

Bird Observer

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 1

FEBRUARY 2003



HOT BIRDS



This digital still of an immature **Long-tailed Jaeger** in September at South Beach, Chatham, proves that luck favors the prepared. Blair Nikula grabbed the shot on the fly, and only later realized what he had imaged.



Not satisfied by last fall's glut of *Selasphorus* hummers? How about a **Calliope Hummingbird**? This first state record was seen and photographed in November and December 2002. Unfortunately, public access to the private site was denied, but Jeremiah Trimble got this stunning photograph.

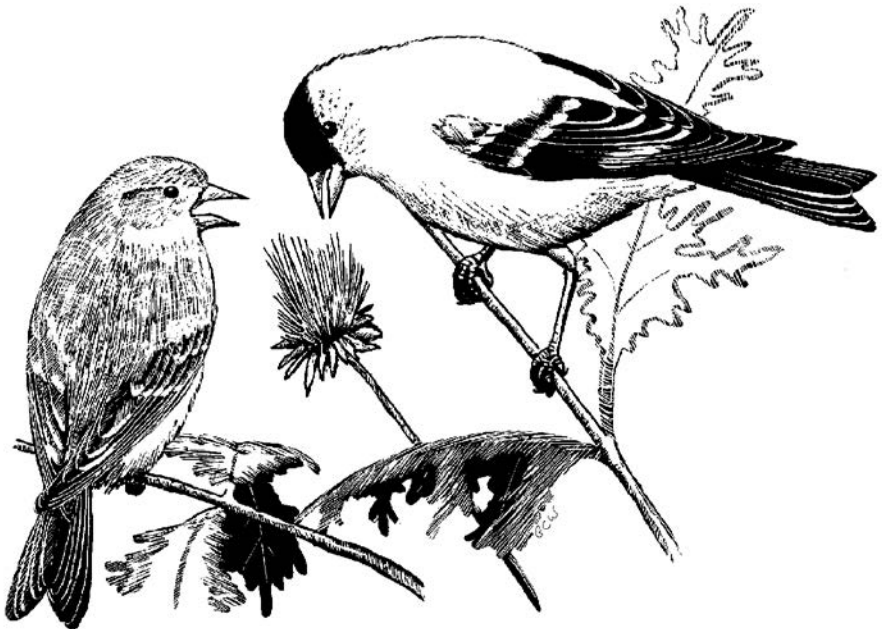
Who could resist one more snappy photograph of the South Boston **Gyr Falcon**? She's back, terrorizing the local hawk food. Another great photo by Phil Brown, taken on January 19.



Don Crockett managed this great video still of a **Western Grebe** in Nahant on January 5.

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AMERICAN GOLDFINCHES BY GEORGE C. WEST

Bird Observer

A bimonthly journal — to enhance understanding, observation, and enjoyment of birds
VOL. 31, NO. 1 FEBRUARY 2003

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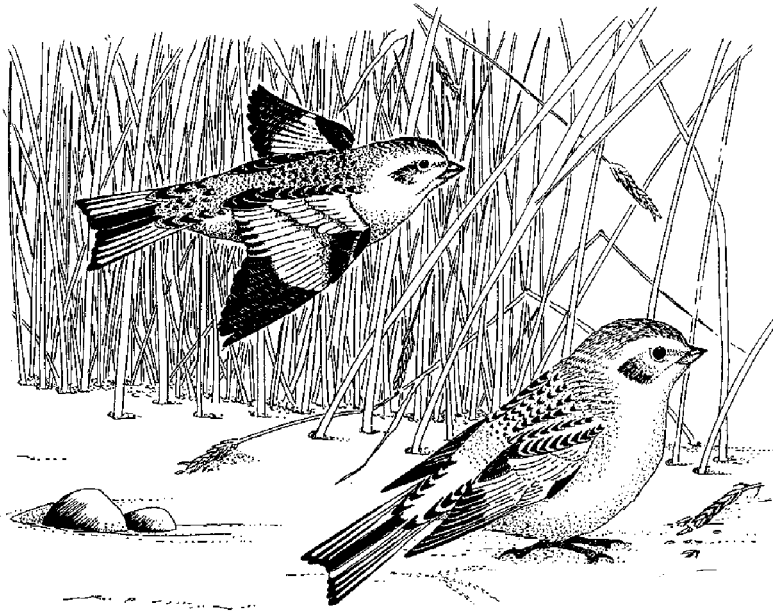
Greetings,

Almost thirty years ago, I joined an ambitious and talented group of volunteers who had just begun publishing *Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts*. At first, I was a contributor, then the second editor of the journal, and finally first president of the corporation. After several years the weight of my other work forced me to leave the group.

As I rejoin *Bird Observer* now, I feel great satisfaction in realizing that so many of the decisions of those early years were sound and productive. I want to continue the traditions of the magazine as a publisher of records, field notes, book reviews, and personal essays and scientific articles of local interest. I hope to bring a few new twists to some of these texts. Birders surely know how much ornithology owes to the activities of laypeople. The reverse influence is also rich: the more one knows about ornithology, the more interesting birding becomes.

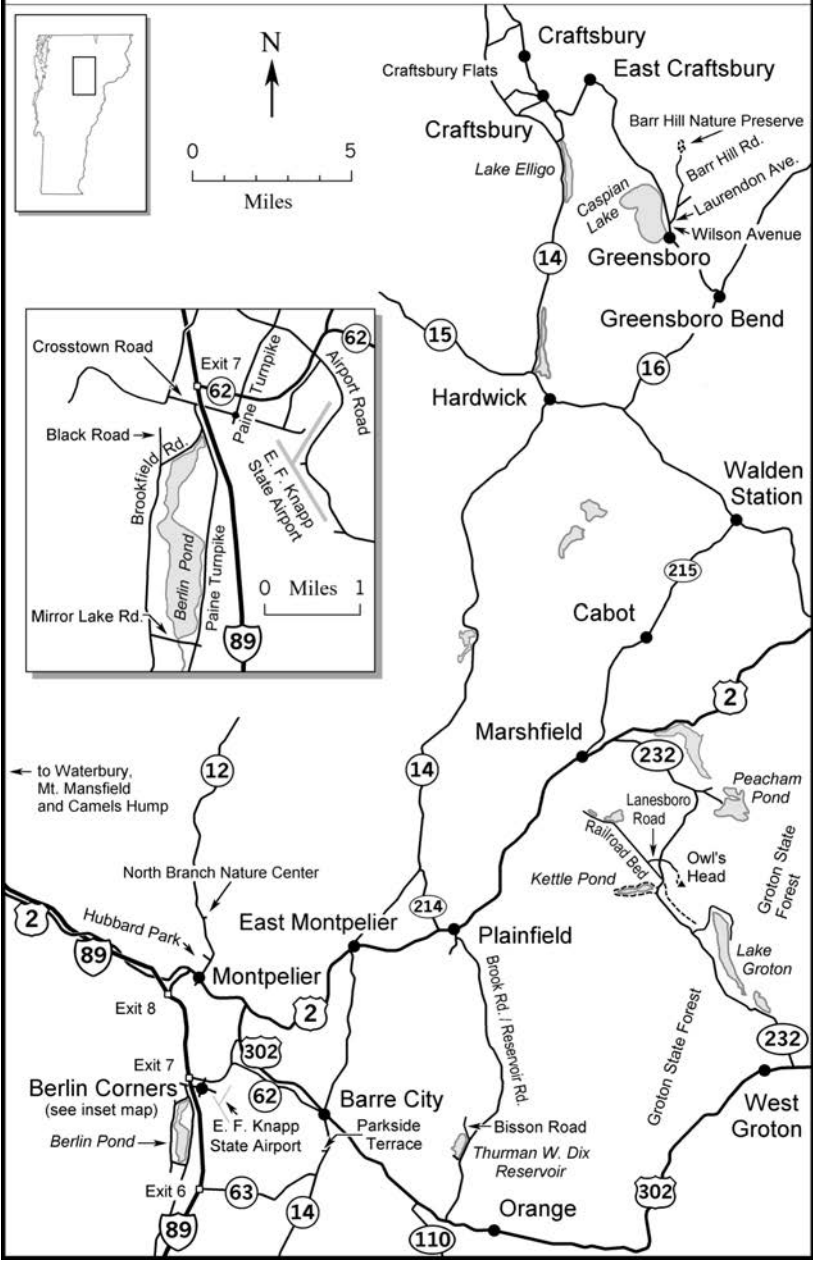
Please let me know what you want in future issues. Tell me when you see me in the field, or write to me at the addresses given on page four.

Terry Leverich



SNOW BUNTINGS BY GEORGE C. WEST

NORTH CENTRAL VERMONT



Birding North Central Vermont

Ted Murin and Bryan Pfeiffer

Editor's note: A birdwatcher in search of scenery, serenity, and the serenade of northern warblers and boreal birds need travel no farther than Vermont. Here's a new companion for the trip: Birdwatching in Vermont by Ted Murin and Bryan Pfeiffer, a complete guide to finding and enjoying birds across the Green Mountain State. It covers more than 120 birdwatching destinations and includes detailed accounts (with graphs) of 296 regularly occurring species. Atypical for a standard birdfinding guide are the book's chapters on the art of birdwatching (written mostly for beginners) and conservation. Adapted below for Bird Observer is the book's section on North Central Vermont. The region includes sites for Bicknell's Thrush. It is copyrighted and reprinted with the permission of the publisher, University Press of New England. Copies of the book can be ordered directly from the publisher by calling 1-800-421-1561. Birdwatching in Vermont by Ted Murin and Bryan Pfeiffer. University Press of New England. 208 pages, 297 graphs, 33 illustrations. ISBN: 1-58465-188-1

Forests, farmland, wetlands, lakes, rivers, and the state's highest peak offer the birdwatcher in this region a diverse encounter with Vermont. Deciduous and mixed woods dominate the eastern foothills here. But the Green Mountains, on the western edge of this area, offer trails to high-elevation spruce-fir forests and their own avian specialties. The mountains also influence the climate, which is colder and wetter than much of Vermont. The birdwatching hotspots are dispersed in this region. Migrant traps and flyways are a bit harder to find. But, like so much of Vermont, all of that forest, water, and varying elevation means birds can turn up virtually anywhere.

Mt. Mansfield and Camels Hump

Vermont's highest and most massive peak, Mt. Mansfield, with a long ridgeline and classic bald summit, hosts one of the state's largest nesting populations of Bicknell's Thrush. This tiny songbird that sings like a flute shares the mountain with a barrage of development – ski trails and lifts, radio towers, and even a visitor's center. The Stowe Mountain Resort's 4.5-mile toll road toward the top offers access to Bicknell's Thrush and other high-elevation songbirds. While Mt. Mansfield welcomes a diversity of birds during the warmer months, Bicknell's Thrush is most active and evident during the first two weeks of June.

From the village of Stowe, take Route 108 (Mountain Road) north for 5.8 miles to the toll road parking lot on the left (not shown on map). Watch carefully for the sign. Call the resort at (802)253-3000 to see if the toll road is free of snow and open for the season. The toll is \$14 per carload for up to six people. Hours for vehicles are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – convenient for a picnic but not ideal for finding birds. (Bicknell's Thrush will indeed sing from exposed perches after 9 a.m. in early June,

yet finding this elusive mountaineer is often tough, even at dawn.) Walking the steep road early and in the dark is a viable (but ambitious) option. Prepare for clouds, relentless wind, colder temperatures, and snow on top, even when it is warm and sunny below. Also be prepared for black flies, which are most tenacious on calm, humid days. Another approach is a strenuous hike to the summit along one of the mountain's numerous trails. The Long Trail south from Route 108 in Stowe or the Sunset Ridge Trail from Underhill State Park are among the best options. Contact the Green Mountain Club in Waterbury at (802) 244-7037 for maps and details.

The ascent of Mt. Mansfield passes through several life zones. The various habitats guarantee high bird diversity. During a single outing on this mountain, for example, it would be possible to locate every eastern North American thrush (except Gray-cheeked), from Eastern Bluebird and Veery below to Swainson's Thrush and Bicknell's Thrush on top. Forests of sugar maple, yellow birch, American beech, and other hardwood species dominate below. Songbirds here include Great Crested Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Ovenbird, Scarlet Tanager, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Red spruce, paper birch, and mountain ash enter the picture somewhat higher, along with Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Swainson's Thrush, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, and Dark-eyed Junco. And finally, taking over near the summit are the stunted, contorted balsam fir and black spruce known as krummholz, the German word for crooked wood.



SWAINSON'S THRUSH BY GEORGE C. WEST

Good places to stop for Bicknell's Thrush include the parking area below the Octagon (3.9 miles from the toll gate) and the summit station at the end of the 4.5-mile road. On windy days investigate leeward areas of the mountain. On calm days the thrushes sometimes sing between dawn and dusk. But the ideal time is the crepuscular hours, even just before dark. Listen for the raspy and Veery-like *preer*. Also expect nesting Common Raven, Winter Wren, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Purple Finch, and, depending on the fir cone crop, White-winged Crossbill and Pine Siskin.

No matter which birds show themselves, an ascent of Mt. Mansfield is one of the most rewarding encounters with Vermont and points beyond. Views from the top include Lake Champlain to the west, the northern Green Mountains (and Montreal on a clear day) to the north, the White Mountains (and Vermont's Worcester Range) to the east, and the southern Green Mountains to the south. From this high place in Vermont a visitor can sense the curvature of the Earth.

Note that the area near the top of the toll road is within a thrush research site.

While birding here, please stay on the road or marked trails. Near the summit of Mt. Mansfield, a 1.4-mile hike along the Long Trail from the upper parking area takes you through an alpine meadow, one of only three Vermont sites for this rare natural community. While these alpine plants, including Bigelow's sedge, alpine bilberry, and mountain sandwort, can tolerate the thin soils and harsh conditions here, they are vulnerable to human boots. Please step only on bare rocks in this zone.

Another classic Vermont summit, this one without the toll road and development, is Camels Hump (not shown on map). Bicknell's Thrush and the other Mansfield residents nest here as well. Choice trails up this peak, a prominent landmark in much of central Vermont, include the Monroe Trail from Duxbury and the Burrows Trail from Huntington Center. The same warnings about weather and alpine plants apply. To reach the Monroe Trail, take Exit 10 from Interstate 89 and go south on Route 100 for a few tenths of a mile, turn left on Route 2, and drive 0.2 mile to Winooski Street. Turn right on Winooski Street, cross over the Winooski River, turn right on River Road, and drive 3.9 miles to the Camels Hump Road on the left. The trailhead parking lot is 3.6 miles up this road at its end. It is a 3.4-mile hike to the summit. To reach the Burrows trailhead, take Camels Hump Road east from Huntington Center for 1.9 miles. Turn right across a bridge and continue 1.6 miles to the end of the road. The 2.4-mile hike to the summit begins at the back of the parking lot. Both hikes up the mountain are fairly strenuous.

Montpelier-Barre Area

Two miles north of downtown Montpelier, at a big slow bend in the North Branch of the Winooski River, is a small refuge with a big heart. The Vermont Institute of Natural Science's North Branch Nature Center is a reserve of grassland and floodplain forest. The best time to visit is spring through fall.

From State Street (Route 2) in Montpelier, drive north on Elm Street (Route 12) for 2 miles to the nature center, an old sheep farm, on the right. Stop in to visit the

staff naturalists or the entertaining "Critter Room," or to pick up a field guide in the gift shop. A short nature trail passes through open habitat for American Kestrel, Common Snipe, Eastern Bluebird, Savannah Sparrow, and Bobolink. Closer to the river, watch for Spotted Sandpiper, Belted Kingfisher, Cedar Waxwing, Alder Flycatcher, Veery, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and American Redstart. More unusual visitors have included Bald Eagle, Upland Sandpiper, and Carolina Wren. The butterfly garden is always worth a stop for Monarch, Great Spangled Fritillary, Red Admiral, and other delights with four wings. The reserve has a public restroom.

Elsewhere in Montpelier, Hubbard Park offers walking trails and decent birding within city limits. There is access to the park from the North Branch Nature Center, or from Route 2 go about 0.4 mile north on Elm Street, turn left on Winter Street, and go up the hill into the park. Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, a smattering of warblers, including Pine Warbler, and other songbirds are reliable in the city park during spring migration.

In Barre City, a recreation path above the Stevens Branch offers city songbirding. From Main Street in downtown Barre, at the small park with a statue and gazebo, drive south on South Main (Route 14) for 1.1 miles, turn right on Parkside Terrace, and continue ahead 0.2 mile (crossing the recreation path) to the parking lot for the Barre City Elementary and Middle School. Walk the path southbound for songbirds in May. Another short trail in the same direction, along the riverbank, leaves from the parking lot and picnic area just below the school (across from the tennis courts). Belted Kingfisher, Least Flycatcher, American Redstart, and Common Yellowthroat are among the riverside visitors.

Berlin Pond and E. F. Knapp State Airport

An Osprey smacks crystalline waters and emerges with a fish wiggling in its talons. Two Virginia Rails, staking out turf among a cattail marsh, grunt their comical *ki-ki-ki-ki-KEER!* A Common Loon investigates a nest site. And off in the woods, waves of warblers descend from the sky like manna from heaven.



OSPREY, ANON.

Another spring day dawns at Berlin Pond, a unique refuge only a few miles from two of Vermont's largest cities. Rare is an undeveloped pond in Vermont. This one has a list of more than 157 species. So what's a pond with an undeveloped shoreline doing a mere five miles from the Capitol dome and four miles from Barre's granite sheds? The pond is the city of Montpelier's drinking water supply. As a result it is off limits to fishing, boating, and swimming, making it a de facto refuge. The best times to visit are from mid-April through June and during the fall waterfowl migration in October and November. Most of the access to birding is from a rural residential road that circles the pond. Warning: The road is relatively quiet but not without the occasional speedster. Runners, families on bicycles, dogwalkers, and birders frequent the five-mile loop around the pond.

To reach the pond, take Exit 7 from Interstate 89. Turn right at the first stoplight onto Paine Turnpike. Drive 0.2 mile and turn right on Crosstown Road (near a flagpole and large boulder monument on the right). Immediately after passing under the interstate, turn left onto a dirt road and drive a few tenths of a mile to the pond. Investigate the pond in a 5.6-mile counterclockwise loop. Remember to watch for traffic, be aware that the shoreline is off limits, and please respect private property.

Starting at the pond's north end near Interstate 89, drive south on Brookfield Road (with the pond to the left) and park at a widening in the road only one-tenth of a mile ahead. From here walk a half-mile or so on the road along the shoreline. Scan the pond for Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Wood Duck, Ring-necked Duck, and Hooded Merganser. Practice identifying all five eastern swallow species on the wing. Osprey or Bald Eagle (uncommon) perch on shoreline trees across the pond.

Linger at the cattail marsh up ahead. Virginia Rail, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, and Swamp Sparrow nest here. American Bittern is usually around in early May. In the willow-alder stand across the road, with a backdrop of tall conifers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets flash their crowns in late April; later in May this is a reliable spot for Alder Flycatcher. In the conifers, look for Olive-sided Flycatcher (surprisingly reliable), Cape May Warbler (rare), and other warbler species.

Continue driving south 0.6 mile and turn right onto the narrow, dead-end Black Road. Drive ahead another 0.4 mile past Black Cemetery to a tiny parking spot on the right. The road and cemetery area attract passerines. Winter Wren, Veery, Hermit Thrush, and Wood Thrush are reliable, as are warblers including Chestnut-sided, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, and Canada. Turn around and return to the pond loop road. Continue south 0.2 mile to another wide spot with a pull-off on the right. Listen for both kinglet species, Northern Parula, Black-throated Blue Warbler, and other songbirds. Broad-winged Hawks sometimes nest near here.

Continue south another 1.3 miles past a number of homes with limited birding opportunities (watch for Eastern Bluebirds on fence posts, though). Turn left on Mirror Lake Road and proceed 0.3 mile to the most magical spot on the pond, an open wetland with views of the pond's southern end. Park at a widening in the road. Scope the lake for Common Loon, waterfowl, and swallows, then walk Mirror Lake Road through a wetland of alder, willow, and black ash. Highlights here include

nesting Yellow Warblers and Baltimore Orioles. Flocks of Rusty Blackbirds maraud through the ash from late April to early May. Northern Waterthrush, which nests here, perches in the open and belts out its song. The poplar and willow stands at the end of Mirror Lake Road attract Least Flycatcher, Warbling Vireo, Veery, American Redstart, and Baltimore Oriole. Meanwhile, Common Snipe display high above while an Osprey circles the pond. Rarer visitors over the years have included Wilson's Warbler and Yellow-throated Vireo.

Continue (east now) along Mirror Lake Road another 0.2 mile to the four corners. Either turn right and explore roadside woods and wetlands for several miles or turn left (north) on Paine Turnpike and proceed close to the shoreline. Pull aside with caution in another 0.2 mile and check for Common Loon or waterfowl. Red-necked Grebes occasionally stop here during migration. From here the birding thins out. Continue circling the pond to the starting spot.

Not far from the pond, the E. F. Knapp State Airport in Berlin has hosted nesting Upland Sandpipers and other grassland species. From Exit 7 on Interstate 89, continue 1.2 miles on the exit road (Route 62), turn right on Airport Road, and drive 1.2 miles to the airport parking lot on the right. Scan the openings for the sandpipers (sometimes even walking runway edges), Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, Savannah Sparrow (on the chainlink fencing), Bobolink, and Eastern Meadowlark. The airport has a restaurant and public restrooms.

Thurman W. Dix Reservoir

The source of Barre City's drinking water is another de facto refuge off limits to swimming, boating, and fishing. And belying its location in Orange County, the reservoir's border of mature conifers and wetlands makes the place seem farther north by nature. The best time to visit is spring through fall.

To reach the reservoir from Plainfield Village, turn south off U.S. Route 2 at the blinking yellow light onto School Street, take an immediate right on Mill Street, and drive past the church 0.2 mile to Brook Road on the left. (Note that the road sign to the right says Barre Hill Road.) Turn left on Brook Road and drive 7 miles to the north end of the reservoir. (Brook Road changes its name to Reservoir Road along the way.) Alternatively, reach the reservoir from U.S. Route 302 in Orange. Pick up Reservoir Road 1.1 miles east of Route 302's intersection with Route 110 and proceed north for 1.9 miles to the reservoir's southern end.

Common Loons usually nest at Dix Reservoir. Osprey stop for visits. Expect the unusual: a Red-throated Loon, rarely seen in Vermont away from Lake Champlain, once stopped on the reservoir. The best land birding is at the northern end. From Reservoir Road (at the northern end of the reservoir), turn west onto Bisson Road and pull off at a widening 0.2 mile ahead on the right. Scope the open water for waterfowl, including Wood Duck, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Common Merganser, and Hooded Merganser. Both kinglet species and Yellow-rumped Warblers are common in the coniferous woods. Cape May Warbler is relatively reliable from mid- to late May. Watch for river otters munching fish out in the reservoir. In fall, the

reservoir attracts waterfowl and, during periods of low water, an occasional shorebird on the exposed mud flats.

Groton State Forest

Vermont's second largest tract of public land, Groton State Forest is 26,000 acres of woods, bogs, ponds, and developed state parks. Beneath it all is granite – the Groton area's shared bedrock with the White Mountains to the east. Black bear, moose, white-tailed deer, mink, beaver, otter, fisher, and bobcat wander this state forest. Birds, by the way, are abundant.

Groton State Forest is hardly pristine, however. Intensive logging here began in 1873 and continues to a lesser extent today. And with no fewer than seven parks within its boundaries (Big Deer State Park, Boulder Beach State Park, Kettle Pond Group Camping Area, New Discovery State Park, Ricker State Park, Seyon Ranch State Park, and Stillwater State Park), campsites and trails abound. Groton is arguably the closest wild retreat from the cities of Barre, Montpelier, and St. Johnsbury. Spring migration in May is the best time to visit, when it is possible to encounter seventeen or more warbler species in a single morning. The woods here are varied. Deciduous woods offer their own specialties, including Red-eyed Vireo, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Scarlet Tanager. Stands of conifers offer theirs, including Red-breasted Nuthatch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and Hermit Thrush. Lakes and wetlands offer herons, waterfowl (not very common in this region), and specialists such as Lincoln's Sparrow (uncommon) or Rusty Blackbird.

The easiest ways to find birds in Groton State Forest are to stop the car anywhere along the many unpaved roads, to hike the numerous trails, or even to explore by mountain bike, with birdsong signaling each stop. Route 232, which bisects the forest, is the perfect entryway. From Marshfield Village drive east on Route 2 for 1.1 miles to Route 232. Proceed south 3.1 miles and turn left on the Peacham Pond Road. Drive 0.2 mile, bear right at the fork, and continue 0.8 mile to a boat launch at Peacham Pond. Common Loons nest here, and the forest edges along the pond can be speckled with warblers in spring. Return to Route 232 and continue south 2.5 miles to an access road on the left for Owl's Head, a granite pluton affording striking views of the region. From spring through fall (it's closed in winter), drive the road 0.8 mile to a parking area, from which there is a short, steep hike to the top. Better yet, hike the entire access road and trail to look and listen for songbirds. In fall Owl's Head is great for viewing foliage and an occasional migrating hawk.

Directly across Route 232 from the Owl's Head access road is Lanesboro Road. Walk or drive it 0.5 mile to the old Montpelier to Wells River Railroad Bed, the best birding in Groton State Forest. Walk, bike, or drive the rail bed to the right (northwest) and watch for Olive-sided Flycatcher, Blue-headed Vireo, northern nesting warblers, and perhaps a Peregrine Falcon, which nests on Marshfield Cliffs towering to the northeast. Marshfield Pond, a beautiful spot with occasional waterfowl, is 1.9 miles ahead, and Bailey Pond, sometimes good for moose, is farther ahead another 0.4 mile. Retrace your path to Route 232.


One mile south of the Owl's Head access road is the parking lot (on the right) for Kettle Pond, a kettle hole (formed by a big chunk of leftover glacial ice) where Common Loons often nest. The open birch-maple deciduous woods near the parking lot can attract warblers during spring and fall migrations. Walk the 2.7-mile loop around the pond, emerging at the group camping area from which it is a short walk north on Route 232 back to the parking lot.

Barr Hill Nature Preserve and Craftsbury Flats

At the foothills to the Northeast Kingdom, The Nature Conservancy's Barr Hill Nature Preserve is an island of boreal habitat. The panoramic views alone from this high 256-acre reserve are worth the visit.

Leave the village of Greensboro northbound on Wilson Avenue and bear right at the Town Hall on Laundon Avenue. Travel 0.6 mile (passing the Greensboro Elementary School on the left) to bear left at a fork onto Barr Hill Road (muddy in spring). Proceed another 1.2 miles past a farm to a sign at the reserve's entrance. Drive a bumpy road to the parking lot about a half-mile uphill.

In spring, pick up a trail guide at the trailhead and walk the loop trail 0.8 mile through woods dominated mostly by red spruce, white spruce, and balsam fir. Listen for Cape May Warbler at the edge of the open area near the start of the trail. Magnolia Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Chipping Sparrow are among the common species here. Boreal Chickadee is uncommon along the trail.

To the northwest, not far from Barr Hill and Greensboro, is Craftsbury Flats, a floodplain of the Black River along Route 14 beginning just north of the north end of Lake Eligo. From Hardwick, drive west on Route 15 for 1.2 miles, turn right (north) on Route 14, and drive 7.5 miles just past the north end of Lake Eligo. Explore the area using the roads that cross the flats to the east from Route 14 north of the lake. Waterfowl and occasional shorebirds visit the flooded fields in spring. The flats can also host Rough-legged Hawk, Northern Shrike, and Horned Lark in winter, and American Pipit in migration. 

*Ted Murin has spent years investigating and documenting the distribution and seasonal status of birds in Vermont. Whether paddling rivers or withstanding a gale on the shores of Lake Champlain, he is most content in pursuit of a greater understanding and appreciation of nature. A systems analyst and software developer, Ted lives in South Burlington, Vermont. **Bryan Pfeiffer** is a writer and founder of a nature touring company, Vermont Bird Tours. His essays have appeared in the New York Times, Northern Woodlands, Vermont Life, and other publications. Bryan hosts an award-winning radio show on birds and is the on-camera naturalist for weekly nature features on a Vermont television station. Bryan lives in an old farmhouse near Bartlett Hill in Plainfield, Vermont.*

FINDING BICKNELL'S THRUSHES


The Bicknell's Thrush breeding ground is sort of like an avian brothel – males and females mate with multiple partners. And with males flying back and forth across the mountain, singing and copulating with multiple females, it would seem this species would be relatively easy to locate. Not so.

The best time to find Bicknell's Thrush in Vermont is around dawn during the first two weeks of June. Males take exposed perches and sing near territorial females. But this is a cryptic bird. And one of the best tools for getting a decent look is a spotting scope.

When you hear a male sing, scrutinize the tips of spruce and fir – as many as you can find. Males will also sing from exposed snags or horizontal branches of paper birch. Quite often on Mt. Mansfield or Camels Hump you can position yourself to look down toward an expanse of stunted spruce and fir. The more turf you can scan, the better.

Males also sing at dusk, but not until 8 p.m. or so, leaving precious little time to view a bird before sunset. One problem in Vermont is that the toll road up Mt. Mansfield is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., hardly prime time for this species (although it can indeed be located after 9 a.m.). A few organized trips (Vermont Bird Tours and the Vermont Institute of Natural Science) take birders up the mountain before dawn.

In any event, a pre-dawn hike up the toll road, while physically demanding, especially if you're carrying a scope, will often produce not only Bicknell's Thrush, but Veery, Swainson's Thrush, Hermit Thrush, and Wood Thrush as well – not to mention other breeders of northern hardwood and coniferous forests.

This is by no means a casual trip. Expect black flies, high wind, cold temperatures, snow, and no facilities as you approach the summit. A good outpost on Mt. Mansfield is the upper parking lot for the toll road. Thrushes can be seen from the lot or from the gravel road winding around the summit area. Even if you don't find Bicknell's Thrush, the views alone are worth the trip. 



RED-BREADED NUTHATCH BY GEORGE C. WEST

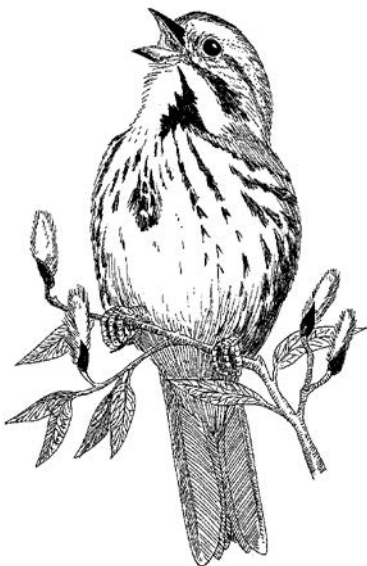
Margaret Morse Nice: “...a very important individual – ”

Edward H. Burt, Jr.

Beginnings

The story of Margaret Morse Nice, destined to become one of the most distinguished ornithologists of the twentieth century, begins in 1883. On September 26 of that year J. A. Allen, Elliot Coues, and William Brewster, all members of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, gathered 23 other prominent American ornithologists at the American Museum of Natural History and founded the American Ornithologists' Union. A little more than two months later, on December 6, 1883, Margaret Morse Nice was born in Amherst, Massachusetts, the fourth child and second daughter of Anson Daniel Morse, a professor of history at Amherst College, and Margaret Duncan Morse, a graduate of Mount Holyoke Seminary. The two seemingly disparate events would become interconnected.

Margaret's childhood home was surrounded by flower and vegetable gardens and groves of fruit trees that reflected her parents' shared passion for gardening. Beyond the garden wall were fields and woods through which the family walked on Sunday afternoons, Margaret gathering flowers and her mother teaching her their names. In 1891 she received her first bird book, John B. Grant's *Our Common Birds and How to Know Them*. With this book, one small girl began to identify the birds in her yard, and in the spring of 1893, at the age of nine, she opened her lifelong diary of birds with an entry on the Song Sparrow. Sample entries from 1896 include:



SONG SPARROW BY GEORGE C. WEST

“Oct 29 Juncos abundant. Kinglets have come. Warblers have passed.

Nov. 9 This is the time to find nests. Saw 47 of them from school to home. Climbed up a maple and got a Vireo's nest.”

That same fall she wrote a small booklet, *Fates and Fortunes of Fruit-Acre Birds*, in which she reported on the reproductive success of twelve nests of American Robins, Chipping Sparrows, and Least Flycatchers that nested near her home. From 45 eggs twenty young fledged.

In 1898 she entered the ninth grade where she found the curriculum to be largely review. “Time ... hung heavy on my hands, and I amused myself... writing a book ... ‘Bird Families,’ its author, ‘Hermit Peckwood,’ a conceited Hairy Woodpecker.” There are nine

families: “Climbers, Fruit Lovers, Seed Eaters, Flycatchers, Ground Builders, Pensile Nests, Tinys, Larges, Cannibals” (Nice 1979, p. 10). Cowbirds, shrikes, Blue Jays, crows, hawks, owls, and eagles belonged to this last family and received some extensive, if uncomplimentary coverage.

In September 1901 she entered Mount Holyoke College, where she used the Wednesday all-day holiday to explore the surrounding countryside on horseback, while her classmates devoted themselves to studying. She graduated in 1906, having spent a year abroad studying French, German, Italian, and Latin. A year later she was awarded a fellowship in biology to attend Clark University, one of only two women graduate students.

Counting Birds

She joined the American Ornithologists’ Union in 1907 and attended her first meeting in 1908. At that Cambridge meeting she listened enthusiastically to papers by Ernest T. Seton, C. Hart Merriam, Frank M. Chapman, and Edward H. Forbush, among others. She attended a paper, “The tagging of wild birds as a means of studying their movements,” by Leon J. Cole, later the first President of the American Bird-Banding Association. From across the room the shy graduate student admired William Brewster for his leading role in avian conservation. Toward the end of the meeting, Brewster hosted the gentlemen of the AOU at a reception at the Museum of Comparative Zoology. The ladies were invited to tea at the home of Mrs. Charles F. Batchelder, wife of the retiring president of the Union who was, of course, at the museum reception.

Her master’s thesis, a detailed study of the diet of the Northern Bobwhite, was published in the *Journal of Economic Entomology* in 1910. This first scientific publication revealed her skill in organizing data into readable form, her exquisite use of figures and tables to support her points, and her exceptional bibliographic ability.

In 1909 she married Leonard Blaine Nice, a fellow graduate student, who received his Ph.D. in 1911, in which year they moved to Cambridge, where Blaine, as he was known to family and friends, had an appointment as instructor at Harvard Medical School (Trautman 1977). In 1913 they moved to Norman, Oklahoma, where Blaine was professor and head of the Physiology Department at the University of Oklahoma. In 1915 Margaret returned to Clark University to receive her M.A. in zoology, completed six years earlier.

From 1910 to 1933, the years in which her daughters were born and grew up, Margaret was much interested in child psychology. During those years she published 18 articles on the development of language and imagination in children. These studies, like her studies of birds, involve close observation of fundamental processes.

Margaret reentered ornithology after reading a letter published in the Norman, Oklahoma, paper that advocated beginning the open season on Mourning Doves in September because the doves were no longer nesting. She knew this to be untrue and took up her binoculars and pen. From 1921 to 1924 she published six papers on

Mourning Doves as well as numerous papers on behavior, ecology, and distribution of birds.

In 1920 the family bought a second-hand Dodge touring car and began to survey the state's birds on camping trips sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Department of Geological and Natural History. Margaret rejoined the American Ornithologists' Union and attended the meeting in Washington, D.C., in November 1920, where she presented "The Nesting of Mourning Doves at Norman, Oklahoma", which she later published with the title "A study of the nesting of Mourning Doves" (Nice 1922). She was the only woman to present a paper. However, her meeting with Dr. Harry C. Oberholser of the Biological Survey was the most significant event of the trip. They had corresponded about her distributional study of Oklahoma's birds. He showed her the Survey's bibliography of Oklahoma birds, provided the names of collaborators, and carefully reviewed the species list she and Blaine had compiled. "... what a field day Dr. Oberholser did have in changing scientific names and adding subspecific labels! Seven of our birds he rejected, but later all but one were reinstated. ... I resolved then and there that no bulletin would be written by us without a great deal more field work" (Nice 1979, p. 59). She credits Dr. Oberholser with gently introducing her to the care and analysis that characterize the science of ornithology. Back in Oklahoma, the family resumed their camping trips with a new intensity of purpose, and in 1924 she and Blaine published "The Birds of Oklahoma." Seven years later she published a completely revised and expanded edition of which George Sutton (1967, p. ix) wrote: "[it] has been of inestimable value not alone for the information it contains but for the interest it has aroused in the conservation of wild life."

In 1921 she joined the Wilson Ornithological Society and attended her first Wilson meeting in 1927, at which time she reported her observations at a nest of Myrtle Warblers. Publication of these observations in 1930 reflected her growing interest in behavior and population dynamics, an interest that soon became a passion. She became increasingly active in the Wilson Ornithological Society, first as a Councilor. In 1935 she was elected Second Vice-President of the Wilson Ornithological Society and succeeded to its Presidency in 1937, the first woman ever to preside over a major ornithological society. Following her presidency, she served as an associate editor of the *Bulletin* from 1939 to 1949.

Bands, Behavior, and Song Sparrows

In 1927 Blaine accepted a position as professor of physiology at The Ohio State University Medical School. The family moved to a house on a bluff overlooking the weedy floodplain of the Olentangy River.

"On March 26 [1928] I ... banded a very important individual – my first Song Sparrow He owned the territory next to our house and on May 22 I found his nest with three eggs, two of which hatched on May 28 and 29. For five days I spent a total of 18 hours watching the family. ... the two babies were carried off by some enemy the night of June 2..." (Nice 1979, p. 91).

So ended Margaret Morse Nice's first field season in her landmark study of Song Sparrows nesting on the floodplain below her home on the Olentangy River just north of Columbus, Ohio. The season had been short, but Uno, that first Song Sparrow, had been banded and color-banded, as had his mate, Una, and their ebullient neighbor, 4M. All were to return, as would many of their children and grandchildren, to share their lives for the next eight years with the ever patient and attentive Margaret Nice. Over those years she pioneered the use of colored leg bands to mark individual birds and follow each life. She learned to recognize 4M by his distinctive melodies and realized that each male had his own distinctive theme and variations, but that each also learned and sang some of the variations of his neighbors. Later Margaret explored song learning and behavioral development in hand-raised Song Sparrows that roamed freely throughout her home. Individually marked birds enabled her to explore site fidelity of males, females, and offspring and the social fabric that bound neighbor to neighbor.

Her interest in banding as an important ornithological tool led her to help organize the Inland Bird Banding Association in 1922 and to serve as an associate editor of *Inland Bird Banding News* from 1946 until her death in 1974. Her wish to make the important contributions of European naturalists available to American banders stimulated her, in 1933, to write her first reviews for the Recent Literature section of *Bird-Banding*, now the *Journal of Field Ornithology*. Later that year she was appointed review editor. As editor and author, she provided thoughtful, analytical reviews of selected ornithological articles. She summarized her vision of the Recent Literature reviews in the following succinct statement (Nice 1934a, p. 49). "It has been decided as an experiment to group reviews when feasible under subjects, which are of importance to bird-students primarily for the purpose of suggesting problems for study by banding methods."

She edited the Recent Literature section until 1943, during which time she wrote some 1800 reviews, many of these commenting on articles written in foreign languages, of which she spoke four fluently. She continued to write and contribute reviews until 1971, 3313 reviews in all.

In 1933 she published two important papers. "The theory of territorialism and its development" appeared (Nice 1933a) in the American Ornithologists' Union's "*Fifty Years Progress of American Ornithology 1883-1933*." The second was her first major paper on Song Sparrows, written in German, and published in two parts (Nice 1933b, 1934b) in the *Journal für Ornithologie* at the invitation of Dr. Erwin Stresemann, one of Europe's leading ornithologists. Her many previous articles had established her as an ornithologist, but the articles on territory and Song Sparrows established her as an international scholar.

Over the next three years she spent innumerable hours in the field gathering data, sometimes from before sunrise until after dark. She combed the Ohio State libraries, the Ohio Historical Society library, and Columbus public libraries for information. Finally, in August 1935, after another successful field season, she sat down at her desk and began to write "*Studies in the life history of the Song Sparrow*" (1937). Ten

months later on June 25, 1936 she wrote in her journal: “It has taken one solid year of work writing it up, ... Have done almost no field work for a year, no trips, ...very little other writing ... Well, it’s an achievement” (Nice 1979, p. 151).

Of her achievement Jean Delacour, noted French ornithologist wrote:

“In its form, this book is a model of clarity; in its substance, it is perhaps the most important contribution yet published to our knowledge of the life of a species” (Delacour 1937, p. 656).

She “saw so much in what appeared common to so many.”

In 1937 she was elected a Fellow of the American Ornithologists’ Union, only the second woman so honored. Later that same year she and Blaine moved to Chicago, where he was to remain as Professor of Physiology and Chairman of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, and the Chicago Medical School, until his retirement in 1952.

With the move Margaret lost the ready access to a field site that had been so important to her observational studies. She filled her time reading the European literature, writing reviews, analyzing data collected earlier in Ohio and Oklahoma, and the family continued to make summer visits to Grey Rocks, their special place in New England. Her record of the warblers she observed there conveys the peace she found: “I was lucky enough to find two nests of the Black-throated Green Warbler, both while the females were incubating. This warbler has always held a warm place in my heart because of the charm of his chief song – *trees, trees, murmuring trees* – a delightful and unforgettable little message that seems to express the very spirit of a drowsy afternoon among the hemlocks.”

Back in Chicago she turned increasingly to the synthesis of data and ideas. In 1938 she attended the International Ornithological Congress in Rouen and Paris, then spent a month in Altenberg with Konrad Lorenz, founder of the science of animal behavior and winner, in 1973, of the Nobel Prize in Medicine and Physiology. In 1938 she published an excellent article, in German, on the effect of temperature on Song Sparrow activity along with an important review of the biological significance of bird weights (Nice 1938). At the urging of friends she wrote a popular account of her avian studies “*The Watcher at the Nest*,” which was published by Macmillan in 1939 and reprinted in 1967. Also in 1939 she published “The social kumpan and the Song Sparrow” in which she introduced Lorenz’s ideas to an American audience. In 1941 she published an extended review of territoriality in birds, which further developed ideas first advanced in her 1933 review.

In 1942 she began work on the second volume of her Song Sparrow work, which focused on behavior. At the annual meeting of the American Ornithologists’ Union she was awarded the Brewster Medal, “... as the author ... of the most important work relating to the birds of the Western Hemisphere ...” for her first volume on the life of the Song Sparrow.

Following publication of her second volume in 1943, Ernst Mayr (1944) wrote:


“This treatise is far superior to anything of the kind that has been previously attempted. Many of the chapters ... are complete treatises in themselves with enough meat in them to fill separate volumes.”

She continued to write reviews for *Bird-Banding* and a variety of behavioral papers throughout the 1940s. In the early 1950s she wrote several articles on the incubation period of birds, culminating in an important review published in 1954. In 1955, at her 50th reunion, Mount Holyoke awarded her an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

She continued to write reviews and short articles and took up sketching. In 1962 she published and illustrated an important monograph on the behavioral development of precocial birds. That same year Elmira College awarded her an honorary Doctor of Science Degree. In his citation Dean Richard Bond wrote: “She used the outdoors near her home as her laboratory and common species of birds as her subjects. In so doing, she joined the ranks of the eminent ornithologists of all time, who saw so much in what appeared common to so many” (Nice 1979, p. 263).

Margaret Morse Nice contributed importantly to our ornithological knowledge. She had published over 250 papers. But equally important, she advocated a philosophy that continues to distinguish the science of ornithology from other scientific pursuits. In 1952 Margaret Morse Nice wrote to a friend:

“The study of nature is a limitless field, the most fascinating pursuit in the world. I feel that the study of ornithology is a wonderful game in which strong sympathy and fellowship reign between the serious participants: we are friends and glad to help one another” (Nice 1979, p. 268).

Let that be her epitaph. 

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Edward H. Burt, Jr., is Cincinnati Conference Professor of Zoology at Ohio Wesleyan University. He is a past-president of the Association of Field Ornithologists, of the Wilson Ornithological Society, and of the Ohio Alliance for the Environment. He is a Fellow of the Ohio Academy of Science, and a Life Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union and of the Animal Behavior Society. Jed Burt has had a life-long interest in birds (according to his mother, since about 18 months), which led him into ornithology, the teaching profession, and a deep concern for environmental issues. His present research on the microbiology of avian plumage has led to the discovery of feather-degrading bacteria and patents on a process to break up feather waste from the poultry industry and use the product as supplemental feed for livestock or as amino acids for the chemical industry. His interest in the history of ornithology includes not only Margaret Morse Nice, who lived in Ohio not far from Ohio Wesleyan, but also Alexander Wilson, about whom he is writing a book with Ted Davis, a fellow ornithological historian, and Christopher Wilson, an art historian.

He is grateful to the Trustees of Ohio Wesleyan University who supported the scholarly leave that gave him the time to write this sketch of the life and accomplishments of Margaret Morse Nice, to Dr. Douglas Causey and Harvard University for hosting him during his leave, and to William E. Davis, Jr. for leaving him no choice but to write this tribute, which he has thoroughly enjoyed writing.

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Tracking Ospreys with Transmitters

Christopher Neill

Consider this travel itinerary:

On September 14, 2001, a male osprey named “KC” left his summer home on Martha’s Vineyard. One day later he checked in from Dover, Delaware. On September 16 he was flying over the Atlantic Ocean off of the coast of Georgia. Two days later, he made it to Osceola County, midway down the east coast of Florida. He passed Miami on September 19.

KC made the short hop to Cuba on September 20, where he slowed his pace a bit.

After cruising eastward along Cuba’s central hills toward Guantanamo Bay, he left Cuba for Haiti on September 29, crossed the Caribbean, and, still on a southeast heading, hit the Lake Maracaibo region of northern Venezuela on September 30.

KC reached his wintering ground, which appears to be southern Venezuela, by October 9, where he continues to send daily reports.

KC is one of the roughly seventy pairs of ospreys that make up the Vineyard’s breeding colony.

I can tell where KC is at any given moment, because during the last week of June, Gus Ben David of the Massachusetts Audubon Society’s Felix Neck Sanctuary and ornithologists Mark Martell and Rob Bierregaard sewed a solar powered satellite transmitter – the equivalent of a tiny osprey cell phone – into the feathers on his back.

“The solar radios are on for ten hours, then turn off for twenty-one, so we get signals every day, though not at the same time every day,” explains Martell, the Coordinator of Conservation Programs at the Raptor Center of the University of Minnesota in St. Paul, who visited the Vineyard last summer to outfit the birds.

Martell receives the data and converts it to maps that are displayed, in real time, on the Raptor Center’s web site <<www.raptor.cvm.umn.edu>>.

He has participated in the tagging of 130 to 140 ospreys, although he said not all of the radios have worked as well as the one on KC.

Three other Vineyard ospreys were tagged this summer, and there is one still carrying a transmitter from the summer of 2000, Martell said. The signal from one of the newly tagged birds recently quit over the Caribbean, Martell said, maybe because the transmitter was lost or maybe because the bird died.

The transmitters generally work for three to four years. They cost about \$3,500 each, plus about \$2,000 to get the data from Argos, Inc., the company that operates the polar-orbiting satellite.

While it’s remarkable to watch the daily progress of these birds on their migration

routes, this technology also yields new insights into ospreys' annual movements.

Wintering ospreys from North America spread out all over Central and South America, Martell explains. "We see them from southern Florida, northern Mexico to central Brazil. We know they go as far as Argentina."

But there is no concentration point. Birds from Martha's Vineyard do not go to one place in the Neotropics. "In good habitat you see numerous ospreys," Martell said, but these are "a mix of birds from a wider area."

Males and females move independently. So the pairs, which return to the same nesting platform year after year, spend their winters apart.

This information comes from placing transmitters on whole family groups of ospreys from Minnesota.

The females leave the nest site earlier, just after the young begin to fly. Females generally go farther south than the males, which stay with the young longer, leave later, and don't winter as far into Central or South America.

"Young birds move independently of adults," Martell said. They can rapidly develop affinity for wintering and migration routes, to which they remain faithful for years.

First-year birds spend one and a half years on their wintering grounds. When they make their first trip north, they return to the general area where they were born. One young bird Martell tracked, for example, stayed eighteen months in the wintering area it had selected in Panama and then returned to Minnesota and spent most of the summer about sixty miles north of its birthplace.

Tracing bird migration routes has always been a tricky proposition. Hundreds of thousands of songbirds have been banded, but almost none are ever recovered. So tracing birds' southward progress, for example from Cape Cod to the tropics, is simply not possible. This leaves, for most species, some very basic questions unanswered.

Do birds that breed in certain regions of North America, say New England, have characteristic winter ranges? Are populations of birds that breed in particular areas at risk because they all winter in areas where the habitat is threatened? Or do they mix in winter with birds from many different areas?

Martell's ospreys would seem to indicate the latter.

Martell said the project he'd like to do next summer is to place transmitters on an osprey family group from Martha's Vineyard.

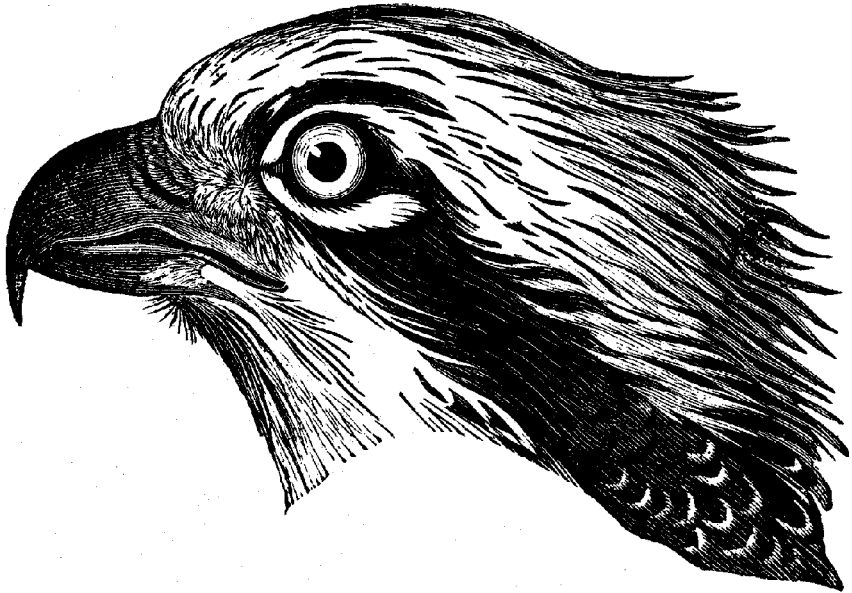
I find it remarkable that "our" ospreys can travel to Venezuela in a matter of two weeks, remain apart from their mates for seven months, then reunite on the same nesting platform year after year to raise young that will themselves cross the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean without adults to show them the way.

Different birds travel the earth in different ways, at varying speeds, visiting

different places, developing their own traditions and creating different tracks. Satellite transmitters give us a small, thrilling window into that process.

I will be watching the internet for more maps. 🦅

Christopher Neill is an ecologist at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole. This article originally appeared in the Falmouth Enterprise.



OSPREY, ANON.

From MassWildlife

Vineyard Ospreys — University of North Carolina researcher Rob Bierregaard reports that a Martha's Vineyard osprey, dubbed KC, is wintering along the tropical waterways of Venezuela, almost exactly where the bird wintered the previous year. A satellite telemetry unit has enabled the bird's migration path to be mapped and posted on the Carolina Raptor Center website at www.birdsofprey.org. The maps are accessible by clicking on the "Migration" icon. If the bird and telemetry equipment survive the winter the northward migration of the osprey will be plotted beginning in February or March.

Fifty-eight pairs of ospreys nested on the Vineyard in 2002 producing a total of 77 young.

FIELD NOTES

Rhythms


David Larson

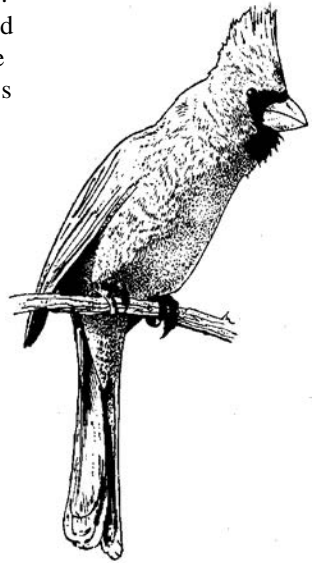
When you live in a place for a long time (maybe too long), you get used to the daily and seasonal rhythms of the location. At the feeders, the chickadees, titmice, and cardinals come and go at different times of day. The hordes of House Sparrows dash from the multiflora rose hedge to the sunflower seed feeder, and then retreat, like a wave crashing on the shore. In the winter, you can count on a Sharpie and a Coop hanging around, picking off the odd dove or passerine. A few juncos appear magically with the first snow, while a Carolina Wren usually provides a background *tea-kettle*.

Susan and I lived in Stoughton for 15 years. In our small but private yard we developed a decent list of 94 species of birds. Our last new yard bird was just this past June 23, as Susan noticed 2 circling Northern Goshawks overhead. Years of winter FeederWatches for Cornell, along with serious feeding, got us up to a high of 21 Northern Cardinals at one time.

In late November we moved to Bradford, MA. Our first official yard bird was a Belted Kingfisher (huh?). Well, part of our yard is a red maple swamp with a stream, so I guess that makes sense. A walk down the driveway to get the mail last weekend yielded a yard Winter Wren. Not bad. We finally got some feeders up last week. Now we have a flock of tree sparrows dominating, with good numbers of juncos, and various other predictable passerines. Yesterday, a Red-bellied Woodpecker showed up and pushed our new yard list to 21 species. Fortunately, the local House Sparrows have ignored us and concentrate on our neighbor's offerings.

The peculiar thing is that the rhythms are wrong. It's not just the lack of House Sparrows, but the timing seems off. Cardinals are not the first and last to visit the feeders each day (and we've only seen two!). The juncos and tree sparrows visit in staccato bursts and fight each other all the while. There's no evening cacophony of Canada Geese moving to a roosting spot. We've yet to hear a Carolina Wren. Most unsettling.

Intellectually, I know that over time we'll get in sync with the local rhythms and will feel at home. But for now we are strangers in a strange but promising land. I hope the new owners in Stoughton are feeding the cardinals. 



NORTHERN CARDINAL, ANON.

ABOUT BOOKS

Auks Between the Covers

Mark Lynch

There are nowhere near as many books about alcids as there are books about shorebirds, owls, raptors, or warblers. Even gulls, terns, and jaegers have entire volumes dedicated just to their field identification, but not yet auks. Aukophiles looking for help in the field must be content with small sections of books about all the species of seabirds or the popular field guides. I am not sure why this is so. Perhaps publishers and authors see books on alcids as appealing only to a limited niche market. After all, most alcids are restricted to coastal locations of predominantly the northern areas of the Northern Hemisphere. Although auks are certainly seen as far south as California on the Pacific coast, here on the Atlantic, most alcids are seen from New England north. Most birders see alcids only in the chill of winter, not the most popular time of the year to bird. Finally, when we do at last see these coveted auks, they are often mere black and white specks whirring far out and low over the ocean at breakneck speeds, offering typically dismal views. The idea of writing an in-depth identification guide to help in that difficult field situation seems hopeless. This may explain in part why books on the family of auks are few and far between.

This is a shame because auks are a fascinating and beautiful family of birds, that we in Massachusetts see quite frequently. Although no species of alcid have been proven to breed in Massachusetts (hope springs eternal for the Black Guillemot), several species do breed next door in Maine. Six species of alcids regularly visit our shores in varying numbers in winter, and some species like Razorbill and Black Guillemot are rather common at that time. Your odds are, in fact, much, much better of finding Razorbills at Andrew's or Race Points in December than finding a Snowy Owl on Plum Island at the same time. Two additional species of alcids have been found as vagrants in Massachusetts: Long-billed Murrelet and Ancient Murrelet. Finally, Massachusetts used to be part of the wintering range of the extinct Great Auk, the only flightless bird that lived even part of its life in our area in historical times. Below are listed a few books that I have found useful for learning about and identifying alcids of the western Atlantic.

The Monographs

These are books about the behavior, distribution, migration, and identification of the auks.

Typically these titles contain loads of information about the lives of the auks but are not really geared for the birder looking for helpful hints on field problems.

AUKS: AN ORNITHOLOGIST'S GUIDE by Ron Freethy. This is a good, if somewhat dated, general overview of all species of auks, illustrated with black and white drawings as well as a few color and black and white photographs. There is a wealth of

information on auk movements, feeding, populations, and behavior as well as a chapter on humans and auks.

THE AUKS: ALCIDAE by Anthony J. Gaston and Ian L. Jones. This is one of the *Bird Families of the World* monographs being published by Oxford University Press. The text is much more detailed and current than Freethy's book. For many species there are complete tables of measurements and of what comprises each species diet. Range maps are large and easy to read. There are general introductory chapters on the breeding environments of auks, their evolution, systematics, and distribution, followed by individual species accounts. The color plates by Ian Lewington and Ian L. Jones are very well done and feature most plumages and include a nice single page of alcid in flight. To date, this is the best single volume dedicated to auks.

THE GREAT AUK by Errol Fuller. This is Fuller's exhaustive coffee-table paean to the majestic extinct auk. It is an extremely detailed account of every aspect of the Great Auk's life, physical remains still extant, and impact on human society. This book is obsessive in its collection of arcane auk lore. It is a real masterwork of research but obviously of limited interest to those birders still trying to figure out how to tell basic-plumaged murrelets apart. See my detailed review of this book in *Bird Observer* V. 28, N. 5 (October 2000), pp. 329-32.

The Identification Guides

These are not portable and popular field guides, but larger books to be used as home references. Typically they contain very detailed descriptions of alcid in most plumages, while also containing some notes on behavior and distribution. None are dedicated entirely to auks.

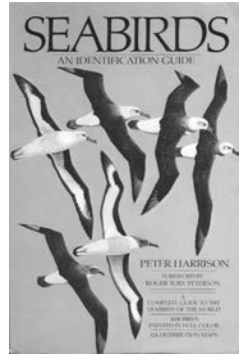


HANDBOOK OF BIRDS OF THE WORLD. VOLUME 3: HOATZIN TO AUKS. The auk plates and text are on pages 678 to 722. As is typical with this outstanding series, a very thorough general overview of all aspects of the lives of auks is accompanied by stunning color photography from the world's best bird photographers. Interestingly, in the individual species accounts, the drawn plates only feature breeding plumages. One of the best concise accounts of auks in print, but not useful for field problems.

SEABIRDS OF THE WORLD: THE COMPLETE REFERENCE by Jim Enticott and David Tipling. Auk text and photographs are on pages 212 to 227. This is not a well-known book here in the states. The species accounts are brief and concise, opposite the photographs, but break no new ground. The color photography is first rate and in many cases shows both breeding and non-breeding plumages of the auks. Several of the auk species are shown in flight. A nice companion to the Harrison identification guide.

SEABIRDS: AN IDENTIFICATION GUIDE by Peter Harrison. Auk plates are on pages 188 to 199, and the species written accounts are on pages 392 to 406. This was

the title that began the still-running identification guide series published by Helms and Princeton University Press. Also included in this one book are cormorants, tubenoses, gulls, terns, and skuas. Most long-time birders will remember being excited about this book because it gave the first full accounting and illustration of most of the albatrosses, shearwaters, and petrels. The species accounts are in a separate section from the plates. The written accounts contain a wealth of details on plumage and key fieldmarks for telling similar species apart. Notes on distribution, food, and behavior are more concise and sometimes sketchy. The plates, also by Harrison, are good but at times are somewhat dark and muddy in early versions of this title. The paintings of the auks appear somewhat stiff. Most plumages are shown as well as most of the species in flight. This book remains a very useful reference.



THE HANDBOOK OF BIRD IDENTIFICATION FOR EUROPE AND THE WESTERN PALEARCTIC by Mark Beaman and Steve Madge. Plates of auks are on pages 446 to 448 and the written accounts are on pages 464 to 468. I am amazed that more New England birders do not own this book. Granted that this is an expensive book. The fact that we do not share many of the same species of Passeriformes that are found in Europe may also deter many Americans from buying this book. But many species of waterfowl, gulls, terns, shorebirds, and all of the auks occur on both sides of the Atlantic. And it's for these accounts that this book is so valuable to us Yank birders across the pond. This is a thick, stunningly illustrated book with very complete details on plumage, molt sequences, and useful fieldmarks for telling similar species apart. The plates, by a cadre of artists, are clean, bright, and well-painted and are a great resource for field observers. The auks are shown in most plumages as well as in flight. This book is also very useful for identifying the odd European vagrants that show up here, like Garganey and Yellow-legged Gull.

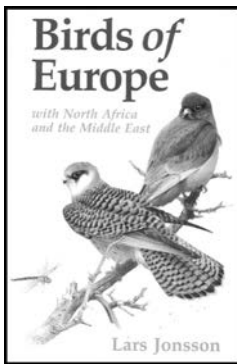
The True Field Guides

These are the concise and supposedly portable books we carry with us out to those rocky and windblown promontories where we hope to get a brief glimpse at a Razorbill or murre. The focus in these books is simply field identification and therefore the illustrations are crucial.

A FIELD GUIDE TO SEABIRDS OF THE WORLD by Peter Harrison. Plates are on pages 163 to 173 and text is on pages 276 to 283. This is a more portable and concise version of Harrison's seabirds identification guide mentioned above. Instead of drawn plates, photographs are used for the most part. Although some of the photographs are very good and interesting, others are poor and not all species' winter plumages are shown. The text is as basic as you would find in any field guide and is in a separate section from the plates. This is the first printing of this guide, and later printings may have corrected some of these shortcomings.

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF EASTERN AND CENTRAL NORTH AMERICA (Fifth Edition) by Roger Tory Peterson and Virginia Marie Peterson. The plates and

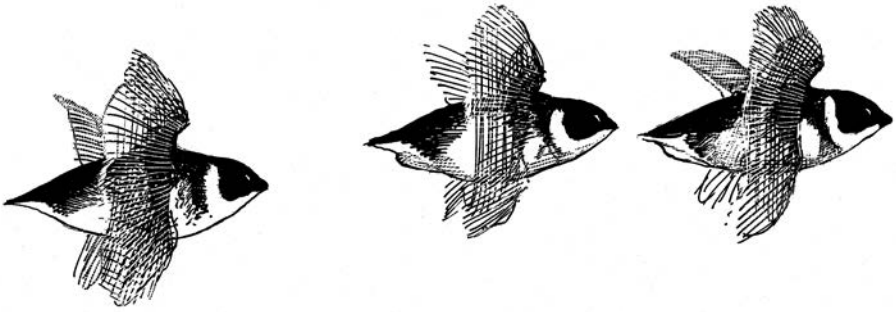
text concerning auks are on pages 192 to 195. This remains a fine field guide that has been extensively updated for this latest edition. The painted plates are opposite the text. Those of the auks are virtually the same as in previous editions. The text includes several personal observations on identifying auks in the field. For instance, under Dovekie, Peterson observes “In flight, flocks bunch tightly like starlings” (p. 194). Smaller versions of the distribution maps are now found next to the species descriptions as well as the larger versions at the end of the book. It is interesting to compare David Sibley’s illustration of the head of a winter/adult non-breeding Razorbill with Peterson’s. Details of the white behind the eye, proportions of the head and body, and position of the head of a bird on the water are certainly truer in Sibley’s guide. One shortcoming of the Peterson guide is that the two vagrant alcid species to New England are not illustrated, although the Great Auk is! A true field guide: it is easy to carry in a pocket.



BIRDS OF EUROPE WITH NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST by Lars Jonsson. The auks are found on pages 294 to 298. This field guide features large, sumptuous plates, many based on direct field observations. Jonsson’s artwork consistently captures the appearance of real birds in the field, but his auks on the water are not among his best work. The very evocative text features helpful clues for identifying alcids in the field. Under Little Auk (Dovekie), Jonsson states: “On the water, the short podgy neck and the head with its almost negligible little bill are striking. In flight, its strangely bobbin-shaped and ‘bill-less’ profile and very fast wing-beats are characteristic features” (p. 296). Included is a wonderful and very useful single page illustration of auks in flight. A fairly hefty field guide.

FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA (Fourth Edition) by National Geographic. The auk pages run from 224 to 232. This is a fully revised and updated version of this classic field guide. This new edition illustrates the newly-split species, Long-billed Murrelet, as well as all the other auks found in North America. The illustrations are very good, but again look at the Razorbill (p. 225). The illustrations in the National Geographic show too massive and deep a bill and a shorter, thicker neck than typically appears in the field. A good field guide that is large, but still fairly portable.

THE SIBLEY GUIDE TO BIRDS by David Allen Sibley. The auks are on pages 241 to 253. All auk species of North America are shown, including the arctic populations of the Black Guillemot. The illustrations and text are together on a page, making this a unique field guide. All pertinent plumages are completely illustrated. All species of auks are also shown in flight, typically in two different plumages and showing upper and underwing patterns as well. Could a birder ask for anything more? It is, when you look at the pages of a family of “tough to identify in the field” birds like the auks, that the usefulness and importance of David Sibley’s guide become obvious. The illustrations appear lifelike, the proportions and attitude of the birds on the water ring




DOVEKIES BY DAVID A. SIBLEY

true. When I see alcids, THIS is what they look like. Also included is a wealth of details of how auks appear and behave in the field, and these are sprinkled over all the pages. This is the best field guide to take alcid-watching, bar none with the following caveat. The one very real drawback to the Sibley Guide, and the price that is paid for all this detail and wonderful illustration, is that this book is huge for a field guide and heavy, and therefore not very portable.

One Novel and One Overview:

The Great Auk by Allan W. Eckert. Granted that puffins figure in many children's books because of their colorful and comical (to some) appearance, but *The Great Auk* is something different. Eckert wrote a great novel for young adults and adults, told from the viewpoint of the last Great Auk. Yes, it's sentimental and anthropomorphic as all get out, but this is also a great and moving book about extinction. The book includes a wonderful two-page map of the Great Auk's migration route.

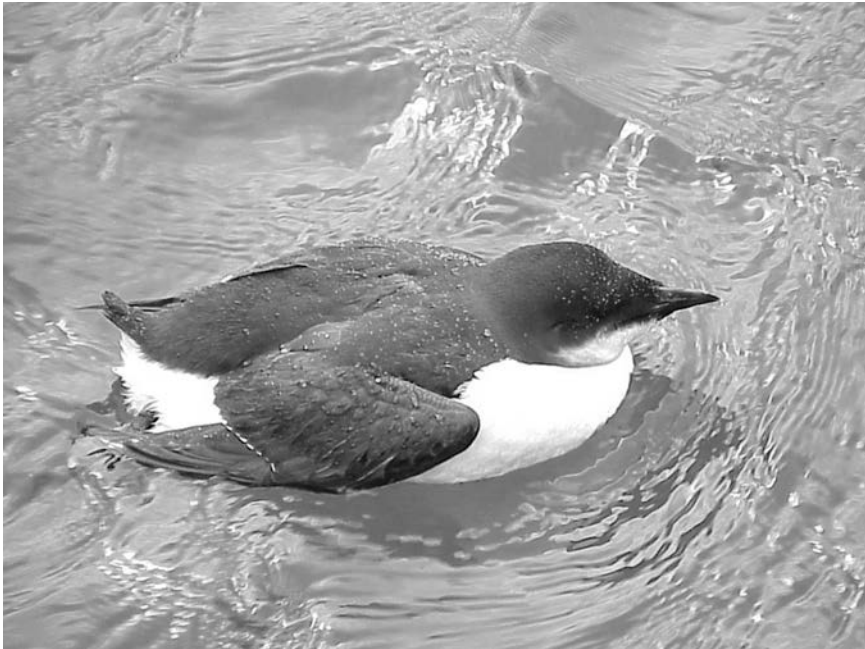
Finally, *In Search of Arctic Birds* by Richard Vaughan is a fine accounting of the author's passion for birds that breed above the Arctic Circle. Part history, part anthropology, and part natural history, this book is a wealth of information on the birds that breed in the Arctic and the people who studied and even hunted them. It is the closest thing I have read to an ornithological overview of the entire region. Auks are of course featured, as well as shorebirds, jaegers, Snowy Owls, and all the other species of this complex ecosystem. Profusely illustrated with black and white photographs and line drawings. A must read for any aukophile who has wished to see breeding Dovekies. 

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THICK-BILLED MURRE BY DAVID LARSON

LETTERS

Dear Mr. Berry,

I greatly enjoyed your article "A Survey of Published Bird Records in New England" in the current issue of *Bird Observer*. In the thirty-plus years I have been birding (primarily in New York and New England) there has been a tremendous growth in birding, but unfortunately many of the newer birders are often unaware of the long history of birding in their own regions. Your wonderful article will, I am sure, enlighten many.

There are a few publications that I am aware of that you did not mention in your article. I thought you might like to know about them if you haven't run into them. For Rhode Island there is a "Checklist of Rhode Island Birds: 1900-1973," compiled by the Rhode Island Ornithological Club and published by the Audubon Society of Rhode Island. This is really a four-page field card, but it does indicate average arrival and departure dates for species, and on the last page has a list of casual and hypothetical species with the years in which they occurred and indicates whether there is specimen evidence or a color photo to substantiate the record. This checklist was apparently updated in 1983 (I have not seen that version) and then again in 1990, when it was published as an eight-page booklet with blue covers under the title "Comprehensive List of the Birds of Rhode Island: 1900-1989" by Adam Fry.

For Connecticut, Sage, et al.'s "Birds of Connecticut" was preceded by "A Review of the Birds of Connecticut" by C. Hart Merriam. This 166-page book was published in 1877. My copy says: "Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor, Printers" and indicates it is "From the Transactions of the Connecticut Academy, Vol. IV, 1877."

Joe DiCostanzo

January 17, 2003

Dear Jim Berry

Enjoyed your article on "Published Bird Records of New England."

Commenting on your section on Ludlow Griscom, I would say he had no "disciples," no "entourages," or "proteges." He encouraged bird observers. In a letter from Guy Emerson, in my possession, Emerson (former President of National Audubon Society 1944) confirms my statement. He writes to L.G. that his friend, Griscom, is the source of the national bird observer movement and that "it is no small thing!" (Emerson 1956)

In the field, L.G. was available to many young people. I knew most of them.

I do not agree that he was “judgemental in his methods.” He distinguished *sharply* between bird observers and trained scientists. It was a matter of principle.

Aside from the Audubon trips, he was in the field, mostly, with Sam Eliot, George William Cottrell and Annette [Cottrell], and Richard Eaton. In his fifties, he went afield with “The Old Clucks’ Bird Club” (his term for the Old Colony Bird Club), which included Ruth P. Emery.

My father was a Victorian. His brusque manner hid a tender heart. He was not involved in social causes per se. His passion was to go abroad early in the morning, and see what he could see.

He saw a lot: and he taught others where to go looking.

Sincerely,

Edith R. Griscom



AMERICAN ROBIN ON BERRIES BY MARJORIE RINES

BIRD SIGHTINGS

September-October 2002

This period saw two contrasting months: September was very warm with near normal rain and sun, but October was colder than normal. The temperature in Boston averaged 68.4° during September, nearly four degrees above normal, for the fourth warmest September in 131 years of record. Two days during the month reached 90° or above, and 11 days saw the mercury in the 80s. The high of 91° was recorded on September 10, and the low mark was 50° on the 29th. Rainfall totaled 3.39 inches, close to normal. It is not often that our area feels the effects of three tropical storms in a month with little damage. Hurricane Gustav passed well to the east on September 11, bringing heavy seas to coastal areas, and some of the high winds toppled trees and power lines. Tropical storm Hanna also passed at sea on the 15-16th with little wind damage, though heavy rain was noted south of Boston. Tropical storm Isidore passed to the west during the night of September 27-28th, again with non-damaging winds but much needed rain.

In October the temperature averaged 52.4°, 1.9° below average, making this the coldest October since 1993. The high of 85° was reached on the 2nd, with the low of 32° on Halloween. The first frost was noted at midmonth in areas west and north of Boston, about a week earlier than average. Temperatures were below normal from October 18-31. Rainfall was recorded at 3.48 inches, about normal. The most in any 24-hour period was 1.74 inches on the 26th, the most in any one storm since last May. Birders were dismayed that, of the four weekends, two were complete washouts and two were affected by the remnants of tropical storms Lili and Kyle. The season's first snow came early on October 23, with measurable amounts in most suburbs. The windiest day was October 16, which recorded gusts of 44mph from the northeast. Lili and Kyle passing on the 5th and 12th also brought strong gusts of wind. *R. Stymeist*

LOONS THROUGH ALCIDS

Three migrant **Pacific Loons**, all in breeding plumage, were observed during the first two weeks of October, including two 9 days apart winging past Andrew's Point in Rockport during storms, and another under similar conditions at First Encounter in Eastham. At the former site, two of three previous records were likewise of migrants during October.

Beginning in late September, one the most amazing seabird spectacles in Massachusetts history unfolded in the coastal waters north of Cape Ann. Spectacular concentrations, overwhelmingly dominated by Greater Shearwaters, were drawn inshore by the presence of masses of small schooling fish, including immature pogies (menhaden) and Atlantic herring, being driven inshore and to the surface by large schools of predatory tuna. The phenomenon was noted all along the coast, stretching from Rockport and Ipswich Bay to the New Hampshire shore and probably beyond. First indications that something was transpiring occurred from the beach at Plum Island, where Greater Shearwater is traditionally a rare sighting. Some 2000 were observed there September 24, and hundreds to thousands then became a daily spectacle there until early October, culminating with an amazing **10,000** estimated on October 1. The maximum, however, came several days earlier from Andrew's Point in Rockport, where a staggering **35,000** were noted on September 28, including 27,000 parading past in just a little more than two hours that morning. Later that day strong directional movements ceased, and enormous foraging congregations began to form. One single such feeding frenzy stretched for a half mile in length and was composed of an estimated 2000 Greater Shearwaters, along with hundreds of plunge-diving gannets and large gulls. At one time there were at least a half-dozen

similar foraging congregations in view. While other tubenoses were far less represented in these concentrations, peak counts of other species associated with this show included eighteen Cory's and fifty Manx Shearwaters at Andrew's Point September 28, and an unprecedented **830** Northern Fulmar there October 16, the latter being the highest count ever made from shore in Massachusetts and more than double the usual percentage of the dark morph.

Twice in September an observer aboard a tuna boat headed to the warm waters in the vicinity of Atlantis Canyon along the shelf edge south of Cape Cod and turned up some interesting, if not unexpected, birds for that location. Small numbers of Audubon's Shearwaters were seen on both cruises, with a maximum of eleven on September 21, but the highlight of these forays was the presence of one or more **White-faced Storm-Petrels** September 7-8. A bird club trip September 9 to Cashes Ledge encountered thirty-nine Leach's Storm-Petrels, while fifty were counted from shore at Provincetown during a storm on October 13. At the very end of October a huge assemblage of **20,000** Northern Gannets had gathered in Cape Cod Bay, seen from First Encounter Beach in Eastham, perhaps indicating that the dense schools of small fish on the North Shore in September and early October had migrated south into Cape Cod waters. The seabird rarity highlight of the period was the appearance of a female **Magnificent Frigatebird** on Cape Cod. First discovered in Harwich on September 1, the bird wandered widely between Hyannis and Orleans September 2-4, but was probably most reliably seen from the parking lot at Chatham Light, where a series of definitive photos were obtained as the bird soared effortlessly over the parking lot to the delight of those present. There are at least a dozen prior state records.

A minimum of sixteen Great Egrets in western Massachusetts in September may be the most since the major 1948 incursion that brought 375 between July and October to Berkshire County alone. A juvenile Tricolored Heron was very rare inland at the Arlington Reservoir September 7. Four Yellow-crowned Night Herons were found during September, all on the North Shore, including a juvenile at Plum Island on September 17. In Hampden County seven Black Vultures passed over the Blueberry Hill hawk watch in Granville on October 22, tying last year's one day high there, also in October. Another seven appeared in the more traditional Berkshire Sheffield site about thirty miles due west the next day.

Very interesting was the report of a family group (two adults and four juveniles) of **Greenland White-fronted Geese** at Rochester October 24-25. There was a big push of migrating Snow Geese across the western part of the state October 3-5, including a record **4558** over Pittsfield on the 5th, a new single-day high for Massachusetts. Thirty-five Canvasbacks returned to the traditional Fresh Pond, Cambridge, location by October 28, the northernmost reliable site for this species in the state. At the western edge of the state in Pittsfield, a tally of 1300 Ring-necked Ducks at Mud Pond on October 30 was impressive, while two Redheads were unexpected at Pontoosuc Lake October 31. The two returning drake **Tufted Ducks** both checked in to their respective wintering sites in early October, at Sterling and Bourne. Some very impressive numbers of sea ducks were estimated in the waters around Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, by late October, including 10,000+ Common Eider, 25,000+ Surf Scoters, 5000+ White-winged Scoters, and 5000+ Black Scoters. At Andrew's Point in Rockport, the 1520 White-winged and 1270 Black scoters that passed by on October 16 were the highest and third-highest single-day counts for each, respectively, in ongoing seawatch surveys. Across the interior of the state, there was a modest fallout of Black Scoters October 21-22, including 40 in Cheshire, 130 at Turners Falls, and 46 as far east as Concord at Great Meadows NWR.

The fourth year of full-time coverage at Blueberry Hill for September and October saw higher counts for almost all species than the last two years, especially for Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Peregrine, and Merlin, already setting state seasonal records.

Cooper's Hawks accounted for sixteen percent of the accipiter migration over Morris Island in Chatham during October hawk watches there, totaling 99 birds for the month, indicative of this raptor's current abundance in New England. The highest single-day count of Cooper's came from Mt. Tom beside the Connecticut River Valley, where a dozen were counted on October 19. Thirty-seven Northern Goshawks regionwide for the period, including seventeen at Barre Falls during a two-week period in late October, were perhaps a few more than usual. The peak flight of Broad-winged Hawks across the state occurred September 17-18, a typical date. The two-day total from Wachusett Mountain was nearly 12,000 birds, while more than 4900 were counted at Mt. Watatic, and a thousand or more were seen at each of three additional sites from Groton west to Mt. Tom on the 18th. Early indications were that we were in for a good Rough-legged Hawk winter, which seems to occur in the state in two- to four-year cycles, but often with back-to-back irruption years. Six individuals appeared at the end of October, beginning with a bird at Barre Falls on the 21st (cf. Oct. Rough-leg totals 1991-2002: 4, 0, 4, 2, 0, 1, 1, 9, 7, 2, 0, 6). Seemingly on the rise, fourteen Golden Eagles were the most ever for the period and included remarkable late October totals of five at Barre Falls and six at Granville. A **Yellow Rail** was flushed in the Neponset Marshes in Dorchester September 18, a site where the same observer has had luck with these elusive migrants in the past. Three Common Moorhens were reported in late September, in Essex, Pittsfield, and Lenox. An adult Sandhill Crane was observed in Lancaster for one day only, September 6.

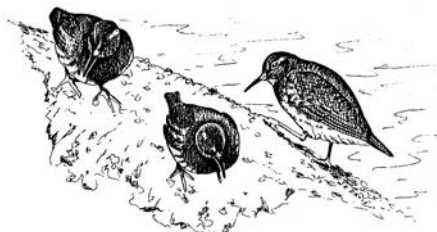
Piping Plovers lingered late at Chatham, where twenty-four were still present at South Beach October 10. Following a series of sightings during the summer, only a single **American Avocet** was found during this period at Nantucket October 7. The **Eskimo Curlew** has been presumed extinct by many ornithologists for decades, so the report of a sighting by two observers from Martha's Vineyard during the prior reporting period, on August 27, was astounding. Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard were historically the epicenter of migratory fallouts of these diminutive curlews in New England, usually during easterly storms, and the date is likewise consistent with former occurrences. However, a sight record of a species that may well be extinct has a very high burden of proof indeed. The observers did present plausible details, and we can only hope that their identification was correct, but lacking further documentation such as indisputable photographic evidence, and since the bird did not remain to be confirmed and described by others, the sighting expectedly was rejected by the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee (MARC). Until such time as solid and verifiable evidence is presented that the Eskimo Curlew still flies, such ephemeral sightings will remain an enigma.

Good numbers of White-rumped Sandpipers continued from the summer, with maxima of 75 at Plum Island September 15 and 250 at South Beach September 14. The record flight of Baird's Sandpipers from August continued into September, with an additional fourteen birds being reported (bringing this fall's flight to thirty-six individuals), including at least four at Plum Island and three each inland at East Quabbin and Holden. In fact, low water levels in the interior resulted in many other interesting shorebird reports from western Massachusetts. At the exposed Dana Flats at East Quabbin, sixty-five Dunlin October 26 was the highest regional count in ten years, and several Short-billed and a single Long-billed Dowitcher were also noteworthy there during September. Three juvenile Stilt Sandpipers were rare at Longmeadow September 2. On September 10 a **Broad-billed Sandpiper** was closely studied for fifteen minutes at the Bill Forward Pool on Plum Island before a hunting Peregrine sent the shorebird flocks scattering. This very distinctive Eurasian species, a vagrant to Alaska (four records, 8+ individuals), has also appeared twice before in the Northeast, both recently, though nowhere else in the lower forty-eight. One was present and photographically documented at the Jamaica Bay NWR on Long Island, New York, in late August 1998 (*Field Notes* 52: 513-516), and there

is a very convincing sight record of a Broad-billed Sandpiper discovered at Hartlen Point, Nova Scotia, on September 9, 1990 (McLaren and Maybank) that was fully described in detail in an article by the observers in *American Birds* (46: 48-50). A description and sketch of the Plum Island bird were reviewed and accepted by the MARC. A BBC boat trip to Cashes Ledge September 9 encountered large numbers of Red Phalaropes feeding along weed lines, most more than thirty miles east of Plum Island. Although at least 315 were counted, it was felt that several times this number could have been tallied had the boat cruised the abundant weed lines exclusively. The same cruise noted 74 Red-necked Phalaropes, but nearly all of them were within thirty miles of shore. A Red Phalarope in South Hadley October 2 was only the 5th record for western Massachusetts.

Numbers of Pomarine Jaegers began to appear in late October at Cape Ann and Cape Cod, including sixty seen at Eastham during the October 27 storm, but the really large concentrations of Parasitic Jaegers failed to materialize at the cut at Chatham Light, as in some recent Septembers. A juvenile **Long-tailed Jaeger** was inadvertently photographed at South Beach as it flew directly over the preoccupied observer at Chatham September 1, but only later identified by him when reviewing his photos (see Hot Birds in this issue)! A gull showing the characteristics of the Atlantic form of **Yellow-legged Gull** was photographed at Coast Guard Beach in Eastham October 6. This Larid has been reported previously in Massachusetts, though none have yet to be accepted by the MARC. Potential for confusion exists with pale *graellsii* Lesser Black-backed Gull, dark-mantled forms of Herring Gull, and most especially with possible Lesser Black-backed x Herring hybrids. The species has been documented with some frequency in Newfoundland in recent years, and expert analysis of the photos of the Eastham bird, which was in a delayed state of primary molt, have been largely favorable. The record is soon to be reviewed. The October 27 storm also featured a nice showing of 3600 Black-legged Kittiwakes.

Both Caspian and Forster's Terns appeared in higher than usual numbers. The Caspian total of 34 was the highest for the period since 1999 and the second highest in at least the last dozen seasons, while Forster's maxed out at 80+ at Eastham on September 15. The previously mentioned Atlantis Canyon trip also turned up two **Bridled Terns** September 8, a bird that may be more regular in the vicinity of these warm water canyons in late summer, particularly when Gulf Stream eddies break free and drift into these regions. An early Thick-billed Murre flew by Andrew's Point on October 26, but the alcid phenomenon of the period was an amazing and unprecedented flight of Atlantic Puffins that materialized during the Northeast storm of October 12. All day long singles, doubles, and even flocks of 4-6 passed the point, totaling a remarkable **104** by late afternoon when the flight ceased. Many (15+) passed close enough to age, and all of these appeared to be juveniles. Nothing close to this order of magnitude has previously been reported from Massachusetts, either from shore or at sea. Puffins have been consistently on the increase here over the past several years (presumably related to the successful re-introduction program farther north in the Gulf of Maine), particularly in late summer, although the prior high count, from just this past summer, was of only nine (August 20, 2002). R. Heil



PURPLE SANDPIPERS BY WILLIAM E. DAVIS, JR.

Great Blue Heron (continued)				10/5	Pittsfield	4558	R. Ferren
10/5	P.I.	13	BBC (L.de la Flor)	10/14	Blandford	300	K. + M. Conway
10/25	Lincoln	11	M. Rines	10/28	Mt. Watatic	149	EMHW (P. Staub)
Great Egret				10/28	Barre Falls	160	EMHW (B. Kamp)
9/1	Williamstown	4	R. Stymeist#	Brant			
9/11	Longmeadow	12	ABC (J. LaPointe)	9/30, 10/6	P.I.	14, 83	migr R. Heil
9/14	Squantum	8	G. d'Entremont#	10/4	Hadley	3	M. Williams
9/15	E. Boston (B.I.)	22	BBC (S. Zende#)	10/6	Gardner	65	T. Pirro
9/19	GMNWR	16	R. Lockwood	10/6	Squantum	30	R. Min
9/21-22	M.V.	7	BBC (A. Sgroi)	10/8	Mt. Tom	50	M. Williams
10/9, 23	P.I.	92, 18	R. Heil	10/8	Stoughton	21	R. Titus
10/10	Gill	2	R. Packard	10/18	Deerfield	25	R. Packard
10/18	Agawam	1	J. LaPointe	10/22	Nahant	30+	D. Wilkinson
10/26	Winchester	1	M. Rines	10/27	Plymouth	300	G. d'Entremont#
Snowy Egret				Mute Swan			
9/6	Manchester	13	S. Hedman	9/14	Randolph	34	G. d'Entremont#
9/15	E. Boston (B.I.)	52	BBC (S. Zende#)	10/19	Ipswich	17	J. Berry
9/16, 10/6	P.I.	360, 40	R. Heil	10/27	Lincoln	15	M. Rines#
9/29	Boston	2	BBC (R. Stymeist)	Whooper Swan			
9/30	Nantucket	8	J. Hoye	10/19	Ipswich	3 ad	J. Berry
10/5	Eastham (F. H.)	1	G. d'Entremont#	Wood Duck			
Little Blue Heron				9/5	Worcester	39	M. Lynch#
9/6-12	Woburn	1	J. Wright#	9/5	IRWS	23	J. MacDougall
9/28	Nantucket	1	J. Hoye	9/6	Wakefield	36	P. + F. Vale
Tricolored Heron				9/11	Longmeadow	50	ABC (J. LaPointe)
9/7	Arlington Res.	1	D. Arvidson#	9/12	Stow	40	S. Sutton
9/10	P.I.	1 juv	R. Heil	9/21	Bolton Flats	50	M. Lynch#
10/6	Newbypt	1	R. Heil	10/4	Wendell	25	M. Williams
Cattle Egret				10/9	Melrose	23	D. + I. Jewell
9/6, 13	Manchester	1	S. Hedman	Gadwall			
Green Heron				9/21, 10/12	P.I.	27, 50	P. + F. Vale
9/4	GMNWR	4	R. Lockwood	10/15	GMNWR	9	S. Perkins#
9/4, 23	Melrose	3, 2	D. + I. Jewell	10/27	Ipswich	95	R. Heil
9/5	MNWS	4	K. Haley	10/27	Plymouth	10	G. d'Entremont#
9/10	Lexington	6	R. Lockwood	10/30	Pittsfield	4	T. Collins
9/11	Longmeadow	3	ABC (J. LaPointe)	Eurasian Wigeon			
10/7	Granby	1	H. Allen	10/12	Nantucket	1 m	S. Langer
10/20	Newbury	1	S. McGrath	10/24-31	Barnstable	1 m	M. Keleher + v.o.
Black-crowned Night-Heron				American Wigeon			
9/4	GMNWR	3	R. Lockwood	9/5	Worcester	8	M. Lynch#
9/8	P.I.	3	T. Wetmore#	9/6	Chilmark	4	A. Keith
9/17	Sunderland	1	M. Williams	10/5	Turners Falls	6	R. Packard
9/29	E. Boston (B.I.)	3	BBC (S. Zende#)	10/19	Lexington	62	M. Rines
10/19	Ipswich	4 imm	J. Berry	10/19	Ipswich	126	J. Berry
10/20	Newbypt. H.	3	S. McGrath	10/22	Barnstable	80	M. Keleher
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron				Blue-winged Teal			
9/7	P.I.	1	T. Wetmore	9/5	Worcester	7	M. Lynch#
9/10	MNWS	1	J. Paluzzi	9/11	GMNWR	11	R. Lockwood
9/14	Rockport (H.P.)	1 imm	M. Resch	9/13	P.I.	4	M. Lynch#
9/17	P.I.	1 juv	R. Heil	10/2	Randolph	9	R. Titus
Glossy Ibis				10/3	Rockport (A.P.)	1	R. Heil
9/4	Mt. A.	1	R. Stymeist	10/4	Wakefield	7	P. + F. Vale
9/5	Arlington Res.	1	M. Rines	10/20	Rowley	2	S. McGrath
9/9	DWWS	1	D. Furbish	Northern Shoveler			
Black Vulture				10/5	Arlington Res.	1 m	M. Rines
10/22	Granville	7	T. Collins#	10/6	Plymouth	1	SSBC (D. Peacock)
10/23	Sheffield	7	C. Barrett	10/9	Boston	1 pr	A. Joslin
Turkey Vulture				10/27	P.I.	7	R. Heil
9/1	Becket	24	R. Laubach	10/31	Pittsfield (Pont.)	2	H. Allen
9/14	Mt. Tom	17	EMHW (J. Masten)	Northern Pintail			
9/18	Mt. Wachusett	25	E. Taylor	9/22	DWWS	2	R. Titus
9/24-10/27	Barre Falls	223	EMHW (B. Kamp)	9/30	P.I.	21	R. Heil
9/28-10/29	Granville	161	J. Weeks#	10/2, 29	Randolph	3, 1	R. Titus
10/1	Groton	19	T. Pirro	10/4	Chatham (S.B.)	3	R. Donovan#
10/6	Gardner	20	T. Pirro	10/14	Montague	10	H. Allen
10/10	Wilbraham	20	J. Gawienowski	10/29	P.I.	42	C. Caron
10/14	Mt. Wachusett	32	T. Carrolan	10/31	GMNWR	38	C. Caron
10/14	Maynard	12	L. Nachtrab	Green-winged Teal			
10/14-25	Chatham (MI)	17	D. Manchester#	9/1, 10/28	Arlington Res.	5, 45	M. Rines
10/17	Sunderland	12	M. Williams	9/15, 10/27	P.I.	230, 400	R. Heil
Greenland Greater White-fronted Goose				9/21	New Salem	100	W. Lafley
10/24-25	Rochester	2 ad, 4 juv	M. Maurer + v.o.	9/21	E. Quabbin	70	T. Gagnon
Snow Goose				9/30	M.V.	45	A. Keith
9/29	Ipswich	80	J. Berry#	10/2, 29	Randolph	204, 114	R. Titus
9/29	Newbypt	200	T. Carrolan	10/5	Turners Falls	40	R. Packard
9/29	Gardner	153	T. Pirro	10/18	GMNWR	400	S. Perkins
9/30	P.I.	330 migr	R. Heil	10/28	Wayland	80	G. Long
10/3, 28	Granville	1012, 360	J. Weeks#				

Canvasback				10/27-31	Lincoln	1	M. Rines#
10/28	Cambr. (F.P.)	35	B. Miller	Bufflehead			
Redhead				10/15	Oak Bluffs	1	V. Laux
10/31	Pittsfield (Pont.)	2	H. Allen	10/17	Newbypt H.	4	T. Wetmore
Ring-necked Duck				10/20	Lakeville	16	G. d'Entremont
9/6	W. Newbury	8	R. Titus	10/24, 31	Bourne	24, 55	J. Kricher
10/2, 29	Randolph	1, 19	R. Titus	10/29	Randolph	28	R. Titus
10/10	Gill	11	R. Packard	10/30	Pittsfield	20	T. Collins
10/17	W. Tisbury	34	A. Keith	Common Goldeneye			
10/20	W. Newbury (CH)	340	R. Heil	10/6	Montague	1 f	R. Packard
10/21	Avon	68	M. Faherty	10/29	Randolph	4	R. Titus
10/23	Stoughton	286	R. Titus	10/30	W. Gloucester	2	J. + M. Nelson
10/26	E. Quabbin	66	ABNC (J. M-Siegel)	10/31	Richmond	5	H. Allen
10/30	Pittsfield (Mud Pd)	1300	T. Collins	Hooded Merganser			
Tufted Duck				9/1	Quabbin (G37)	1	R. Lockwood#
10/3	Bourne	1 m	R. Titus	9/7	Holden	8	M. Lynch#
10/6-31	Sterling	1 m	F. McMenemy#	9/8	Mt.A.	1	R. Stymeist
Greater Scaup				10/27	Lincoln	64	M. Rines#
10/2	Randolph	3	R. Titus	10/27	Ipswich	31	R. Heil
10/5	Gardner	3	T. Pirro	10/29	Randolph	30	R. Titus
10/14	Sterling	8	S. Moore#	10/30	Pittsfield	166	T. Collins
10/17	Newbypt H.	6	T. Wetmore	Red-breasted Merganser			
10/20	Lakeville	66	G. d'Entremont	9/15	Truro	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)
10/25	Rockport (A.P.)	35	R. Heil	9/29	P'town (R.P.)	4	M. Lynch#
Lesser Scaup				10/9	Gardner	1	T. Pirro
9/30	Gay Head	100+	A. Keith	10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	124	M. Lynch#
10/20	Pembroke	30	W. Petersen	10/19	W. Quabbin	1	D. Spector
10/20	W. Newbury (CH)	10	R. Heil	10/26	Rockport (A.P.)	300	J. Hoye
10/27	Pembroke	50	W. Petersen	10/27	Eastham (F.E.)	600	B. Nikula
10/31	Richmond	11	H. Allen	Common Merganser			
King Eider				9/28	Northampton	9	R. Packard
10/21	Gay Head	1 m	A. Keith	9/29	E. Quabbin	78	T. Gagnon
Common Eider				10/19	Paxton	23	M. Lynch#
10/5, 13	Rockport (A.P.)	40, 350	P. + F. Vale	10/27	Lincoln	21	M. Rines#
10/9, 24	Chilmark	100+, 10,000+	A. Keith	10/28	Whately	21	M. Williams
10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	70	M. Lynch#	Ruddy Duck			
10/19	Scituate	400	BBC (J. Center)	9/6	W. Newbury	1 m	R. Titus
10/22	Nahant	100+	D. Wilkinson	9/17	Longmeadow	1	J. LaPointe
10/27	Eastham (F.E.)	4000	B. Nikula	9/30	Gay Head	5	A. Keith
Harlequin Duck				10/thr	Melrose	max 42	D. + I. Jewell
10/19	Chilmark	1	A. Keith	10/20	W. Newbury (CH)	180	R. Heil
10/24-31	S. Boston	1 m	R. Donovan	10/20	Ludlow	50	H. Allen
10/26	Rockport (A.P.)	22	R. Heil	10/27	Pembroke	285	W. Petersen
Surf Scoter				10/28	Cambr. (F.P.)	90	B. Miller
10/3, 16	Rockport (A.P.)	657, 2460	R. Heil	10/29	Randolph	108	R. Titus
10/8	Gardner	10	T. Pirro	10/30	Pittsfield	32	T. Collins
10/9, 24	Chilmark	40+, 25,000+	A. Keith	Osprey			
10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	545	M. Lynch#	9/4-10/20	Granville	236	J. Weeks#
10/16	P'town (R.P.)	135	P. Flood	9/4-10/31	Barre Falls	88	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/19	W. Quabbin	1	D. Spector	9/5-29	Newbypt	167	T. Carrolan#
10/21	Brocton	4	M. Faherty	9/7-25	Mt. Watic	127	EMHW (P. Staub)
10/30	Pittsfield	1	T. Collins	9/7-30	Chatham (MI)	10	D. Manchester#
White-winged Scoter				9/12-25	Mt. Wachusett	138	EMHW (J. Stein)
9/30	Pittsfield (Pont.)	30	N. Mole	9/14	Mt. Tom	25	EMHW (J. Masten)
10/3, 16	Rockport (A.P.)	253, 1520	R. Heil	10/6	Gardner	5	T. Pirro
10/4	P.I.	200	C. Cook#	10/20	Lincoln	2	M. Rines
10/9, 24	Chilmark	250+, 5,000+	A. Keith	Bald Eagle			
10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	315	M. Lynch#	9/7-19	Mt. Watic	14	EMHW (P. Staub)
10/19	Scituate	200	BBC (J. Center)	9/8-18	Mt. Wachusett	12	EMHW (J. Stein)
10/23	Sharon	4	R. Titus	9/9-10/30	Granville	82	J. Weeks#
Black Scoter				9/12, 18, 25	Groton	1, 1, 2	T. Pirro
9/8	Chatham (S.B.)	2	N. Bonomo#	10/1	Northfield	2	R. Packard#
10/4	P.I.	300	C. Cook#	10/6	Whately	2	M. Williams
10/5	Granville	80	S. Kellogg	10/6	Gardner	2	T. Pirro
10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	76	M. Lynch#	10/6-27	Barre Falls	13	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/16, 26	Rockport (A.P.)	1270, 505	R. Heil	10/14	Wachusett Res.	2 ad	P. Brown
10/18, 29	Waltham	25, 30	M. Rines	10/20	Mt. Tom	3 ad	T. Carrolan#
10/21	Cheshire	40	D. St. James	10/26	Quabbin (G35)	5	ABNC (J. M-Siegel)
10/22	Turners Falls	130	M. Fairbrother	Northern Harrier			
10/22	GMNWR	46	R. Lockwood	9/1, 10/23	DWWS	6, 5	D. Furbish
10/24	Chilmark	5,000	A. Keith	9/5-27	Newbypt	56	T. Carrolan#
10/30	Pittsfield	23	T. Collins	9/7-19	Mt. Watic	20	EMHW (P. Staub)
Long-tailed Duck				9/13-30	Chatham (MI)	19	D. Manchester#
9/25	Salisbury	7	J. Smith	9/16	P.I.	13+	R. Heil
10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	3	M. Lynch#	9/16-10/30	Granville	104	J. Weeks#
10/16	Eastham (F.E.)	360	D. Abbott	9/17-18	Mt. Wachusett	6	EMHW (J. Stein)
10/26	E. Quabbin	1	ABNC (J. Morris-Siegel)	10/5-31	Barre Falls	26	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/26	Rockport (A.P.)	177	R. Heil	10/thr	Chatham (MI)	16	D. Manchester#

Northern Harrier (continued)

10/27-31	Mt. Watatic	13	EMHW (P. Staub)
Sharp-shinned Hawk			
9/4-10/30	Granville	1057	J. Weeks#
9/5-30	Chatham (MI)	162	D. Manchester#
9/5-29	Newbypt	95	T. Carrolan#
9/5-10/31	Barre Falls	700	EMHW (B. Kamp)
9/7-10/31	Mt. Watatic	241	EMHW (P. Staub)
9/14	Mt. Tom	10	EMHW (J. Masten)
9/14-25	Mt. Wachusett	168	EMHW (v.o.)
9/28	Wellfleet	14	M. Lynch#
10/6	Gardner	40	T. Pirro
10/thr	Chatham (MI)	523	D. Manchester#
10/14	Mt. Wachusett	26	T. Carrolan
10/15	Gay Head	45	V. Laux#
10/20	Mt. Tom	45	T. Carrolan#
Cooper's Hawk			
9/5-29	Chatham (MI)	22	D. Manchester#
9/7-25	Mt. Watatic	20	EMHW (P. Staub)
9/17-25	Mt. Wachusett	21	EMHW (J. Stein)
10/2-31	Granville	81	J. Weeks#
10/thr	Chatham (MI)	99	D. Manchester#
10/3	Chatham (MI)	20	D. Manchester#
10/5-31	Barre Falls	48	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/14	Mt. Wachusett	10	T. Carrolan
10/19	Mt. Tom	12	T. Tying
Northern Goshawk			
9/thr	Groton	pr	J. Lisk
9/7	Cuttyhunk	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/7	Holden	1	M. Lynch#
9/18	Lexington	1	imm M. Rines
9/28	Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab
9/29	Gardner	1	T. Pirro
10/5	P.I.	1	D. Chickering
10/9-29	Barre Falls	19	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/10	Stoughton	1	R. Titus
10/14	Mt. Wachusett	2	T. Carrolan
10/15, 24	Granville	1, 1	J. Weeks
10/16	Mansfield	1	K. Ryan
10/19	Mt. Tom	2	T. Tying
10/27-30	Mt. Watatic	4	EMHW (P. Staub)
Red-shouldered Hawk			
9/1	DWWS	5	D. Furbish
9/1-29	E. Middleboro	2	K. Anderson
9/29	Cumb. Farms	2	J. Sweeney#
10/6	Gardner	2	T. Pirro
10/8-31	Granville	28	J. Weeks#
10/9-31	Barre Falls	55	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/27-31	Mt. Watatic	21	EMHW (P. Staub)
Broad-winged Hawk			
9/4-10/8	Granville	6785	J. Weeks#
9/5-30	Barre Falls	848	EMHW (B. Kamp)
9/7-19	Mt. Watatic	6122	EMHW (P. Staub)
9/8-25	Mt. Wachusett	12,552	EMHW (J. Stein)
9/12, 29	Newbypt	56, 28	T. Carrolan
9/14	Mt. Greylock	113	M. Torpey
9/16	Becket	600	R. Laubach
9/17	Mt. Wachusett	2085	EMHW (J. Stein#)
9/17	Mt. Watatic	2050	EMHW (P. Staub#)
9/18	Mt. Wachusett	9647	EMHW (J. Stein#)
9/18	Mt. Watatic	2851	EMHW (P. Staub#)
9/18	Granville	2406	J. Weeks#
9/18	Petersham	1386	J. Baird
9/18	Mt. Holyoke	500	H. Allen
9/18	Mt. Tom	1350	D. PeakeJones
9/18	Groton	1043	T. Pirro
10/22	Barre Falls	1	EMHW (B. Kamp)
Red-tailed Hawk			
10/5-31	Granville	315	J. Weeks#
10/9-31	Barre Falls	180	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/27-31	Mt. Watatic	155	EMHW (P. Staub)
Rough-legged Hawk			
10/21	Barre Falls	1	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/23	Northampton	1	imm lt C. Gentes
10/30	P.I.	1	dk D. Tambasco
10/30	Greenfield	1	juv lt M. Taylor
10/31	Mt. Watatic	1	EMHW (P. Staub)
10/31	DWWS	1	dk D. Furbish

Golden Eagle

9/30	Granville	1	J. Weeks#
10/18	Chilmark	1	sub ad A. Keith
10/22	Groton	1	imm T. Pirro
10/23-28	Barre Falls	5	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/23-30	Granville	6	J. Weeks#
American Kestrel			
9/4-10/30	Granville	565	J. Weeks#
9/5-29	Newbypt	31	T. Carrolan#
9/5-10/28	Barre Falls	157	EMHW (B. Kamp)
9/7-25	Mt. Watatic	38	EMHW (P. Staub)
9/16-25	Mt. Wachusett	39	EMHW (J. Stein)
9/25-29	Groton	22	T. Pirro
10/14	Mt. Wachusett	14	T. Carrolan
Merlin			
9/4-10/24	Granville	32	J. Weeks#
9/5-29	Newbypt	24	T. Carrolan#
9/7-18	Mt. Watatic	13	EMHW (P. Staub)
9/12, 18	P.I.	5, 4	R. Heil
9/12-25	Mt. Wachusett	13	EMHW (J. Stein)
9/12-10/29	Chatham (MI)	28	D. Manchester#
9/16	Groton	6	T. Pirro
9/17-18	Nomans Land	13	R. Lockwood#
9/23-25	Gay Head	23	V. Laux# + v.o.
9/24-10/29	Barre Falls	27	EMHW (B. Kamp)
9/24	Newbypt	8	T. Carrolan
10/3	Rockport (A.P.)	3	R. Heil
10/20	Mt. Tom	3	ad T. Carrolan#
Peregrine Falcon			
9/7-18	Mt. Watatic	4	EMHW (P. Staub)
9/14, 18	Mt. Wachusett	2, 2	EMHW
9/15	P.I.	3	R. Heil
9/17-18	Nomans Land	3	R. Lockwood#
9/19	Gay Head	4	V. Laux#
9/23-24	Newbypt	6	T. Carrolan
9/28-10/31	Chatham (MI)	34	D. Manchester#
9/29	Deerfield	2	R. Packard
10/1-22	Granville	18	J. Weeks#
10/5-24	Barre Falls	8	EMHW (B. Kamp)
10/6	Randolph	2	S. Carey
10/6	Ipswich	2	J. Berry#
10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	2	M. Lynch#
10/20	Mt. Tom	2	imm T. Carrolan#
10/21	Amherst	2	S. Rayer
Ring-necked Pheasant			
10/17	Burlington	2	M. Rines
10/23	Hardwick	2	C. Buelow
10/30	Bolton Flats	5	S. Sutton
Ruffed Grouse			
9/1	W. Whately	2	M. Williams
9/8	ONWR	1	R. Lockwood
9/25	Ashfield	1	S. Sauter
10/10	Quabbin (G 40)	2	C. Buelow
10/11	Mt. Wachusett	3	S. Sutton
10/23	Hardwick	1	C. Buelow
10/24	Wayland	1	G. Long
10/25	Worc. (BMB)	2	M. Lynch#
10/28	Mt. Watatic	1	T. Pirro
Wild Turkey			
9/1	Quabbin (G37)	36	G. d'Entremont#
9/7	Holden	13	M. Lynch#
9/20	Pepperell	9	E. Stromsted
9/21	M.V.	12	BBC (A. Sgroi)
10/12	W. Whately	12	M. Williams
10/31	Westminster	13	C. Caron
Northern Bobwhite			
9/25	Lexington	2	M. Rines
10/19	Wellfleet	11	SSBC (R. Fox)
Yellow Rail (details submitted) *			
9/18	Dorchester	1	R. Donovan
Clapper Rail			
9/9, 21	P.I.	1	D. Chickering
Virginia Rail			
9/18	Nomans Land	20	R. Lockwood#
9/22	GMNWR	3	S. Perkins
9/24	DWWS	3	D. Furbish
9/28	Rowley	11	J. Berry#
10/19	Nantucket	4	S. Langer

Sora	9/9	Lakeville	1 imm.	K. Anderson	10/19	Ipswich	40	J. Berry
	9/18	P.I.	1	R. Heil	10/21	Lincoln	34	M. Rines
	9/22	GMNWR	1	S. Perkins	10/21	Cambridge Res.	35	M. Rines
	9/26	Lincoln	1	M. Rines	10/22	P.I.	42	C. Caron
	9/28	Newbypt	1	R. Lockwood	Lesser Yellowlegs			
	9/28	Rowley	2	J. Berry#	9/1	Arlington Res.	19	M. Rines
	10/5	Dorchester	1	R. Donovan	9/2	Longmeadow	20	B. Bieda
	10/19	Nantucket	2	S. Langer	9/6	Quabbin (G40)	19	B. Lafley
Common Moorhen					9/14	N. Monomoy	45	B. Nikula
	9/23	Essex Bay	1 imm	D. Brown#	9/15	Newbypt	220	R. Heil
	9/23	Pittsfield (Onota)	1 ad	B. Garver	9/22	Somerset	23	J. Sweeney
	9/24	Lenox	1 ad	R. Wellspeak	10/6, 27	Newbypt	50, 9	R. Heil
American Coot					10/7	Duxbury	84	L. Cleveland
	9/29, 10/20	Boston	3, 9	BBC (R. Stymeist)	10/20, 27	Cambridge Res.	28, 4	M. Rines
	10/3, 20	Woburn	1, 6	M. Rines	Solitary Sandpiper			
	10/14	Gill	1	H. Allen	9/1	Arlington Res.	17	M. Rines
	10/16	Arlington	7	M. Rines	9/7	Holden	5	M. Lynch#
	10/25	Turners Falls	3	H. Allen	9/29	Boston	4	BBC (R. Stymeist)
Sandhill Crane					10/9	Granville	1	J. Weeks
	9/6	S. Lancaster	1 ad	D. Sutton	10/31	Winchester	1	M. Rines
Black-bellied Plover					Willet			
	9/3	N. Quincy	29	C. Nims	9/1	N. Monomoy	30	B. Nikula
	9/14, 10/20	Chatham (S.B.)	3500, 2100	B. Nikula	9/7	Cuttyhunk	2	BBC (R. Stymeist)
	9/17	P.I. Sound	275	R. Heil	9/8	Chatham (S.B.)	35	MAS (D. Furbish)
	9/28	Eastham (CGB)	78	M. Lynch#	9/28	Nantucket	1	J. Hoyer
	10/13	M.V.	69	SSBC (D. Clapp)	10/19	P.I.	1	S. Sutton#
	10/22	P.I.	60	T. Wetmore	10/30	Cummaquid	1	D. Silverstein#
	10/26	E. Quabbin	11	ABNC (J. Morris-Siegel)	Western Willet			
	10/30	W. Gloucester	3	J. + M. Nelson	10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	1	B. Nikula
American Golden-Plover					10/20	N. Monomoy	6	B. Nikula
	9/1	Katama	8	M. Pelikan	Spotted Sandpiper			
	9/1	GMNWR	3	R. LaFontaine#	9/2	Longmeadow	4	B. Bieda
	9/5	Chatham (S.B.)	3	K. Anderson#	9/7	Holden	9	M. Lynch#
	9/13	Mt. Wataatic	2	EMHW (P. Staub)	9/8	Wakefield	4	P. + F. Vale
	9/18, 10/6	P.I.	4 juv, 2 juv	R. Heil	10/29	Northampton	1	R. Packard
	9/20	Orange	3 juv	M. Taylor	10/31	Lynnfield	1	D. + I. Jewell
	9/21	E. Quabbin	2	T. Gagnon	Upland Sandpiper			
	9/29	Deerfield	1	S. Surner	9/3	Katama	2	M. Pelikan
	10/1	Randolph	2	B. Faherty	9/16	P.I.	1	D. Chickering
	10/3	Scusset B.	1	R. Titus	Whimbrel			
	10/17	Lincoln	1	M. Rines	9/1	N. Monomoy	35	B. Nikula
	10/26	Salisbury	3	BBC (S. Grinley)	9/1	DWWS	1	S. Carey
Semipalmated Plover					9/12, 10/6	P.I.	3, 2	R. Heil#
	9/1	Arlington Res.	14	M. Rines	9/14	Chatham (MI)	4	D. Manchester#
	9/1	Longmeadow	9	S. Kellogg	9/14	Wellfleet	8	BBC (R. Stymeist)
	9/7	E. Quabbin	11	B. Bieda	9/17	Nomans Land	2	R. Lockwood#
	9/7	Chatham (S.B.)	2000	R. Lockwood	9/29	Nantucket	5	E. Ray
	9/8	P.I.	150+	SSBC (W. Petersen)	10/6, 13	Eastham (F.E.)	4	B. Nikula + v.o.
	9/14, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	900, 320	B. Nikula	Hudsonian Godwit			
	9/15, 10/6	Eastham (CGB)	375, 175	B. Nikula	9/1	N. Monomoy	24	B. Nikula
	10/6	Scituate	103	SSBC (D. Peacock)	9/7	Chatham (S.B.)	4	R. Lockwood
	10/29	Ipswich (C.B.)	13	J. Berry	9/17	Newbypt H.	2	T. Wetmore
Piping Plover					9/21	N. Monomoy	8	B. Nikula
	9/15	Eastham (CGB)	8	B. Nikula	10/12	Lincoln	2	N. Soulette#
	9/21, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	47, 24	B. Nikula	10/14	Randolph	1	S. Carey
Killdeer					10/28	Salisbury	1	T. Wetmore
	9/7	Holden	78	M. Lynch#	Marbled Godwit			
	9/20	Orange	40	M. Taylor	9/1, 21	N. Monomoy	3, 1	B. Nikula
	9/21	Scituate	26	G. d'Entremont	9/21	P.I.	2	M. Tingley#
	10/4	Harvard	203	T. Pirro	10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	1	B. Nikula
	10/5	Hadley	30	G. LeBaron	Ruddy Turnstone			
	10/27	Lincoln	10	M. Rines#	9/2	Nahant	1	P. Vale
American Oystercatcher					9/3	Rockport (H.P.)	5	J. Berry
	9/21, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	155, 15	B. Nikula	9/30	Nantucket	12	J. Hoyer
	9/22	Nantucket	22	J. VanVoorst	10/29	Salisbury	2	T. Wetmore
	10/13	M.V.	4	SSBC (D. Clapp)	Red Knot			
	10/20	Monomoy	52	B. Nikula	9/12	W. Tisbury	17	A. Keith
American Avocet					9/14, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	475, 500	B. Nikula
	10/7	Nantucket	1	E. Ray	10/4	P.I.	2	D. Williams#
Greater Yellowlegs					Sanderling			
	9/14	Squantum	103	G. d'Entremont#	9/2	Longmeadow	1	B. Bieda
	9/14	N. Monomoy	300	B. Nikula	9/8	Arlington Res.	1	P. + F. Vale
	9/15	E. Boston (B.I.)	44	BBC (S. Zende#)	9/14, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	2800, 2600	B. Nikula
	9/15	Eastham (CGB)	200	B. Nikula	9/28	Eastham (CGB)	108	M. Lynch#
	9/26	E. Quabbin	16	H. Allen	10/29	Ipswich (C.B.)	96	J. Berry
	10/6	Newbypt	360	R. Heil	10/31	P.I.	135	B. Miller
	10/6	Essex	73	BBC (T. Young)	Semipalmated Sandpiper			
					9/1	Arlington Res.	14	M. Rines

Semipalmated Sandpiper (continued)

9/7	Holden	15	M. Lynch#	9/6	Westport	3	R. Bowen
9/7	Randolph	25	G. d'Entremont	9/7	Chatham (S.B.)	1	S. Mirick#
9/13	P.I.	80	M. Lynch#	9/13-16	Easton	1	N. Bonomo
9/14, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	900, 125	B. Nikula	9/15	P.I.	2 juv	R. Heil
9/14	Squantum	62	G. d'Entremont#	Short-billed Dowitcher			
9/15, 10/6	Eastham (CGB)	475, 80	B. Nikula	9/1, 21	E. Quabbin	3, 1	T. Gagnon
10/13	P.I.	10	J. Hoye	9/1	N. Monomoy	70	B. Nikula
10/25	Lincoln	1	M. Rines	9/11	GMNWR	8	R. Lockwood
10/27	Marshfield	4	G. d'Entremont#	9/14	Squantum	8	G. d'Entremont#
Western Sandpiper				9/15	Newbypt	170	R. Heil
9/2	Nahant	1	P. + F. Vale	10/5	Eastham (F.E.)	15	G. d'Entremont#
9/6	Westport	1	R. Bowen	10/6, 23	P.I.	25, 1	R. Heil
9/14, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	15, 12	B. Nikula	10/20	Chatham (S.B.)	8	B. Nikula
9/15, 10/6	Eastham (CGB)	10, 8	B. Nikula	Long-billed Dowitcher			
9/15	P.I.	4 juv	R. Heil	9/10, 10/6	P.I.	34, 43	R. Heil
Least Sandpiper				9/21	E. Quabbin	1	T. Gagnon
9/1	Arlington Res.	76	M. Rines	10/6	Randolph	1	S. Carey
9/2	Hadley	24	S. Surner	10/20	Lincoln	1	M. Rines
9/7, 22	Holden	144, 18	M. Lynch#	Wilson's Snipe			
9/7	Randolph	25	G. d'Entremont	9/11	GMNWR	6	R. Lockwood
9/7	E. Quabbin	25	B. Bieda	9/14	Randolph	4	D. Furbish#
9/8	GMNWR	45+	P. + F. Vale	10/9, 27	Bolton Flats	2, 4	S. Sutton
9/14, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	80, 4	B. Nikula	10/9	Southwick	1	S. Kellogg
9/21	Scituate	30	G. d'Entremont	10/19	Dorchester	1	R. Donovan
10/25	Lincoln	3	M. Rines	10/26	E. Quabbin	1	ABNC (J. M-Siegel)
10/29	Randolph	9	R. Titus	10/27	Hyannis	1	C. Buelow
White-rumped Sandpiper				American Woodcock			
9/14, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	250, 35	B. Nikula	9/26	ONWR	2	S. Sutton
9/15	P.I.	75	R. Heil	10/8	Granville	2	J. Wojtanowski
9/15	Eastham (CGB)	30	B. Nikula	10/26	E. Quabbin	2	ABNC (J. M-Siegel)
10/12	Salisbury	30+	P. + F. Vale	10/31	Richmond	1	H. Allen
10/25	Lincoln	3	M. Rines	Wilson's Phalarope			
10/29	Randolph	3	R. Titus	9/7-21	Chatham (S.B.)	1-4	v.o.
10/29	Salisbury	1	T. Wetmore	Red-necked Phalarope			
Baird's Sandpiper				9/2	Longmeadow	1 juv	S. Surner
9/1	E. Quabbin	3	T. Gagnon	9/9	Cashes Ledge	74	R. Heil#
9/5	Chatham (S.B.)	1 juv	J. Sweeney	9/12	Eastham (F.E.)	7	B. Nikula
9/7	Holden	3 juv	M. Lynch#	9/12	P.I.	1 juv	J. Berry#
9/8	Longmeadow	1	B. Bieda	9/29	P'town (R.P.)	17	M. Lynch#
9/12-16	P.I.	4 total	R. Heil	10/6	Plymouth	3	SSBC (D. Peacock)
9/13	Lexington	1	M. Rines	Red Phalarope			
9/14	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	9/9	Cashes Ledge	315	R. Heil#
Pectoral Sandpiper				9/12	Eastham (F.E.)	1	B. Nikula
9/4, 10/18	Arlington Res.	12, 5	M. Rines	9/29	P'town (R.P.)	10	M. Lynch#
9/11	GMNWR	18	R. Lockwood	10/2	S. Hadley	1	H. Allen
9/16	P.I.	11	R. Heil	10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	2	M. Lynch#
10/12	Eastham	53	R. Donovan#	10/27	Eastham (F.E.)	1	B. Nikula
10/15	P.I.	40+	R. Heil	Pomarine Jaeger			
10/27	Newbury	30	R. Heil	9/7, 21	Atlantis Canyon	8, 2	R. Donovan#
10/29	Randolph	26	R. Titus	9/9	Cashes Ledge	4	R. Heil#
10/31	Pittsfield	6	H. Allen	9/27, 28	Rockport (A.P.)	3, 4	R. Heil
Purple Sandpiper				10/12, 16	Rockport (A.P.)	9, 10	R. Heil
10/22	Nahant	1	D. Wilkinson	10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	4	M. Lynch#
Dunlin				10/13, 26	P'town (R.P.)	2, 3	B. Nikula#
9/14	New Salem	1	W. Lafley	10/17, 27	Eastham (F.E.)	25, 60	B. Nikula
9/15, 10/23	P.I.	35, 830	R. Heil	Parasitic Jaeger			
9/21, 10/10	Chatham (S.B.)	580, 4500	B. Nikula	9/1, 14	Chatham (S.B.)	15, 15	B. Nikula
9/28	Eastham (CGB)	60	M. Lynch#	9/1	Wellfleet	1	M. Faherty
10/18	Newbypt H.	80	T. Wetmore	9/9	Cashes Ledge	1 ad	BBC (S. Mirick)
10/20	Northampton	2	C. Gentes	9/9	Salisbury	1	R. Heil
10/25	Lincoln	9	M. Rines	9/13	Chatham	17+	B. Nikula#
10/26	E. Quabbin	65	ABNC (J. M-Siegel)	9/15	Stellwagen	1	SSBC (D. Clapp)
10/27	Marshfield	92	G. d'Entremont#	9/28	Rockport (A.P.)	1	R. Heil
10/29	Ipswich (C.B.)	28	J. Berry	10/thr	Rockport (A.P.)	8 total	R. Heil
10/29	Randolph	10	R. Titus	10/12, 26	P'town (R.P.)	1, 1	B. Nikula#
Stilt Sandpiper				10/13, 17	Eastham (F.E.)	12, 1	B. Nikula#
9/2	Longmeadow	3 juv	B. Bieda	10/13	Barnstable (S.N.)	5	M. Lynch#
9/2	GMNWR	3	M. Rines	Long-tailed Jaeger (details)*			
9/10	Lexington	1 imm	R. Lockwood	9/1	Chatham (S.B.)	1 juv ph	B. Nikula
9/14	Squantum	1	R. Lockwood#	Laughing Gull			
9/15, 25	P.I.	14, 5	J. Smith#	9/9	Newbypt	35+ juv	R. Heil
9/22	Nantucket	3	E. Ray	9/14	Squantum	250	G. d'Entremont#
10/23	Lincoln	2	M. Rines	9/21	Edgartown	300+	A. Keith#
Broad-billed Sandpiper (details submitted)*				9/22	Gloucester (E.P.)	200+	J. Berry
9/10	P.I.	1	R. Heil	10/1	Chatham	200+	B. Nikula
Buff-breasted Sandpiper				10/2	Randolph	4	R. Titus
9/1	Katama	1	M. Pelikan	10/8	Nahant	1000	L. Pivacek
				10/19	Manomet	200	W. Petersen

Laughing Gull (continued)				Roseate Tern			
10/27 Eastham (F.E.)	220		B. Nikula	9/5 Salisbury	2		T. + L. Wetmore
Little Gull				9/8 Chatham (S.B.)	25		MAS (D. Furbish)
9/15 Newbyp	2		J. Smith#	9/9 Cashes Ledge	6		BBC (S. Mirick)
9/22, 10/8 Lynn	1 ad, 1 1W		J. Quigley	9/15 Eastham (CGB)	175		B. Nikula
10/12 Rockport (A.P.)	1 1W		R. Heil	10/1 Chatham	2+		B. Nikula
10/14 Eastham (F.E.)	1 2W		B. Nikula	Common Tern			
10/17 P.I.	1 ad		R. Heil	9/2-4 Edgartown	2500		A. Keith#
10/20 S. Boston	2		R. Donovan	9/17 P.I.	300		R. Heil
10/27 Eastham (F.E.)	1 1W		B. Nikula	9/28 Rockport (A.P.)	130		R. Heil
Black-headed Gull				9/29 P'town (R.P.)	525		M. Lynch#
9/2 Nahant	1		P + F. Vale	10/1 Chatham	400		B. Nikula
9/15 Plymouth H.	1		K. Anderson	10/13, 27 Eastham (F.E.)	3300, 8		B. Nikula#
10/19 Plymouth	1 ad		W. Petersen	10/16 P'town (R.P.)	20		P. Flood
10/30 W. Gloucester	1		J. + M. Nelson	10/27 Plymouth B.	2 imm		G. d'Entremont#
Bonaparte's Gull				Forster's Tern			
9/2 Nahant	58		P + F. Vale	9/14 N. Monomoy	8		B. Nikula
9/15 Newbyp	480		R. Heil	9/15 Eastham (CGB)	80+		B. Nikula
9/22 Gloucester (E.P.)	25 imm		J. Berry	9/18 Jeffries L.	5		J. Berry
9/29 P'town (R.P.)	26		M. Lynch#	10/1 Chatham	40+		B. Nikula
10/20 S. Boston	150		R. Donovan	10/14 Eastham	60		D. Larson#
10/25 Ipswich	150		J. Berry	10/19 Plymouth	16		W. Petersen
10/31 Pittsfield (Onota)	2		H. Allen	10/23 P.I.	2		R. Heil
Yellow-legged Gull (details submitted) *				10/26 P'town (R.P.)	8+		B. Nikula
10/6 Eastham (CGB)	1 ad		P. Flood, J. Trimble	10/27 Marshfield	42		G. d'Entremont#
Iceland Gull				10/29 Edgartown	2		V. Laux
10/16 Salisbury	1		T. Wetmore	Least Tern			
Lesser Black-backed Gull				9/3 Chatham (S.B.)	1		P. Flood#
9/1, 12 N. Monomoy	2, 2		B. Nikula	Bridled Tern (details submitted) *			
9/9 Cashes Ledge	1 ad		R. Heil	9/7-8 Atlantis Canyon	2		R. Donovan#
9/14, 21 Chatham (S.B.)	2, 7		B. Nikula	Black Tern			
9/14 Wellfleet	1		BBC (R. Stymeist)	9/2 Nantucket	4		S. Langer
9/30 Newbyp	1 ad		R. Heil	9/2 N. Truro	2		J. Young
10/3 Rockport (A.P.)	1 ad		R. Heil	9/7-8 just off M.V.	2		R. Donovan#
10/5 Boston	1 ad		R. Kelley	9/15 P'town	1		BBC (R. Stymeist)
10/9 Chatham	3 ad		B. Nikula	9/21 Chatham (S.B.)	1		B. Nikula
10/16 Eastham (F.E.)	1		D. Abbott	10/16 Eastham (F.E.)	1 ph		D. Abbott
10/16 Edgartown	8		V. Laux#	Black Skimmer			
10/21 Gardner	1		T. Pirro	9/16 Chatham	1		J. McLaughlin
10/26 P'town	1 ad		B. Nikula	9/23 Newbyp	1		T. Carrolan
Black-legged Kittiwake				10/5 Revere	1		R. Kelley
9/7 Atlantis Canyon	1 imm		R. Donovan#	Thick-billed Murre			
9/28 Truro	1		M. Lynch#	10/26 Rockport (A.P.)	1		R. Heil
10/5 P.I.	1 imm		M. Halloran	Razorbill			
10/12 Marshfield	5		G. d'Entremont	9/15 Stellwagen	1		SSBC (D. Clapp)
10/12, 26 P'town (R.P.)	24, 105		B. Nikula#	9/15 Stellwagen	1		SSBC (D. Clapp)
10/26 Rockport (A.P.)	200		J. Hoye	10/12, 26 Rockport (A.P.)	5, 14		R. Heil
10/27 Eastham (F.E.)	3600		B. Nikula	10/13 Barnstable (S.N.)	1		M. Lynch#
Caspian Tern				10/13 P'town (R.P.)	3		P. Flood
9/18 P.I.	2		R. Heil	10/27 Eastham (F.E.)	2		B. Nikula
9/20 Marion	1 ad		M. Maurer	Black Guillemot			
9/26-10/8 Randolph	11 max		9/26 T. O'Neil + v. o.	9/5 P.I.	1 juv		R. Heil
9/29 Plymouth B.	2		G. Tepke#	10/26 Rockport (A.P.)	3		R. Heil
10/3 Scusset B.	4		R. Titus	Atlantic Puffin			
10/4 Rockport (A.P.)	4		N. Bonomo	10/3, 12 Rockport (A.P.)	2, 104		R. Heil
10/4, 7 P.I.	3, 2		R. Heil	10/13, 27 Eastham (F.E.)	4, 2		B. Nikula#
10/6 Braintree	2		SSBC (D. Peacock)	10/13 P'town (R.P.)	9		B. Nikula#
10/9 S. Boston	2		R. Donovan	10/16 Rockport (A.P.)	16		R. Heil



ATLANTIC PUFFIN BY ANON.

PARAKEETS THROUGH FINCHES

Perhaps the most exciting news this period was the “invasion” of *Selasphorus* hummingbirds into our area. There were at least eight individuals found within a wide area of the state. You can only wonder how many more birds showed up at feeders and went unreported. Three of these birds were determined to be **Rufous Hummingbirds**. The now famous “Ruffy” (a female Rufous) arrived back at the same feeder in Agawam for the *seventh* year in a row. Could our little Ruffy be responsible for this invasion? Another bird from Amherst was captured and banded and determined to be an after-hatch-year adult female Rufous, which means that it had survived at least one winter somewhere. The other Rufous was an adult male photographed in Stow. There was a very interesting and worthwhile discussion on the Massbird listserv on the pros and cons of feeding hummingbirds. There were those who advocated taking in your hummingbird feeder before a heavy frost and (one hopes) sending the bird south. The others believed that none of these pioneers would be able to reorient and move south to a more suitable habitat; they are doomed. The fact that so many of these hummers are appearing in the east gives some hope that some of these vanguards *will* find a way to survive long enough to reproduce, bringing about a change in distribution.

The majority of Common Nighthawks and Chimney Swifts have usually passed through our area in August, but both these species were well reported especially in early September, with two October reports of Common Nighthawk noted. As many as 800 Chimney Swifts were roosting in a chimney in Hanover as late as October 20, far and away the largest gathering so late in the year. There were three reports of Red-headed Woodpeckers, still a fairly uncommon bird in the state. Pileated Woodpeckers were noted in at least 13 locations. A **Say’s Phoebe** was found September 18 in the West Meadows of Northampton for only the third record in the state at an inland location. Quick reporting brought many nearby birders to the scene for this one-day show. There were 10 Olive-sided Flycatchers and three Western Kingbirds also noted during the period.

Becket appears to be a hotspot for Common Ravens. In recent years only two reports cite higher numbers than the 30 on September 19: 75 in Plainfield May 9, 2001, and 53 on December 15, 1999 – in Becket. Ravens are also appearing more frequently in the eastern sections of the state, including Cape Cod. The recent late fall reports of Northern Rough-winged Swallows continued this year, with as many as 50 at Great Meadows in Concord in mid-October. Red-breasted Nuthatches, on the other hand, had a disappointing showing statewide, and they were especially scarce in eastern Massachusetts.

The fall passerine migration is well underway in September, and birders were out in full force. Thirty-four species of warblers were noted during the period, two more than last year. A Golden-winged Warbler found on Plum Island on October 15 was exceptionally late, second only to an individual in West Newbury on November 13, 1985. Louisiana Waterthrush, early both to arrive and leave breeding territories, are rare after the middle of August, and a bird definitively photographed at the Boston Public Garden on October 4 set a new late date for this species. Other interesting reports included a Yellow-throated Warbler in Pittsfield, a Prothonotary from Plum Island, and Hooded Warblers from Nantucket and Wellfleet. Higher-than-normal numbers of Orange-crowned and Connecticut warblers were reported, and there were at least 13 Yellow-breasted Chats noted.

Sparrow migration peaks in October, and highlights included 10 Clay-colored, 10 Vesper, 6 Lark, 4 Grasshopper, and 16 Nelson’s Sharp-tailed sparrows. The highlight for the month was the discovery of a **Le Conte’s Sparrow** at Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary in Marshfield. A juvenile Orchard Oriole was well studied at close range on the extremely late date of September 29 along the High Head trail in Truro.

An adult male **Boat-tailed Grackle** was found along the salt marsh in Newburyport Harbor on October 27. It was described as much larger than a Common Grackle, with an extremely long, keel-shaped tail, all black with a glossy purple-blue head and bright yellow eye. Although the head did not give the impression of being flat-crowned, the observers could not definitely eliminate Great-tailed Grackle, but reported it as Boat-tailed based on habitat (salt marsh) and location (proximity to small breeding numbers in southwest Connecticut). In April 1986 two female large *Quiscalus* sp. were seen, also in Newburyport.

A **Shiny Cowbird** was found at the Herring Creek Farm near Katama on Martha's Vineyard on October 14. The observers glimpsed a blackbird with a purple iridescence perched on top of a chimney. They initially thought it would be a Brewer's Blackbird, but when binoculars were raised, it was clear that it was a cowbird with a dark eye and purplish sheen. In excellent light and at only 60 feet away, the observers noted the longer tail and slimmer bill (than Brown-headed Cowbird). If accepted by the MARC, this would represent a first state record. R. Stymeist

Monk Parakeet			Northern Saw-whet Owl		
10/13 Bridgewater	1	D. Cabral	10/15 Sunderland	1	M. Williams
Black-billed Cuckoo			Common Nighthawk		
9/1 Quabbin (G37)	1	R. Lockwood#	9/1 Northampton	239	T. Gagnon
9/12 MNWS	1	K. Haley	9/3 Waltham	200	A. Smith
9/14 Squantum	1	D. Furbish#	9/3, 17 Maynard	206, 3	L. Nachtrab
9/18 E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	9/4 Mt.A.	92	R. Stymeist
9/21 P.I.	1	P. + F. Vale	9/4, 7 Northampton	64, 32	T. Gagnon
9/26 ONWR	1	S. Sutton	9/9 W. Boylston	20	M. Lynch#
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			9/23 Halifax	11	A. Brissette#
9/13 Manchester	1	S. Hedman	9/23 Bolton Flats	2	T. Pirro
9/14 Wellfleet	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)	9/26 Chatham (MI)	1	D. Manchester
9/21 P.I.	2	D. Chickering	9/29 Nantucket	1	J. Hoyer
9/25 Taunton	1	J. Sweeney	10/9 Cumb. Farms	1	J. Sweeney#
9/27 Medford	1	M. Rines	10/13 W. Tisbury	3+	S. Scannell
9/28 Berlin	1	S. Sutton	Chimney Swift		
10/4 Marblehead	1	K. Haley	9/3 Waltham	300	A. Smith
10/6 Cumb. Farms	1	M. Maurer#	9/4 Groton	20	T. Pirro
10/6 Truro	1	B. Nikula	9/12 Manchester	50	S. Hedman
10/14 Salisbury	1	G. Tepke#	9/14 Blackstone	38	M. Lynch#
10/14 Chatham (MI)	1	D. Manchester#	9/16 Springfield	30	M. Williams
10/18 Sandwich	1	D. Furbish	10/1 GMNWR	80	J. Hines#
Barn Owl			10/1 Granville	2	S. Kellogg
9/21-22 M.V.	3	BBC (A. Sgroi)	10/20, 27 Hanover	800, 55	W. Petersen
9/28 Nantucket	1	J. Hoyer	Ruby-throated Hummingbird		
Eastern Screech-Owl			9/3 Huntington	8	R. Packard#
9/21 M.V.	2	BBC (A. Sgroi)	9/7 Gay Head	7	A. Keith#
9/23 Bolton Flats	2	T. Pirro	9/8 Quabbin Pk.	4	M. Lynch#
10/10 DWWS	2	D. Furbish	9/20 Wakefield	3	F. Vale
thr Reports of indiv. from 19 locations			9/23 Granville	1	J. Weeks#
Great Horned Owl			9/24 Newbypt	1	T. Carrolan
9/18 Maynard	2	L. Nachtrab	9/25 Pittsfield	1	T. Collins
9/22 Warwick	2	M. Taylor#	Rufous Hummingbird (photos and details on some) *		
9/23 Bolton Flats	2	T. Pirro	9/1-28 Agawam	1	L. Fieldstad
10/19 Denniport	2	D. Silverstein#	9/12-10/20 Amherst	1 ad f b ph	T. Priest + v.o.
10/20 Norfolk	2	R. Emerson	9/17-10/1 Stow	1 ad m ph	W. Howell#
thr Reports of indiv. from 8 locations			Selasphorus species (photos and details on some) *		
Barred Owl			9/22-10/30 Newbury	1 ph	S. Stichter
9/3 Topsfield	3	J. MacDougall#	9/22-24 Essex	1 ph	P. Brown + v.o.
9/4 E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	10/6-14 Princeton	1 ph	B. Van Dusen#
9/6-23 Bolton	1	R. Lockwood	10/6-21 Athol	1 ph	B. Fregeau + v.o.
9/21-5 Ashfield	2	S. Sauter	10/18-31 Pembroke	1	C. Weiss
9/28 Whately	1	M. Williams	Belted Kingfisher		
9/thr Pepperell	2	E. Stromsted	9/7 Holden	4	M. Lynch#
10/7 Easton	1	K. Ryan	9/15 P'town/Truro	6 BBC (R. Stymeist)	
10/15 Sunderland	1	M. Williams	9/22 Westboro	5	M. Lynch#
10/25 Hardwick	1	C. Buelow	9/29 Chatham (MI)	7	D. Manchester
10/29 Salisbury	1	T. Wetmore	10/20 Newbury	3	S. McGrath
Long-eared Owl			10/31 Falmouth	3	A. Pellerini-Toole
10/23 DWWS	2	D. Furbish	Red-headed Woodpecker		
Short-eared Owl			9/26-28 P.I.	1 ad	J. Young + v.o.
10/17 WBWS	1	R. Titus	9/29 Truro	1	M. Lynch#
10/29 Nomans Land	1	A. Keith	10/5 Hadley	1	G. LeBaron

Red-bellied Woodpecker			9/14	Wellfleet	18	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/8 Lexington	4	M. Rines	9/29, 10/20	Boston	18, 4	R. Stymeist#
10/7 Stoneham	3	D. + I. Jewell	9/29	Bolton Flats	14	R. Lockwood
10/20 Lincoln	5	M. Rines	10/6	Westboro	21	M. Lynch#
10/27 Marshfield	3	G. d'Entremont#	10/13	Lexington	12	M. Rines
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			10/20	Stoneham	6	P. + F. Vale
9/8 Windsor	2	R. Packard#	10/28	Cambr. (F.P.)	1	B. Miller
9/27 P.I.	3	J. Young	10/30	Winchester	1	M. Rines
10/5 Hadley	10	G. LeBaron	Say's Phoebe (details submitted) *			
10/8 Groton	3	S. Perkins	9/18	Northampton	1	C. Gentes + v.o.
10/11 Boston	2	G. Tepke	Great Crested Flycatcher			
10/23 Gr Barrington	2	C. Barrett	9/7	DWWS	1	G. d'Entremont#
Hairy Woodpecker			9/14	Blackstone	2	M. Lynch#
9/1 Quabbin (G37)	6	R. Lockwood#	9/15	Stow	1	R. Lockwood
9/13 Wakefield	4	F. Vale	9/17	Nomans Land	1	R. Lockwood#
10/8 Groton	3	S. Perkins	9/19	Bolton Flats	1	S. Sutton
10/19 Paxton	3	M. Lynch#	Western Kingbird			
10/25 Worc. (BMB)	3	M. Lynch#	9/5	IRWS	1	J. MacDougall
10/thr Maynard	3	L. Nachtrab	9/29	Truro	1	M. Lynch#
Northern Flicker			10/18-22	P.I.	1	M. Allaire + v.o.
9/8 Quabbin Pk.	13	M. Lynch#	Eastern Kingbird			
9/10 Wakefield	21	F. Vale	9/1	Barre F.D./Rutland S.P.	4	M. Lynch#
9/18 Nomans Land	16	R. Lockwood#	9/17	Nomans Land	2	R. Lockwood#
9/29 Truro	10	M. Lynch#	9/21	Chatham (MI)	1	D. Manchester#
9/29, 10/28 Chatham	22, 15	D. Manchester	9/21	P.I.	1	BBC (L.dela Flor)
10/3 Melrose	16	D. + I. Jewell	9/21-22	M.V.	4	BBC (A. Sgroi)
Pileated Woodpecker			Northern Shrike			
9/1 Quabbin (G37)	2	R. Lockwood#	10/27-31	Barre Falls	2	EMHW (B. Kamp)
9/6 Sterling	2	S. Sutton	White-eyed Vireo			
9/9 Maynard	1 f	L. Nachtrab	9/13	Gay Head	1	A. Keith#
9/24 Newbypt	1	S. McGrath	9/21	MNWS	1	K. Haley#
9/24, 10/24 Granville	1, 1	J. Weeks#	9/22	Northampton	1	D. Peake-Jones
9/26 Bolton Flats	pr	S. Sutton	10/4	Stoughton	1	R. Titus
10/8 Wayland	1	J. Hoye	Blue-headed Vireo			
10/20 Gardner	2	T. Pirro	9/1	Quabbin (G37)	9	R. Lockwood#
10/28 Conway	1	M. Williams	9/19, 10/19	Lexington	2, 1	M. Rines
10/30 Sheffield	1 pr	M. Resch	9/21	Gardner	2	T. Pirro
Olive-sided Flycatcher			9/23	Sunderland	2	M. Williams
9/1 Barre F.D./Rutland S.P.	3	M. Lynch#	9/26	Montague	2	C. Buelow
9/2 Quabbin (G40)	1 juv	J. Smith#	10/1	Northfield	2	R. Packard#
9/7 Leverett	1	d. Case	10/4	Stoughton	2	R. Titus
9/13 Gay Head	1	M. Pelikan	10/21	Burlington	1	M. Rines
9/13 E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	10/21	Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab
9/14 Amherst	1	S. Surner	10/22	Bourne	1	J. Kricher
9/14 Wellfleet	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)	Yellow-throated Vireo			
9/17 Mt. Watatic	1	EMHW (P. Staub)	9/1, 22	Quabbin (G37)	1, 1	R. Lockwood#
Eastern Wood-Pewee			9/5	IRWS	1	J. MacDougall
9/1 Barre F.D./Rutland S.P.	22	M. Lynch#	9/8	Quabbin Pk.	3	M. Lynch#
9/1 Quabbin (G37)	11	R. Lockwood#	9/8	Medford	1	M. Rines#
9/1 Sterling	10	S. Sutton	9/14	Blackstone	2	M. Lynch#
9/3 Huntington	4	R. Packard#	9/22	ONWR	1	J. Nelson
9/8 ONWR	3	R. Lockwood	10/27	Nantucket	1	J. Carlson
9/17 Nomans Land	2	R. Lockwood#	Warbling Vireo			
9/26 P.I.	3	J. Young	9/10	Lexington	3	R. Lockwood
10/3 Boston	1	G. Tepke	9/18	Brewster	2	S. Finnegan#
10/5 Northampton	1	H. Allen	9/29	Truro	1	M. Lynch#
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			10/5	Hadley	1	S. Surner
9/5, 13 Chilmark	1, 1	A. Keith	Philadelphia Vireo			
9/5 Westhampton	1	B. Bieda	9/7	DWWS	2	G. d'Entremont#
9/7 Holden	1	M. Lynch#	9/13	Chilmark	2	A. Keith
9/14 Granville	1	J. Hutchison	9/14	Wellfleet	5	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/15 IRWS	1	J. Nelson#	9/15, 23	Woburn	2, 1	M. Rines#
9/17 GMNWR	1	D. + I. Jewell	9/15, 10/5	Burlington	2, 1	M. Rines
Trail's Flycatcher			9/17	Nomans Land	2	R. Lockwood#
9/17 Nomans Land	2	R. Lockwood#	9/21-22	Auburn	2 b	M. Blazis
9/21 Hadley	4	I. Dukovski	9/25	Wayland	2	J. Hoye
10/24 Gay Head	1	A. Keith	10/5	Hadley	1	S. Surner
Least Flycatcher			Red-eyed Vireo			
9/1 Quabbin (G37)	1	R. Lockwood#	9/1	Barre F.D./Rutland S.P.	37	M. Lynch#
9/7 MNWS	4	P. + F. Vale	9/14	Wellfleet	21	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/8 Windsor	1	R. Packard#	9/18	Brewster	15	S. Finnegan#
9/14 Braintree	1	G. d'Entremont#	9/18	Nomans Land	15	R. Lockwood#
9/14 Granville	1	S. Kellogg	9/18	P.I.	14	R. Heil
9/14 Squantum	1	G. d'Entremont#	9/27	Medford	6	M. Rines
9/17 Nomans Land	1	R. Lockwood#	10/6	Lexington	5	P. + F. Vale
9/20 Framingham	1	J. Hoye	10/12	Northampton	1	R. Packard
Eastern Phoebe			10/28	Wayland	1	G. Long
9/1 Barre F.D./Rutland S.P.	54	M. Lynch#				

Fish Crow				Brown Creeper			
9/6	Weymouth	12+	K. Vespaziani	9/1	Quabbin (G37)	4	R. Lockwood#
9/11	Northampton	1	W. Lafley	9/28	Berlin	5	S. Sutton
9/14	Wellfleet	6	BBC (R. Stymeist)	10/19	Paxton	5	M. Lynch#
9/14	Braintree	3	G. d'Entremont#	10/19	Hardwick	3	C. Buelow
9/29	Randolph	12	P. Brown	10/24	Wakefield	3	F. Vale
9/29	Nantucket	1	J. Hoyer	10/24	Wayland	3	G. Long
10/3	DWWS	4	D. Furbish	Carolina Wren			
10/13	Pittsfield	1	Hoffmann Club	9/1	Cummington	2	R. Stymeist#
Common Raven				9/3	Medford	9	M. Rines
9/8	Windsor	2	R. Packard#	9/7	Cuttyhunk	24	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/13	Mt. Wachusett	4	EMHW (J. Stein)	9/14	Braintree	8	G. d'Entremont#
9/15, 10/6	Eastham (CGB)	2, 1	B. Nikula	9/14	Wellfleet	22	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/15	Wayland	1	G. Long	9/18	Brimfield	4	R. Stymeist
9/16	Becket	30	R. Laubach	9/29	Boston	15	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/25	Groton	1	T. Pirro	10/19	Lexington	7	M. Rines
9/28	N. Andover	1	L. Wagner	10/27	Lincoln	7	M. Rines#
9/28	Maynard	1	L. Nachtrab	10/27	Marshfield	10	G. d'Entremont#
9/29	Whately	2	M. Williams	House Wren			
10/15	Barre Falls	13	EMHW (B. Kamp)	9/8	Lexington	15	M. Rines
10/17	Sunderland	4	M. Williams	9/8	Quabbin Pk.	4	M. Lynch#
10/19	Quabbin	13	T. Gagnon	9/14	Braintree	3	G. d'Entremont#
10/24	Granville	4	J. Weeks#	10/20	Cumb. Farms	1	G. d'Entremont
10/31	Mt. Watatic	11	EMHW (P. Staub)	10/28	Burlington	1	M. Rines
Horned Lark				Winter Wren			
9/29	P'town (R.P.)	20	M. Lynch#	10/9	Hyannis	2	C. Buelow
10/4	Hadley	30	M. Williams	10/15	Sunderland	3	M. Williams
10/9	Northampton	20	H. Allen	10/24	Stoneham	2	D. + I. Jewell
10/29	P.I.	77	C. Caron	10/26	Belchertown	2	M. Faherty
10/30	W. Gloucester	10	J. + M. Nelson	Marsh Wren			
10/30	Sheffield	20	M. Resch	9/21	P.I.	1	P. + F. Vale
Purple Martin				10/17	Northampton	1	H. d'Entremont#
9/4	DWWS	1	f ad D. Furbish	10/18	Boston	1	G. Tepke
9/15	W. Gloucester	1	J. Nelson#	10/19	Nantucket	8	S. Langer
9/15	P'town (R.P.)	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)	10/25	GMNWR	1	J. Hoyer
Tree Swallow				Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			
9/1	P.I.	12,000	J. Offermann	9/3	Huntington	1	R. Packard#
9/13	Northampton	1000	M. Taylor#	9/7	DWWS	3	G. d'Entremont#
9/14	N. Monomoy	400	B. Nikula	9/14	Wellfleet	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/18	Nomans Land	450	R. Lockwood#	9/14	Blackstone	1	M. Lynch#
9/30, 10/4	P.I.	5000, 150	R. Heil	9/17	Nomans Land	1	A. Keith#
10/6	Cumb. Farms	3000+	J. Sweeney#	10/2	Lexington	1	M. Rines
10/10	Whately	10	R. Packard	10/26	Nantucket	1	D. Kiesel
10/15, 29	Sandwich	400, 3	J. Kricher	Golden-crowned Kinglet			
10/20	GMNWR	70	BBC (B. Volkle)	9/1	Quabbin (G37)	6	R. Lockwood#
10/20	Cumb. Farms	60	G. d'Entremont	9/8	Windsor	6	R. Packard#
10/31	Chatham (MI)	218	D. Manchester#	9/29	Nantucket	6	J. Hoyer
Northern Rough-winged Swallow				9/30	Melrose	6	D. + I. Jewell
9/2	Sunderland	5	H. Allen	10/6	P.I.	20	BBC (I. Giriunas)
9/6	Wakefield	50	P. + F. Vale	10/18	Taunton	8	J. Sweeney
10/1	Wayland	1	S. Perkins	10/19	Paxton	11	M. Lynch#
10/14	N. Truro	1	D. Larson#	10/20	Holden	83	M. Lynch#
10/14	P'town	1	J. Sweeney#	10/22	Wakefield	10	F. Vale
10/14	GMNWR	50	K. Hartel	10/23	ONWR	13	S. Sutton
10/19	Cumb. Farms	1	W. Petersen	10/24	Boston	10	G. Tepke
10/31	GMNWR	3	C. Caron	Ruby-crowned Kinglet			
Bank Swallow				9/8	Lexington	1	P. + F. Vale
9/1	GMNWR	10	G. d'Entremont	9/17	Nomans Land	1	R. Lockwood#
9/22	Cumb. Farms	5	G. d'Entremont	9/26, 10/11	Montague	2, 10	C. Buelow
Barn Swallow				10/5	Hadley	30	G. LeBaron
9/1	Quabbin (G37)	4	R. Lockwood#	10/10	Quabbin (G 40)	14	C. Buelow
9/13	P.I.	10	M. Lynch#	10/12	Westminster	14	C. Caron
9/18	Nomans Land	3	R. Lockwood#	10/19	Lexington	28	M. Rines
9/22, 10/20	Cumb. Farms	100, 6	G. d'Entremont	10/20	Wakefield	15	P. + F. Vale
9/30	Chatham (MI)	4	D. Manchester#	10/20	Boston	22	BBC (R. Stymeist)
Cliff Swallow				10/21	Winchester	15	M. Rines
9/2	Sunderland	1	S. Kellogg	10/31	Concord	6	M. Rines
9/3	Greenfield	1	R. Packard	Eastern Bluebird			
9/10	Cuttyhunk	1	J. Young	10/10	Stoughton	29	R. Titus
9/18	Nomans Land	1	A. Keith#	10/11	Lincoln	10	M. Rines
9/28	P. I.	1	R. Lockwood	10/17	Northampton	40	B. Bieda
Red-breasted Nuthatch				10/25	Granville	17	J. Weeks#
9/1	Quabbin (G37)	7	R. Lockwood#	10/27	Sutton	19	M. Lynch#
9/1	Barre F.D./Rutland S.P.	12	M. Lynch#	10/27	Marshfield	10	G. d'Entremont#
9/8	Quabbin Pk.	2	M. Lynch#	10/29	Northampton	15	R. Packard
9/30	Nantucket	4	J. Hoyer	10/31	Marstons Mills	24	J. Hoffman
10/10	Quabbin (G 40)	3	C. Buelow	Veery			
10/22	Bourne	2	J. Kricher	9/14	Stoneham	1	D. + I. Jewell

Veery (continued)			9/14 Squantum	1	G. d'Entremont#
9/14 MNWS	1	L. Ferraresso	9/15 P'town	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/14 Squantum	1	R. Lockwood#	Golden-winged Warbler		
9/15 ONWR	1	BBC (J. Center)	10/15 P.I.	1 f	J. Berry
9/16 Medford	2	R. LaFontaine	Tennessee Warbler		
10/3 Wayland	1	J. Hoye	9/12 Granville	1	J. Weeks
10/6 Hadley	1	T. Gagnon	9/20 Lexington	1	P. + F. Vale
Gray-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush			9/21 Gardner	1 imm	T. Pirro
9/17 P.I.	2	J. Berry	10/6 Hadley	2	T. Gagnon
9/20 Chilmark	1	A. Keith	Orange-crowned Warbler		
10/9 Pittsfield	2	T. Collins	9/23 Northampton	1	M. Taylor#
Swainson's Thrush			10/1, 15 Lexington	1, 2	M. Rines
9/14 Wellfleet	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)	10/6 Westboro	3	M. Lynch#
9/14 Stoneham	2	D. + I. Jewell	10/7, 21 Burlington	3, 1	M. Rines
9/14 MNWS	2	BBC (K. Haley)	10/10-31		Reports of indiv. from 18 locations
9/18 Granville	1	S. Kellogg	Nashville Warbler		
10/3 Wayland	1	J. Hoye	9/8 Windsor	3	R. Packard#
10/6 Pittsfield	1	K. + M. Conway	9/10 Winchester	5	M. Rines
Hermit Thrush			9/17 P.I.	3	J. Berry
10/13 Lexington	6	M. Rines	10/2 Cumb. Farms	3	C. Buelow
10/19 Paxton	6	M. Lynch#	10/6 Hadley	2	T. Gagnon
10/20 Boston	9	BBC (R. Stymeist)	10/13 Lexington	2	M. Rines
10/24 Stoneham	12	D. + I. Jewell	10/24 Pittsfield	1	N. Purdy
10/25 Worc. (BMB)	6	M. Lynch#	10/31 Gay Head	1	S. Anderson#
10/28 Mt. Watatic	7	T. Pirro	Northern Parula		
10/30 Hamilton	5	J. Berry	9/7 MNWS	7	P. + F. Vale
Wood Thrush			9/14, 27 Medford	9, 2	M. Rines#
9/1 Medford	1	D. + I. Jewell	9/15 Burlington	16	M. Rines
9/1 MBWMA	1	D. Chickering	9/15 Woburn	10	M. Rines#
9/14 Blackstone	2	M. Lynch#	9/16, 10/6 Lexington	20, 1	M. Rines
10/2 Concord	1	S. Perkins	9/22 Westboro	12	M. Lynch#
10/8 Groton	1	S. Perkins	9/22 Quabbin (G37)	9	R. Lockwood
American Robin			10/3 ONWR	1	S. Sutton
9/12 Taunton	500	J. Sweeney	10/6 Pittsfield	1	K. + M. Conway
9/23 Bolton Flats	2000	T. Pirro	10/19 Boston	1	G. d'Entremont#
10/21 Chatham (MI)	500+	D. Manchester#	Yellow Warbler		
10/30 Mt. Watatic	281	EMHW (P. Staub)	9/15 Burlington	4	M. Rines
Gray Catbird			9/23 Cumb. Farms	3	M. Maurer
9/7 Cuttyhunk	52	BBC (R. Stymeist)	9/27 Medford	1	M. Rines
9/7 DWWS	40	G. d'Entremont	9/28 Nantucket	1	J. Hoye
9/18 Brewster	34	S. Finnegan#	9/29 Deerfield	1	S. Surner
9/29 Bolton Flats	32	R. Lockwood	9/29 Bolton Flats	1	R. Lockwood
10/6 Westboro	51	M. Lynch#	Chestnut-sided Warbler		
10/17 Burlington	4	M. Rines	9/1 Quabbin (G37)	3	R. Lockwood#
10/25 Worc. (BMB)	1	M. Lynch#	9/8 Windsor	2	R. Packard#
10/29 P.I.	1	C. Caron	9/14 Wellfleet	4	BBC (R. Stymeist)
Brown Thrasher			9/15 Burlington	3	M. Rines
9/8 Groveland	3	D. Chickering	9/16 Lexington	4	M. Rines
9/14 Medford	2	M. Rines#	9/26 Lincoln	1	M. Rines
9/19 Wakefield	2	F. Vale	9/29 Attleboro	1	J. Sweeney
9/19 Melrose	2	D. + I. Jewell	9/29 Northampton	2	S. Kellogg
9/22 Westboro	3	M. Lynch#	Magnolia Warbler		
9/29 Boston	2	BBC (R. Stymeist)	9/3 Huntington	2	R. Packard#
10/18 P.I.	1	R. Heil	9/8, 16 Lexington	4, 29	M. Rines
10/27 WBWS	1	C. Floyd	9/8 Granville	10	S. Kellogg
American Pipit			9/14 Medford	20	M. Rines#
9/15, 25 P.I.	1, 20	J. Smith#	9/15 Burlington	10	M. Rines
9/30 Nantucket	40	J. Hoye	9/17 Marblehead	10	K. Haley
10/2 Deerfield	160	R. Packard	9/26 Montague	5	C. Buelow
10/6 W. Northfield	60	M. Taylor	10/3 Boston	3	R. Merrill
10/9 Barre Falls	30	EMHW (B. Kamp)	10/5 Hadley	1	H. Allen
10/11 Rowley	30	J. Soucy#	10/13 Lexington	1	M. Rines
10/15 GMNWR	150	S. Perkins#	Cape May Warbler		
10/17 Bolton Flats	80	S. Sutton	9/7 MNWS	1	J. Smith#
10/21 Pittsfield	25	T. Collins	9/14 Amherst	1	S. Surner
10/25 Lakeville	40	N. Bonomo	9/15 Truro	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)
10/27 Newbury	85	R. Heil	9/17 Nomans Land	2	A. Keith#
10/27 Lincoln	36	M. Rines#	10/5 Hadley	1	G. LeBaron
Cedar Waxwing			Black-throated Blue Warbler		
9/14 Blackstone	48	M. Lynch#	9/1 Quabbin (G37)	5	R. Lockwood#
9/17 Nomans Land	48	R. Lockwood#	9/8, 19 Lexington	2, 5	M. Rines
9/29 Bolton Flats	49	R. Lockwood	9/13 Wakefield	5	F. Vale
10/13 Lexington	26	M. Rines	9/15 P'town/Truro	9	BBC (R. Stymeist)
Blue-winged Warbler			9/15 Stow	4	R. Lockwood
9/1 Agawam	1	S. Kellogg	9/15 Granville	5	S. Kellogg
9/5 MNWS	1	I. Lynch	10/19 P.I.	4	P. + F. Vale
9/13 E. Middleboro	2	K. Anderson	10/21 Boston	1	G. Tepke
9/14 Granville	1	C. Blagdon	10/31 Bourne	1	J. Kricher

Yellow-rumped Warbler			10/31	Stoughton	1	R. Titus	
9/3	Huntington	1	R. Packard#	Black-and-white Warbler			
9/8	Windsor	3	R. Packard#	9/7	MNWS	10	D. Chickering
9/27	Northampton	40	T. Gagnon	9/14	Braintree	10	G. d'Entremont#
10/4	Hadley	100+	M. Williams	9/15	Woburn	18	M. Rines#
10/18	GMNWR	800	S. Perkins	9/16, 10/6	Lexington	19, 1	M. Rines
10/19	Lexington	173	M. Rines	9/27	Medford	34	M. Rines
10/19	Paxton	101	M. Lynch#	9/28	Berlin	12	S. Sutton
10/20	Stoneham	150	P. + F. Vale	10/6	P'town	1	G. d'Entremont#
10/22	Chatham (MI)	150	D. Manchester#	10/11	Boston	1	G. Tepke
10/31	Concord	35	M. Rines	American Redstart			
Black-throated Green Warbler			9/1	Quabbin (G37)	6	R. Lockwood#	
9/1	Quabbin (G37)	17	R. Lockwood#	9/7	MNWS	18	P. + F. Vale
9/14	Wellfleet	7	BBC (R. Stymeist)	9/14, 27	Medford	58, 4	M. Rines#
9/14	Medford	6	M. Rines#	9/14	Wellfleet	19	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/21	Hadley	10	I. Dukovski	9/15	Woburn	28	M. Rines#
9/26	Montague	4	C. Buelow	9/15	P'town/Truro	21	BBC (R. Stymeist)
10/2	Arlington Res.	7	M. Rines	9/16	Lexington	24	M. Rines
10/23	PI.	2	R. Heil	10/3	Burlington	2	M. Rines
10/24	Stoneham	1	D. + I. Jewell	10/27	Amherst	1	B. Bieda
Blackburnian Warbler			Prothonotary Warbler				
9/8	Quabbin Pk.	3	M. Lynch#	9/16-18	PI.	1	D. Chickering + v.o.
9/10	Winchester	1	M. Rines	Worm-eating Warbler			
9/14	MNWS	1	L. Ferraresso	10/13	W. Roxbury	1	A. Joslin
9/16	Lexington	1	M. Rines	Ovenbird			
9/17	Marblehead	1	K. Haley	9/1	Quabbin (G37)	2	R. Lockwood#
9/21	Winchester	1	R. LaFontaine	9/1	Barre F.D./Rutland S.P.	4	M. Lynch#
9/21	Northfield	5	M. Taylor	9/7	Holden	1	M. Lynch#
Yellow-throated Warbler			9/13	Hadley	1	M. Williams	
10/31	Pittsfield	1	D. St. James	9/14	Medford	1	M. Rines#
Pine Warbler			9/15	Stow	2	R. Lockwood	
9/1	Barre F.D./Rutland S.P.	78	M. Lynch#	10/6	Lexington	1	M. Rines
9/2	Quabbin (G40)	12+	J. Smith#	10/16	Boston	1	J. Young
9/7	Holden	19	M. Lynch#	Northern Waterthrush			
9/14	Wellfleet	44	BBC (R. Stymeist)	9/10, 19	Winchester	3, 2	M. Rines
9/14	Easton	14	J. Sweeney	9/14, 10/2	Woburn	2, 1	M. Rines
10/2	Taunton	8	J. Sweeney	9/14	MNWS	4	BBC (K. Haley)
10/19	Paxton	3	M. Lynch#	9/16, 28	Lexington	2, 1	M. Rines
Prairie Warbler			9/19	Wellfleet	5	R. Stymeist	
9/1	Agawam	1	S. Kellogg	9/29	Boston	3	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/12	MNWS	1	K. Haley	Louisiana Waterthrush			
9/18	Nomans Land	1	R. Lockwood#	10/1-4	Boston (P.G.)	1 ph	D. Wilkinson + v.o.
9/21	ONWR	2	M. Lynch#	Connecticut Warbler			
9/22	Northampton	1	D. Peake-Jones	9/8-10/2	Lexington	4 total	M. Rines
10/7	Groton	1	T. Pirro	9/8-10/6	Reports of indiv. from 12 locations		
10/14	N. Truro	1	D. Larson#	9/21	Framingham	2	J. Hoye
10/15	GMNWR	1	S. Perkins#	9/21	ONWR	2	M. Lynch#
10/21	PI.	1	J. Offermann	9/23	Waltham	2	A. Smith
Palm Warbler (Y = yellow, W = western)			9/23	Cumb. Farms	6	M. Maurer	
9/13	Boston	2	G. Tepke	9/29	Wayland	2	G. Long
9/14	Wellfleet	4	BBC (R. Stymeist)	10/18	Sandwich	1 f imm	D. Furbish
9/22	Arlington Res.	14W, 1 Y	M. Rines	Mourning Warbler			
9/27	Northampton	30	T. Gagnon	9/8	Auburn	1 b	M. Blazis
9/30	Cumb. Farms	45	C. Buelow	9/8	Lexington	1	M. Rines
10/4	Hadley	25	M. Williams	9/12	Georgetown	1	S. Moore
10/13	Lexington	51 Y	M. Rines	9/16	Medford	1 ad	R. LaFontaine
10/14	Burlington	41 Y	M. Rines	9/19	Melrose	1	D. + I. Jewell
10/20	Holden	33	M. Lynch#	9/21	Mt. Tom	1	D. Peake-Jones
10/20	Lincoln	48Y, 5W	M. Rines	9/22	Easton	1	J. Sweeney#
10/31	Westminster	1	C. Caron	9/22	DWWS	1 f	R. Titus
Bay-breasted Warbler			9/27	Cumb. Farms	1	M. Maurer	
9/7	Cuttyhunk	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)	10/5	Hadley	1	S. Sumer
9/15	Granville	1	S. Kellogg	Common Yellowthroat			
9/15	ONWR	2	BBC (J. Center)	9/14	Medford	35	M. Rines#
9/18	Brewster	1	S. Finnegan#	9/15	Woburn	48	M. Rines#
9/23	Hadley	1	M. Taylor#	9/16, 10/13	Lexington	33, 7	M. Rines
9/29	MNWS	1 f	K. Haley	10/2	Cumb. Farms	16	C. Buelow
9/29	Falmouth	1	P. + F. Vale	10/7	Burlington	6	M. Rines
Blackpoll Warbler			Hooded Warbler				
9/1, 22	Quabbin (G37)	2, 58	R. Lockwood#	9/27	Medford	1	M. Rines
9/12	Mt. Watatic	6	EMHW (P. Staub)	10/23	Nantucket	1	J. Moore
9/18	PI.	18	R. Heil	10/27	WBWS	1 f	C. Floyd
9/21	Gardner	10+	T. Pirro	Wilson's Warbler			
9/29	Truro	34	M. Lynch#	9/5	MNWS	1	K. Haley
9/29	P'town (R.P.)	25	M. Lynch#	9/14	Wellfleet	3	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/29	Boston	16	BBC (R. Stymeist)	9/15, 10/3	Burlington	3, 3	M. Rines
9/29	Cumb. Farms	35	R. Titus	9/25, 10/22	Lexington	2, 1	M. Rines
10/31	Pittsfield	1	H. Allen	9/27	Medford	3	M. Rines

Wilson's Warbler (continued)

9/29	Truro	3	J. Young
10/2	Cumb. Farms	3	C. Buelow
10/27	Bolton Flats	1	S. Sutton
Canada Warbler			
9/7	MNWS	3	P. + F. Vale
9/8	ONWR	3	R. Lockwood
9/14	Woburn	2	M. Rines
9/17	Sunderland	1	M. Williams
Yellow-breasted Chat			
9/3	Wasque Point	2	V. Laux#
thru Reports of indiv. from 11 locations			
Summer Tanager			
9/21	Gay Head	1	V. Laux# + v.o
Scarlet Tanager			
9/8	Quabbin Pk.	6	M. Lynch#
9/14	Blackstone	5	M. Lynch#
9/22	Quabbin (G37)	3	R. Lockwood
9/29	Northampton	1	S. Kellogg
9/29	Wayland	1	G. Long
10/14	Rowley	1 ad	M. Daley#
10/20	P.I.	1	D. Chickering
Eastern Towhee			
9/7	Cuttyhunk	87	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/14	Wellfleet	46	BBC (R. Stymeist)
9/17	Nomans Land	18	R. Lockwood#
9/29	Truro	26	M. Lynch#
10/15	Wakefield	3	F. Vale
10/27	Southwick	1	S. Kellogg
American Tree Sparrow			
10/15	Lenox	1	R. Laubach
10/24	Wayland	1	G. Long
10/25	W. Newbury	9	R. Haaseth
10/30	Bolton Flats	5	S. Sutton
Chipping Sparrow			
9/8	Quabbin Pk.	42	M. Lynch#
9/8	ONWR	40	R. Lockwood
9/19	Wellfleet	107	R. Stymeist
10/4	Harvard	40	S. Sutton
10/14	Newton	55	BBC (C. Hepburn)
10/20	Lincoln	54	M. Rines
10/31	Concord	2	M. Rines
Clay-colored Sparrow			
9/20	Lexington	1	P. + F. Vale
9/25	Cumb. Farms	1 ad	M. Maurer
10/3	Burlington	1	M. Rines
10/4	Halifax	1	J. Sweeney
10/6	Newton	2	J. Hoyer
10/6	Westfield	1	J. Weeks#
10/6-18	P.I.	1	v.o.
10/10	DWWS	1	D. Furbish
10/25	Gay Head	1	A. Keith#
Field Sparrow			
9/1	MBWMA	6	D. Chickering
9/23	Woburn	6	M. Rines
9/26, 10/23	Montague	12, 6	C. Buelow
9/29	N. Truro	16	M. Lynch#
9/29	Bolton Flats	7	R. Lockwood
10/6	Groveland	15	D. Chickering
10/22	P.I.	3	C. Caron
10/25	Arlington	2	R. LaFontaine
10/27	Lincoln	2	M. Rines#
Vesper Sparrow			
9/15	Wellfleet	3	P. + F. Vale
9/26	Chatham (MI)	1	D. Manchester#
9/29	Cumb. Farms	1	R. Titus
10/8	Lexington	1	M. Rines
10/19	Marshfield	1	BBC (J. Center)
10/21	Gay Head	2	V. Laux
10/25	Wachusett Res.	1	S. Sutton
Lark Sparrow			
9/5	P. I.	1	D. + I. Jewell
9/11-24	Katama	1	V. Laux# + v.o.
9/17	Nomans Land	1	A. Keith#
9/21	Gloucester (E.P.)	1 imm	J. Berry#
9/22	Rockport (H.P.)	1 imm	J. Berry#
10/15	Gay Head	1	V. Laux#

Savannah Sparrow

9/14	Squantum	15	G. d'Entremont#
9/23	Northampton	50	M. Taylor#
10/5	Hadley	120	G. LeBaron
10/6	Westboro	154	M. Lynch#
10/13	W. Roxbury	160+	A. Joslin
10/13	Lexington	185	M. Rines
10/15	GMNWR	100	S. Perkins#
10/20	Cumb. Farms	210	G. d'Entremont
10/27	Lincoln	130	M. Rines#
Ipswich Sparrow			
10/6	P.I.	3	R. Heil
10/22	Chappaquiddick	3	A. Keith#
Grasshopper Sparrow			
9/29	Falmouth	2-3	P. + F. Vale
10/27	Newbury	1	R. Heil
Le Conte's Sparrow (details submitted)*			
10/2	DWWS	1	D. Furbish
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow			
9/7	Chatham (S.B.)	1	R. Lockwood
9/21	P.I.	25	P. + F. Vale
9/28	Newbypt	44	R. Lockwood
9/29	Boston	1	BBC (R. Stymeist)
10/27	P.I.	1	T. Wetmore
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow			
9/16	P.I.	4	R. Stymeist#
9/23	Groton	1	J. Duprey#
9/29	Bolton Flats	1	R. Lockwood
10/6	Newbypt	8	R. Heil
10/6	P.I.	1	J. Hoyer
10/18	Boston	1	G. Tepke
Seaside Sparrow			
9/7	Chatham (S.B.)	2	S. Mirick#
9/17	P.I.	5	R. Heil
10/16	P'town (R.P.)	1	P. Flood
Fox Sparrow			
10/23	Stoneham	1	D. + I. Jewell
10/24	Wayland	1	G. Long
10/25	Hancock	1	T. Gagnon
10/25	Haydenville	1	R. Packard
10/26	E. Quabbin	3	ABNC (J. Morris-Siegel)
10/27	Lincoln	2	M. Rines#
10/30	Bolton Flats	5	S. Sutton
10/31	Winchester	2	R. LaFontaine
10/31	Concord	3	M. Rines
Lincoln's Sparrow			
9/8	Windsor	2	R. Packard
9/13	Northampton	3	M. Taylor#
9/15, 10/6	Wayland	1, 9	G. Long
9/25, 10/22	Lexington	5, 3	M. Rines
9/29	Bolton Flats	6	R. Lockwood
9/29	Boston	5	BBC (R. Stymeist)
10/3	Burlington	5	M. Rines
10/6	Pittsfield	9	K. + M. Conway
10/6	Newbury	5	R. Heil
10/6	Westboro	13	M. Lynch#
10/27	Northampton	2	B. Bieda
10/31	Concord	1	M. Rines
Swamp Sparrow			
9/29	Cumb. Farms	75	R. Titus
10/6	Westboro	177	M. Lynch#
10/7	Wayland	75	G. Long
10/10	Bolton Flats	88	S. Sutton
10/13	Lexington	104	M. Rines
10/20	Lincoln	62	M. Rines#
White-throated Sparrow			
9/8	Medford	1	R. LaFontaine#
9/19	Newton	1	H. Miller
10/7	Burlington	83	M. Rines
10/10	Bolton Flats	72	S. Sutton
10/20	Boston	210	BBC (R. Stymeist)
10/27	Sutton	123	M. Lynch#
White-crowned Sparrow			
9/26, 10/27	Lincoln	1, 5	M. Rines
10/2	Cumb. Farms	12	C. Buelow
10/2, 13	Lexington	2, 11	M. Rines
10/6	Pittsfield	10	K. + M. Conway
10/23	P.I.	13	R. Heil

White-crowned Sparrow (continued)			9/22	Brookline	1	H. Wiggin
10/27	Northampton	8	9/27	Cumb. Farms	4	M. Maurer
10/27	Newbury	10	9/30	Rockport (H.P.)	3	C. Leahy
10/29	Amherst	7	9/30	Nantucket	2	J. Hoyer
Gambell's White-crowned Sparrow			10/4, 25	Gay Head	1, 1	R. Shriber#
10/27	Newbury	2 1W	10/6	Westboro	1	M. Lynch#
10/27	Quincy	1 1W	10/19, 20	Lexington	1 imm, 1 ad	M. Rines
Dark-eyed Junco			10/20	Lincoln	1	M. Rines
9/8	Quabbin Pk.	2	10/21	DWWS	1 f ad	D. Furbish
9/10	Mt. Wachusett	5	10/27	Sutton	1	M. Lynch#
9/24	Wakefield	1				
9/29	Deerfield	3	Bobolink			
9/30	Mt.A	6	9/15	Northampton	100	T. Gagnon
10/5	General arrival		9/19	Bolton Flats	11	S. Sutton
Oregon Junco			9/21	ONWR	20	M. Lynch#
10/14	Tuckernuck	1	10/2	Cumb. Farms	35	C. Buelow
Lapland Longspur			10/6	Westboro	16	M. Lynch#
9/14	Chatham (S.B.)	1	10/18	Framingham	10	J. Hoyer
9/18, 10/23	P.I.	1, 30	10/27	Marshfield	1	G. d'Entremont#
9/29-30	Katama	1	Red-winged Blackbird			
10/20	Chatham (S.B.)	20+	10/9	Ipswich	2200	J. Berry
10/20	N. Monomoy	20+	10/21	Rowley	1000+	F. Vale#
10/20	Mt. Wachusett	1	10/27	Sutton	3335	M. Lynch#
10/24	Duxbury B.	2	Eastern Meadowlark			
10/25	Lakeville	1	10/18	P.I.	4	R. Heil
10/29	Ipswich (C.B.)	4	10/31	DWWS	8	D. Furbish
Snow Bunting			Yellow-headed Blackbird			
10/17	WBWS	1	10/14	WBWS	1 m imm	D. Larson#
10/19	P.I.	1	10/23	Katama	1	B. Brown
10/20	Holden	2	Rusty Blackbird			
10/24	Duxbury B.	30	9/29	Gardner	21	T. Pirro
10/24	Granville	2	10/6	Westhampton	14	B. Bieda
10/29	Ipswich (C.B.)	160	10/9	Stoughton	14	R. Titus
10/30	Mt. Wataic	30	10/12	Haverhill	11	D. Chickering
10/31	P.I.	420	10/18	GMNWR	70 migr	S. Perkins
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			10/22	Greenfield	12	R. Packard
9/15	Woburn	3	10/27	Sutton	18	M. Lynch#
9/16	Lexington	3	10/29	Taunton	27	J. Sweeney
9/17	Whately	1	Common Grackle			
9/18	Nomans Land	1	10/13	M.V.	1500+	SSBC (D. Clapp)
9/22	Hadley	1	10/27	Sutton	1935	M. Lynch#
9/29	Nantucket	1	10/29	Granville	3000	J. Weeks#
9/30	Cumb. Farms	1 juv	Boat-tailed Grackle (details submitted) *			
Blue Grosbeak			10/27	Newbyrte	1 ad m	R. Heil, J. Smith
9/7	DWWS	1	Shiny Cowbird (details submitted) *			
9/11	E. Middleboro	1	10/14	Katama	1	V. Laux#
9/14	Cumb. Farms	2	Orchard Oriole (details submitted)			
9/25	Katama	1	9/29	N. Truro	1 juv	M. Lynch#
9/29	N. Truro	1	Baltimore Oriole			
Indigo Bunting			9/18	Nomans Land	14	R. Lockwood#
9/14	Cumb. Farms	10	9/29	Truro	17	M. Lynch#
9/21	Hadley	10	10/2	Northampton	1	M. Williams
9/22	Northampton	15	10/17	WBWS	2	R. Titus
9/29	Deerfield	10	10/19	Truro	1	J. Kricher
10/2	Cumb. Farms	7	Purple Finch			
10/14	N. Truro	2	9/3	Gardner	2	T. Pirro
10/19	Dorchester	1	9/17	Whately	1	M. Williams
10/20	Lincoln	1	10/2, 25	Haydenville	1, 2	R. Packard
10/21	Gay Head	2	10/5	P.I.	4 BBC	(L.de la Flor)
10/29	P.I.	1	10/13	Deerfield	1	R. Ranney
Dickcissel			10/25	Worc. (BMB)	1	M. Lynch#
9/17, 18	P.I.	1, 1	Evening Grosbeak			
9/20	Easton	1	10/22	Granville	3	J. Wojtanowski

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE BIRD SIGHTINGS TO BIRD OBSERVER

Bird Observer prints compilations of birds reported in Massachusetts and offshore waters. Our compilers select and summarize for publication reports that provide a snapshot of bird life during the reporting period.

Sightings for any given month must be reported in writing by the eighth of the following month, and may be submitted by postal mail or e-mail. Send written reports to Bird Sightings, Robert H. Stymeist, 94 Grove Street, Watertown, MA 02172. Include name and phone number of observer, common name of species, date of sighting, location, number of birds, other observer(s), and information on age, sex, and morph (where relevant). For instructions on e-mail submission, visit: <<http://massbird.org/birdobserver/sightings/>>.

Species on the Review List of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee (indicated by an asterisk [*] in the Bird Reports), as well as species unusual as to place, time, or known nesting status in Massachusetts, should be reported promptly to the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee, c/o Marjorie Rines, Massachusetts Audubon Society, South Great Road, Lincoln, MA 01773, or by e-mail to <marj@mrines.com>.

ABBREVIATIONS FOR BIRD SIGHTINGS

Locations and Organizations

A.A.
 ABC
 A.P.
 A.Pd
 B.
 Barre F.D.
 B.I.
 B.R.
 BBC
 BBS
 BMB
 C.B.
 C.P.
 Cambr.
 CCBC
 Corp. B.
 Cumb. Farms
 DFWS
 DWMA
 DWWS
 E.P.
 EMHW
 F.E.
 F.H.
 F.M.
 F.P.
 F.Pk
 G40
 GMNWR
 H.
 H.P.
 HRWMA
 I.
 IRWS
 L.
 M.V.
 MAS
 MARC
 MBO
 MBWMA
 MNWS
 MSSF

Arnold Arboretum
 Allen Bird Club
 Andrews Point, Rockport
 Allens Pond, S. Dartmouth
 Beach
 Barre Falls Dam,
 Barre, Rutland
 Belle Isle, E. Boston
 Bass Rocks, Gloucester
 Brookline Bird Club
 Breeding Bird Survey
 Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester
 Crane Beach, Ipswich
 Crooked Pond, Boxford
 Cambridge
 Cape Cod Bird Club
 Corporation Beach, Dennis
 Cumberland Farms,
 Middleboro
 Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
 Delaney WMA
 Stow, Bolton, Harvard
 Daniel Webster WS
 Eastern Point, Gloucester
 Eastern Mass. Hawk Watch
 First Encounter Beach, Eastham
 Fort Hill, Eastham
 Fowl Meadow
 Fresh Pond, Cambridge
 Franklin Park, Boston
 Gate 40, Quabbin Res.
 Great Meadows NWR
 Harbor
 Halibut Point, Rockport
 High Ridge WMA, Gardner
 Island
 Ipswich River WS
 Ledge
 Martha's Vineyard
 Mass. Audubon Society
 Mass. Avian Records Committee
 Manomet Center for
 Conservation Science
 Martin Burns WMA, Newbury
 Marblehead Neck WS
 Myles Standish State
 Forest, Plymouth

Mt. A.
 NAC
 NEHW
 Newbypt
 ONWR
 P.I.
 Pd
 P'town
 Pont.
 R.P.
 Res.
 S. Dart.
 S.B.
 S.N.
 SRV
 SSBC
 TASL
 WBWS
 WMWS
 Worc.
 WS

Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambr.
 Nine Acre Corner, Concord
 New England Hawk Watch
 Newburyport
 Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
 Plum Island
 Pond
 Provincetown
 Pontoosuc Lake, Lanesboro
 Race Point, Provincetown
 Reservoir
 South Dartmouth
 South Beach, Chatham
 Sandy Neck, Barnstable
 Sudbury River Valley
 South Shore Bird Club
 Take A Second Look
 Boston Harbor Census
 Wellfleet Bay WS
 Wachusett Meadow WS
 Worcester
 Wildlife Sanctuary

Other Abbreviations

ad adult
 alt alternate
 b banded
 br breeding
 dk dark (morph)
 f female
 fl fledgling
 imm immature
 juv juvenile
 lt light (morph)
 m male
 max maximum
 migr migrating
 n nesting
 ph photographed
 pl plumage
 pr pair
 S summer (1S = 1st summer)
 v.o. various observers
 W winter (2W = second winter)
 yg young
 # additional observers



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From MassWildlife

Eagle Cam Website Features Live Streaming

Northeast Utilities (NU), a partner with MassWildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in providing a close-up look into an active bald eagle nest via Eagle Cam, is now featuring live streaming video images of the nesting activities. Check out <http://www.nu.com/> and click on Eagles Online on the navigation bar. Both the live streaming and still image features are available.

Eagle Cam, positioned above an active eagle nest on an island in the Connecticut River in Gill, Massachusetts, is powered by an NU photovoltaic system which captures solar energy and stores it in deep cycle batteries. The batteries power both the camera and nearby transmitter which sends the signal to a link at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Silvio Conte Refuge office in Turners Falls. Computers at the Refuge office capture still images of the nest and send them to the NU webmasters, where they are updated every 5 minutes during daylight hours.

Recently, NU has upgraded the image transferring software and now offers 10 minute blocks of virtually live eagle video. At this time of year the adult pair of eagles can be seen at the nest early and late in the day, adding sticks and sprigs of white pine as they prepare for egg-laying in mid-March. Once the eggs appear, the adults will be fixtures at the nest through hatching and early chick rearing. If all goes well the chicks will be the feature attraction until they take their first flights in early July.

MassWildlife's releasing of 41 young bald eagles at Quabbin Reservoir in the 1980s resulted in the establishment of this particular nesting territory in 1989. MassWildlife now protects and monitors this nesting site, along with 11 other eagle territories in the state, to minimize disturbance and maximize the chances of nesting success.

Why a Roseate Tern would care about your taxes

When you contribute to the **Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Fund** on your MA income tax form, you help protect & restore rare & endangered wildlife, plants and habitats in MA.

illustration by M. Burne

The Roseate Tern, a federally endangered species, is just one of the beneficiaries of generous Massachusetts taxfilers. Help continue to protect this and other species by donating while filing your taxes this year.

[www.state.ma.us/dfwele/
dfw/nhesp](http://www.state.ma.us/dfwele/dfw/nhesp)

Contribute to Bird Observer

Bird Observer gladly considers for publication manuscripts or article proposals from any member of the birding community — local or foreign, professional ornithologist or backyard birder. We are happy to hear from first-time authors and beginning birders, as well as from established experts. We are also interested in considering quality photographs with avian themes. The only requirement is that material be relevant to New England birds and birders.

Among the types of material we'd like to see:

Articles presenting original scientific research
Documentation of significant records
“Hot Birds” photographs of rare or unusual birds in New England
Field notes describing interesting encounters with birds
Biographies of ornithologists or birders with regional ties
Results of surveys and censuses
“Where to Go” articles describing good birding locales
“Pocket Places,” brief descriptions of small hotspots
Articles on birding equipment or methods
Notices and news items
“Point of View” articles on birding-related issues
“Young Birders” articles from our younger readers

In addition, the magazine is always in need of book reviewers and qualified peer-reviewers for scientific and technical articles.

Bird Observer tries to provide a mix of lively, informative writing in each issue. Why not contribute your insights and experiences to help us achieve this goal? Send manuscripts or proposals to the Editor: Terry Leverich, 15 Welles Avenue, Dorchester, MA 02124, or via e-mail attachments in Word doc or txt or rtf formats to terryleverich@sprintmail.com. Send photographs (prints or slides) to the Production Editor: David Larson, Joppa Flats Education Center, P.O. Box 1558, Newburyport, MA 01950, or for digital images, via e-mail at dlarson@massaudubon.org.



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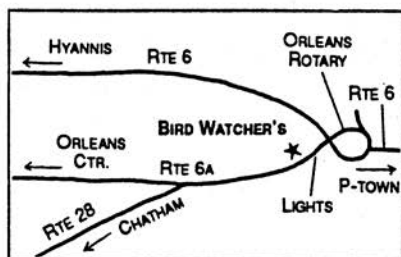
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ABOUT THE COVER

Black-throated Gray Warbler

The Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*) has a propensity for vagrancy. Normally warblers of the Far West, they have made an appearance in twenty states where they do not breed, from Florida to Massachusetts on the east coast of the United States, and in Canada as far north as Nova Scotia. The Black-throated Gray Warbler is an elegant little bird, with black head and throat slashed with two bars of white, gray back, two prominent white wing bars, and white below with black-streaked flanks. Males are more brightly colored than females, and females have a white chin and a throat streaked with white. Both have yellow loreal spots. Like the Black-and-white Warbler, it has essentially the same plumage pattern year-round. It can be most easily separated from the Blackpoll Warbler by face pattern and from the Black-and-white Warbler by the gray back lacking prominent black and white stripes, and by its lack of 'nuthatch' foraging behavior. The Black-throated Gray Warbler has two generally accepted subspecies and is closely related to the Black-throated Green-Townsend's-Hermit warbler complex.

The Black-throated Gray Warbler's breeding range is west of the Rocky Mountains, north to British Columbia, and south to northern Mexico. They are migratory, wintering in western and central Mexico. About a dozen of these wandering warblers have been seen in Massachusetts, appearing from September to December, from Cape Cod to Springfield.

Their habitat is varied, with a preference for conifers or mixed conifer-deciduous woodlands with scrubby undergrowth. These include pinyon-juniper and pine-oak scrubland, open areas, and second-growth forest, woodland, scrub, and thickets. Surprisingly little is known about the breeding biology of this species. Judging from their close relatives, they are probably monogamous and produce a single brood. Only the male sings, generally 5-9 buzzy notes. The song is of two types, the first given early in the breeding season when the male is attending the female, and a second song later in the season, often sung as part of the dawn chorus, that may be chiefly a territorial advertisement. There is no information on nuptial displays. The nest is a deep cup from near ground level to 30 feet in oaks or conifers and made of bark strips, grass, rootlets, and moss, lined with feathers. The nest is probably built by the female alone. The usual clutch is 4 reddish brown spotted cream-colored eggs, and incubation may be by the female alone, since only she develops a brood patch. The young at hatching are altricial (nearly naked and helpless) and nidicolous (confined to their nest). In several cases nests had layers built over cowbird eggs. Incubation and fledging periods are not known.

Black-throated Gray Warblers are active foragers, gleaning foliage from trees or shrubs, with occasional hover-gleaning and hawking of insects. Their diet is presumed to be entirely insectivorous, at least during the breeding season. They eat caterpillars and will bash large insects against branches. There may be some partitioning of

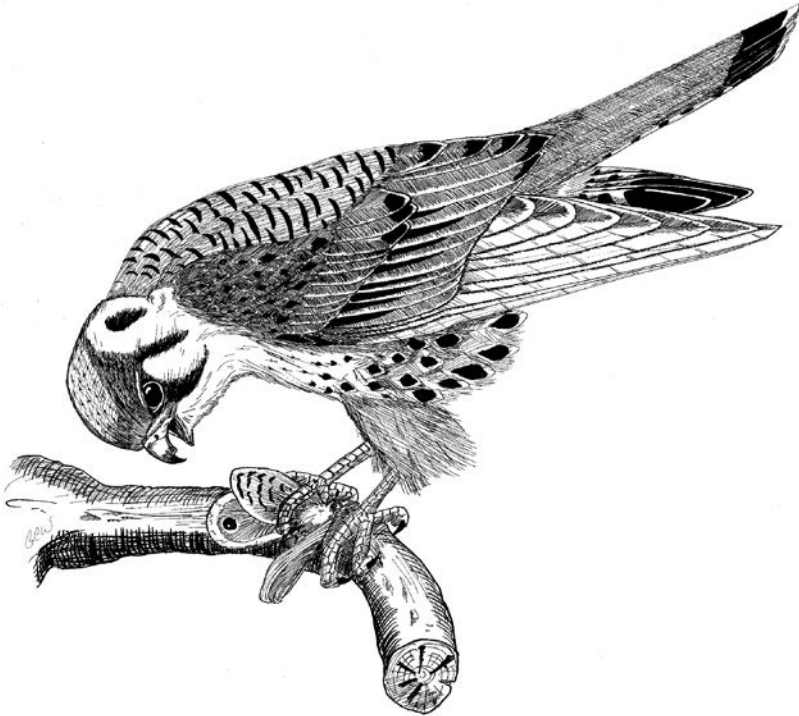
resources between the sexes, as in one study males generally foraged higher and in larger trees than females. They join mixed species foraging flocks during migration and on their Mexican wintering grounds.

Predators include accipters, and probably crows, jays, and mammals as nest predators. They tend to nest in habitats that are not of great economic value to humans, and hence the little available data suggests that their population is stable or increasing. Thus they should remain vagrants to be watched for in fall and winter. 🦅

William E. Davis, Jr.

About the Cover Artist

The work of noted wildlife artist Paul Donahue has appeared many times on the cover of *Bird Observer*. Some of our readers may also have enjoyed the experience of visiting the rain forest canopy walkway at the Amazon Center for Environmental Education and Research off the Rio Napo in the Department of Loreto in northeastern Peru. This canopy walkway, the world's longest, is the creation of Paul Donahue and Teresa Wood. Paul can be reached at PO Box 554, Machias, Maine. 🦅



AMERICAN KESTREL BY GEORGE C. WEST

AT A GLANCE

December 2002




DAVID LARSON

Zygodactyly! Yes, this strange word is actually a key to unraveling this month's mystery photo. What does it mean? In the Order Passeriformes (a.k.a. perching birds), the arrangement of the toes on the feet is characteristically one in which three toes are oriented forward and one to the rear, just the way they would be in any self-respecting warbler, sparrow, or bunting. This arrangement, known as anisodactyly, is typical of the vast majority of our everyday songbirds. A close look at the toes of the mystery bird, however, reveals that this is not the toe arrangement of the bird in the photo. We can clearly see that, on the bird's right foot, only two toes are facing forward clutching the branch on which the bird is perched. The remaining two toes are facing backwards, even though this is not discernible in the photo. This configuration of two toes facing forward and two facing backwards is what is meant by zygodactyly. Of the regularly occurring birds in Massachusetts, cuckoos and woodpeckers are the most familiar examples of species exhibiting this unusual condition, although the Osprey and all owl species are capable of rotating their outer toes into a forward configuration that also makes them zygodactylous.

Having established that the pictured bird has a zygodactyl toe arrangement, the task of pinning down its specific identity is simplified considerably. Clearly the bird is neither an Osprey nor an owl, and cuckoos can be eliminated by the presence of a white stripe on the side of the head, even though a branch obscures the bill. Knowing

that the bird is a woodpecker simplifies the task of identifying the species considerably.

Of our local woodpeckers, only the Downy Woodpecker and the Hairy Woodpecker display such a prominent white stripe on the side of the head in combination with a plain white breast. Although the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker has a white stripe on the side of its head, sapsuckers also possess a dark bar across the upper breast that is lacking in the pictured woodpecker. Knowing that the mystery woodpecker is either a Downy or Hairy makes the final identification straightforward, even though the bill is obscured. Certainly, the longer and heavier bill of the Hairy Woodpecker is an easy way to distinguish these two sibling species; however, an equally useful feature is the presence of a series of dark bars on the outer tail feathers of a Downy Woodpecker, a feature lacking in the Hairy. A careful examination of the underside of the tail, what little is visible in the photo, clearly shows the presence of these dark markings, thus establishing that the mystery woodpecker is a Downy Woodpecker (*Picooides pubescens*). Because of the obscured view of the head, it is not possible to ascertain whether the bird is a male or a female.

Downy Woodpeckers are widespread and common permanent residents in Massachusetts, occurring practically wherever there are trees. They regularly visit bird feeders in winter. David Larson obtained the digital image of the Downy Woodpecker in the picture in Hingham, MA. 

Wayne R. Petersen



FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER BY JIM BAIRD

AT A GLANCE



DAVID LARSON

Can you identify this bird?

Identification will be discussed in next issue's AT A GLANCE.

From *Bird Observer* Vol. 1, No. 1 (January-February 1973)

WHY BIRD OBSERVER OF EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS?

Many birders, newcomers and old-timers, have expressed an interest in and a need for an informative regional publication of purely bird news.

This bi-monthly newsletter plans to cover: where to go for "hard to find" species and seasonal species complete with maps, fine points of identification of confusing species, tips to backyard birders and for those using public transportation, statistics of previous two months plus a two-month forecast, occasional book reviews and conservation notes.

Year-round birding has become a rapidly expanding hobby in this country in recent years. During the 1969 Christmas count over 15,000 people participated, in 1970, 16,700 and in 1971, 18,800 - a gain of 12% per annum, with Massachusetts being one of the most active states. These numbers represent only the tip of the iceberg - surely the bulk of enthusiasts are watching backyard feeders.

In order for this publication to serve you and succeed, all clubs and individuals are asked to give support by reporting species, submitting articles, writing letters and questions to the editors, sharing bird interest stories, and giving criticism and suggestions for future expansion.

We look forward to your participation.

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VOL. 31, NO. 1, FEBRUARY 2003

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