L.Taylor#, P.Alden#
16,18,21	Wellfleet, Sandwich, M.V.	100, 26+, 14	C.Goodrich, R.Pease, V.Laux#
<u>Bald Eagle:</u>			
16,18	P'Town, Sandwich	1 imm., 1 ad.	B.Nikula#, R.Pease
22	Newburyport	1 imm.	R.Veit # + v.o.
<u>Osprey:</u>			
thr.,2	Lakeville, Westport	pr nesting, 42	W.Petersen, G.Gove#
28-31,29	M.V., W.Newbury	12, 1	BBC, H.Weissberg#
<u>Peregrine Falcon:</u>			
2,6	P.I., Harwich	1 ad., 1 ad.	P.Roberts#, R.Heil
8,11+15	Monomoy, P.I.	1, 1 ad.	D.Folger, R.Heil + BBC
13,22	Ipswich, Newburyport	1, 1 ad.	R.Ferren, v.o.
20,31	Plymouth, Middleboro	1, 1 ad.	B.Cassie#, D.Briggs
<u>Merlin:</u>			
2,4,8	P.I.	3, 1, 1	P.Roberts, D.Spencer, BBC
5,9,22	Winchester, Newbypt, Rowley	1, 1, 1	C.Jackson, G.Gove#, R.Stymeist#
<u>King Rail:</u>			
12,15	Lynnfield (2 loc.)	1, 1 (seen)	J.Berry, J.Heywood#
Several reported heard on other dates in May at Lynnfield.			
<u>Clapper Rail:</u>			
22	Newburyport	1	R.Heil#
<u>Virginia Rail:</u>			
11,16	Lynnfield	12, 15	W.VanCor#, R.Stymeist#
14,29	S.Hanson, W.Harwich	5, pr w/2 yg.	W.Petersen, v.o.
<u>Sora:</u>			
11,22	Lynnfield, SRV	6, 4	BBC, R.Walton
<u>Common Gallinule:</u>			
8,16	P.I., Lynnfield	1, 4	BBC, R.Stymeist#
<u>Purple Gallinule:</u>			
16-31	Falmouth	1 ad. (ph.)	L.Hurwitch family#

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH ALCIDS

Oystercatchers may be extending their breeding range north in Massachusetts as two or three were reported at Plymouth Beach and were seen flying back and forth to Duxbury Beach from the 15th on. Five Piping Plover chicks were found on Plymouth Beach on the 30th and they appeared to have just recently hatched. Individual Golden Plovers were reported from Plum Island on the 2nd and the 19th; a rare Spring migrant, they have generally appeared during the last week of the month. Ruddy Turnstones apparently hit their migration peak at the end of the month.

Apparently some woodcock survived the April blizzard; adults with four chicks each were seen in Concord and in Abington. A Common Snipe was seen and heard winnowing over a wet meadow in West Newbury indicating possible nesting. This species has been a local breeder in the past. A total of NINETY-NINE Spotted Sandpipers was recorded on a field trip from Marshfield to North Scituate, an unprecedented number to be counted in one day.

A pair of Willets provided an impressive display of courtship climaxing in copulation, behind the Catholic Church at Plum Island, as reported by a group of voyeurs. Twenty Willets were counted on Monomoy on the 30th. Purple Sandpipers were still present in impressive numbers late in the month. Pectoral Sandpipers were reported in unimpressive numbers compared to the spring of 1981. Very rare in spring, a high-plumaged Long-billed Dowitcher was seen and heard calling repeatedly in Newburyport on May 11. Stilt Sandpipers, another rare spring migrant, were reported at three locations. A Western Sandpiper, also rare in spring with only twelve reports in twenty years (Bailey), was seen at Nahant and details were provided. Ruffs continued to be reported with at least five individuals seen. One in breeding plumage was very dark with a black iridescent head and a chestnut and black ruff.

Iceland and Glaucous gulls were present throughout the month with the latter species being reported on May 31. A Lesser Black-backed Gull, a second year bird, was present at Plymouth Beach in the latter half of the month and was possibly the same bird seen there the past winter. According to the description provided by W. Petersen, "this bird had a medium gray back with wing coverts containing lots of brown. The bill was basally light yellow with a dark tip and the legs were neutral in color. The size was slightly smaller than a Herring Gull." A Forster's Tern on Monomoy constitutes an unusual spring record although they are regular in late summer and fall. Five pairs of Arctic Terns were in the colony at Plymouth Beach and three "portlandica" Arctic Terns were seen on Monomoy. A Royal Tern was reported on Nantucket and six Caspian Terns were reported from three locations on May 2. A Thick-billed Murre at Provincetown was late as were Black Guillemots although later spring dates exist. G.W.G.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
American Oystercatcher:			
15-30	Plymouth Beach	max. 3	v.o.
19,23	Nantucket, N.Scituate	2, 2	F.Bouchard, W.Petersen#
28-31,30	M.V., Monomoy	7, 14 + 3 chicks	BBC, SSBC
Semipalmated Plover:			
18,26	P.I.	65, 128	BBC, D.Spencer#
19	SRV	2	R.Walton
Piping Plover:			
2,11	S.Dartmouth, Ipswich	2, 2	G.Gove#, J.Berry
16,26	P.I.	1, 4	T.Lawrence#, D.Spencer#
28,30	Plymouth	10, 4+5 chicks	W.Cornwell, R.Stymeist#
28-31,30	M.V., Nashawena	3, 2	BBC, P.Hallowell
Killdeer:			
2;15,29	SRV; W.Newbury	5; 6, 8	SSBC; BBC
Lesser Golden Plover:			
2,19	P.I.	1, 1	P.Alden, L.Robinson
15,21,22	Newburyport	1 ad., 1, 1	S.Denison#,A.Williams,BBC
Black-bellied Plover:			
1,18	Newburyport	40, 2200	BBC, R.Heil
9,14	Squantum	18, 50	C.Jackson#, S.Smith
22,26	Scituate, P.I.-PRNWR	100+, 50	SSBC, D.Spencer#
30	Monomoy	600	SSBC
Ruddy Turnstone:			
8,14	Newburyport, Squantum	2, 20	G.Gove, S.Smith
29,30	Plymouth	300, 60	W.Cornwell, G.Gove#
23,30	N.Scituate, Monomoy	45, 250	W.Petersen, SSBC
27,28-31	P.I., M.V.	1, 21	H.Wiggins#, BBC
American Woodcock:			
6;14,15	Lexington; Ipswich	6; 2, 1	BBC; J.Berry, D.Alexander
13	Concord	1 ad. + 4 yg.	R.Walton
15,18	Middleboro, Abington	5, 1 f.+ 4 yg.	W.Petersen
16	P.I.	3	R.Stymeist#
Common Snipe:			
2,11	SRV, Lynnfield	11, 2	SSBC, BBC
11	W.Newbury	1-2	R.Heil
Whimbrel:			
8,30	Monomoy, Westport	2, 1	D.Folger, BBC
Upland Sandpiper:			
1-2,20-21	Nantucket, M.V.	1, 1	D.Briggs, W.Manter#
8	Belmont, Eastham	1, 1	M.Reinstein#, B.Nikula
15-22	Newburyport	max. 3	v.o.
1,16	W.Newbury, P.I.	4, 1	BBC, R.Stymeist#
22	Marshfield	1	SSBC

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
<u>Spotted Sandpiper:</u>			
1-14,17	Wenham, SRV	max. 7, 8	J. Berry, R. Walton
15;20,23	Orleans; N.Scituate	15;21,15	R. Prescott; J. Nichols#, W. Petersen#
20	N.Scituate to Marshfield	99	B. Cassie + K. Winkler
22	N.Scituate	23	SSBC
1 to 4 individuals from 11 locations.			
<u>Solitary Sandpiper:</u>			
1,3	M.V., Boxford; Natick	3, 1; 1	V. Laux#, BBC; C. Johnson
12,18	Topsfield, Medfield	6, 6	J. Berry, K. Ryan
1 to 4 individuals reported from 10 locations.			
<u>Willet:</u>			
4,19	P.I.	1, 3	D. Spencer#, L. Robinson
22	Newburyport	pr. copulating	R. Stymeist#
9,15	Squantum, Plymouth	1, 1	S. Smith, W. Petersen
28-31	Chappaquiddick	2	BBC
20,29	Nantucket, N.Scituate	2, 1	BBC, J. Nichols
30	Monomoy, Westport	20, 1	SSBC, BBC
<u>Greater Yellowlegs:</u>			
1,15,18	Newburyport	250, 45, 75	BBC
4,26	P.I.-PRNWR	41, 8	D. Spencer#
2	SRV, S.Natick	5, 1	SSBC, F. Hamlen
5,9	Weymouth, Squantum	6, 35	G. Wilson, C. Jackson
<u>Lesser Yellowlegs:</u>			
1;4,26	Newbypt; P.I. - PRNWR	30; 7, 2	BBC; D. Spencer#
<u>Red Knot:</u>			
9,15	Squantum, Newburyport	1, 2	C. Jackson, BBC
<u>Purple Sandpiper:</u>			
2;16,22	Westport; Lynn	35; 48, 118	G. Gove#; R. Stymeist#
8,15,23	N.Scituate	150+, 100+, 75	W. Petersen
2,9	Sandwich, Gloucester	12, 14	R. Pease, BBC
26	Salem	115	J. Nove#
<u>Pectoral Sandpiper:</u>			
1;22	P.I.; Newburyport, Topsfield	5; 2, 3	BBC; BBC, H. Wiggin#
<u>White-rumped Sandpiper:</u>			
16-22	P.I.	max. 10	v.o.
18,23;26	Newburyport	15, 4; 15+	BBC; R. Heil
22,23,27	Topsfield, Scituate, Plymouth	1, 1, 3	H. Coolidge#, D. Brown#, W. Petersen
<u>Least Sandpiper:</u>			
4,8	P.I.-PRNWR, Newburyport	53, 200	D. Spencer#, G. Gove#
12,17,18	Duxbury, Easton, Medfield	9, 10, 12	K. Ryan
12,16	Topsfield, W. Harwich	7, 200	J. Berry, B. Nikula
22	Scituate, Newbypt, Topsfield	150+, 150, 15	SSBC, BBC, H. Wiggin#
<u>Dunlin:</u>			
1,18,23	Newburyport	150, 65, 30	BBC
<u>Short-billed Dowitcher:</u>			
1;18,20;23	Newburyport	10; 5, 1; 8	BBC; J. Berry; BBC
26	Clinton	13	H. Merriman
<u>Long-billed Dowitcher:</u>			
11	Newburyport Harbor	1 high-pl.	R. Forster#
<u>Stilt Sandpiper:</u>			
1-2,4	P.I., WBWS	3, 1	P. Alden, W. Bailey
16,26	Topsfield, P.I.-PRNWR	1, 1	R. Stymeist, D. Spencer#
<u>Semipalmated Sandpiper:</u>			
18,19	Newburyport	60, 250	BBC
<u>Western Sandpiper:</u>			
17	Nahant	1 (details)	R. Heil
<u>Ruff:</u>			
2	Bolton Flats	1 f.	B. Blodget#
1,2	Newburyport	2, 2 f.	BBC(P. Alden), P. Roberts#
8	Newburyport	3 f., 1 m.*	C. Floyd#, G. Gove#
*Ruff in breeding plumage, very dark, black iridescent head, chestnut and black ruff.			
18	Newburyport	1 f.	R. Heil
<u>Sanderling:</u>			
15,26	Plymouth, P.I.-PRNWR	225, 250	W. Petersen#, D. Spencer#
<u>Wilson's Phalarope:</u>			
11-31	P.I.	max. 4	v.o.
7,22-24;16	Wayland; Topsfield	1 f., 1; 1 f.	B. Howell, R. Walton; R. Stymeist#

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Northern Phalarope:			
30	Monomoy	16	SSBC (W.Petersen)
Parasitic Jaeger:			
8,30	P'town, Monomoy	4, 1	R.Ferren, SSBC
22,27	Stellwagen	3, 2	W.Petersen#
Glaucous Gull:			
31	P'town	1 imm.	B.Nikula, N.Stabins
Iceland Gull:			
11;16,19	Newburyport; P'town	3 imm.; 1 imm., 1 ad.,	R.Heil; B.Nikula#
11,12	Clinton	1	H.Merriman
Great Black-backed Gull:			
4,26	P.I.-PRNWR	37, 80	D.Spencer
Lesser Black-backed Gull:			
15-30	Plymouth	1 2d yr.	W.Petersen + v.o.
Herring Gull:			
26	P.I.-PRNWR	125	D.Spencer#
Ring-billed Gull:			
4,26	P.I.-PRNWR	20, 10	D.Spencer#
Bonaparte's Gull:			
1,15,22	Newburyport	40, 40, 6	BBC
20,26	Ipswich, P.I.-PRNWR	19 imm., 15	J.Berry, D.Spencer
12	Clinton	13	H.Merriman
Laughing Gull:			
2,8	Westport, Newburyport	1, 1	R.Stymeist#, R.Heil#
15,28-31	N.Scituate, M.V.	2, 1	W.Petersen, BBC
Little Gull:			
22	Revere	1 imm.	C.Jackson
Black-legged Kittiwake:			
8,22,27	P'town; Stellwagen	3; 2, 1	R.Ferren; W.Petersen
Forster's Tern:			
26	Monomoy	1 imm.	B.Nikula
Common Tern:			
2	Westport, Hyannis	25, 30	R.Stymeist#, D.Briggs#
6,8	Marblehead, Newburyport	200, 7	R.Heil, BBC
18-31	P.I.	max. 45	v.o.
15,20	Ipswich	40, 10	J.Berry
7,14	Squantum	2, 3	C.Jackson, S.Smith
24,25	Clinton	4, 1	H.Merriman
29-31	M.V.	125	BBC
Arctic Tern:			
23-31	Plymouth	5 pair	R.Stymeist#, W.Petersen
28-31,30	M.V., Monomoy	2, 5 (portlandica)	BBC, W.Petersen
Roseate Tern:			
15,30	Plymouth	6	W.Petersen#, R.Stymeist#
15;20,28-31	P.I.; M.V.	1; 92, 50	H.Wiggin#; V.Laux, BBC
Least Tern:			
2	off Hyannis, S.Dartmouth	8, 2	D.Briggs, J.Heywood#
15-31	P.I.	max. 60	v.o.
9,22	Squantum, Scituate	2, 12	C.Jackson#, SSBC
28-31,30	M.V., Dartmouth	100, 5	BBC
Royal Tern:			
17	Nantucket	1	fide. E.Andrews
Caspian Tern:			
2	Scituate, Kingston, P.I.	4, 1, 1	J.Bird, B.Sorrie, P.Roberts
12	Plymouth	2	MBO Staff
Black Tern:			
15,24	P.I., Clinton	1, 1	BBC(W.Drummond),H.Merriman
20,21	Stellwagen, P'town	1, 1	R.Prescott, B.Nikula
30	Plymouth	1 ad.	J.Heywood#
Thick-billed Murre:			
5	P'town	1	R.Prescott
Black Guillemot:			
5,8	P'town	1, 3	R.Prescott, R.Ferren
8	N.Scituate	1	W.Petersen

CUCKOOS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Although no Common Cuckoos were reported this May, there were more Yellow-billed and Black-billed cuckoos than last year. At least twenty-five Yellow-billed were

noted as compared to thirteen last May, likewise twenty-five Black-billed Cuckoos were recorded.

Barn Owls were reported on Monomoy and Martha's Vineyard. The Great Horned Owl at Mount Auburn Cemetery was seen daily by hundreds of birdwatchers who were really trying to find a wave of warblers! Two Short-eared Owl nests each containing five eggs were found on Monomoy. Outside of eastern Massachusetts, a Burrowing Owl was found in Northampton on May 4 (T. Gagnon); this is only the third state record for this species. The most recent record was a bird that spent the summer on Martha's Vineyard in 1980.

Chuck-will's-widows returned to Chappaquiddick where three were heard at month's end. Other Chucks were noted at Manomet where one was banded on May 18 and another (or the same bird) was found at nearby Scituate on May 22. Nighthawks arrived on city streets a little later than usual.

A Ruby-throated Hummingbird was banded at Manomet on the 12th and eighteen were counted on Plum Island on May 31. Red-bellied Woodpeckers were nesting in West Tisbury, and another was found in Boxford. Sapsuckers were few and far between with a late report on May 21. R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
<u>Yellow-billed Cuckoo:</u>			
3,9	Milton, ONWR	2 (pr.), 1	M.Reinstein#, M.Lynch#
15,16;21	Holliston; Braintree	1, 1; 1	F.Hamlen,T.Raymond;G.d'Entremont
23,26	ONWR, Newburyport	8, 3	BBC (S.Carroll), R.Heil
26	SRV	3	R.Walton
27;29,30	Wellesley; Mt.A.	3; 1	K.Winkler, R.Stymeist
28	Lexington	1	J.Andrews
<u>Black-billed Cuckoo:</u>			
7,8,9	Marshfield,Whitman,Winchester	1, 1, 1	D.Clapp, W.Petersen, G.Gove
15,16,29	Waltham,Hopedale,W.Newbury	2, 2, 2	L.Taylor, T.Lipsky, BBC
16 individuals from 15 other locations.			
<u>Barn Owl:</u>			
6	Monomoy	2 (flushed in lighthouse)	A.French#
28-31	M.V.	2	BBC (R.Culbert)
<u>Screech Owl:</u>			
8	Wellesley	2	K.Winkler
<u>Great Horned Owl:</u>			
thr.	Mt.A.	1	everybody
2,4	E.Orleans, Lexington	2,2ad.+ 1yg.	A.Williams,L.Bogart(fide J.Andrews)
12,17	E.Middleboro, Weston	1, 1	K.Anderson, J.Carter
<u>Burrowing Owl:</u> (Outside eastern Massachusetts area.)			
4	Northampton	1	T.Gagnon#
<u>Barred Owl:</u>			
15,27	Middleboro, Dover	2, 1	W.Petersen, J.O'Connell
16	Boxford, IRWS	2, 1	T.Lawrence, D.Alexander#
<u>Short-eared Owl:</u>			
12,30	Monomoy (2 nests w/5 eggs each)	1, 2 pr.	SSBC, A.French#
<u>Chuck-will's-widow:</u>			
4,5;28-31	Chappaquiddick	1; 3	V.Laux, W.Manter#; BBC (R.Culbert)
18	MBO	1 b.	MBO Staff
22	Scituate	1 f.	J.Nichols + K.Jones
<u>Whip-poor-will:</u>			
2,6	E.Orleans, Manomet	1, 1	A.Williams, MBO Staff
15,16	Middleboro, Newburyport	10, 1	W.Petersen#, BBC
28-31	M.V.	5	BBC
<u>Common Nighthawk:</u>			
15;16	Brookline;Ipswich,Wellesley	1; 1, 1	R.Stymeist; BBC, K.Winkler
2,20,25	W.Tisbury	1	V.Laux#
21,26	Boston	1-2	J.Berry
26	Dover, Mt.A.	2, 5	F.Hamlen, BBC
<u>Chimney Swift:</u>			
1	Dover,W.Newbury,Waltham	1, 1, 8	F.Hamlen,BBC,J.Rufo
2	Mt.A., SRV	3, 8	BBC, SSBC
11,18	W.Newbury, Newburyport	65+, 100+	R.Heil
31	GMNWR	25	E.Porter
<u>Rudy-throated Hummingbird:</u>			
2,14	Wellfleet, MNWS	1, 1	A.Williams, M.Martinek
15	Mt.A., Newburyport, Manchester	1, 1, 1	BBC
12	Manomet	1 b.	MBO Staff

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBERS	OBSERVERS
Ruby-throated Hummingbird (continued):			
10;18,26	Mt.A.	1; 1, 1	F.Bouchard; L.Robinson
22	Nahant	1 m. in courting	flight H.Coolidge#
27	Wellesley, Cape Cod Bay	2, 3 migrating	K.Winkler, W.Petersen
28-31	M.V.	2	BBC
29,31	P.I.	5, 18	G.Gove, R.Stymeist#
30,31	4 individuals from 4 locations.		
Belted Kingfisher:			
2,3,15,21	Mt.A.	1	BBC
9;15	Gloucester;Newburyport,Winchester,Manchester	1; 1, 1, 1	BBC
Pileated Woodpecker:			
5,6	Sudbury, Wellesley	1, 1	R.Hale, K.Winkler
8,14,15	W.Medway,Wenham,Manchester	1, 1, 1	B.Hull, J.Berry, BBC
16	Boxford, IRWS	1, 1	BBC, D.Alexander
12,31	GMNWR	1, 1	E.Porter, J.Carter
23	Milton	1	D.Brown#
Red-bellied Woodpecker:			
thr.	W.Tisbury	pr. nesting	V.Laux#
8	Boxford	1 m.	L.Robinson
Red-headed Woodpecker:			
1-5	Woburn	1 ad. there since 11/27/81 as imm.	G.Gove
8	W.Newbury	1 ad.	D.Briggs + D.Davis
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:			
1,21	Newburyport, Mt.A.	1, 1	BBC, J.Barton

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH VIREOS

Other than the single report of good numbers along the Mashua River, few phoebes were seen. This is clear indication of significant mortality as a result of the April blizzard. The count of three hundred Barn Swallows at West Harwich was quite a bit above reports from the preceding few years. Cliff Swallows were seen regularly throughout the month at Plum Island, with a maximum of sixteen individuals, typical of recent years. There was a quite noticeable northward migration of Blue Jays, as all reports were of numbers in the hundreds. Interestingly, the movement encompassed a time span of over three weeks. Fish Crows which inexplicably have been absent from Cape Cod for the last fifty years were sighted in Provincetown.

Swainson's Thrush numbers at Manomet peaked during the last week of the month when FIFTY-ONE were banded in one day. Only a few reports were received of breeding bluebirds. Also observed were several single bluebird wanderers late in the month. A very well documented report of the western, "plumbeus" form of Solitary Vireo was received from Newton. The most noticeable mark of this bird was the total lack of yellow coloration. It had very distinct wingbars and a gray back and rump.

This spring's warbler migration showed good diversity, with a total of thirty-nine species reported including some juicy rarities. Similarly to last year, there were few if any good "wave" days with high counts of any species. This lack of numbers may have been the result of the prevalent east winds keeping most migrants well to the west of our reporting area.

In a situation such as the Prothonotary Warbler reports from two sites in Quincy separated by a time span of three days, one has to speculate as to whether this was a single individual. Worm-eating Warblers occurred in typical numbers this spring, but three in one day at a Weston site is a recent high. A BBC party heard lots of Tennessee Warbler song in Essex County, contributing a surprising count of sixty individuals in one day. For some reason, probably not weather-related, May 17 was the day for Cerulean Warbler. Interestingly, all Cerulean reports were concentrated in a five-day period.

The Louisiana Waterthrushes at Boxford were breeders, with some of the six birds seen on May 22 being recently fledged young. Initially two Kentucky Warblers, both singing males, were reported from the Carlisle conservation land site. Only one remained beyond the first day, that one for the rest of the month and into the summer. A very detailed report of a possible Connecticut Warbler was received from the Middlesex Fells on May 27. This species is almost unknown in our region in spring, and the individual was apparently not in a typical plumage. Thus, due to lack of a photograph or specimen, this bird must go into the records under the catagory Oporornis species.

A Swainson's Warbler was observed by many at the Provincetown Beech Forest for three days after its discovery on May 4. The bird was well seen and heard. This is a long-awaited first state record and is the subject of a detailed report elsewhere in this issue.

Shortly after entering Mount Auburn Cemetery on May 8, William and Barbara Drummond stopped to investigate what was undoubtedly THE warbler excitement of the season. They had heard a Parula Warbler song. What they (and many others over the next four to five hours) saw seemed closest to the field guide plates for Yellow-throated or Grace's warbler. Attempts were made to photograph the bird, but given the height at which it was foraging and the lighting there, good results are not expected. There was much discussion and some disagreement among the viewers. It is hoped that further details will be submitted. It is probably most equitable to consider this warbler a hybrid closely resembling a "Sutton's" Warbler, a bird known only from two West Virginia specimens and a handful of sightings. L.E.T.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Eastern Kingbird:			
1	Sudbury, Lancaster	1, 1	R.Walton, G.Gove#
15,23	P.I.	16, 30	BBC
22,28-31	Mt.A., M.V.	8, 21	BBC
Great-crested Flycatcher:			
2	Saugus, Mt.A.	1, 1	BBC
9,15	Saugus, Manchester	3, 3	BBC
28-31,29	M.V., Newburyport	12, 8	BBC
Eastern Phoebe:			
1	Lancaster	12	R.Stymeist#
16	Ipswich, Milton	3, 3	BBC, SSBC
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:			
23, 26	Mt. A., P.I.	1, 1	L.Taylor#, R.Heil
27,31	MNWS, P'town	2, 2	C.Blasczak, B.Nikula
25-31	5 locations.	7 individuals	v.o.
Acadian Flycatcher:			
22,26	P.I., Milton	1, 1	H.Wiggin#, D.Brown
21,26;27	P'town; M.V.	1, 1; 2	B.Nikula; V.Laux#
Willow Flycatcher:			
18	Belmont, W.Newbury	1, 1	L.Robinson, J.Berry
22,23	Lynnfield, Harvard	6, 5	H.Wiggin#, BBC
29,31	Newburyport, P.I.	5, 4	BBC, R.Stymeist#
Alder Flycatcher:			
15,23	Lancaster, Harvard	1, 2	H.Merriman, BBC
27,31	Dedham, Bolton	1, 6	T.Raymond, B.Parker
Least Flycatcher:			
9	Mt.A., Harvard	2, 2	v.o., M.Lynch#
10-30	9 locations	23 individuals	v.o.
23,31	Harvard, MNWS	5, 5	BBC, C.Blasczak
Eastern Wood Pewee:			
15,16	Manchester, Hopedale	1, 2	BBC, T.Lipsky
16-31	9 locations	19 individuals	v.o.
28-31, 30	M.V., Westport	8, 11	BBC
Olive-sided Flycatcher:			
20,22	P'town, P.I.	1, 1	B.Nikula, M.Argue
26-31,31	6 locations, Bolton Flats	8 singles, 2	v.o., B.Parker
Horned Lark:			
20,22	P.I., N.Scituate	2 m., 3	J.Berry, SSBC
28-31	M.V.	15	BBC
Tree Swallow:			
5,9	Duxbury, Gloucester	50, 35	K.Ryan, BBC
22,28-31	P.I., M.V.	150+, 25	BBC
Bank Swallow:			
2,15-17	SRV, Rowley	1, 120	SSBC, BBC
18-30,30	Medfield, Wellesley	60, 20	K.Ryan#, K.Winkler
31	Bolton Flats	6	B.Parker
Rough-winged Swallow:			
1,7	Ayer, MNWS	15, 2	R.Stymeist#, C.Blasczak
15	Rowley, Mt. A.	4, 2	BBC
20,21	Ipswich, N.Scituate	4, 6	J.Berry, B.Cassie#
28-31	M.V.	5	BBC
Barn Swallow:			
6,28-31	W.Harwich, M.V.	300, 50	B.Nikula#, BBC
29,30	P.I., Westport	63, 30	BBC

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Cliff Swallow:			
8,8-29	N.Scituate, P.I.	1, 16 max.	W.Petersen#, v.o.
14,16	Medford, Marshfield	1, 1	C.Jackson, BBC
16-31	M.V.	2	v.o.
Purple Martin:			
thr.,3	P.I., Newton	125 max., 1	v.o., N.+O. Komar
15,21	Middleboro, Hull	20, 1	W.Petersen#, B.Cassie
28-31,30	M.V., Monomoy	4, 1	BBC, SSBC
Blue Jay:			
2,8	SRV, N.Scituate	200, 200+	SSBC, W.Petersen
20,26	P.I.	130+,120+ (all migrants)	B.Perron#,R.Heil
Fish Crow:			
thr.,1	Mt.A., Lexington	3, 2	v.o., F.Bouchard
2,8	Saugus, N.Scituate	2, 2	BBC, W.Petersen#
14,16	Middlesex Fells, <u>P'town</u>	2, 2+	P.Roberts, B.Nikula#
Red-breasted Nuthatch:			
thr.	E.Middleboro	2+	K.Anderson
thr.	9 locations	15 individuals	v.o.
Brown Creeper:			
1,2	Boxford, SRV	1, 2	BBC, SSBC
5,11	Waltham, Ipswich	3, pr.	J.Rufo, J.Berry
House Wren:			
1	Waltham, Boxford	2, 2	J.Rufo, P.Alden#
9	Saugus, Winchester	4, 4	BBC
15;30	Manchester,Medford;Westport	8, 8; 8	BBC
Winter Wren:			
1-3,15	Dover, Manchester	1, 1	F.Hamlen, BBC
Carolina Wren:			
15,22	Wayland, Marshfield	1, 1	H.Parker, SSBC
28-31,30	M.V., Westport area	5, 4	BBC
Marsh Wren:			
8,11	Newburyport area, Lynnfield	3+, 3	BBC
22,23-29	Marshfield, P.I.	5, 30 max.	SSBC, BBC
Gray Catbird:			
1	Dover, Mt.A.	1, 2	F.Hamlen, F.Bouchard
8,9	P.I., Saugus	15+, 12	BBC
16	Marshfield, Ipswich	50+, 16	BBC
Brown Thrasher:			
2,2-22	Brookline, Mt.A.	2, 4 max.	D.Arvidson#, v.o.
8,18-22	MNWS, P.I.	3, 6 max.	C.Blaszczak, v.o.
Wood Thrush:			
3,8	Winchester, Ipswich	1, 2	G.Gove, J.Berry
9-10,16	Mt.A., Milton	3 max., 6	v.o., SSBC
28-31, 30	M.V., Westport area	25, 14	BBC
Hermit Thrush:			
1	MNWS, Mt.A.	2, 2	BBC, F.Bouchard
8	P.I., Waltham	2, 2	BBC, J.Rufo
14,27	Duxbury, Dover	2, 2	K.Ryan, J.O'Connell
Swainson's Thrush:			
8,9-28	Mt.A.	1, 5 max.	N.Mueller#, v.o.
14,27	S.Peabody, P'town	9, 20	R.Heil, B.Nikula#
27,31	Wollaston, W.Roxbury	15, 1	W.Cornwell, R.Stymeist
27	MBO	<u>51 b.</u>	MBO Staff
Gray-checked Thrush:			
14,16	S.Peabody, Cambridge	2, 3	R.Heil, T.Lawrence
29	Mt.A.	3	R.Stymeist
Veery:			
7,8	Newton, Newburyport	1, 1	N.+O. Komar, BBC
9,26	Mt.A., P'town	3, 4	L.Taylor#, B.Nikula#
27,31	MNWS, Natick	4, 5	C.Blaszczak, BBC
26	MBO	12	MBO Staff
Eastern Bluebird:			
thr.,8	WBWS, S.Hanson	1-2 pr., 1 pr.	W.Bailey#, W. Petersen
8,18	Worcester, Middleboro	2, 1 m.	M.Lynch#, J.+E.McNeill
20,30	Rockport, Mt.A.	1 f., 1 f.	P.Stangel, R.Stymeist#
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:			
1	W.Newbury, Dighton	6, 1 pr.(+nest)	BBC, D.Emerson
6,5-19	MNWS, P'town	4, 7 max.	C.Blaszczak, B.Nikula#
16	Milton, Boxford	5, 10	SSBC, BBC
23	Lakeville	1 m. (territorial)	B.Sorrie#

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Ruby-crowned Kinglet:			
1	Boxford, MNWS	8, 3	BBC
2,8	Mt.A., P.I.	15, 6	L.Taylor, BBC
18,22	Newbypt, P.I.	4, 1	BBC
Water Pipit:			
1-2,5	Bolton, Brookline	30, 1	H.Merriman, R.Stymeist#
15,18	SRV, P.I.	8, 1	R.Walton, BBC
Cedar Waxwing:			
19,21	P.I., Mt.A.	20, 30+	L.Robinson, v.o.
27,29	Rockport, Mt.A.	50, 100	P.Stangel, R.Stymeist
31	P'town	30	B.Nikula
White-eyed Vireo:			
3,6-7	Newton, MNWS	1, 1	N.+O.Komar, C.Blaszczak
8,9	Whitman, Dedham	1, 1	W.Petersen#, J.Marshall
9,15-17	Nahant, Waltham	1, 1	T.Lawrence#, J.Rufo
15-29,15-16	N.Scituate, IRWS	1, 1	v.o., D.Alexander
22,30	Ipswich, Dartmouth	pr. (+nest), 3	J.Berry#, BBC
Yellow-throated Vireo:			
14-23,15	ONWR, Andover	6 max., 2	S.Carroll#, BBC
16,18	Newbypt.;Hopedale,Brookline	1; 2, 1	C.Floyd#; T.Lipsky, H.Wiggin
18-31	6 locations	6 singles	v.o.
Solitary Vireo:			
1,2-20	Boxford, Mt.A.	5, 8 max. (5/16)	BBC, v.o.
6	Newton 1 (plumbeous subspecies well described)		N.Komar
15,16	Newburyport, Milton	6, 7	BBC, SSBC
29,30	P'town, Chatham	2, 1	B.Nikula, W.Petersen
Red-eyed Vireo:			
9,10	SRV, Braintree	1, 3	R.Walton, G.d'Entremont#
12-22,28-31	Mt.A., M.V.	7 max. (5/20), 75	v.o., BBC
30,31	Westport area, MNWS	27, 16	BBC, C.Blaszczak
Philadelphia Vireo:			
14,26	Braintree, WBWS	1, 1	G.d'Entremont#, C.Goodrich
Warbling Vireo:			
8	Cambridge, Newburyport	6, 5	M.Reinstein#, C.Floyd#
11,14	Belmont, Halifax	4, 2	L.Robinson#, W.Petersen
16,22	Milton, Lynnfield-Newbury	2, 6	SSBC, H.Wiggin#
Black-and-white Warbler:			
1,2-31	Wenham, Mt.A.	11, 17 max.(5/8)	J.Berry, v.o.
6,16	MNWS, Marshfield	17, 12	C.Blaszczak, BBC
27,31	Dover, Annisquam	1, 1	J.O'Connell, H.Wiggin
Prothonotary Warbler:			
2,5	Wollaston, Squantum	1, 1	D.Brown
27-31	Sharon	1 m.	M.Shannon# + v.o.
Swainson's Warbler:			
4-6	P'town	1	J.Young# + v.o.
Worm-eating Warbler:			
2,8-9	Boxford, Mt.A.	1, 1	L.Robinson, BBC (Komars)
9,13	Dorchester, Ipswich	1, 1	K.Winkler, R.Ferren
16-19,16	Hopedale, Dover	1, 1	T.Lipsky, T.Raymond#
18,23	P'town, Weston	1, 1 m.	C.Goodrich, R.Walton
13	Weston	3	L.+D.Stokes
Golden-winged Warbler:			
2,9	Dover, Framingham	1, 1	F.Hamlen, E.Morrier
15-26,17	W.Newbury, Rowley	3 max., 1	v.o., R.Alexander#
20,23	MNWS, Norwell	1, 1 m.	C.Blaszczak, D.Clapp#
Blue-winged Warbler:			
4,8-29	Winchester, W.Newbury	1, 16 max. (5/16)	G.Gove, v.o.
6-15,9	Mt.A., Framingham	5 max., 3	v.o., E.Morrier
23,28-31	ONWR, M.V.	1, 4	BBC
30	Dartmouth	2	BBC
"Brewster's" Warbler:			
8	Worcester (airport), W.Newbury	1, 1 m.	M.Lynch#, R.Heil
16,27	W.Newbury, Milton (FM)	2, 1	v.o., T.Raymond#
Tennessee Warbler:			
10,11-31	Mt.A.	2, 15 max. (5/20)	F.Bouchard, v.o.
14,15	Medford, Waltham	3, 4	P.Roberts, L.Taylor
16,18	Essex County,Newburyport	60, 5	BBC, J.Berry
28-31,29	M.V., N.Scituate	1, 1	BBC, J.Nichols
Orange-crowned Warbler:			
16	P'town	1	B.Nikula

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Nashville Warbler:			
6,7-21	Waltham, Mt.A.	1, 9 max. (5/11)	L.Taylor, v.o.
14,15-18	Medford, W.Newbury	5, 6 max. (5/15)	P.Roberts, v.o.
16	Marshfield, Milton	6, 3	BBC, SSBC
31	Newton	1	O.Komar
Northern Parula:			
2,2-22	Brookline, Mt.A.	1, 18 max. (5/10)	D.Arvidson#, v.o.
6-18,10	P'town, Braintree	35 max (5/16), 6	B.Nikula, G.d'Entremont#
8-22,14	Newburyport, S.Peabody	12 max. (5/22), 21+	v.o., R.Heil
16,29	Milton, W.Newbury	15, 3	SSBC, BBC
Yellow Warbler:			
1,8-22	SRV, P.I.	15, 33 max. (5/19)	R.Walton, v.o.
9,16	Saugus, Ipswich	16, 30	BBC
22,28-31	Bolton Flats, M.V.	24, 100	B.Parker, BBC
Magnolia Warbler:			
9,9-29	Gloucester, Mt.A.	3, 7 max. (5/20)	BBC, v.o.
15-31, 31	P.I., MNWS	40 max. (5/31), 35	v.o., C.Blaszczak
31	P'town	15	B.Nikula
Cape May Warbler:			
5,8-22	Mt.A.	1, 4 max. (5/17)	v.o.
8,9	Topsfield, Gloucester	1 m., 7	J.Berry, BBC
21,29	P.I., Newburyport	7, 1	H.Merriman, BBC
30	Westport	1	BBC
Black-throated Blue Warbler:			
1,2	MNWS, Dover	1, 1	C.Blaszczak, F.Hamlen
6,8-21	Waltham, Mt.A.	3, 7 max. (5/15)	L.Taylor, v.o.
8-22,15	Newburyport, Milton	3 max. (5/8), 10	v.o., W.Petersen#
Yellow-rumped Warbler:			
2	SRV, Mt.A.	40, 38	SSBC, BBC
6,14	P'town, Braintree	100, 7	B.Nikula, G.d'Entremont#
21	Mt.A.	2	L.Robinson
Black-throated Green Warbler:			
1,10-21	Boxford, Mt.A.	4, 10 max. (5/18)	BBC, v.o.
15,16	Milton, P'town	10, 25+	W.Petersen#, B.Nikula
17,21	Boxford, P.I.	12, 10	J.Berry, H.Merriman
27	E.Middleboro	1 m.	K.Anderson
Cerulean Warbler:			
14,17	Sandwich, P'town	1 m., 1 f.	R.Pease, B.Nikula#
17,17-18	Wellesley, Dorchester	1 m., 1 m.	K.Winkler+v.o., K.Winston
Blackburnian Warbler:			
6,9-31	Waltham, Mt.A.	1, 7 max. (5/15)	L.Taylor, v.o.
15-29, 19	Newburyport, MNWS	10 max. (5/22), 7	v.o., C.Blaszczak
26,29	P'town, N.Scituate	10, 2	B.Nikula, J.Nichols
30,31	Chatham, Newton	3, 1	W.Petersen, O.Komar
Yellow-throated Warbler:			
2,5	P'town, M.V.	1, 1	C.Goodrich, D.Brown#
Hybrid warbler sp. resembling "Sutton's" Warbler:			
8	Mt.A.	1	W.+ B.Drummond + v.o.
Chestnut-sided Warbler:			
8	Wenham, Weston	4 m., 2	J.Berry, R.Stymeist#
9-21,15-18	Mt.A., W.Newbury	4 max. (5/21), 4	v.o., BBC
16,19	Ipswich, MNWS	6, 5	BBC, C.Blaszczak
23	Marshfield, Hamilton	1, 2 m.	K.Ryan, J.Berry
Bay-breasted Warbler:			
9	Brookline, Dedham	1, 1	H.Wiggin, J.Marshall
15-31	Mt.A.	5 max. (5/26)	v.o.
26	P.I., P'town	13+, 10	R.Heil, B.Nikula
31	MNWS	7	C.Blaszczak
Blackpoll Warbler:			
6,8	MNWS, W.Newbury	1 m., 1	R.Heil, G.Gove#
8	Dover, Newburyport	1, 1	P.Hallowell, BBC
9-31,14	Mt.A., Braintree	15 max. (5/15), 5	v.o., G.d'Entremont#
16	Rockport, Milton	6, 4	P.Stengel, SSBC
23	P.I.-Newburyport	10	BBC
Pine Warbler:			
1,2	Lancaster, Saugus	3, 1	R.Stymeist#, BBC
14,15	Duxbury, Manchester	1, 2	BBC
16,21-27	Boxford, E.Middleboro	1, 1 m.	BBC, K.Anderson
28-31,30	M.V., Westport	5, 3	BBC

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVER
Prairie Warbler:			
1,5	MNWS, Lexington	2, 2	C.Blasczak, J.Andrews
9,14	Saugus, Medford	3, 8	BBC, P.Roberts
14,15-19	S.Peabody, W.Newbury	12±, 4 max.(5/18)	R.Heil, v.o.
28-31,30	M.V., Dartmouth	25, 9	BBC
Palm Warbler:			
1,2-12	MNWS, Mt.A.	4, 3 max. (5/5)	BBC, v.o.
5,8	Braintree, Waltham	2, 3	G.d'Entremont#, J.Rufo
15	Ipswich, P.I.	1, 1	D.Alexander#, BBC
Ovenbird:			
4-15,8	Mt.A., Wenham	5 max. (5/10), 18	m. v.o., J.Berry
12,15	Braintree, W.Newbury	6, 6	G.d'Entremont#, BBC
16,17	Rockport, Boxford	8, 17±	P.Stangel, J.Berry
18,28-31	MNWS, M.V.	9, 20	C.Blasczak, BBC
Northern Waterthrush:			
1-26,2	Mt.A., SRV	2 max., 2	v.o., R.Walton
8,15	Wenham, Newburyport	2, 2	J.Berry, BBC
16	Braintree, Milton (FM)	2, 6	G.d'Entremont#, R.Connaughton
17,18	Weston, W.Newbury	1, 1 m.	J.Carter, J.Berry
Louisiana Waterthrush:			
1-22,14	Boxford, Medford	6 max. (5/22), 1	v.o., P.Roberts
15-23	Blue Hills	2 max.	v.o.
Kentucky Warbler:			
16,16-31	Braintree, Carlisle	1,2 m. max.(5/16)	G.d'Entremont#, K.Harte + v.o.
18,30	Wollaston, Westport	1, 1	D.Brown, BBC (D.Davis)
Oporornis sp.:			
27	Middlesex Fells	1	C.Jackson
Mourning Warbler:			
14,20-31	Braintree, Mt.A.	1, 2 max. (5/30)	G.d'Entremont#, v.o.
31,25-31	MNWS, 7 locations	4, 11 individuals	S.Garrett#, v.o.
Common Yellowthroat:			
4,5-18	SRV, Mt.A.	2, 4 max. (5/17)	R.Walton, v.o.
8,9	Newburyport, Saugus	15+, 20	BBC
16,17	Milton (FM), SRV	40, 18	SSBC, R.Walton
23,28-31	P.I., M.V.	20, 100	BBC
Yellow-breasted Chat:			
15,26	Yarmouth, MNWS	1, 1	L.Lawson, C.Blasczak
Hooded Warbler: (from April)			
1,3	Squantum, MNWS	1, 1 f.	D.Brown, R.Heil#
6,9	MNWS, Brookline	1, 1	C.Blasczak, H.Wiggin
15-31,15	Milton, P.I.	1 pr.(territorial), 1	D.Brown + v.o., I.Giriuinas#
19,23-28	Lincoln, Carlisle	1, 1 m. singing	P.Swift, K.Harte
Wilson's Warbler:			
8,9	P.I., Brookline	1, 1	J.Grugan, H.Wiggin
9,10-28	Gloucester, Mt.A.	1, 3 max. (5/18)	BBC, v.o.
31	P.I., MNWS	25, 13	R.Stymeist#, C.Blasczak
Canada Warbler:			
6,9-31	Waltham, Mt.A.	1, 4 max. (5/21)	L.Taylor, v.o.
21,26	P.I., Newburyport	12, 21.	H.Merriman, R.Heil
31	MNWS, P'town	20, 15+	C.Blasczak, B.Nikula
American Redstart:			
7,9-31	MNWS, Mt.A.	1, 9 max. (5/10)	C.Blasczak, v.o.
22-31,31	P.I.-Newburyport, P'town	51 max. (5/29), 25	v.o., B.Nikula

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH SPARROWS

There was a great flight of Bobolinks during mid-May with reports of large flocks from many locations. Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported on Chilmark and Nantucket. Orchard Orioles were seen at many locations with fifteen noted in Cape Cod Communities. Two Western Tanagers were reported, one each at Mount Auburn and Nantucket. Thirteen Summer Tanagers were noted during the month, one of which caused quite a stir of speculation at Mount Auburn! Only three were reported in May 1981, and six of the thirteen were immature birds. Blue Grosbeaks were noted on Nantucket and at Rockport and a Painted Bunting visited a feeder at West Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard.

Pine Siskins continued throughout the month at a number of locations where nesting was confirmed or suspected. Interesting are the reports of Red Crossbills and a pair of White-winged Crossbills visiting a feeder in Beverly. A Lark Bunting was found at a feeding station on Nantucket where it remained for four days. A Seaside Sparrow was found at Nahant Thicket and a late Tree Sparrow was well observed in Peabody on May 2.

R.H.S.

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBERS	OBSERVERS
Bobolink:			
2,4+22	Mt. A., Bolton	1, 1 + 26	M.Greenwald#, B.Parker
8;9	Newbypt;Squantum,Framingham	10+;20,4	G.d'Entremont;S.Smith,E.Morrier
14	GMNWR,Middlesex Fells,Rockport	50,150,47	E.Porter,P.Roberts,P.Stangel
15	Easton,W.Newbury,Mt.A.	25, 60, 50	K.Ryan,W.Drummond#,v.o.
15,16	Lynnfield, Topsfield	400+, 200+	G.Gove#, R.Stymeist#
20,22	Marshfield	150, 50+	M.Martinek, SSBC
Eastern Meadowlark:			
thr.	Newburyport	4-6	v.o.
Yellow-headed Blackbird:			
21-24,24	Chilmark, Nantucket	1 m., 1 m.	P.Huntington + v.o.,N.McCleave
Orchard Oriole:			
1;2,12,17	Harvard; W.Tisbury, M.V.	1; 1-3	R.Hale; W.Manter#
4,6 on	Braintree, S.Peabody	1, 6	G.d'Entremont#, R.Heil
8 on	Cape Cod	15+	R.Pease + v.o.
15	W.Newbury, Rowley	4, 2	R.Stymeist#, G.Gove#
Other reports of 1-3 individuals from many locations.			
Northern Oriole:			
5 on	Mt.A.	max. 15 (5/17)	v.o.
15	Middlesex Fells, W.Newbury	12, 8	R.Clayton#, W.Drummond#
16	Milton, Marshfield, Ipswich	7, 8, 24	R.Connaughton, BBC, BBC
22	Newburyport, SRV	12, 12	BBC, R.Walton
Rusty Blackbird:			
2	SRV	4	SSBC (R.Forster)
Western Tanager:			
7,21	Mt.A., Nantucket	1, 1	R.Stymeist# + v.o.,J.Dennis
Details submitted on both records			
Scarlet Tanager:			
1,6,14	Ayer, GMNWR, Wenham	1, 1, 3	R.Stymeist#, E.Porter, J.Berry
15	Ipswich, Middlesex Fells, Mt.A.	1,3,4	D.Alexander,R.Clayton#,L.Robinson
16	Milton, Wellesley	6, 3	SSBC, K.Winkler
17,18	Boxford, Mt.A.	8+, 6	J.Berry, R.Stymeist#
Summer Tanager:			
8,9	Lincoln, P'town	1, 1 imm. m.	fide R.Forster,B.Nikula
9	Wellfleet, Chatham	1 imm. m., 1	A.Lyford, H.Rich
17	Mt.A., P'town	1 imm. m., 1 imm. m.	v.o., B.Nikula
18,20	P'town, Mt.A.	2 (1 ad,1 f),1 imm.m.	B.Nikula#,S.+S.Denison#
21,25	Nantucket, Malden	2 (1 ad,1 imm.), 1	F.Bouchard#, C.Jackson
30	Newburyport	1	J.Leverich
Rose-breasted Grosbeak:			
2,5,7	Mt.A., SRV, W.Newbury	1, 1, 3	L.Taylor#, R.Walton, D.Briggs#
13,15,16	SRV, Fells, Milton	5, 3, 4	R.Walton, BBC, SSBC
16,20,22	Wellesley, Mt.A., Rockport	4, 7, 6	K.Winkler,S.+S.Denison,P.Stangel
Blue Grosbeak:			
20,22	Nantucket, Rockport	1 imm. m.,1 m.	molting F.Bouchard#,P.Stangel
Indigo Bunting:			
9,10,11	Mt.A.	4, 8, 4	L.Taylor#,D.Arvidson#,R.Stymeist#
Painted Bunting:			
16-19	W.Tisbury M.V.	1 m. at feeder	E.Waldron + v.o.
Evening Grosbeak:			
1,5	W.Newbury, Carlisle	10, 4	S.Grinyel#, D.+L.Stokes
13,15,16	SRV, Manchester, Mt.A.	21, 2, 4	R.Walton, BBC, L.Taylor
16	Boxford, Ipswich	2, 1	R.Stymeist#, I.Girionas
Purple Finch:			
8	Topsfield, P.I.	6-8, 14	J.Berry, G.d'Entremont#
15	Mt.A.	10	B.Nickerson#
House Finch:			
May	Annisquam	5 prs. nesting on house	H.Wiggin
Pine Siskin:			
1-15,1-27	Mt.A., P'town	max. 6, max. 20+	v.o., B.Nikula
16	Boxford, W.Newbury	2, 1	R.Stymeist#, W.Petersen
28	Carlisle	2	K.Harte
Red Crossbill:			
16,18+20	P'town, W.Tisbury	4+, 2	B.Nikula, W.Manter
26	Mt.A.	1 f.	R.Veit
White-winged Crossbill:			
thr.,15	Beverly, Lakeville	pr., 3	G.Soucy#, W.Petersen#
Rufous-sided Towhee:			
28-31	M.V.	150	BBC (R.Culbert)

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
<u>Lark Bunting:</u> 22-25	Nantucket	1 f. (at feeder)	P.Gardner
<u>Savannah Sparrow:</u> 6,15	Rockport	9, 13	P.Stangel
<u>Grasshopper Sparrow:</u> 28-31	M.V.	4	BBC (R.Culbert)
<u>Sharp-tailed Sparrow:</u> 16,27	Rockport, MBO	1, 2 b.	P.Stangel, MBO Staff
<u>Seaside Sparrow:</u> 17	<u>Nahant Thicket</u>	1	R.Heil
28	Newburyport	3	N.+O.Komar + v.o.
<u>Vesper Sparrow:</u> 20,22	P.I., Plymouth	1, 3	B.Perna#, W.Petersen#
22	Plymouth (Myles Standish)	nest w/4 eggs found	W.Petersen#
<u>Dark-eyed Junco:</u> 8	P.I.	1	G.d'Entremont#
<u>Tree Sparrow:</u> 2	Peabody	1 well described	J.Misner
<u>Chipping Sparrow:</u> 2,9,10	SRV, Gloucester, Mt.A.	12, 9, 12	SSBC, BBC, BBC
<u>Field Sparrow:</u> 30	Westport - Dartmouth	13	BBC (D.Davis)
<u>White-crowned Sparrow:</u> 6,10,11	MNWS, Stoneham, Brookline	1, 1, 1	R.Heil, M.Martinek, B.Rielly
12,15,16	Mt.A., Marshfield, P.I.	2, 1, 1	J.Berry,W.Petersen,G.Gove#
<u>White-throated Sparrow:</u> 1-11,16	Mt.A., Boxford	max. 23 (5/2), 6	v.o., R.Stymeist#
18	Newburyport	11	BBC (J.Nove)
<u>Lincoln's Sparrow:</u> 9,10+15	W.Newbury, Lancaster	1, 1	W.Drummond, H.Merriman
15,16,22	Milton, Rockport, Nahant	1, 1, 1	W.Petersen, P.Stangel, R.Heil
25;30,31	Mt.A.,; Manomet, P.I.	2; 1, 2	F.Bouchard; R.Stymeist#
<u>Song Sparrow:</u> 8,16	SRV, Milton	17, 20	R.Walton, SSBC

Corrigendum to Field Records: March 1982

The summary paragraph under FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SNOW BUNTING should read:

One or possibly two Common Ravens continued this month to be seen near the Quabbin Reservoir baffle dams and fishing area, with access via Gate 43 in Hardwick. This is one of very few eastern Massachusetts occurrences of this species, the most recent previous records dating from the spring of 1980. At about mid-month, Yellow-rumped Warblers in small numbers started to drift back into the region. Reports had been unusually low for most of the winter. . . .

Addendum to Field Records: March 1982

Hoary Redpoll:
18 Haverhill 1 at feeder ph. W.Drummond

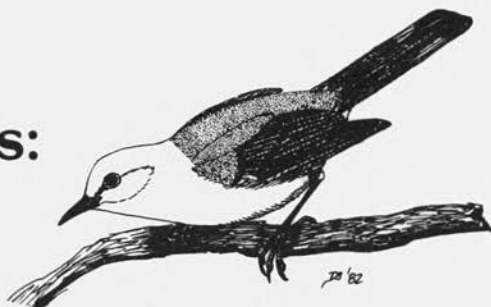
A CHECKLIST OF THE BIRDS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

This new publication by Kimball C. Elkins, has been published by the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. This new checklist uses the bar graph method, which shows very quickly and clearly the seasonal distribution and relative abundance of the different species. More than 300 are listed, only accidentals being omitted.

The booklet includes short descriptions of the major birding regions of New Hampshire and of bird migration in the State, by Tudor Richards. The price is \$2.00 plus \$0.75 for postage and handling. Order from Audubon Society of New Hampshire, P. O. Box 528-B, 3 Silk Farm Road, Concord, N. H. 03301.

Field Records:

June 1982



by George W. Gove, Robert H. Stymeist, Lee E. Taylor

June 1982 was miserable; record breaking rainfall, persistent cloudiness, and unseasonable cold were highlights of this out of character summer month. The temperature averaged 63.3°, 4.7° below normal. This was the coldest June since 1916 and the sixth coldest in 112 years of official record. The high temperature on June 7 was only 52°, one degree lower than the 1905 record low for that date. The twelve days, June 4-15, averaged about ten degrees below normal, one of the coldest stretches of record for June.

Rain totaled 13.2 inches, 10.01 inches over normal and well over the old June 1931 record of 9.13 inches. June 1982 was the third wettest month in 165 years! It nearly equalled the 13.38 inches of rain in May 1954; the record breaking persistence of easterly winds in May carried well into June; fourteen of the first eighteen days had easterly winds.

LOONS THROUGH BOBWHITE

Two Red-throated Loons were seen at two coastal locations early in the month; nonbreeding birds are occasionally reported throughout the summer. A Horned Grebe in breeding plumage was seen at Fresh Pond in mid-month. Greater and Sooty shearwaters, Wilson's Storm-Petrels, and Gannets were present throughout the month in the Stellwagen Bank - Provincetown area.

A Louisiana Heron was reported from Scituate on June 20, and an adult Yellow-crowned Night Heron was seen at Plum Island. The only Least Bittern reported was seen on June 12 in Wayland.

A count of thirty-five Black Scoters is high for June; usually there are only a few, if any, nonbreeding sea ducks seen in June; the individual Brant and Oldsquaw and the two Red-breasted Mergansers reported are examples.

A pair of Sharp-shinned Hawks was found at a nest twelve feet up in a red cedar in Marshfield. As reported by Veit and Heil, the nest was constructed largely of twigs and contained four whitish eggs which were heavily blotched with dark brown. The adults were clearly Sharp-shins, not Cooper's; they were small, considerably smaller than a crow, and showed square or notched tails in flight. One of the adults called continually, a high-pitched "ca, ca, ca, ca . . ." A female Northern Harrier was seen at a nest containing three eggs on Muskeget. G.W.G.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Common Loon:			
5	P'town	5	R.Heil
Red-throated Loon:			
5,10	Plymouth, Essex	1, 1	R.Heil, BBC
Horned Grebe:			
19	Cambridge	1 br.pl.	H.Pratt
Greater Shearwater:			
6,20	P'town	10, 25	H.D'Entremont#, R.Heil+R.Veit
11+12	Stellwagen	34	P.Hallowell
Sooty Shearwater:			
6,20	P'town	6, 10	H.D'Entremont#, R.Heil+R.Veit
11+12	Stellwagen	4	P.Hallowell
Wilson's Storm-Petrel:			
6,20	P'town	8, 200+	H.D'Entremont#, R.Heil+R.Veit
Gannet:			
6,20	P'town	4, 15	H.D'Entremont#, R.Heil+R.Veit

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Gannet (continued):			
11+12	Stellwagen	18 imm. + 2 ad.	P.Hallowell
Double-crested Cormorant:			
2,3	Annisquam, PRNWR	18, 67	H.Wiggin#, D.Spencer
13	Medford	53	G.Gove
Great Blue Heron:			
3,14	P.I. - PRNWR	7, 3	D.Spencer, BBC
26,27	GMNWR	1, 2	A.Williams, R.Walton
Green Heron:			
3,14,19	P.I. - PRNWR	6, 4, 6	D.Spencer, BBC, J.Berry#
19	Boston, SRV	7, 4	GBBBC, R.Walton
20	mid-Cape Cod	21	CCBBC
Cattle Egret:			
thr.	Ipswich	7	J.Berry
19,21	Essex	2, 1	N.King#, BBC
25	Marshfield	2	R.Walton
Great Egret:			
19,21	E.Boston, P.I.	2, 6	GBBBC, BBC
27	Randolph	6	G.d'Entremont#
Snowy Egret:			
3;14,28	P.I. - PRNWR	45; 30, 30	D.Spencer; BBC
5, thr.	Monomoy	5, max 30+ pr.	BBC, A.French#
Louisiana Heron:			
20	Scituate	1	J.Paputseanos
Black-crowned Night Heron:			
3,28	P.I. - PRNWR	12, 8,	D.Spencer, BBC
19	Boston	41	GBBBC
Yellow-crowned Night Heron:			
21	P.I.	1	BBC
Least Bittern:			
12	Wayland	1	R.Walton
American Bittern:			
25,26	Wayland, GMNWR	1, 1	R.Forster, A.Williams
Glossy Ibis:			
3	PRNWR, Monomoy	5, 11	D.Spencer, B.Nikula
21	Essex	9	BBC
Canada Goose:			
3,21	P.I. - PRNWR	149, 12 goslings	D.Spencer, BBC
10	E.Middleboro	150+	W.Wiksten
Brant:			
2,20	Saugus, P'town	1, 1	J.Berry, R.Heil#
Mallard:			
3	P.I. - PRNWR	263	D.Spencer
Black Duck:			
3	P.I. - PRNWR	195	D.Spencer
Gadwall:			
3	P.I. - PRNWR	104	D.Spencer
Pintail:			
3	P.I. - PRNWR	1 m.	D.Spencer
Blue-winged Teal:			
3	P.I. - PRNWR	20	D.Spencer
25	Wayland	6	R.Forster
Northern Shoveler:			
3,28	P.I. - PRNWR	1 m., 2	D.Spencer, BBC
Wood Duck:			
19,27	Waltham, GMNWR	5 + 10 yg., 45	GBBBC, BBC
Oldsquaw:			
16	MBO	1 m.	K.Anderson
Black Scoter:			
5	Eastham	<u>35</u>	R.Heil
Ruddy Duck:			
3;14,28	P.I. - PRNWR	4 m. + 2 f.; 7, 8	D.Spencer; BBC
Red-breasted Merganser:			
7	Barnstable	2	W.Petersen#
Turkey Vulture:			
8	E.Quabbin	8	R.Forster
Goshawk:			
1,20	E.Medfield	1	P.Hallowell, F. Hamlen#
8	E.Quabbin	1 ad.	R.Forster

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Sharp-shinned Hawk:			
24	Marshfield	pr. at nest	R.Veit + R.Heil
Red-tailed Hawk:			
15	Halifax, Bridgewater	1, 1	K.Anderson
Red-shouldered Hawk:			
18,24	E.Middleboro	1, 1	K.Anderson
27	Medfield	1	L.Robinson + E.Taylor
Broad-winged Hawk:			
thr.	E.Middleboro	1-3	K.Anderson
9	Annisquam	pr. courting	H.Wiggin#
Bald Eagle:			
19-27	Monomoy	1 imm.	E.Bakkus + v.o.
Northern Harrier:			
23	Muskeget	1 f.	R.Forster
Osprey:			
26	Duxbury	1	R.Walton
Peregrine Falcon:			
12	Newbypt	1	N.King#
Bobwhite:			
20	mid-Cape Cod	55	CCBBC

RAILS THROUGH TERNS

Virginia Rails were seen with young on June 13 in Natick and on the 21st at Plum Island. American Oystercatchers continued to be seen at Plymouth Beach and five pair were present on Monomoy throughout the month as were twelve pairs of Willets. Two broods of Piping Plovers with four young each were seen at Plymouth Beach. Two Upland Sandpipers at Maplecroft Farm in Ipswich were seen in trees behind a barn. Small numbers of Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs probably constitute stragglers although in June and July it becomes difficult to tell whether they are northward stragglers or the southward vanguard. This may also be true of some of the other reported shorebirds such as the Hudsonian Godwits on Monomoy.

A Long-tailed Jaeger was seen at Harding Cove in Provincetown on the 20th. The following is quoted from details provided by Rick Heil.

An adult light phase Long-tailed Jaeger was observed foraging and milling about off the beach, once approaching as close as about 150 yards. Its small size, short rounded head, and slender build was striking when viewed both with Parasitic Jaegers and Common Terns. The chest lacked any suggestion of a band, while the nape and sides of the neck were extensively buffy-yellow. The wings were slender and relatively narrow at the base compared to Stercorarius parasiticus. The primaries were dark, and only the outer two primaries had pale shafts. This mark was very obvious each time the bird wheeled or descended to land on the water, which it did several times. The bird's underparts did not contrast sharply with the dorsum, and the undertail and lower belly were dark, gradually fusing with the white of the upper belly and breast. There was no barring present on any of the plumage. Also apparent was how slender and light the chest and body appeared, and this, in conjunction with the long tail and narrow, slightly crooked wings, imparted a long streamlined silhouette that was very distinctive even at a distance. Last but not least, the central tail feathers were typically long, an estimated six inches in length.

The Long-tailed Jaeger consistently flew high above the water; all of the Parasitic Jaegers seen flew low just above the water. On several occasions it was seen to pursue Common Terns, but about an equal amount of time was spent being pursued by the terns.

About 300 Ring-billed Gulls were seen in a plowed field in Halifax following the rains of the preceding days. An adult Franklin's Gull was seen for two days on Nantucket. This is an extremely rare bird in the Northeast; the last one reported was seen on May 25, 1981 ten miles east of Boston. The Nantucket bird had the white band in the wing and a rosy bloom on the breast.

An adult Gull-billed Tern in full breeding plumage with a complete black cap, a short, dark bill, and black legs was seen on Monomoy by Heil and Veit, who provided the following details. The plumage was very white, as is typical of this species, and the tail was slightly forked in flight. The bird was considerably larger than the smaller Sterna terns present. Two Sandwich Terns were reported, one each from Plymouth and Provincetown. These two species are rare accidentals in Massachusetts although one

Sandwich Tern was reported on June 6, 1981.

Thirty-three nesting pairs of Common Terns and 54 nesting pairs of Least Terns were counted at Parker River. The following is a summary provided by Richard Forster of pairs of terns at three nesting colonies: at Plymouth, 800 pairs of Common Terns (CT) and no Roseate Terns (RT); at Marion, 600 pairs CT and 1800 pairs RT; at Yarmouth, 1500 pairs CT and 100 pairs RT.

Fifteen "portlandica" Common Terns were counted in Provincetown; the previous high number of these nonbreeding subadults in Massachusetts is about six. See the article by R.A. Forster in BOEM, 8:91, June 1980, for a discussion of "portlandica" terns. "Portlandica" Arctic Terns were counted in Barnstable, Monomoy (maximum 90), and Provincetown. Royal Terns were seen at five coastal locations, and a total of six Caspian Terns was reported from three locations. Black terns were reported throughout the month with a total of five at Provincetown on June 20. Black Skimmers were reported, one at Plymouth and three at Yarmouth.

G.W.G.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
King Rail:			
19	Lynnfield	1	G.d'Entremont
Virginia Rail:			
10,13	S.Hanson, Natick	3, 1 ad. + 3 yg.	W.Petersen, R.Stymeist#
19,27	Saugus, GMNWR	2, 3	GBBBC, BBC
21	P.I.	4 + 2 yg.	BBC
Sora:			
10	S.Hanson	1	W.Petersen
Common Gallinule:			
14,26	P.I., GMNWR	1, 2	A.Williams, BBC
American Oystercatcher:			
6,20	Plymouth	2, 2	BBC (H.D'Entremont), G.Gove#
5-30	Monomoy	max.5 pr.	E.Bakkus +v.o.
Semipalmated Plover:			
3	P.I. - PRNWR	6	D.Spencer
Piping Plover:			
thr.	Plymouth	max.3, 2 broods of 4 each	W.Petersen +v.o.
19,20	Monomoy, mid-Cape	1 pr. +3 yg., 8	E.Bakkus, CCBBC
3,20	P.I. - PRNWR, Scituate	4, 1	D.Spencer, J.Paputseanos
Black-bellied Plover:			
19;19,24	E.Boston; Monomoy	41; 50+, 200+	GBBBC; E.Bakkus, R.Heil
Ruddy Turnstone:			
3,5	P.I. - PRNWR, Monomoy	15, 120	D.Spencer, BBC
5,22	Plymouth	18, 1	BBC, J.Clancy
American Woodcock:			
14	Acoaxet	1	J.Marshall
Upland Sandpiper:			
19	Ipswich	2	G.d'Entremont
Spotted Sandpiper:			
3,19	P.I. - PRNWR, E.Boston	2,13	D.Spencer, GBBBC
Willet:			
3,19	P.I.	1, pr.	D.Spencer, J.Berry#
5,19	Monomoy	4, 12 pr.	BBC, E.Bakkus
19,20	Squantum, mid-Cape	2, 5	GBBBC, CCBBC
Greater Yellowlegs:			
3,10,12	Plymouth, Halifax, Barnstable	1, 1, 2	W.Petersen
3,17	P.I. - PRNWR, Belmont	2, 1	D.Spencer, F.Bouchard
19	Monomoy, P.I.	1, 1	E.Bakkus, J.Berry#
Lesser Yellowlegs:			
19,27	Monomoy	8, 10	E.Bakkus, B.Nikula
Red Knot:			
5,19,26,27	Monomoy	100, 8 (3 red), 8, 15	BBC, E.Bakkus, G.d'Entremont#, B.Nikula
White-rumped Sandpiper:			
6	Plymouth	4, 2	W.Petersen, BBC
5,24,27	Monomoy	12, 12, 5	BBC, R.Heil+R.Veit, B.Nikula
Dunlin:			
3,19	P.I. - PRNWR, E.Boston	1, 1	D.Spencer, GBBBC
Short-billed Dowitcher:			
21,27	P.I., Monomoy	2, 5	BBC, B.Nikula#
Semipalmated Sandpiper:			
3,19-21	P.I. - PRNWR, P.I.	64, 13	D.Spencer, v.o.
5,27	Monomoy	200, 30	BBC, B.Nikula#
Marbled Godwit:			
5,12	Monomoy	1, 1	BBC, R.Heil+R.Veit

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Hudsonian Godwit:			
19,24,26,27	Monomoy	4, 1, 4, 4	E.Bakkus, R.Heil#, G.d'Entremont#, B.Nikula#
Sanderling:			
27	Monomoy	20	B.Nikula#
Wilson's Phalarope:			
19,27	Monomoy	pr., 3	E.Bakkus, B.Nikula#,
21	P.I.	1	BBC
Pomarine Jaeger:			
6	P'town	5	H.D'Entremont
Parasitic Jaeger:			
5-30	P'town	max.15±(6/20)	R.Heil#
7,11-12	Barnstable, Stellwagen	2, 23	W.Petersen, P.Hallowell#
Long-tailed Jaeger (details):			
20	P'town	1 lt. ph. ad.	R.Heil+R.Veit
Glaucous Gull:			
6	P'town	2	H.D'Entremont
Iceland Gull:			
5,6,22	P'town	1 imm., 1, 1	R.Heil, H.D'Entremont, B.Nikula
Great Black-backed Gull:			
7	Cambridge	30	F.Bouchard
Ring-billed Gull:			
9,19	Halifax(in plowed field), Boston	300, 82	K.Anderson, GBBBC
Black-headed Gull:			
10	Essex, Newburyport	1, 1 1st S.	R.Heil
Laughing Gull:			
5,19	Monomoy, E.Boston	500, 15	BBC, GBBBC
Franklin's Gull:			
9,10	Nantucket	1 ad. (details)	T.Farrell, E.+C.Andrews
Bonaparte's Gull:			
19	Boston	117	GBBBC
Little Gull:			
10	Newburyport	4(1 ad.+3 1st S.)	R.Heil
Black-legged Kittiwake:			
6;20,22	P'town	10; 200+, 70	H.D'Entremont; R.Heil+R.Veit
7,11-12	Barnstable, Stellwagen	2 imm., 1	W.Petersen, P.Hallowell
Gull-billed Tern (details):			
24	Monomoy	1 ad.	R.Heil+R.Veit
Sandwich Tern:			
6,24	Plymouth, P'town	1, 1	H.D'Entremont, R.Heil+R.Veit
25,26	Orleans, Monomoy	1, 1	J.Bryant, G.d'Entremont
Forster's Tern:			
20,24	Barnstable, Monomoy	1, 1	R.Comeau#, R.Veit#
Common Tern:			
thr.	Plymouth, Marion, Yarmouth	800 pr., 600 pr., 1500 pr.	R.Forster
3	P.I. - PRNWR	33 nesting pr.	D.Spencer
5,20	Monomoy, mid-Cape Cod	2000, 739	BBC, CCBBC
19	Boston (Snake Island)	47	GBBBC
24	P'town, Monomoy	15+portlandica, 2 portlandica	R.Heil+R.Veit
Arctic Tern:			
5,7	Monomoy, Barnstable	10, 4(3 portlandica)	BBC, W.Petersen
12,24	Monomoy	60, 90+(all portlandica)	R.Heil+R.Veit
20	mid-Cape, P'town	1; 2 ad., 25 portlandica	CCBC; R.Heil+R.Veit
Roseate Tern:			
thr.	Marion, Yarmouth	1800 pr., 100 pr.	I.Nisbet, R.Forster#
5	Monomoy, Plymouth	1, 6	BBC
10	Newburyport	1 ad.	R.Heil
Least Tern:			
3	P.I. - PRNWR	54 nesting pr.	D.Spencer
5,20	Plymouth, mid-Cape Cod	20, 254	H.D'Entremont, CCBBC
Royal Tern:			
5,20	Barnstable, W.Dennis	1, 1	R.Heil, B.Cassie
23;26	Nantucket; P'town, Monomoy	1; 2, 1	R.Forster; B.Nikula, G.d'Entremont#
Caspian Tern:			
3,5,6;9	Plymouth	1 ad.; 2	W.Petersen#+v.o.; R.Forster#
19,28	Monomoy, P.I.	1, 2	E.Bakkus, BBC
Black Tern:			
3,20	P.I., P'town	1, 5	D.Spencer, R.Heil#
24,26	Yarmouth, GMNWR	2, 1	R.Forster#, J.Barton+v.o.
Black Skimmer:			
22,24	Plymouth, Yarmouth	1, 3	J.Clancy, R.Forster#

CUCKOOS THROUGH WARBLERS

The June rains may have had at least one benefit: the gypsy moth infestation of last year was slowed down considerably, with some areas hardly affected at all. Last year's counts of tree-top nesting species were lower than previous years; this year showed an improvement. The cuckoo situation is hard to explain; there were fewer reports this year than last year, and many less than the June of 1980. The Greater Boston Breeding Bird Census (GBBCC) only recorded four Yellow-billed compared with sixteen in 1981 and twelve in 1980. The now famous Great Horned Owl continued in Mount Auburn Cemetery and a Barn Owl was heard calling in the Newbury area. A Pileated Woodpecker was recorded from West Yarmouth, constituting a first record for Cape Cod.

Reduction in numbers of Eastern Phoebes continued to reinforce opinions that the blizzard of April 6 was a disaster for early passerine migrants. The Greater Boston Breeding Bird Census logged only four individuals, whereas the totals since 1977 were 13, 14, 21, 15, and 20. The heavy rains of June proved disastrous for nesting Purple Martins on Cape Cod where twenty-seven were found dead in Brewster, and another small colony was wiped out in Orleans.

The Prothonotary Warblers continued through June 21 in Sharon where a pair had taken up nesting in a stump of a tree. Unfortunately this first confirmed breeding record was unsuccessful despite the precautions taken not to disturb the pair. A House Wren, nesting several trees away, was observed going in and out of the Prothonotary's nesting hole; these wrens have the "bad habit" of poking their bills into the nests and eggs of their neighbors. The Prothonotaries were observed last in the vicinity of some power-lines, not far from their first nesting attempt, in ideal habitat, though no evidence has been reported that they attempted to nest again.

The Kentucky Warbler continued to sing from the mosquito infested swamp in Carlisle throughout the month. The Hooded Warbler found in May in the Blue Hills was still present through at least June 5.

R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Yellow-billed Cuckoo:			
3,10	Newton, Annisquam	2, 2	R.Stymeist#, H.Wiggin
19	Gr.Boston, SRV	4, 3	GBBCC, R.Walton
12,20	Sharon, mid-Cape	4, 8	R.Stymeist, CCBCC
Black-billed Cuckoo:			
2;12	Dedham; Sharon, Lincoln	1; 3, 2	J.Marshall;R.Stymeist,J.Carter
19,20	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	12, 6	R.Stymeist, CCBCC
Barn Owl:			
3	Newbury	1 calling	R.Heil
Screech Owl:			
19	Newton, Lexington	6, 10	O.Komar#, L.Taylor#
Great Horned Owl:			
thr.,19	Mt.A., Belmont	1, 1	R.Stymeist
Short-eared Owl:			
23	Muskeget I.	2(1 ad., 1 yg.)	R.Forster
Whip-poor-will:			
3,15	Newbury, Essex	10, 4-5	R.Heil, J.Berry
Common Nighthawk:			
thr.	Cambridge, Brookline, Somerville	6, 8, 4	R.Stymeist
11,15	Topsfield, Mashpee	19, 1	R.Forster, W.Petersen
Ruby-throated Humming Bird:			
3,11	Mt.A., IRWS	3, 1	R.Stymeist, R.Forster
22	E.Middleboro	1	K.Anderson
Common Flicker:			
19	Gr.Boston	70	GBBCC
Pileated Woodpecker (First record for Cape Cod):			
10 or 12, 20	<u>W.Yarmouth</u>	1, 1	P.Trumbell, CCBCC
Eastern Kingbird:			
14+28	P.I.	40 + 20	L.Jodrey#, D.Oliver
19,20	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	47, 35	GBBCC, CCBCC
Great-crested Flycatcher:			
19,20	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	34, 28	GBBCC, CCBCC
Eastern Phoebe:			
19	Gr.Boston	4(low)	GBBCC, CCBCC
This was the lowest total since 1977: cf. 13,14,21,15,20.			
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:			
1+3,3	Annisquam, MNWS	2+1, 3	H.Wiggin, C.Blaszczak

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Acadian Flycatcher:			
3,16	Manomet	1, 1 b.	MBO
Willow Flycatcher:			
3,19	MNWS, P.I.	1, 3	C.Blasczak, J.Berry
Alder Flycatcher:			
10,19,25	Essex, Lynnfield, Lincoln	1, 1, 1	R.Heil,G.d'Entremont,J.Carter
Least Flycatcher:			
3	MNWS	2	C.Blasczak
Eastern Wood Pewee:			
19,20	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	10, 12	GBBBC, CCBBC
Olive-sided Flycatcher:			
11,25	Annisquam, Chatham	1, 1	H.Wiggin, B.Nikula
Tree Swallow:			
14	P.I.	100	L.Jodrey#
Bank Swallow:			
19	Rowley	50±	J.Berry
Cliff Swallow:			
3,14,28	P.I.	22, 12, 16	v.o.
Purple Martin:			
thr.	P.I.	max 60	v.o.
June	Brewster, Orleans	27 dead, small colony destroyed	fide D.Reynolds
House Wren:			
19,20	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	43, 7	GBBBC, CCBBC
Gray Catbird:			
12	Lexington, Lincoln, Concord	19, 3, 27	L.Taylor#
19,20	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	129, 126	GBBBC, CCBBC
Brown Thrasher:			
19,20	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	24, 8	GBBBC, CCBBC
Wood Thrush:			
19,20	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	17, 5	GBBBC, CCBBC
Hermit Thrush:			
thr., 3	Sherborn, Dover	6 singing m., 1	E.Taylor, T.Raymond
13,26	Sharon, Millis	1, 4	R.Stymeist#, B.Cassie
Veery:			
19,20	SRV	3, 3(different)	R.Walton
Eastern Bluebird:			
20,25	Tyngsboro, Lincoln	3, 1	L.Files, J.Carter
White-eyed Vireo:			
10	Essex (Hog I.)	1	R.Heil
Yellow-throated Vireo			
27	Wayland	1	R.Walton
Red-eyed Vireo:			
3+10,20	MNWS, mid-Cape	3+2, 14	C.Blasczak, CCBBC
Black and White Warbler:			
3+10,20	MNWS, mid-Cape	2+1, 17	C.Blasczak, CCBBC
Prothonotary Warbler:			
1-21	Sharon	pr.nesting (from May)	v.o.
Worm-eating Warbler:			
3	Dover	1 (from May)	F.Hamlen
Blue-winged Warbler:			
12	Sharon; Lincoln(2 locations)	5; 3+2	R.Stymeist; J.Carter#, M.Reinstein#
"Brewster's Warbler":			
10	Hingham	1	R.Campbell
Tennessee Warbler:			
1	Annisquam	2	H.Wiggin
Northern Parula:			
1	Annisquam, Dedham	1, 1	H.Wiggin, J.Marshall
3+10, 10	MNWS, Essex (Hog I.)	1+1, 2 singing m.	C.Blasczak, R.Heil
20,22	Osterville, Manomet	4 singing m., 1 b.	B.Nikula, MBO
Yellow Warbler:			
12	Lexington, Concord	18, 14	G.Gove#, L.Taylor#
19	Gr.Boston, SRV	93, 22	GBBBC, R.Walton
20,27	mid-Cape, GMNWR	41, 30	CCBBC, BBC
Magnolia Warbler:			
3,10	MNWS, Essex (Hog I.)	6, 2 singing m.	C.Blasczak, R.Heil
12,15	Lincoln, Manomet	1, 1	G.Gove#, MBO
Black-throated Green Warbler:			
5,15	E.Middleboro, Winchester	1, 1 b.	K.Anderson, G.Gove
Blackburnian Warbler:			
3	Annisquam, Manomet	1, 6	H.Wiggin, MBO

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Blackpoll Warbler:			
8,10	Dedham, Manomet	1, 1 b.	J.Marshall, MBO
Pine Warbler:			
5,20	Hopkinton, mid-Cape	2, 24	J.Marshall, CCBBC
27	GMNWR	3	BBC
Prairie Warbler:			
12,19	Sharon, Saugus	6, 14	R.Stymeist, GBBBC
Ovenbird:			
3+10,20	MNWS, mid-Cape	4+1, 20	C.Blaszczak, CCBBC
Kentucky Warbler:			
thr.	Carlisle	1	K.Harte +v.o.
Mourning Warbler:			
1,2	Annisquam, P'town	1, 2	H.Wiggin, B.Nikula
3,6	MNWS, N.Scituate	2, 7	C.Blaszczak, K.Griffiths
10	Essex (Hog I.), Manomet	3, 1 b.	R.Heil, MBO
Common Yellowthroat:			
19	Gr.Boston, SRV	109, 11	GBBBC, R.Walton
20,28	mid-Cape, P.I.	118, 30	CCBBC, BBC
Hooded Warbler:			
5	Milton (Blue Hill)	1	W.Petersen#
Wilson's Warbler:			
1	Annisquam	2	H.Wiggin
Canada Warbler:			
1,3	Annisquam, MNWS	1, 3	H.Wiggin, C.Blaszczak
American Redstart:			
10	Essex (Hog I.)	35+ mostly imm.	R.Heil
12	Concord, Lincoln	1, 1	L.Taylor#, J.Carter#

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH SPARROWS

A few of the irruptive winter finches stayed on to breed. A family of Pine Siskins was observed in Framingham during the first week of the month. Also, a group of Red Crossbills was seen in Plymouth the following week. Nesting Dark-eyed Junco is regular in Western Massachusetts and at isolated high elevation locations in the east, but the report of a male and nest from Dover is noteworthy. L.E.T.

Orchard Oriole:			
4,8	Lincoln, Woburn	2, 1 ad. m.	R.Forster#, G.Gove
10,19	Halifax, Woburn	1 m., 1 imm. m.	W.Petersen, G.Gove
19	Waltham, Newton	1, 2	R.Stymeist#
24,26	Weston, Marshfield	1, 1 imm. m.	R.Forster
27, thr.	Winchester, Framingham	1 ad. m., 3 m.	G.Gove, R.Forster
Northern Oriole:			
12,19	Lincoln area, SRV	33, 7	L.Taylor#, R.Walton
19	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	84, 39	GBBBC, CCBC
Indigo Bunting:			
19,27	Gr.Boston, SRV	37, 2	GBBBC, R.Walton
Purple Finch:			
12, 26-30	Lincoln, Annisquam	4, 1 imm. m.	M.Reinstein#, H.Wiggin
Pine Siskin:			
1-8,3	Framingham, Newton	3 ad. + 2 imm., 1	R.Forster, R.Stymeist
American Goldfinch:			
19,20	SRV, mid-Cape	13, 117	R.Walton, CCBC
Red Crossbill:			
10	Plymouth	3-4	T.Lloyd-Evans#
Rufous-sided Towhee:			
20	mid-Cape	60	CCBC
Grasshopper Sparrow:			
15-26	Medfield	3 m.	B.Cassie
Sharp-tailed Sparrow:			
5,20	Monomoy, mid-Cape	2, 9	BBC, CCBC
28	P.I.	6	BBC
Seaside Sparrow:			
20	mid-Cape	2	CCBC
Dark-eyed Junco:			
3	<u>Dover</u>	1 m. and nest	T.Raymond#
Song Sparrow:			
19,20	Gr.Boston, mid-Cape	229, 116	GBBBC, CCBC

List of Abbreviations

ad.	adult	E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester
alt.	alternate (plumage)	F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham
b.	banded	F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham
br.	breeding	F.M.	Fowl Meadow
dk.	dark (phase, morph)	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
f.	female	Mt.A.	Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
fl.	fledge	Nant.	Nantucket
imm.	immature	Newbypt	Newburyport
ind.	individuals	P.I.	Plum Island
loc.	locations	P'town	Provincetown
lt.	light (phase, etc.)	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
m.	male	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
max.	maximum	Stellw.	Stellwagen Bank
migr.	migrating	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
ph.	photographed	BOEM	Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts
pl.	plumage	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
pr.	pair	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
thr.	throughout	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
v.o.	various observers	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
W	winter (2W = second winter)	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
w/	with	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
yg.	young	PRNWR	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
#	additional observers	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	TASL	Take a Second Look (BOEM project)
C.Cod	Cape Cod	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary



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FIRST RECORD OF SWAINSON'S WARBLER
(Limnothlypis swainsonii) IN MASSACHUSETTS

by Blair Nikula, Chatham

On the afternoon of May 4, 1982, John Young of Truro observed a bird in Beech Forest in Provincetown that he identified as a Swainson's Warbler. He notified Wallace Bailey at the Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary and gave an accurate and convincing description. Early the following morning, after searching the general area of the sighting for about half an hour, Wallace Bailey, Carl Goodrich, and I heard the bird sing several times and shortly afterward had several good looks, confirming the original identification. Several other observers were successful in finding the bird later that day and again the following day, May 6. It could not be found on the seventh or subsequently. The writer was able to obtain a poor quality but identifiable photograph on May 5 that is on file at Massachusetts Audubon Society.

Description. This bird was a large, drab, and rather sluggish warbler. The back, wings, and tail were a plain, unmarked olive-brown. The throat, cheeks, breast and belly were pale buff, darkening slightly to gray-buff on the flanks and sides of the breast. A thin black line extended from the base of the bill through the eye. A broader, pale buff line extended from the forehead back, above the black eyeline, setting off a solid rusty cap. The bill was large and blackish, paling to a light pink at the base of the lower mandible. The legs and feet were pinkish.

The bird spent most of its time on the ground at or near the edge of a small freshwater pool, rummaging through the leaf litter, only occasionally hopping up to small branches one to three feet above the ground. At times it was totally out of sight, and its location could only be determined by the rustling of the leaves. Fortunately for those searching for it, the bird apparently never wandered more than fifty feet or so from the small pool where it was originally discovered. Nevertheless, when not singing, its quiet and rather sluggish habits made it extremely difficult to locate. Although secretive in its habits, the bird did not seem particularly shy or wary, allowing patient observers to approach to within fifteen feet or less.

The song, heard most frequently in the early morning, was loud and clear and consisted of two or three slurred introductory notes followed by three or four rapid notes of varying pitches, most closely resembling a Louisiana Waterthrush. Typically, the song was given several times in succession followed by rather long periods, fifteen to thirty minutes or more, of silence. Attempts to elicit a response with a tape recorder were totally unsuccessful and may even have had a negative effect.

Swainson's Warblers nest in the southeastern United States north to southern Ohio, West Virginia, southern Virginia, and southeastern Maryland. Vagrants occasionally wander north of the breeding range in the spring and have been recorded as far north as the New York City area on at least nine occasions, six in the last decade. Although there is an unconfirmed sight record from Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, the Provincetown bird represents the first documented record from Massachusetts and apparently the first for New England. However, in light of the species' regular occurrence in New York in recent years, its appearance here was not unexpected.

REFERENCES

- Post, P.W. 1980. Photos of New York State Rarities. Kingbird. 30:3, 134-137.
Paxton, R.O. et al. September 1981. Hudson - Delaware Region. American Birds. 35:5, 807.
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WHAT A CRAZY BIRD! THE PURPLE GALLINULE

by Dorothy R. Arvidson, Brookline

"Hurry up! He's walking on your car!" And so he was. Within the next few minutes, I scabbled for my camera, focused wildly, and photographed a Purple Gallinule walking delicately on the hood of a car in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

The Hurwitch family had reported to Dick Forster of Massachusetts Audubon that a strange and beautiful bird had been feeding often in the tall grass of their backyard since mid-May. From their description, Dick told them it must be a Purple Gallinule. At Forster's suggestion, I telephoned the family on a weekend that I was visiting a friend in the area and received permission to come by to confirm the identification.

Thus, early on a rainy Sunday morning, May 30, I parked quietly in the Hurwitch driveway but hesitated to walk into the backyard because no one seemed to be stirring. Instead, I strolled around the neighborhood hoping I was not trespassing - the area is closely packed with homes, gardens, fences, and formidable hedges - without sighting any rare birds or even glimpsing any place that seemed a likely habitat for a rail although I knew there was a large pond nearby. I was returning to my car when I heard Barbara Hurwitch calling me and was very lucky indeed to snap three hurried pictures only moments before the bird flew to the top of a dense hedge about ten feet high and dropped out of sight. Barbara told me that the gallinule came into their yard daily at irregular intervals and fed on seeds in the tall grass of the lawn, creating a problem with mowing it. To avoid harming or alarming this lovely creature, they had carefully "cut the grass only a little bit at a time" after searching

to be certain the bird was not present. However, she reported that the gallinule seemed undisturbed by the family's presence or activities such as playing badminton but went on quietly feeding at the edges of the lawn.

This species usually prefers ponds, marshes, and heavily overgrown swampy sites where aquatic insects, spiders, and small frogs are a plentiful source of food, but it may at times wander out upon stream banks and "beyond them to adjacent meadows, even to lawns" (S.D. Ripley, 1977. Rails of the World. Boston: Godine, p.295), where it feeds on grass seeds just as this bird was observed to do.

Although the Falmouth bird was found in such a populated area and was so unshy that it behaved like a pet, it was unbanded and was able to fly easily with long legs dangling. Dick Forster assured me that very probably it was a wild bird, not an aviary escapee, and that Purple Gallinules are noted for their wanderings and unusual behavior or, as he put it, "It's just a crazy bird."

This bird, equal in size to the Common Gallinule, was a beautiful, full-plumaged adult and very similar in coloration



*Purple Gallinule
on hood of car*

Photo by Dorothy Arvidson

to the excellent photograph on the May 1982 cover of American Birds. The head, neck, and entire undersurface were an iridescent, velvety blue which on the head and in shadowed areas deepened to a blackish purple. The back and wings were a deep olive varying in intensity from green to bronze. The undertail coverts, a clean, contrasting white, were strikingly displayed as the bird flirted its tail and crouched to take off for the shrubbery. The bill was a strong red at the base with a bright greenish yellow tip, and the frontal shield was a pale opalescent blue.

On the dull, rainy morning of May 30, what appeared most striking through the camera lens were the long, golden-yellow feet and legs (the three longest toes were as long as the tarsus) which twisted like a ballerina's as the bird moved to and fro on the car hood looking at us and jerking its tail. Despite the large area covered by the long toes that rested almost flat on the surface with the shorter hind toe only slightly arched, the bird was extremely graceful and positioned its feet rapidly without entanglement or overlapping toes. Clearly, the unusual toe span enables the gallinule to distribute its weight over a sufficient area that it can readily find support on a very fragile base. Thus, the Purple Gallinule walks freely on floating plants or debris and forages equally well in the tops of trees, going as high as twenty feet. One unfortunate consequence of this adaptation is that the bird has become a pest in the rice projects of Surinam where the fragile tips of the rice plants are damaged when the birds sit on the blades. In the Wageningen fields, twenty percent Endrin was sprayed by aircraft to destroy them (F.Haverschmidt, 1968. Birds of Surinam. Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd, p.91).

The breeding range of the Purple Gallinule includes eight of our southeastern states with isolated records from Ohio and Illinois and extends through Mexico, most of the West Indies, and Central and South America as far as northern Argentina. The bird is resident throughout most of this range and has popped up as a vagrant in four Canadian provinces, in an additional twenty-two of our states, in the Falkland and other south Atlantic islands, and even in South Africa. S.Dillon Ripley calls this species a "noted vagrant." Apparently, wandering gallinules often land on ships' decks and are carried far beyond normal range (Ripley, p. 296).

The Purple Gallinule is usually a spring, summer, or fall vagrant in our northeastern maritime region (about three dozen reports since 1968) with a few appearances in winter. What a glorious sight this bird must be on a snow-covered path! First seen in Massachusetts in 1852 in Swampscott, Gallinula martinica has visited our state five times in the last four years: once in winter (Chatham), thrice in fall (Great Meadows N.W.R. and Beverly), and now in spring.

Such a handsome creature must be seen in "living technicolor" to be appreciated, and we must hope that the next Gallinula martinica to visit Massachusetts alights in a public place where all birders may fully enjoy it.

At a Glance . . .



Photo by H.B.Kane

Courtesy of Massachusetts Audubon Society

Can you identify this bird?

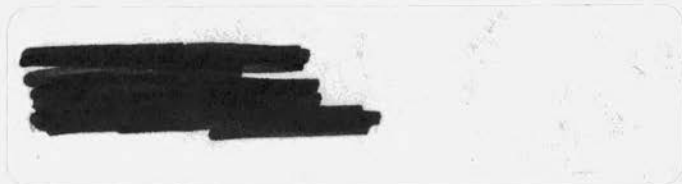
Identification will be discussed in next issue's *At a Glance*.

The bird in June's AT-A-GLANCE photo was an eight-week-old Black-crowned Night Heron, ready to fly. You probably knew it was a night heron, but which one? (Bittern? Unusual for that secretive, cautious, ground-nester to rest openly atop a tree!) The photo misled because the bird resembles a field guide representation of a Yellow-crowned Night Heron. Though the more expert among us might find the bill distinctive, for the general birder, the identifying feature is the large size of the spots - not speckles - spots!

D.R.A.

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