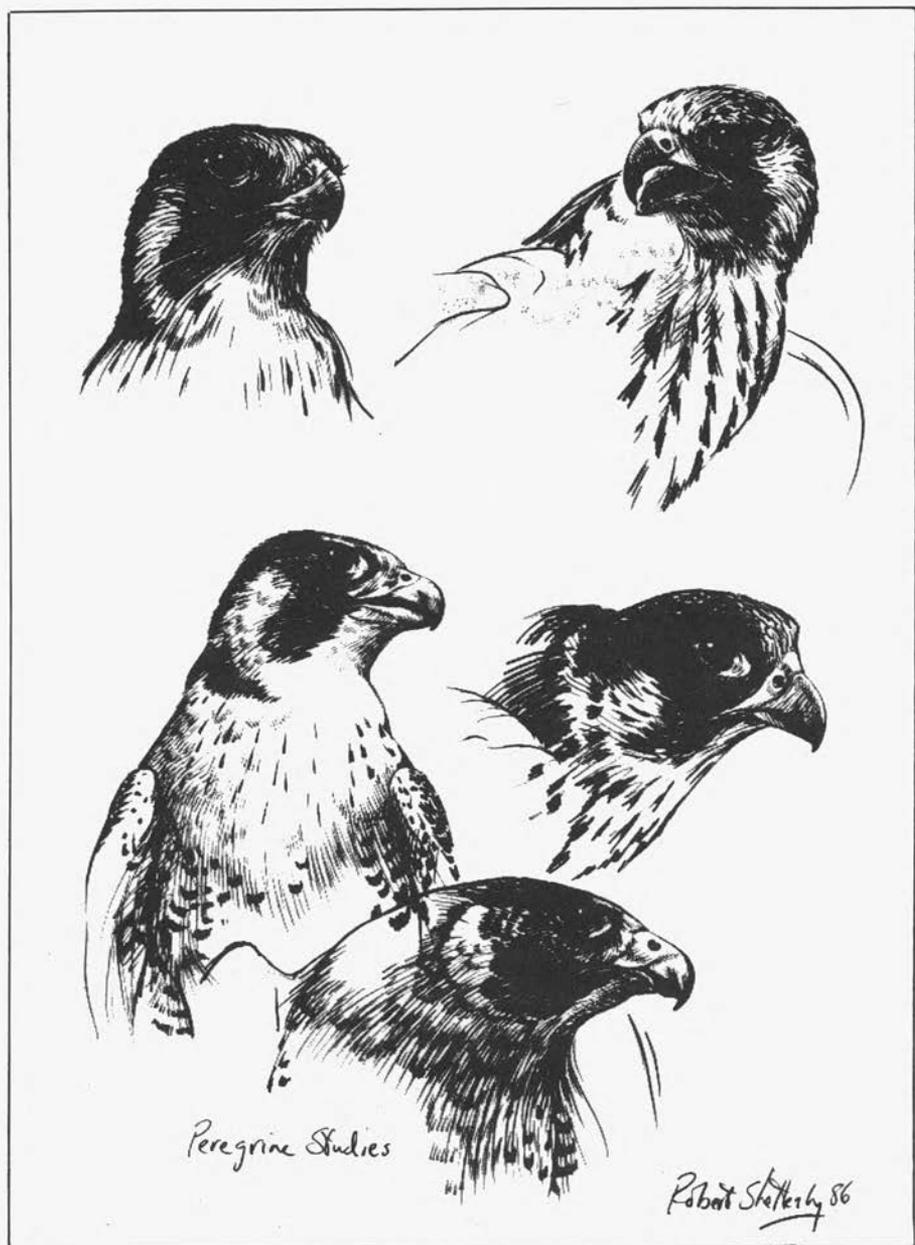


BIRD OBSERVER



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Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced on one side only of 8.5 x 11 inch paper with 1.5 inch margins all around. There is no limit on the length of manuscripts, but most do not exceed 10 double-spaced typewritten pages (about 3000 words). Use the 1983 A.O.U. Check-List for bird names and sequence. Type tables on separate pages. Black-and-white photographs and graphics are best. Include author's or artist's name, address, and telephone number and information from which a brief biography can be prepared if needed.

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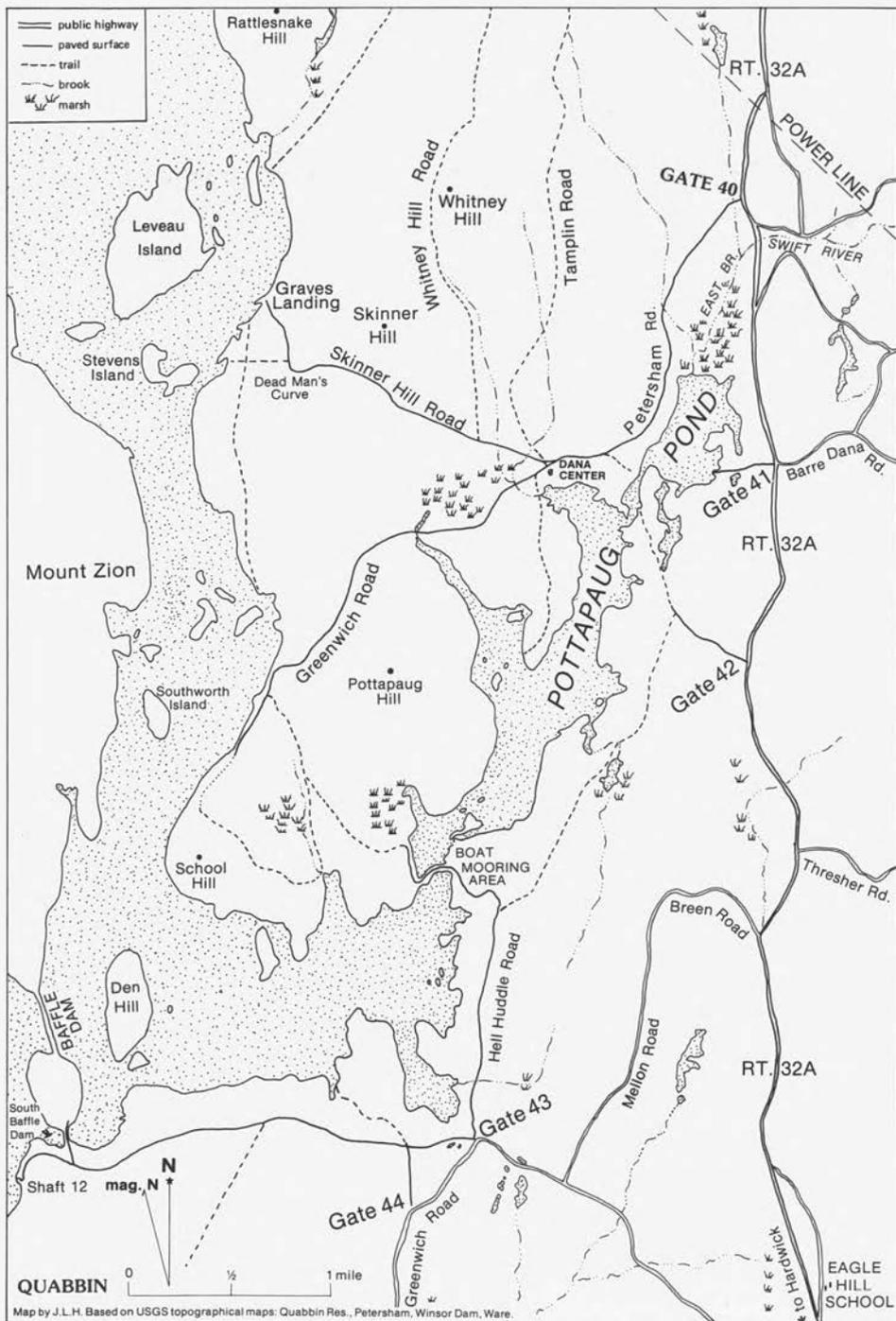
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Cover Illustration: Peregrine Studies by Robert Shetterly, Jr.

Farewell to Mary. A familiar figure at Great Meadows or swinging sturdily along Virginia Road in Lexington, her welcoming smile and cheerful hearty laughter salutes a friend. Mary Baird came upon the joys of birding in her mature years, and this (with her family) became the focus of her adult life. Her forte was the identification of bird song, and we learned from her.

A participant of 21 tours abroad with Massachusetts Audubon Society, Mary derived as much pleasure from a Least Bittern at Great Meadows as from a Cream-colored Woodpecker in a Colombian gallery forest. An enlightened environmentalist, she served the Society well as member, promoter, and volunteer.

A friend of *Bird Observer* from its inception, she was always our staunch supporter. Mary kept all her friendships in good repair. So adieu to a regular birdwatcher, conservationist, political liberal, family pillar, true and supportive friend. Goodbye, Happy Spirit. After less than a year's struggle with progressive illness, Mary Baird succumbed to the overwhelming onslaught of carcinoma on September 18, 1987. She is too recently and too quickly gone: there is as yet for her friends no reality of final separation. She is only away on another birding trip.



THE BIRDS OF GATE 40, QUABBIN

by Mark Lynch

The coyote froze in his tracks, as did we. For the space of a few heartbeats, we scrutinized each other. Then, abruptly the canid turned and raced off the road to our left, toward Pottapaug Pond.

Sheila Carroll and I were seeking the Black-backed Woodpecker that we had found a month earlier at Quabbin's Gate 40, and had begun the two-mile walk to Dana Commons before dawn on January 1, 1986. Objects were clearly visible in the eerie blue twilight but without color. We were moving along enjoying the quiet and the solitude when the coyote appeared from around a bend in the road about two hundred feet ahead of us. We were still relishing the thrill of this confrontation with Quabbin wildlife when around the bend ahead came two more. The animals paused briefly and then, like the first, ran off the road toward Pottapaug. A short distance farther along, over a small hill on the right and coming directly toward us was yet another coyote! Startled by the encounter, the animal stopped abruptly but slid through the snow to within a few yards of us, then took off down the road.

The thrill of this experience with four coyotes -- the closest encounter with this animal I have ever had -- actually eclipsed our sighting of the Black-backed Woodpecker a little later that day. It illustrates what is special about birding at Quabbin. Nowhere else in the state can a comparable wilderness be found. Because of the sheer enormity of Quabbin Reservation, a sense of exploration is present whenever one enters this vast area.

Quabbin Reservoir is a new wilderness. Originally it was the site of four towns -- Dana, Enfield, Greenwich, and Prescott. By the 1920s water planners for metropolitan Boston had decided that the only way to provide for the increasing water needs of the city was to form a vast reservoir by flooding the Swift River Valley. The complete story of how this came about is told in J. R. Greene's 1981 book, *The Creation of the Quabbin Reservoir: The Death of the Swift River Valley*. By the late 1930s, the towns' 3500 residents had been relocated, and the construction of the Winsor Dam and Goodnough Dike were completed. Flooding began in 1939 and was finished by 1946.

Quabbin Reservation as it now exists is very large and is managed by the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC). Forty thousand acres of this land are open to the public, but an additional 14,500 acres are not and thus provide an undisturbed wildlife sanctuary. The closed areas include the Prescott Peninsula (Gates 17-21) and all of the islands. The reservoir (25,000 acres of water) has 118 miles of shoreline and a capacity of 412.24 billion gallons. There are fifty-five numbered "gates" or access roads.

This article covers what I have learned about the birds found in the area of Quabbin known as Gate 40. Gate 40 comprises the site of the former town of Dana and is therefore an interesting place for people curious about the history of the Swift River Valley. Dana was formed from parts of Petersham, Hardwick, and Greenwich and was first settled in 1735. Eventually the town contained four villages -- North Dana, Doubleday Village, Dana Center, and Storrsville. By 1860 the population peaked at 876 residents, and there were five churches, a Grange Hall, a Lodge of Good Templars, several inns, sawmills, gristmills, and a few small factories.

Many of Quabbin's "gates" are characterized by fairly steep descents, but the Gate 40 area provides an easy hike on fairly level ground, at least as far as Dana Commons, and is perfect for a weekend stroll.

Requirements for Birding at Quabbin.

An essential tool for any trip to Quabbin is a good map and a compass. There is now a fine, very detailed map of Quabbin by cartographer Christopher Ryan available at the Visitors Center of the MDC Headquarters in South Quabbin off Route 9. A laminated copy will last longer in the field.

Before you go there, familiarize yourself with the MDC regulations for the Quabbin Reservation, which is open year round but only from dawn to dusk. During the summer months, if rainfall has been below normal and the fire hazard is high, Quabbin may be closed. Quabbin may also be closed during the deer-hunting season. It is best to check with the MDC Headquarters *before* making a long trip (telephone: 413-323-7221).

The following prohibitions are enforced: unauthorized vehicles, dogs, alcoholic beverages, smoking, hunting, skiing (including cross-country), skating, ice-fishing, and swimming.

Groups of more than twenty are required to notify the MDC in advance of their trip and to tell the MDC where they plan to go. There have been some problems in the last year or so with large birding groups wandering around, even in unauthorized areas. For instance, Shaft 12 and the Baffle Dams are off-limits, yet birding groups still include those areas in the itinerary without first seeking permission.

Seasonal Precautions.

In the summer, particularly in June and July, the insects can be fierce, especially mosquitoes. A good insect repellent is a necessity. Some people may wish to wear mosquito netting around the head and face. Because the fields contain ticks, shorts are not recommended.

In the wintertime, birding Gate 40 can present a more formidable problem. This area of the state can get very cold, so full winter gear is a necessity. Learn to recognize and be alert to the first signs of frostbite. The road to Dana

Commons is usually passable after snowfall provided MDC vehicles have preceded you. But these narrow tire tracks can be very icy. Good footwear as well as a good sense of balance are important. Often in January and February, the snow on the roads beyond Dana Commons is too deep, and the roads are impassable.

Other Wildlife to Watch For.

At Gate 40, I have seen more varieties of animal life than at any other spot in the state. Amphibia and reptiles found at Quabbin include American Toad, Northern Spring Peeper, Gray Treefrog, Wood Frog, Green Frog, Eastern Painted Turtle, Eastern Garter Snake, Northern Ringneck Snake, Northern Black Racer, and Eastern Milk Snake. Many of the snakes are seen only when they cross the road or when heavy rains force them more into the open.

Mammals, which are often hard to observe, abound in the Gate 40 area. An early start and a quiet approach will usually reward the observer with a view of Whitetail Deer, especially in the vicinity of Dana Commons. Beavers are found throughout but are easiest to see in the north end of Pottapaug Pond, and I have also watched otters catching fish and sliding on the ice in early winter here. Mink can be seen hunting the edges of the waterways. A tap on a tree that has a suitable hole will sometimes produce a Northern Flying Squirrel, another common resident of the area. Other mammals found here include the ever-present Red and Eastern Gray squirrels, Shorttail Weasel (look for them hunting mice around stone walls), Bobcat, Coyote, and Raccoon. Porcupines become more obvious in the fall when they can be found asleep in the newly denuded trees.

Certainly, the mammal of mystery in Quabbin is the Cougar (also known as Mountain Lion, Puma, or Panther). Although supposedly extirpated from New England, there are persistent reports of sightings in the area. If you see one, report it as soon as possible to the Quabbin Visitors Center in Belchertown. There are zoologists investigating the occurrence and survival of this animal in the state.

Birding at Gate 40

How to get there.

Gate 40 is on the west side of Route 32A. From the center of the small but picturesque town of Hardwick, go north on 32A for 6.7 miles. The entrance to the gate is on the left in the white road-guard fence. It is easy to miss, so slow down as soon as you see the fence. There is a small parking area. Be careful not to block the gate. In winter the parking area may be snow covered or icy and not suitable for most cars.

An alternative approach is to take Route 2, turn south on Route 32, then northwest for a very short distance on Route 122 to 32A. Gate 40 is 3.1 miles from the junction of Routes 122 and 32A.

Birding along Route 32A.

Whichever route you take, be sure to bird along Route 32A. North from Hardwick, there is a sign for the Eagle Hill School on the right. Bohemian Waxwings have been seen here on 32A and along the parallel road on which the school is located. Eastern Bluebirds have lingered in this area well into December. Other birds to watch for include Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Ruffed Grouse, and Common Raven. In the early spring Louisiana Waterthrush can be heard singing along this route.

North from Gate 40, along 32A, is a series of houses with bird feeders that attract numbers of winter finches. Even in a poor flight year, there may be Evening Grosbeaks, Common Redpolls, and Pine Siskins here.

Hiking into the Gate 40 area.

Petersham Road. Once past the gate proper, you will be on the main road, Petersham Road, which leads to Dana Commons, a distance of about 1.75 miles. Birding along this road is good at most seasons, sometimes spectacular. The key is to arrive early. Just before dawn is best, especially during the fall migration.

Petersham Road attracts a variety of birds because there is a number of fields along its length, a habitat in short supply in this part of Quabbin. Some of these fields have been recently created by clearing trees such as the Eastern Red Pine for the purpose of creating a more varied habitat for wildlife. As more of these clearings are created and filled in with a variety of plant life, additional species of birds will undoubtedly be drawn there. Along the fields are many Wild Cherry Trees, whose fruit and insects attract numerous birds, especially during fall migration.

During migration periods, these fields should be rigorously checked for flycatchers, warblers, vireos, and sparrows. Since the erection of several bluebird nesting boxes along the road, the Eastern Bluebird is almost a certainty during the nesting season.

Pottapaug Pond and Dana Commons. Farther down Petersham Road, on the left is the East Branch Swift River, which flows into Pottapaug Pond. A highlight of any hike into Gate 40 is to spend some time at this pond. A small trail that leads down to an overlook at the marshy northeast end of the pond can be found across the road from the southern end of the second, rather long, field on the right or northwest side of Petersham Road. At the place where the river flows into the pond, there is an area of brushy marsh. Find a beaver lodge, take a seat, and be patient. This is an excellent area for ducks of all species, for Great Blue Heron, for Red-shouldered Hawk and other hawks in migration. One fall, I

spent an hour here watching three Sharp-shinned Hawks, which had taken up temporary residence at the marsh, playfully harass any bird that came into the area, including flickers and jays, a kingfisher, a Pileated Woodpecker, and even an Osprey! This is also a great spot to watch for mammals like otter and mink.

Return to Petersham Road and continue along it past a hill on the right and some more Red Pine until you find a small field on the right that is bordered along the road by a stone wall. Just past this field, note a small road on the left (south) that shortly dead-ends at a very narrow neck of Pottapaug. In the fall, there may be sizable flocks of Hooded Mergansers and Ring-necked Ducks.

When you return to Petersham Road, you will have arrived at Dana Commons. Just off the road the cellar foundations of the original residences can be seen. The large open fields of this area may contain sparrows, bluebirds, and warblers. Watch for hawks, including Bald Eagle. As the road descends a little and swings to the left, watch for a small wet marshy area on the left. Canada and Wilson's warblers can be found here, and twice I have seen Connecticut Warbler at this spot. And it was here that Sheila Carroll first sighted a Black-backed Woodpecker in December 1985.

Continue a little farther along on Petersham Road until you note a path on the left that passes a well-preserved and rather attractive cellar foundation, continues through a grassy field, and ends at a hill overlooking yet another area of Pottapaug. From this lookout, scan for ducks, Great Blue Heron, and raptors.

Return once again to Petersham Road. You are now at the center of Dana Commons. Note a narrow grassy triangle on the road with several roads that branch off. This is a good spot to decide whether to turn back or to continue.

Trails from Dana Commons. From this point there are three main hikes, each with a different character. Just beyond Dana Commons, a road veers off to the left (south). This is the shortest of the three hikes and leads down a peninsula into Pottapaug. The vegetation is mostly pines and ferns. From this trail can be seen ducks, Ruffed Grouse, raptors in migration, and Pileated Woodpecker. The distance to the end is a little more than a mile over fairly level terrain.

The road going west from Dana Commons is **Greenwich Road**, which has several interesting features, the most important being the Cotton Grass Marsh that is on the right (north) side of the road. This is the area to search for Alder Flycatcher, which has bred here several times. Other marsh birds, like Virginia Rail and bittern, generally scarce in Quabbin, can be found here. Farther along Greenwich Road, an arm of the Pottapaug crosses the road to connect with the marsh. This area is good for ducks such as Wood Duck and Hooded Merganser. Sometimes raptors are about, and Barred Owls have nested close by. The road continues for another mile and a half through several stands of Red Pine and areas of deciduous woods and finally reaches an area of the reservoir that is

opposite Southworth Island and Mount Zion. The area has ducks, raptors of all kinds including Bald and Golden eagles and, if the water is low from August into October, shorebirds. Watch for Wild Turkeys by scanning the shores of Mount Zion. From this vantage point, the Baffle Dams can be seen to the southwest. Greenwich Road eventually dead-ends at School Hill, closer to the area of the Baffle Dams. From Greenwich Road, another road cuts off to the left (south) that eventually connects to Gate 43 at the Spillway (also known as Boat Mooring Area No. 3). From Dana Commons to the Mount Zion overlook is about two miles, one way, so consider well before you attempt this hike.

The third choice from Dana Commons is to head northwest, to the right. The first road on the right, Tamplin Road, goes east of Whitney Hill and ends at Dugway Road and Gate 39. A better choice is to take the second right, up **Skinner Hill Road** and eventually to Graves Landing. This hike is the longest and the steepest of the three, especially on the way back when you least appreciate a hill's angle of incline. If you decide to go beyond Dana Commons, this is the best birding trail and is described in detail below.

Just before Skinner Hill Road begins its long gradual ascent along the south side of Skinner Hill, there is a small area of water and dead trees that also extends across Tamplin Road. This is really an eastern extension of the Cotton Grass Marsh mentioned earlier. In migration there are warblers and sparrows. The Black-backed Woodpecker spent most of its time in this swamp, so watch those dead trees and listen for tapping!

Skinner Hill Road can sometimes be quiet, but birds of interest that I have found there include Ruffed Grouse, Black-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Northern Goshawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Pileated Woodpecker, especially on the downward slope toward Graves Landing. This is a good area for Wild Turkey. Some birders have seen them crossing the road even in summer.

After the road reaches its crest, it then descends steeply, and there is an obvious curve, appropriately named Dead Man's Curve. Just past the curve, there is a path off to the left (west). A short distance along this path, there is an intersection with a choice of three paths. If you go right (north), you will come to Graves Landing. If you continue ahead (west), you will come to Stevens Island. The trail to the left (south) parallels the water by the former Sunk Pond and dead-ends at the shore opposite Mount Zion, north of where Greenwich Road emerges, an area where Wild Turkey may be seen.

But perhaps the best thing to do is to explore the area of the intersection itself. In the spruces here have been found Barred Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Ruffed Grouse, and Boreal Chickadee.

Graves Landing, Leveau Island, and North Dana Flats. From the intersection, return to Skinner Hill Road, which continues on to a vast open area known as Graves Landing. Look off to the north and note Rattlesnake Hill and

farther away, Soapstone Hill. The island in front of you is Leveau Island. This is one of the most important birding areas in all of Quabbin. When the water is high in spring, concentrations of ducks will occur. In spring and especially in fall, raptors of all kinds may be present. When water levels are low in the fall, shorebirds of a surprising variety can be found. These flats may extend east and north of Leveau Island and are sometimes referred to as the North Dana Flats. In an extended period of low water during the sixties and seventies, these flats produced nesting Grasshopper and Vesper sparrows, and even Sedge Wren bred in the area. Fall migration here produces Water Pipit, Horned Lark, Lapland Longspur, and Snow Bunting. In November watch for Northern Shrike.

The farther out on the flats you can get, the better the birding. Birders in the know often bicycle in Gate 40, whizzing by other areas in order to spend most of their time at Graves Landing and these flats. If you do bicycle here, do not take your bike out on the flats, but lock it up under the trees off Skinner Hill Road.

Skimming through the Year at Gate 40

January and February. Bleakest months for birding. Access beyond Dana Commons very difficult. Flocks of winter finches overhead: Evening Grosbeaks, both crossbills, siskins, and redpolls. Also flocks of chickadees, both nuthatches, Downy and Hairy woodpeckers, and a few Tree Sparrows. Common Raven and Pileated Woodpecker are present. A good time to track mammals. Scope for raptors over Graves Landing from an overlook of the North Dana Flats approached from Gate 37.

March. Eagle watching at Graves Landing if snow accumulations past Dana Commons permit hiking. Horned Larks and Snow Buntings on the flats. Ducks everywhere as water opens up: Canada Geese, American Black, Ring-necked, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Common and Hooded mergansers, and possibly, American Wigeon and Northern Pintail. Wood Ducks, Great Blue Heron (by end of month), Turkey Vulture and Red-shouldered Hawk (after March 15) at Pottapaug. Fox Sparrows scratching. Winter Wren along Skinner Hill Road. Eastern Phoebe and Eastern Bluebird in fields along Petersham Road.

April. Ducks more numerous, also phoebes and bluebirds. Osprey anywhere. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers on main road and kingfishers at Pottapaug. Yellow-rumps, Palms, and Louisiana Waterthrush on hike to Dana Commons. Beautiful song of Hermit Thrush at dusk. Fishing season opens: outboard motors from now until October.

May. Pine, Blackburnian, and Black-throated Green warblers everywhere. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers nest-building right over the road. Least Flycatchers call from every direction. Also, most of the flycatchers, both cuckoos, and the usual migrant warblers.

A Summary of Some of the Breeding Birds of Gate 40

Resident Breeders: Wild Turkey, Ruffed Grouse, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-breasted Nuthatch.

Migrant Breeders: Common Loon, Great Blue Heron, American Woodcock, Red-shouldered Hawk, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Solitary, Yellow-throated, and Red-eyed vireos; Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, and Pine warblers; Ovenbird, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Oriole.

Casual Breeders (breed irregularly or very rarely in the Gate 40 area): Black-billed and Yellow-billed cuckoos, Alder Flycatcher, Grasshopper and Vesper sparrows.

Possible Breeders: Red Crossbill, Pine Siskin.

June and July. Breeding birds: Ruffed Grouse beyond Dana Commons, Cooper's Hawk along Greenwich Road, Northern Goshawk on Skinner Hill Road, and Red-shouldered Hawk at Pottapaug. Alder Flycatcher possible in marsh west of Dana Commons. Surprises: Red Crossbills at Dana Commons and Greenwich Road in 1985. Summering Bald Eagles in Mount Zion area. House Wrens noisy and numerous.

August. Increased activity after midmonth. Small flocks of warblers. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. First shorebirds at North Dana Flats depending on water level.

September. Best month. Birds everywhere. Migrant warblers in treetops at dawn. Several Scarlet Tanagers and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. Red-eyed and Solitary vireos in numbers. Philadelphia Vireo, Connecticut and Orange-crowned warblers have been noted. A frustrating assortment of *Empids*. Numbers of wood-pewees, phoebes, Great Cresteds, kingbirds. Occasionally an Olive-sided. Shorebirds at the flats. Sharp-shinned Hawks working the fields. A wide variety of hawks. Sapsuckers in trees in the fields. Sparrows building up. Lincoln's Sparrow in the far side of fields on the north side of Petersham Road.

October. Gorgeous foliage. Winter Wren in wood piles and brush. Palms and Yellow-rumps in small flocks with phoebes and bluebirds. Some shorebirds still on the flats with Water Pipits. Golden-crowned Kinglets more numerous. First winter finches at month's end. Fishing season ends, and quiet returns.

November. Ducks, loons, and grebes undisturbed by boats. Last of Great Blue Herons at Pottapaug. Bald Eagles more obvious as are turkeys and Pileated Woodpeckers. Golden Eagles rare but regularly reported. Yellow-legs and Black-bellies linger in first week. Northern Shrikes appear at Dana Commons or on the flats. First appearance of winter finches. Occasional late Hermit Thrush. Flocks of Snow Buntings and Horned Larks along the shore. A decision about long underwear must be made.

December. Ducks present in deeper open water. Time for last trip to Graves Landing. Dusting of snow makes turkey-tracking possible on Skinner Hill Road. Dark-eyed Juncos. Always the possibility, as in 1985, of Black-backed Woodpecker. And the croaks of Common Raven a fitting symbol of deepest winter at the Quabbin.

Conclusion

This article and month-by-month survey are not intended as the last word on the birds of Gate 40. In another five years, five to ten species will probably be added to my bird list with a status change of just as many. Quabbin is a relatively new area with changing and developing habitats. New species may yet colonize the area, much the way that the Acadian Flycatcher has now become a breeding bird on the west side of Quabbin. With increased coverage new species of migrants will certainly be discovered. Exciting birds to be on the lookout for include Acadian Flycatcher, Orchard Oriole, and Summer Tanager, as well as the unpredictable rarities. I would have thought Gate 40 one of the last places to find a Say's Phoebe; so who knows what will show up next?

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MARK LYNCH is an instructor at the Worcester Art Museum, birding trip leader for the New England Science Center, and does a talk-show on the arts and sciences on WICN-FM. He is passionate about birding Quabbin and is preparing articles on Gates 37, 35, and 22. He requests that birders who find a rarity or note anything else of interest in this area (late dates, high counts, etc.) please send a record of the sighting to him at 36 Carlisle Street, Worcester, MA 01602.

Acknowledgments. The author would like to thank Brad Blodgett, Tom Gagnon, Erik Nielsen, and Scott Surner for their help in fleshing out his knowledge of the birds of the Gate 40 area. With their records, Mark has completed an annotated bird list of Gate 40. This is available by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to him at the above address.

Note. An organization concerned with all aspects of Quabbin and very deserving of attention and support is The Friends of Quabbin who can be reached through the Visitors Center, Winsor Dam, Belchertown, MA 01007.

A CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH BOSTON'S PEREGRINES

by Chere Bemelmans

On July 1, 1987, I saw a Peregrine Falcon from the thirty-first floor of the building at One Beacon Street in downtown Boston. We were separated by only a pane of glass.

The Peregrine, the female of the two juvenile birds introduced into the nest on June 24, was sitting on a ledge. She was looking around, very interested in the fifteen persons looking out at her. She was food begging. Every few minutes she called -- six to eight short wild cries at a time, then a pause. Sometimes she would cry out over the city; other times she would cry while looking in at us. Someone put a hand on the window. She moved toward it, cocked her head, and extended her wings about half their span, responding to the hand.

I was overwhelmed by the incredible beauty and wildness of the Peregrine close up. I had been watching the birds for months from One Beacon: their nest, first with eggs, then with the introduced Prairie Falcon, was visible to the naked eye from my office building. I had seen the birds daily in my scope, and yet, the sight of this Peregrine inches away was something that I was not prepared for. She was less than two months old and had flown for less than a week, yet the strength and power in her body was apparent. Her beak, which at times she pressed against the window, dominated her head. Yet just as striking were her eyes -- huge and black, they moved constantly. Her claws were amazingly large; like her beak, they were strong and powerful. Her chest was heavily speckled with brown. Five or six down feathers stuck to her head. If it were not that the wind only ruffled these feathers, I would have thought that they were not attached. When spread, her wings looked too big for her body.

Since early March, when several of us observed the Peregrine courtship flight, we had watched the birds with telescopes and binoculars. The first clutch of eggs was laid between April 13 and 19; the eggs broke on the nineteenth -- Easter Sunday. The second clutch was laid between May 4 and 11. These eggs were removed by Tom French of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife as they were laid and were replaced with infertile chicken eggs. On May 11, all four were flown to Boise, Idaho, where they all successfully hatched. These offspring have been released in Maine.

To see if Boston's Peregrine Falcons would be "good parents" (Peregrines occasionally attack their own young), a Prairie Falcon chick, more plentiful than the endangered Peregrines, was placed in the nest on June 8. This chick was readily accepted by the foster parents, and, for the next several weeks, we watched the behavior of the Peregrines as they tended to this youngster. This



Boston Peregrine

Photo by Peter A. Southwick

young Prairie Falcon is a historic bird in her own right -- one of the first falcons to be born as a result of artificial insemination with frozen sperm!

When the young Prairie Falcon arrived, her white body was clearly visible against the gray of the ledge the nest was on. At first she stayed close to her foster mother, who attempted to keep the young falcon under her body. (We called the bird in attendance at the nest or doing housekeeping, such as cleaning or patrolling, the female. The bird bringing prey, we called the male.) The Prairie Falcon grew unbelievably fast; she seemed to double her size in a week. She began to toddle around the area of the nest, and soon the female parent had to abandon her attempts to keep the youngster under wing. Her efforts as the chick grew were entertaining to watch.

On June 16, around 9:00 A.M., the adult female was observed perched on the ledge just above the nest. The juvenile was difficult to see, perhaps sleeping. The male arrived with prey and landed on the left edge of the ledge. The juvenile immediately woke up and became very active, and the female parent ran over to the male and snatched the prey from him. The male then took off and soared in the vicinity of the nest. The female ate first, then fed both the chick and herself.

Sometimes the adult female would fly in slow, tight circles, high but directly above the nest. I called this activity "patrolling." One day while on patrol she chased a gull from the space over the nest. Diving at it repeatedly, she was clearly in pursuit. Under attack, the intruder picked up speed rapidly, and once it was clearly on its way, the Peregrine stopped the chase and returned to the area above the nest. Apparently a good housekeeper, the female would take objects from the nest in her claws and, flying over the city, drop them. She made several trips per cleaning session. The male had a spectacular habit. He would dive straight down from the top of our building, which directly faces the McCormick Building and the nest, level off at about the tenth floor, and cruise past his nest. We observed this activity on several occasions.

The week before two "authentic" Peregrine chicks were to be placed in the nest and the young Prairie Falcon was moved because the birds were suffering heat stress. We had observed both the adult and the chick apparently panting. Although it was not moved far, we could no longer directly observe the nest site because of a wall.

Two Peregrine chicks, a male and a female, were placed in the nest in mid-June. The Prairie Falcon, an experiment along with two other Prairie Falcons, was either brought back into the breeding program or given to a falconer. The chicks fledged on June 26 and June 29, and on the twenty-ninth, spectacular family flights began as the young joined their parents in the air.

The Peregrine-watchers at One Beacon were fortunate on July 1 that the young female bird landed on the ledge of one of the members of the Peregrine-

watching network. Word of her arrival spread quickly, and soon crowds of delighted people were watching this wild and powerful raptor. After perching for an hour, the young bird became restless. Her food-begging cries had produced neither parent nor food. She moved around on the ledge a bit and then, still facing the window, spread her wings. The span was astonishing -- she seemed to unfold wing when there should be no more. Flapping them awkwardly, slowly, and still holding them extended, she turned to face the city. She toddled about a foot to the edge of the ledge, paused an instant, hunkered down, and then hurtled herself off into space, wings beating furiously. Already fast, she was gone in an instant.

Later, we watched the adult and young Peregrines soaring together. From the thirtieth floor, we saw them rise at least twice as high from the ground as we were -- four falcons, two circling smoothly, two flying erratically until they became barely visible specks in the sky.

After forty years without them, Massachusetts again has breeding Peregrines, and for those of us in downtown Boston who watched these birds so closely, their return is an experience we shall never forget!

CHERE BEMELMANS, an editor for Houghton Mifflin publishers, joined the staff of *Bird Observer* in 1986. She lives in Bradford and is a young mother of two. An inveterate hawkwatcher, the moving experience with the Peregrines has inspired her to write.

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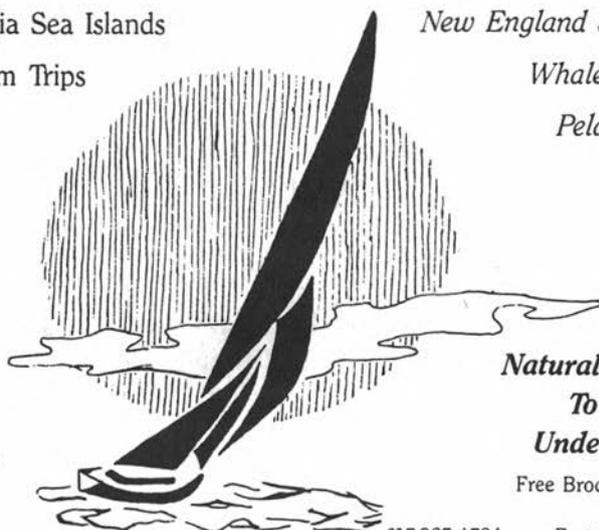
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BOOK REVIEW

by Paul M. Roberts

A Field Guide to Hawks: North America by William S. Clark. Illustrations by Brian K. Wheeler. 1987. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. Peterson Field Guide Series, No. 35, 198 pages. 24 color and 2 black-and-white plates; 241 black-and-white photos; 32 maps. \$19.95 clothbound; \$13.95 paperback.

This thirty-fifth volume in the Peterson field guide series is a milestone. It is the most comprehensive and widely available identification guide to North American hawks ever published. Its success will demonstrate whether there is a commercial market for good books on American raptors, while stimulating revisionism in hawk identification.

The guide is divided into five parts. There is a fourteen-page introduction, followed by 112 pages of text and maps on the field identification of thirty-nine species of diurnal raptors. The text, including range maps, is sandwiched around twenty-four color and two black-and-white plates. In the plate section, each left-hand page contains brief descriptions of the field characters of the birds depicted on the right, a format familiar to the users of Peterson's own birding guides. The fourth section consists of forty-two pages of black-and-white photographs. The book concludes with a fourteen-page list of references, followed by a nine-page index to the references by species and topic, and by a two-page index.

The book's scope is quite narrow -- surprisingly. This is evident in the brief, disappointing introduction. Any volume in the Peterson field guide series is presumably intended for a broad audience, and should provide a good, albeit brief, introduction to the subject. This book does not attempt such an introduction. A number of basic questions are not addressed. What are hawks? (Clark's definition of the common understanding of the term seems much too narrow.) How closely are hawks related to owls? What are the systematics of North American raptors, and what is their significance, if any, for the lay reader? How representative are North American hawks of hawks around the world?

Further, there is no discussion of predation or of the role of predators in the environment. What is the significance of the hawks' position in the food chain? What is the nature of the relationship between hawks and humans? Clark fails to discuss how humans have been, and are, affecting the population status of hawks through shooting, pollution, and habitat destruction, or even restoration programs.

Curiously, Clark also does not describe when and where people are most likely to see hawks. Nor does he discuss migration as a special topic or refer the

reader to any hawk conservation or education organizations, such as Hawk Mountain or the Hawk Migration Association.

Clark did not avoid these topics to devote more time and space to stepping beginners through the learning processes of hawk identification. Only three woefully inadequate pages are given to the subject of *how* to identify hawks, and they are poorly written. Clearly, there is a question as to whom this book is directed. The introduction indicates it is not the beginning hawkwatcher!

The introduction does, however, state that the author's objective "is to present the latest in tried and proven field marks and behavioral characteristics by which the thirty-three regular and six accidental North American diurnal raptors may be accurately identified. These field marks and characteristics should enable anyone, with a little practice, to accurately identify most flying and perched diurnal raptors when they are *seen clearly* (italics mine)."

The second section of the book is the most thorough discussion of the identification of North American hawks available today. For almost a decade, Clark has been working to elevate and refine the field identification of North American hawks. His growth in skill and knowledge from his early articles on buteos and eagles to this book is obvious.

The detailed, well-structured text achieves the stated objectives. Each species account provides a general description of the species, noting differences in plumage and colors of the soft parts by age, sex, color morph, and race or form. Similar-looking species are identified and differentiated, followed by brief descriptions of flight and behavior. The accounts also discuss status and distribution, fine points, unusual plumages (albinism, etc.), subspecies status, etymology, and measurements. In only a few instances, regrettably, does Clark describe voice. Life histories are not provided.

Clark's species accounts are of limited utility in the field precisely because his descriptions of field characters require that you see the bird well. Most hawks are not seen so well! Nevertheless, the text alone is worth the price of the book. This is a unique goldmine of information. No other single book or article provides such extensive descriptions of the plumages of all of North America's hawks, including the various morphs of some of our most confusing species, such as Red-tailed, Swainson's, and Rough-legged Hawk. Anyone hawkwatching in western North America should especially benefit from this book. Clark also describes in some detail the sequence of oft-confusing plumages in Bald and Golden eagles (without adequately concluding whether or not it is possible to age eagles by plumage). His descriptions of Northern Harrier, Rough-legged Hawk, Gyrfalcon, and eagle plumages provide significant new information that should also be addressed in technical articles supported by photographs and statistics.

The text is not without faults, however. There are a fair number of relatively minor editorial errors, beginning with incorrect references to the end papers in the table of contents. The prose, which conveys little enthusiasm for its subject, is at times awkward, occasionally confusing. In the introduction, several descriptions under "How to Identify Hawks" can only perplex the reader who refers to the text sections on kites, buteos, and eagles. In the species accounts, the description of tail-banding on the Zone-tailed Hawk is not well phrased. Under Rough-legged Hawk, Clark writes, "Plumage characters can be used to determine sex for most adults, but some adults occur in the plumage of the other sex." What? This does little to resolve some questions raised by Tom Cade's paper on roughlegs three decades ago. How extensive is this rough-legged crossdressing? How reliable, how desirable, is it to attempt to age and sex roughlegs in the field?

There are two significant intentional omissions in the text. First, as noted earlier, Clark makes little mention of voice, advising readers to learn vocalizations in the field or use records or tapes such as in the Peterson series. The latter are inadequate for most diurnal raptor vocalizations, and any field study would have been facilitated by some suggestive descriptions and attempts at mnemonics.

A more significant shortcoming is Clark's decision to eschew describing the jizz of birds in flight. Clark elects to describe essentially what can be proven in photographs and specimens, focusing on plumages and the colors of soft parts. He does not delve deeply into the gray areas of typical or comparative behavior or overall appearance, where there are lesser degrees of certainty. Descriptions under "Flight," "Behavior," and "Similar Species" are brief and limited in scope. This is regrettable in that quite often in the field it is easier to perceive the jizz of a bird than subtle features of plumage, as Harrison acknowledges in his excellent guide to seabirds. To learn about jizz, eastern hawkwatchers are advised to read *Hawk Watch* by Peter Dunne and the staff of the Cape May Bird Observatory.

The plates, the third section, may be more controversial than the text. My first reaction on seeing them was one of disappointment, a sentiment I heard from others as well. Wheeler's birds do not look alive, though his depictions of perched birds seem much more lifelike than those of birds in flight. The latter appear to have torsos drawn from a template. However, as I have used the book and compared it with the standard American birding guides, I have gradually concluded that Brian Wheeler's illustrations are technically the most accurate and the best (especially on plumage) available in any American field guide. His skills have improved considerably over what was demonstrated in the eagle plates published in *American Birds* in 1983. His work is now subtler, more sophisticated, and more precise.

A unique feature of the plates must be mentioned. Clark discusses, and Wheeler depicts in head-on views, distinctive wing attitudes of soaring and gliding birds, an extremely useful field mark to beginners and savants alike. It should be noted, however, that contrary to Clark's description, Broad-winged Hawks often soar with a noticeable, shallow, stiff dihedral. (At least in Massachusetts!)

The book would have benefited from extensive use of supplementary silhouette drawings as used by Peterson in the original edition of his field guide to the birds and by Porter, Willis, et al. in their *Flight Identification of European Raptors*. It is usually easier to see the relative size, shape, and patterns of contrast on a hawk in the field than it is to see subtle differences in plumage or the color of soft parts such as the iris or cere. Silhouette figures in the text could have drawn the beginner's attention to critical field marks quicker and more easily than the distractions of a more aesthetically pleasing color plate.

In general, there is very good agreement between text and illustrations, though the roughleg illustrated on plate 10 does not depict the wings reaching the tail. Nor does the adult broadwing on the same plate appear to have "unmarked" underwings. "Detached wings" and other body parts occasionally depicted on the already crowded plates are often not, or only poorly, identified, causing unnecessary confusion. (See Plates 9, 10, 11, 20, and 21 in particular.)

The fourth section of the book, the black-and-white photographs, is disappointing. Any book with 42 pages of hawk photographs should be worth \$13.95 for the photos alone. This book is not. Some photographs are decidedly out of focus, perhaps more accurately reflecting what you see in the field most of the time. Other photos apparently did not transfer well from original color transparencies. Further, all the photos are printed on an unsatisfactory stock. To top it off, the photos are so crammed onto the page (in two instances, nine photos on one page) that it is impossible to have much text identifying the critical field marks purportedly visible. There are 241 halftones jammed onto only 42 pages of a book that is less than 5 x 8 inches. The section is helpful but could be so much more than it is.

The final section of the book consists of fourteen pages of references, plus a nine-page index to the references by species and topic. Both are outstanding, and highly unusual for the Peterson series. However, they also raise again the question as to whom this book is addressed. The list of "general references" is brief and fails to cite the superb introduction to hawks by Leslie Brown, *Birds of Prey: Their Biology and Ecology*. Nor is any mention made of the excellent introductory guides to hawk identification and migration, such as *Hawk Watch*, *The Mountain and the Migration*, or to the ubiquitous silhouette guides, one of which Clark coauthored. The excellent (and inexpensive) educational materials available through Cornell University are not mentioned either. Meanwhile, the

species references are to journals that are practically inaccessible to most people that Houghton Mifflin expects will buy this book. (Ironically, only by examining these references will many people appreciate the wealth of material provided by Clark and Wheeler.)

In summary, it is regrettable that Clark and Wheeler adopted such a narrow approach to hawk identification. The Peterson series provides an excellent opportunity to introduce millions of people to birds of prey, to stimulate their interest in, and appreciation of, hawks. This volume does not do that very well. Many novice hawkwatchers will find it difficult to use in the field. Clark does not satisfactorily address the issues and problems confronting them. Beginners should still be directed to the silhouette guides and to the excellent introductory guides cited earlier, especially *Hawk Watch*, to be used in conjunction with Clark and Wheeler.

However, none of these criticisms should detract from Clark and Wheeler's tremendous achievement. Anyone interested in hawks should have *A Field Guide to Hawks*. Experienced hawkwatchers will refer to this lode of detail for years to come. Perhaps only hawk lovers can fully appreciate that the first Peterson field guide devoted to an order of birds was done on *hawks*! No longer must you spend ten years in the field at the foot of a sage to learn all the plumages. (Jizz is a slightly different matter, however.) Clark and Wheeler have changed the world of hawk identification. Everyone with an interest in hawks is indebted to them.

I would like to thank Leif J. Robinson for his comments on this book, which were helpful in the preparation of this review.

PAUL M. ROBERTS is manager of the Corporate Identification and Technical Articles Programs for Honeywell Bull, Inc. Paul was a co-founder of the Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch in 1976 and has served as president of that organization as well as chairman of the New England Hawk Watch and the Hawk Migration Association of North America. For the past decade, Paul has taught introductory courses on hawk identification for Habitat and for the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Paul is a former editor of *Bird Observer*.

SHRIKES: LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Following the publication of James Baird's "Field Problem: Northern Versus Loggerhead Shrike," in our February 1987 issue, Eirik A. T. Blom expanded on Baird's description of bill color in the two species. The exchange was as follows.

Baird: The bill of the Northern Shrike is ... blackish with a light base to the lower mandible. The bill of the Loggerhead is ... all black.

Blom: Northern Shrikes are pale at the base of the bill, but only in fall and winter. The rest of the year the bill is all black.... From one-quarter to one-third of the base of the bill can be pale.... Loggerhead Shrikes also have a pale base to the lower mandible in the fall and early winter. It is usually smaller, covering one-quarter or less of the lower mandible....

Baird response: [T]he point of the article ... was to minimize bill color ... and to encourage birders to look at the whole bird before making their identification.

Blom's letter of reply dated July 3, 1987, and delayed in the mail states that he (Blom) "was simply trying to add a small piece of information to an already excellent article."

...I did not "miss the point" nor could half a page of material be called "exhaustive." ...[T]he comments on bill color were incomplete. I merely attempted to expand on them, cribbing shamelessly from Zimmerman's work. My feeling was that no matter how diligently the author downplayed the importance of any single field mark, birdwatchers are likely to latch onto any character that *appears* to absolutely separate a difficult species pair. Without clarification some observers would say, "Well, it has a pale base to the bill, so it must be a Northern, no matter what the other characters suggest." Lest Jim or anyone else take offense at that, let me hasten to admit that I have fallen into that trap several times myself. We all struggle with the problem of feeling certain of our identification, and that makes any field mark interpreted as being diagnostic especially seductive.

An excellent recent example is the mystery photograph of a grebe in the October 1986 issue of *Birding*. The red wash on the neck and breast caused many of the best field birders in the country (including the identification editor) to identify it as a Horned. Now a revisionist movement is picking up steam, fueled in part by a note in the latest *Dutch Birding* describing an Eared Grebe with red on the neck and breast. Suddenly other characters *suggestive* of Eared are being given credence. No matter what it turns out to be, the story illustrates the tendency of *all* birdwatchers to embrace single "diagnostic" field marks.



FIELD RECORDS

MAY 1987

by George W. Gove and Robert H. Stymeist

May 1987 was dry and sunny. There were a few very cool days, but near record heat was present at the end of the month. The temperature averaged 57.2 degrees, 1.3 degrees below normal. The high mark was 93 degrees on May 30; the low was 39 degrees on May 1 and May 14. On May 4, the temperature rose to only 45 degrees to tie the low maximum record set in 1920. On May 5, the high of only 42 degrees broke the old record of 46 degrees set in 1917. Rain totaled only 1.75 inches, 1.77 inches less than normal. Sunshine totaled 66 percent of possible, the most in May since 1977. Southwest winds were recorded on May 1, 14, 21, and 22.

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS

A breeding-plumaged Red-necked Grebe was seen in Nahant on May 23, and an Anhinga was seen flying over Nahant on May 25, making a first state sight record for this species. The length and shape of the tail and the long, thin neck were the predominant features identifying the bird as an Anhinga. (See the article in this issue.) A census of nests on South Monomoy on May 30 totaled 90 active Snowy Egret nests and 201 active Black-crowned Night-Heron nests, the latter being up from last year's high of 176 active nests. A drake King Eider was seen at Plum Island for over a week from May 19 to 27, and a drake Harlequin Duck was present at Nahant on May 13.

G.W.G.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Red-throated Loon				
16, 31	P.I., Chatham	60, 1	E. Nielsen, S. Dinsmore	
Common Loon				
7, 9	N. Truro	41/2 hr, 39/1.5 hr	B. Nikula	
12, 16	Mt. A., P.I.	2, 8	D. F. Oliver, E. Nielsen	
19, 23	Provincetown, Lakeville	4, 3	B. Nikula, W. Petersen#	
Pied-billed Grebe				
2, 8	Milford	1, 1	R. Hildreth	
25	ONWR	1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
Horned Grebe				
26	Nahant	2	fidie S. Perkins	
Red-necked Grebe				
17, 23; 21	Manomet; N. Scituate	1; 3	S. Dinsmore; D. Clapp	
23, 27	Nahant, P.I.	1 br pl, 1	R. Stymeist#, D. F. Oliver	
Northern Fulmar				
29	Jeffreys Ledge	2	S. Dinsmore	
Greater Shearwater				
29	Jeffreys Ledge	1	S. Dinsmore	
Sooty Shearwater				
29	Jeffreys Ledge	2	S. Dinsmore	
Northern Gannet				
2, 16	Stellwagen	15, 4	K. Holmes	
6, 10, 12	Nantucket	200, 400, 200	E. + C. Andrews	
16	Provincetown	40	S. Dinsmore	
Great Cormorant				
23, 29	Lakeville, Manomet	1, 8	W. Petersen#, S. Dinsmore	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Double-crested Cormorant			
thr	Nahant, Saugus	400, 75	R. Stymeist#, J. Berry
1, 7	Easton, Newburyport	46, 150	K. Ryan, J. Berry
Anhinga (first Massachusetts record) (details submitted)			
25	Nahant	1 imm or f	R. Forster + C. Seeckts
American Bittern			
2	W. Newbury	1	BBC (G. d'Entremont)
10	Bolton	4	BBC (M. Lynch)
13	Wayland	2	fide S. Perkins
13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Lyons)
16, 31	Lynnfield, GMNWR	1, 1	H. Wiggin#, J. Carter
Least Bittern			
26-30	P.I.	1-2	v. o.
Great Blue Heron			
5, 10	W. Bridgewater, Harvard	3, 4	K. Ryan, M. Lynch#
23	Easton, Lakeville	3, 2	K. Ryan, W. Petersen#
Great Egret			
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	4 max 5/26	LCES (J. Lyons)
1, 3	Quincy, W. Newbury	1, 1	K. Ryan, D. F. Oliver
15, 26; 28	Ipswich; Dedham	1, 1; 1	J. Berry; K. Ryan
Snowy Egret			
thr	Saugus	9 max 5/21	J. Berry
thr	S. Monomoy	90 active nests	R. Humphrey
thr	P.I.	25 max 5/27	v. o.
Little Blue Heron			
3; 16, 17	Westwood; Essex	1; 1-2 ad	E. Cutler; B. Cassie#, E. Nielsen
24, 25	Bolton, ONWR	1, 1	M. Lynch#, BBC (D.+ D. Oliver)
Tricolored Heron			
9, 28; 16	DWWS; Harwich	1, 1; 1	D. Ludlow; P. Trimble
25, 26-31	S. Monomoy, P.I.	1, 1	B. Nikula#, v. o.
Cattle Egret			
thr	Ipswich	19 max	v. o.
17, 21	Hamilton, Beverly	1, 4	E. Nielsen, D. F. Oliver
23	Marshfield	1	W. Petersen#
Green-backed Heron			
thr	P.I.	6 max 5/27	v. o.
2, 8	DWWS, Milford	1, 3	D. Clapp, R. Hildreth#
9, 17	Belmont, MV	1, 1	L. Taylor, D. Briggs
Black-crowned Night-Heron			
thr	S. Monomoy	201 active nests	R. Humphrey
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			
25	Plymouth Beach	1	G. d'Entremont#
Glossy Ibis			
thr	Revere	25 max 5/4	J. Berry
1, 11	Newburyport, Bolton	14, 4	E. Salmela
7, 16	P.I., Ipswich	18, 10	J. Berry
10, 16	Chatham, Rowley	21, 12	W. Harrington, R. Forster
25, 30	S. Monomoy, Essex	2, 7	R. Humphrey, S. Carroll#
Mute Swan			
3, 8	Acoaxet, Mashpee	50, 24	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble
16	Ipswich	pr + 3 yg	J. Berry
23, 25	Milton, Plymouth	2, 5	G. d'Entremont, D. Brown#
Brant			
1-23	Newburyport	400 max 5/10	v. o.
2	Plymouth	75	K. Holmes
Canada Goose			
1, 27	Ipswich, P.I.	100, 500	J. Berry, D. F. Oliver
10-31	Mt. A.	2-7 per day	R. Stymeist + v. o.
Wood Duck			
8; 10	Milford; Bolton, ONWR	13; 6, 2	R. Hildreth; M. Lynch#
23	W. Newbury	f + 13 yg	R. Stymeist#
Green-winged Teal			
thr	P.I.	125 max 5/2	v. o.
3, 25	S. Monomoy	25, 3	B. Nikula

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Green-winged Teal (continued)				
6	Bolton	70	E. Salmela	
8	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	9	LCES (J. Lyons)	
American Black Duck				
thr	S. Monomoy	125 max 5/11	v. o.	
27	P.I.	75	D. F. Oliver	
Northern Pintail				
3, 25	S. Monomoy	6, 4	B. Nikula	
7	Millis	1 f	B. Cassie#	
Blue-winged Teal				
thr	P.I.	30 max 5/2	D. Chickering + v. o.	
3, 25	S. Monomoy	5, 2	B. Nikula	
Northern Shoveler				
thr	P.I.	1 or 2	D. Chickering + v. o.	
3, 25	S. Monomoy	3, 3	B. Nikula	
Gadwall				
thr	P.I.	75 max 5/27	D. F. Oliver + v. o.	
3, 25	S. Monomoy	30, 40	B. Nikula	
American Wigeon				
3, 25	S. Monomoy	2, 3	B. Nikula	
7-30	P.I.	5 max 5/9	v. o.	
23	Scituate	3	W. Petersen#	
Greater Scaup				
3, 16	Newburyport, Nahant	1, 1	M. Lynch#, J. Baird#	
Lesser Scaup				
8	Falmouth	12	P. Trimble	
Common Eider				
7	P.I.	1 m	J. Berry	
King Eider				
19-27	P.I.	1 ad m	A. Williams# + v. o.	
Harlequin Duck				
13	Nahant	1 ad m	L. Pivacek	
Oldsquaw				
1-22	Newburyport	100 max 5/7	v. o.	
8, 10	Nantucket	1000, 50	E.+ C. Andrews	
Black Scoter				
7, 16	N. Monomoy, Nahant	7, 4	R. Humphrey, G. Gove#	
28	Manomet	40	S. Dinsmore	
Surf Scoter				
8, 16	Falmouth, Nahant	12, 20	P. Trimble, R. Stymeist#	
19, 25	P.I., Manomet	1 m, 3	A. Williams, G. d'Entremont#	
White-winged Scoter				
6, 12	Nantucket	500, 100	E.+ C. Andrews	
16, 19	Nahant, P.I.	150, 3 m	R. Stymeist#, A. Williams	
22	Nantucket	2000	fide S. Perkins	
Common Goldeneye				
16, 23	Nahant, Lakeville	1 m, 1	J. Baird#, W. Petersen#	
Bufflehead				
3, 4	S. Monomoy, Salem	40, 10	B. Nikula, J. Berry	
8, 23	Falmouth, Squantum	100, 1	P. Trimble, W. Petersen#	
Common Merganser				
7, 18	W. Harwich, Topsfield	4, 3	B. Nikula, J. Brown	
25	Manomet	1 f	S. Dinsmore#	
Red-breasted Merganser				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	40 max 5/8	LCES (J. Lyons)	
1-27	Newburyport-P.I.	22 max 5/20	v. o.	
3	Monomoy	1500	B. Nikula	
Ruddy Duck				
3	S. Monomoy	4	B. Nikula	

HAWKS THROUGH BOBWHITE

A Black Vulture was seen flying over Drumlin Farm in Lincoln on May 1. Turkey Vultures were recorded throughout the month, and seven Bald Eagles were noted at as many locations and included

five immature birds. The Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch (EMHW) counted an impressive number of migrating hawks including more than 1400 coastally-migrating Sharp-shinned Hawks, Cooper's Hawks, over 500 Broad-winged Hawks migrating over the tip of Cape Cod, and American Kestrels, Merlins, and Peregrine Falcons. A Red-shouldered Hawk nest with one young bird was found in Holliston on a power pole. An immature Red-tailed Hawk was seen at Mount Auburn Cemetery eating an eight-inch long worm. Rough-legged Hawks were seen as late as May 31. The Golden Eagle continued from March through May 11 in the Middleboro area. An immature female Gyrfalcon was picked up dead on Nantucket. An autopsy revealed that it had died of a fungal infection of the lungs. A Chukar was noted at Otis AFB, source unknown. G.W.G.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Black Vulture				
1	DFWS	1	J. Bradley (fide R. Forster)	
Turkey Vulture				
1-10, 2	Truro, Milford	14 max 5/9, 2	EMHW, R. Hildreth	
2	Dover, N. Truro	8, 4	M. Kasprzyk, B. Nikula	
9, 10-17	Provincetown, Nantucket	11, 1	P. Trimble, B. Perkins + v. o.	
12, 31	Provincetown, Barre	17, 8	B. Nikula, G. Gove#	
Osprey				
thr	S. Chatham	pr nesting	B. Nikula + v. o.	
1-10, 2	Truro, P.I.	7 max 5/1, 5	EMHW	
2, 8	Mashpee	6, 8	J. Aylward#, P. Trimble	
13, 10	Acoaxet, Mt. A.	18, 3	D. F. Oliver, v. o.	
Bald Eagle				
1	Brockton	1 ad	S. Peak	
19, 26	N. Monomoy	1 imm	S. Dinsmore, R. Humphrey	
1, 16	Truro, W. Barnstable	2 imm, 1 imm	R. Humphrey, P. Trimble	
27, 31	Wayland, P.I.	1, 1 imm	J. Hines, E. Nielsen	
Northern Harrier				
thr	N. Truro	1-2 m + 3-4 f	B. Nikula	
1, 2, 8	P.I.	11, 14, 10	EMHW	
8	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	3	LCES (J. Lyons)	
9	P'town	5	P. Trimble	
12, 29	Concord	1, 1	J. Carter	
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
1-3, 7-10	N. Truro	261 total	EMHW	
1-3, 8	P.I. (Lot #1)	561 total	EMHW	
2, 3, 7, 9	P.I. (Hellcat)	309 total	EMHW	
1, 2, 9, 10	E. Boston	102 total	EMHW	
2, 2	Winthrop, Nahant	63, 40	EMHW	
2, 9, 10	Hull	119 total	EMHW	
9, 10	Wachusett, Swampscott	20, 24	EMHW	
1-10	Many other reports of 1-40 birds.			
Cooper's Hawk				
1	N. Truro	10	R. Humphrey	
2, 3, 9, 10	N. Truro	2, 1, 3, 1	EMHW	
9	Provincetown	2	P. Trimble	
2-11	Reports of individuals from 6 locations.			
Northern Goshawk				
thr	Boxford (C.P.)	pr nesting	v. o.	
2, 3	Belmont, Quabbin (G40)	1 ad, 1 imm	D. Campbell, M. Lynch#	
2, 22	Bolton, Holliston	1, 1	E. Salmela, R. Hildreth	
Red-shouldered Hawk				
thr	Boxford (C.P.)	2	v. o.	
1, 10	Truro, Hanson	1, pr	R. Humphrey, W. Petersen	
22	Holliston	1 ad + 1 yg, nest	R. Hildreth	
2-25	Reports of individuals from 7 locations.			
Broad-winged Hawk				
1-3, 7, 9, 10	N. Truro	525 total	EMHW	
1-9, 7	P.I., Provincetown	30 total, 26	EMHW, P. Trimble	
1, 2	Newbury, Dover	15, 13	BBC (D. F. Oliver), M. Kasprzyk	
9, 10	Wachusett	9, 4	EMHW	
30, 31	ONWR, Barre	pr, 4	T. Aversa, G. Gove#	
1-10	Reports of 1-30 birds from 7 locations.			

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Red-tailed Hawk				
1, 2, 9, 10	N. Truro	6, 7, 7, 1	EMHW	
2, 31	Mt. A., Milford	1 imm, 1 ad + 2 yg	J. Heywood, R. Hildreth	
Rough-legged Hawk				
1, 9	N. Truro	2, 1	EMHW	
9, 16	Provincetown	1, 2	P. Trimble	
1, 9	W. Bridgewater, Wachusett	1, 1	W. Petersen, EMHW	
Golden Eagle				
1-11	Middleboro	1 ad	K. Holmes, T. Westgate	
American Kestrel				
1, 2, 7, 9, 10	N. Truro	6, 3, 1, 3, 4	EMHW	
1, 2, 9	E. Boston	4, 5, 1	EMHW	
1-3, 8	P.I. (Lot #1)	98, 21	EMHW	
2	Winthrop, Nahant; P.I.	14, 7; 15	EMHW; BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
9, 10	Mt. Wachusett, Hull	9, 10	EMHW	
Merlin				
1, 2, 10	N. Truro	2, 1, 2	EMHW	
1-9	P.I.	11 total	EMHW	
17, 18	P.I., Newburyport	1 m, 1 f	E. Nielsen	
1-23	Reports of individuals from 6 locations.			
Peregrine Falcon				
thr	Boston	pr nesting	J. Berry + v. o.	
1, 2, 3	P.I.	2, 3, 1	EMHW	
2, 9	N. Truro	2, 1	EMHW	
2-16	Reports of individuals from 6 locations.			
Gyr Falcon				
5	Muskeget I.	1 f (dead)	D. Beattie + B. Perkins	
Chukar				
22	Otis AFB	1	P. Trimble + B. Nikula	
Ruffed Grouse				
2, 23	Quabbin (G40)	3, 2	M. Lynch#	
4, 16	IRWS, Boxford (C.P.)	3, 4 drumming	J. Berry, G.Gove#	
16, 24	W. Newbury, Milton (F.M.)	1 drumming, 1	G.Gove#, D. F. Oliver	
Northern Bobwhite				
9, 17, 30	Belmont	2	L. Taylor	
15	M. V.	7	D. Davis#	

RAILS THROUGH ALCIDS

A Sandhill Crane spent a day at Nine Acre Corner in Concord before being chased out of a cornfield by dogs. A Wilson's Plover was observed at North Monomoy. The following was excerpted from the observers' notes.

The bird was noted as a plover, having a stocky body shape, upright posture, and typical bill shape. The bill was dark, thick, and was proportionately larger than the bill of a nearby Piping Plover. The forehead was white and this white extended in an unbroken line to a point just above and behind each eye, making a white supercilium. A faint rusty patch was visible above the supercilium. The bird had an incomplete black breastband widest near the shoulder and narrow in the middle of the breast. A white collar extended around the back of the head. The legs appeared fairly long and were dull pink.

A full report of this sighting is included elsewhere in this issue.

An American Avocet was observed at Allens Pond in South Dartmouth. This is only the second May record since 1973. Avocets are most frequently seen in Massachusetts in August and September with a total of fifteen independent *BOEM* records in those months. A Curlew Sandpiper in breeding plumage was present at Newburyport for several days, where an adult male Ruff with a black ruff was also seen. See the last issue of *Bird Observer* for a summary of the status of Curlew Sandpiper in Massachusetts. An adult Franklin's Gull spent one afternoon in a field on Scotland Road in West Newbury. G.W.G.

King Rail				
16, 22	Milford	1 heard	R. Hildreth	
Virginia Rail				
4, 7	Ipswich, P.I.	1, 1-2	J. Berry	
10, 12	Bolton, Lynnfield	2, 8	BBC (M. Lynch), BBC (W. VanCor)	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Virginia Rail (continued)				
16	Harwich, Milford	3, 2	P. Trimble, R. Hildreth	
27, 31	Wayland, Whitman	3, 2	R. Forster, W. Petersen	
Sora				
2, 3	P.I., GMNWR	2, 1	D. F. Oliver, T. Raymond	
12, 22	Lynnfield, Milford	13, 2	BBC (W. VanCor), R. Hildreth	
23, 27	Marshfield, Wayland	2, 4	W. Petersen, R. Forster	
Common Moorhen				
9	P.I.	3	BBC (D. F. Oliver)	
16	P.I.	1	BBC (W. Drummond)	
30	P.I.	1	M. Lynch#	
2, 8, 16	Milford	1, 3, 3	R. Hildreth	
American Coot				
23	Scituate	1	W. Petersen	
Sandhill Crane				
3	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	1	R. Walton	
Black-bellied Plover				
thr	N. Monomoy	1000 max 5/31	B. Nikula	
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	119 max 5/19	LCES (J. Lyons)	
thr	Newburyport	900 max 5/17	v. o.	
28, 29	Saugus	25, 100	J. Berry	
Lesser Golden-Plover				
8, 31	Plymouth, Newburyport	1, 1	K. Holmes, E. Nielsen	
Wilson's Plover (details submitted)				
31	N. Monomoy	1	S. Dinsmore + R. Humphrey	
Semipalmated Plover				
9, 23	P.I., Newburyport	2, 300	BBC (D. F. Oliver, BBC (K. Griffis)	
10-31	N. Monomoy	30 max 5/18	B. Nikula	
16, 25	Topsfield, Nahant	1, 90	R. Forster	
Piping Plover				
thr	P.I.	1-3	v.o.	
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	8 max 5/26	LCES (J. Lyons)	
9, 31; 18	Mashpee; Acoaxet	2, 2; 2	P. Trimble; M. Lynch#	
22	Nantucket	4-5 pr	fide S. Perkins	
Killdeer				
22, 24	Newburyport, Bolton	13, 4	S. Carroll#	
American Oystercatcher				
thr	N. Monomoy, S. Monomoy	10 pr, 7 pr	R. Humphrey	
thr	Eastham, Chatham	3, 1 pr.	R. Humphrey	
8, 23	Mashpee, Squantum	1, 1	P. Trimble, W. Petersen#	
American Avocet				
13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Greater Yellowlegs				
thr	P.I.-Newburyport	200 max 5/23	v. o.	
1	Squantum	49	K. Ryan	
8	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	15	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Lesser Yellowlegs				
3, 7	Middleboro, Easton	2, 1	K. Holmes, K. Ryan	
9, 10	Provincetown, Bolton	4, 1	B. Nikula, M. Lynch#	
Solitary Sandpiper				
6-18, 12	Bolton, Concord (9 Acre)	10 max 5/11, 5	E. Salmela, R. Forster	
16	Topsfield, Uxbridge	8, 3	G. Gove#, R. Hildreth	
Reports of individuals from 9 locations.				
Willet				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	10 max 5/13	LCES (J. Lyons)	
thr	N. Monomoy	31 max 5/31	B. Nikula#	
7-30	P.I.	4 max 5/30	v. o.	
23	Squantum	1	K. Ryan	
Spotted Sandpiper				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	6 max 5/13	LCES (J. Lyons)	
12, 19	Concord (9 Acre), Everett	12, 3	R. Forster, J. Berry	
10, 23	Gloucester, Newburyport	4, 4	BBC (D. F. Oliver), S. Carroll#	
24	Bolton	5	M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Upland Sandpiper			
thr	Concord (Hanscom AFB)	9 max 5/17	J. Carter + v. o.
2, 5	N. Truro, Otis AFB	1, 13	B. Nikula, P. Trimble
3, 7	Middleboro, DWWS	2, 4	K. Holmes, D. Ludlow
9	Newburyport	2	BBC (D. F. Oliver)
16	Newburyport	2	BBC (W. Drummond)
23	Halifax	1	W. Petersen#
Whimbrel			
8	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Lyons)
24, 31	P.I., N. Monomoy	3, 1	S. Dinsmore
Ruddy Turnstone			
thr	N. Monomoy	150 max 5/31	B. Nikula
18, 30	Acoaxet, Plymouth	3, 134	M. Lynch#, G. Gove#
15-30	Reports of individuals from 4 locations.		
Red Knot			
thr	N. Monomoy	100 max 5/31	B. Nikula
19	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Lyons)
26	Newburyport	1	R. Forster
Sanderling			
thr	N. Monomoy	2000 max 5/31	B. Nikula
25	Nahant	200	R. Forster
Semipalmated Sandpiper			
thr	N. Monomoy	1000 max 5/31	B. Nikula
thr	P.I.-Newburyport	500 max 5/23	v. o.
Least Sandpiper			
thr	N. Monomoy	80 max 5/18	B. Nikula
thr	P.I.-Newburyport	300 max 5/20	v. o.
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	65 max 5/19	LCES (J. Lyons)
8, 12	Mashpee, Concord (9 Acre)	40, 35	P. Trimble, R. Forster
White-rumped Sandpiper			
thr	N. Monomoy	20 max 5/20	B. Nikula
13	Acoaxet, Newburyport	2, 15	D. F. Oliver, R. Forster
Pectoral Sandpiper			
7	P.I., Topsfield	1, 2	S. Dinsmore, D. F. Oliver
24	N. Middleboro	3	K. Holmes
Purple Sandpiper			
8, 23	Mashpee, N. Scituate	10, 20	P. Trimble, W. Petersen#
23, 26	Lynn	100, 30	R. Stymeist#, R. Forster
Dunlin			
thr	N. Monomoy	800 max 5/2, 10	B. Nikula
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	81 max 5/19	LCES (J. Lyons)
thr	P.I.-Newburyport	300 max 5/23	v. o.
13	Acoaxet	75	D. F. Oliver
Curlew Sandpiper (details submitted)			
19-22	Newburyport	1 ad br pl	H. Wilson + v. o.
Ruff			
3	Newburyport	1 ad m (black)	G. Gove#
30-31	N. Monomoy	1 F	S. Dinsmore, B. Nikula
Short-billed Dowitcher			
thr	N. Monomoy	100 max 5/18	B. Nikula
10-31	Newburyport	150 max 5/23	v. o.
8-26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	28 max 5/19	LCES (J. Lyons)
24	Chatham	140	S. Dinsmore
Common Snipe			
9, 10	GMNWR, Bolton	4, 1	BBC (W. Gette), M. Lynch#
16, 23	Rowley, Newburyport	1, 1	B. Cassie#, BBC (K. Griffis)
American Woodcock			
4, 6; 9	Ipswich	1 m; 1 f on nest	J. Berry
15, 24	Quabbin (G40), Bolton	10, 1	M. Lynch#
Wilson's Phalarope			
7-30	P.I.	4 max 5/19	A. Williams# + v. o.
14, 23	DWWS, N. Monomoy	pr, 1	D. Ludlow#, B. Nikula
Red Phalarope			
31	N. Monomoy	1	R. Prescott

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Laughing Gull				
2, 14	Stellwagen, Concord (9 Acre)	2, 1 ad	K. Holmes, S. Perkins#	
23	Nahant, Newburyport	1, 1	R. Stymeist#	
Franklin's Gull				
6	W. Newbury	1 ad	R. Davis + B. Horn	
Little Gull				
1, 6	Squantum	1	fide S. Perkins	
6, 7	Newburyport	1 ad, 1 imm	S. Dinsmore, J. Berry	
26, 31	Newburyport, N. Monomoy	1, 1 imm	B. Nikula, R. Forster	
Common Black-headed Gull				
thr	N. Monomoy	1 ad	B. Nikula, R. Humphrey	
6	Newburyport	1	fide S. Perkins	
Bonaparte's Gull				
8, 20	Lynn, Newburyport	125, 20	J. Quigley, fide S. Perkins	
Herring Gull				
thr	N. Monomoy	179 nesting pr	R. Humphrey	
Iceland Gull				
3, 6	Newburyport	2, 1 (2W)	M. Kasprzyk, H. Wilson	
7	Newburyport	1 (1S)	S. Dinsmore	
12	Nantucket	1	E. Andrews	
Lesser Black-backed Gull				
13-14	Concord (9 Acre)	1 (1S) ph	R. Forster, R. Walton	
29	Annisquam	1 ad	H. Wiggin	
Glaucous Gull				
25	Plymouth Beach	1 (2S)	G. d'Entremont#	
26	Nahant	1 (2S)	fide S. Perkins	
Great Black-backed Gull				
thr	N. Monomoy	673 nesting pr	R. Humphrey	
Black-legged Kittiwake				
31	N. Monomoy	2 imm	S. Dinsmore	
Caspian Tern				
6	Cape Cod Bay	1	K. Holmes	
16	Concord (9 Acre)	2	R. Forster#	
Roseate Tern				
11, 31	Marion, Mashpee	350, 10	R. Forster, P. Trimble	
Common Tern				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	11 max 5/6	LCES (J. Lyons)	
11; 8, 31	Marion; Mashpee	300; 12, 20	fide S. Perkins; P. Trimble	
22	Newburyport	15	M. Lynch#	
Arctic Tern				
23, 30	Plymouth	1, 2	W. Petersen#, G. Gove#	
25	S. Monomoy	12	B. Nikula#	
Least Tern				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	16 max 5/26	LCES (J. Lyons)	
9-31	P.I.	15 max 5/30	v. o.	
31	Mashpee	150	P. Trimble	
Black Tern				
14, 25	Chatham, Newburyport	1, 2	S. Dinsmore	
Black Skimmer				
2; 30-31	WBWS; N. Monomoy	1; 3, 2	R. Prescott; S. Dinsmore	
Black Guillemot				
2	off Provincetown	4	K. Holmes	

CUCKOOS THROUGH OWLS

Reports of cuckoos were even fewer than last year, with only individuals being noted, and only three Yellow-billed Cuckoos reported. A Great Horned Owl nest with one young bird was noted in Abington. Three pairs of Short-eared Owls were present at South Monomoy. G.W.G.

Black-billed Cuckoo			
15, 17	Mt. A., Millis	1, 1	R. Stymeist#, M. Kasprzyk
23	W. Newbury	1	BBC (K. Griffis)
25	ONWR	1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)
29, 30	Marblehead, Hanson	1, 1	L. Sager, W. Petersen

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Yellow-billed Cuckoo				
16, 18	Provincetown, Uxbridge	1, 1	S. Dinsmore, M. Lynch#	
29	Middleboro	1	D. Briggs	
Common Barn-Owl				
15	M. V.	1	D. Davis#	
Eastern Screech-Owl				
15, 16	Hardwick, Woburn	1, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Stymeist#	
23, 25	Lexington, Rowley	1, 1	R. Stymeist#, J. Brown	
Great Horned Owl				
thr	Abington	nest + 1 yg	W. Petersen	
2-15	Mt. A..	1	v. o.	
11, 13	Topsfield, Millis	1, 1	J. Brown, R. Forster	
10, 15	Clinton, Hardwick	1, 1	M. Lynch#	
Barred Owl				
15, 16	Quabbin (G40), Boxford (C.P.)		2, 2 M. Lynch#, G. Gove#	
Short-eared Owl				
26	S. Monomoy	3 pr	fide S. Perkins	
Northern Saw-whet Owl				
15, 22	Quabbin (G40), Brewster	1, 2	M. Lynch#, B. Nikula#	

GOATSUCKERS THROUGH WAXWINGS

Nighthawks were first reported at midmonth, but no reports were received from their traditional haunts in Boston, Brookline, and Cambridge. Is the construction of so many taller buildings having an effect on their former nesting sites? Only 4 Whip-poor-wills were reported during the month, compared with 23 birds in May 1986. On May 10, one individual at Mount Auburn Cemetery was seen by over two hundred birders as it rested in the evergreens over the grave of Peter Bent Brigham. Hummingbird reports were few; three individuals were seen around a ship off Gloucester.

Reports of nesting kingfishers were received from three locations. A pair at the Cambridge Cemetery had to build a new nest three times in two weeks when workers continued to use the soil for the official business of the cemetery.

Interesting woodpecker reports included 8 Red-bellieds, compared with just 4 seen last May. Only a single Red-headed was noted, compared with 6 last year. A Black-backed Woodpecker seen May 12 on Nantucket was especially noteworthy. A migrant Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was found on Plum Island on the late date of May 16.

Nine Olive-sided Flycatchers were reported this May, compared with only 4 in May 1986. It was a good year for Empidonax flycatchers, with reports of 24 Yellow-bellied, 9 Acadian, 14 Alder, 22 Willow, and 57 Least flycatchers. Most sightings, with the exception of Least Flycatchers, came after the middle of the month. There was also a good flight of Eastern Kingbirds, with as many as 30 individuals noted on Plum Island on May 27.

Blue Jays were migrating in small flocks throughout the month. The largest flock was noted at North Scituate on May 21. Fish Crows were found nesting again this year at Mt. Auburn, and there were reports from Boxford State Forest for the second month in a row, suggesting breeding or at least a range expansion north of Boston.

A Marsh Wren was found in the rhododendrons at Eddy Pond, a first record for Mt. Auburn. Winter Wrens were noted from four locations, though none after May 7. The last migrant Ruby-crowned Kinglets were noted on May 18. A total of at least 56 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were reported during the month, up 11 from May 1986.

Nine pair of Eastern Bluebirds nested in the boxes provided at the High Ridge Conservation Area in Westminster. Other bluebirds nested in Plymouth, Spencer, and at Quabbin. Fifteen Gray-cheeked Thrushes were reported this May, compared with 11 last year. It was generally a good flight year for all the thrushes in eastern Massachusetts. Gray Catbirds were everywhere in good numbers, with especially high counts at Plum Island. Water Pipits were reported from four locations, and Cedar Waxwings were noted in large flocks on the last days of May.

R. H. S.

Common Nighthawk			
15	Mt. A., Wayland	1, 30	v. o., R. Forster#
15, 17	Quabbin (G40), Topsfield	2, 1	M. Lynch#, J. Brown
20, 26	IRWS, Mt. A.	1, 5	D. F. Oliver, v. o.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Common Nighthawk (continued)				
29	Millis	7	R. Forster	
Whip-poor-will				
10, 11	Mt. A., Chatham	1, 2	C. Floyd + v. o., R. Humphrey	
15	Quabbin (G40)	1	M. Lynch#	
Chimney Swift				
1, 2	Millis, Ashby	2, 1	R. Forster, L. Taylor#	
2	P.I.	1	BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
3, 7	N. Middleboro, Mt. A.	2, 3	K. Holmes, D. F. Oliver	
8, 9	Brookfield, Ipswich	3, 5	M. Lynch#, J. Berry	
16	Newburyport	100	BBC (W. Drummond)	
Generally late arrival.				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				
8, 14	Mt. A.	1, 7	R. Martel#, R. Stymeist#	
10	Cambridge (F.P.)	1	J. Barton	
10	ONWR	1	M. Lynch#	
17, 27	P.I.	2, 1	D. Chickering, D. F. Oliver	
29	Jeffreys Ledge	3 (around ship)	S. Dinsmore	
Belted Kingfisher				
thr	Cambridge Cemetery	pr attempted nesting 3 times	R. Stymeist	
thr	Ipswich	pr nesting	J. Berry	
2, 10	New Braintree, Bolton	3, 3	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
25	S. Hanson	nest w/ yg	W. Petersen	
Red-headed Woodpecker				
18	Westport	1 ad	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
Red-bellied Woodpecker				
5-11	Nantucket	pr	E. + C. Andrews	
10, 14-16	Lynn, Yarmouthport	1, 1	J. Quigley, R. Scott	
16	W. Tisbury, MNWS	1, 1	D. Briggs#, fide S. Perkins	
17, 18	Squantum, Westport	1, 1	fide S. Perkins, M. Lynch#	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				
10	Gloucester	2	BBC (J. Nove)	
16	P.I.	1	BBC (W. Drummond)	
Downy Woodpecker				
5	Dover (Noanet WR)	10	E. Nielsen	
9, 10	Mt. A., Gloucester	4, 5	S. Carroll#, BBC (J. Nove)	
Hairy Woodpecker				
1, 20	Nantucket	pr	E. + C. Andrews	
16	W. Newbury	pr w/ 3 yg	R. Stymeist#	
19	Worcester	pr at nest	M. Lynch#	
Black-backed Woodpecker				
12	Nantucket (town)	1 m	R. Grimes fide E. Andrews	
Northern Flicker				
2	Quabbin (G40)	6	M. Lynch#	
5, 12, 14	Dover (Noanet WR)	5, 6, 5	E. Nielsen	
9	Mt. A.	7	M. Lynch#	
Pileated Woodpecker				
1, 14	DFWS	1, 1	R. Forster	
2, 4	Petersham, Ipswich	1, 1	E. Nielsen, J. Berry	
19, 24	Topsfield, Royalston	1, 1	J. Brown, M. Lynch#	
24, 31	Westford, Framingham	1, 1	S. Selesky, R. Forster	
Olive-sided Flycatcher				
22, 23	P.I., P'town	1, 1	M. Lynch#, J. Aylward#	
24, 25	P.I., Newburyport	2-3, 1	S. Dinsmore + v. o., v. o.	
25, 26	Dover, Nahant	1, 1	M. Kasprzyk#, R. Forster	
28	Petersham	1	J. Baird	
Eastern Wood-Pewee				
11, 12	Dover, Wayland	1, 1	E. Nielsen, R. Forster	
13	N. Middleboro	1	K. Holmes	
15-31	Mt. A.	6 max 5/23	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
23, 25	Boxford, ONWR	5, 2	R. Stymeist#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
30	Annisquam, P.I.	3, 6	H. Wiggin, M. Lynch#	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				
19, 23	Worcester, N. Scituate	1, 1	M. Lynch#, W. Petersen#	
23, 24, 25	P.I.	1	D. Chickering + v. o.	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (continued)				
24, 25	Mt. A., MNWS	6, 2	O. Komar#, R. Forster	
25	Newburyport-P.I.	3	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
26, 27	MNWS, Plymouth	1, 7	R. Forster, S. Dinsmore	
29, 31	Cambridge, P.I.	1, 1	J. Barton, E. Nielsen	
Acadian Flycatcher				
18, 26	Mt. A.	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, R. Peterson	
25, 29	Nantucket	1 b, repeat	E. Andrews	
25	MNWS	3	R. Forster	
26	Nahant, MNWS	1, 1	R. Forster	
26	Newburyport	1	R. Forster	
Alder Flycatcher				
12, 19, 27	MNWS; P'town	1; 2, 1	R. Heil; B. Nikula	
23	Quabbin (G40), Hardwick	2, 1	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
24	Bolton Flats, Royalston	1, 1	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
24, 25	Marshfield, P.I.	1, 1	D. Clapp, S. Dinsmore	
25, 26	ONWR, Lynnfield	1, 1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), R. Forster	
30	P.I.	1	M. Lynch#	
Willow Flycatcher				
24-31	P.I.	5 max 5/27	D. F. Oliver + v. o.	
24	Bolton Flats	5	M. Lynch#	
25	ONWR	10	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
29, 31	Cambridge, Whitman	1, 1	J. Barton, W. Petersen	
Least Flycatcher				
7	Spencer, Millis	6, 1	M. Lynch#, B. Cassie	
9-25, 9	Mt. A., P.I.	1-3, 1	v. o., BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
9, 16	Topsfield, Boxford	1, 2	J. Brown, R. Stymeist	
11, 15, 23	Quabbin (G40)	11, 6, 12	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
18, 19	Cambridge, Boxford	3, 4	J. Barton, W. Drummond	
22, 23	Waltham, Squantum	1, 3	L. Taylor, W. Petersen#	
23, 27	MNWS, P.I.	2, 1	R. Stymeist#, D. F. Oliver	
Eastern Phoebe				
thr	Mt. A., Topsfield	pr n, 2-4	v. o., J. Brown	
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	7 max 5/5	E. Nielsen	
Great-crested Flycatcher				
3	N. Middleboro	1	K. Holmes	
6-31	Dover (Noanet WR)	7 max 5/13	E. Nielsen#	
6, 26, 29	Cambridge (F.P.)	1, 2, 2	J. Barton	
7	Topsfield, Hanson	1, 1	J. Brown, W. Petersen	
7, 29	Waltham (Met. State)	2, 3	L. Taylor	
7-31	Mt. A.	7 max 5/14	v. o.	
12	Sandwich	2	P. Trimble	
Eastern Kingbird				
2	Quabbin (G40), Topsfield	1, 1	M. Lynch#, J. Brown	
3	Mt. A., Middleboro	1, 1	R. Stymeist, K. Holmes	
7, 8	Waltham, Falmouth	1, 2	L. Taylor, P. Trimble	
8	Milford, Holliston	1, 1	R. Hildreth	
9-31	P.I.	30 max 5/27	D. F. Oliver + v. o.	
9-31	Mt. A.	8 max 5/23	v. o.	
10-31	Cambridge (F.P.)	6 max 5/26	J. Barton	
30, 31	Holliston, Milford	6, 8	R. Hildreth	
Horned Lark				
thr	P.I.	1 or 2	v. o.	
Purple Martin				
thr	P.I.	50 max 5/23	v. o.	
1	W. Newbury	1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
14	Cambridge	1	J. Barton	
Tree Swallow				
thr	P.I.	250 max 5/27	D. F. Oliver + v. o.	
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	6 max 5/16	J. Barton	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow				
2, 8	Worcester, Falmouth	4, 2	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
16	Ipswich, Cambridge	4, 2	J. Berry, J. Barton	
17, 18	M. V., Middleboro	1, 1	D. Briggs	
Very few reports of this species.				

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Bank Swallow				
10, 24	Lancaster, Bolton Flats	10+, 10	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
25, 27	ONWR, P.I.	20, 15	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), D. F. Oliver	
Cliff Swallow				
11, 16, 23	Paxton	4, 2, 2	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
11, 16	Newbury, Ipswich	4, 2	D. F. Oliver, J. Berry	
23	P.I.	6-8	R. Stymeist#	
24, 26	Wayland, Rowley	2, 10	R. Forster	
Barn Swallow				
1	W. Newbury	12	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
6, 16	Cambridge	6, 18	J. Barton	
11	S. Monomoy	70	R. Humphrey	
19	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	17	LCES (J. Lyons)	
27	P.I.	75	D. F. Oliver	
Blue Jay				
5	Dover (Noanet WR)	27	E. Nielsen	
10, 11, 12, 25	P.I.	26, 17, 12, 1	D. Chickering	
21, 26	N. Scituate, P.I.	100+, 23	D. Clapp, D. F. Oliver	
American Crow				
27	P.I.	25	D. F. Oliver	
Fish Crow				
thr	Mt. A., Hanson	pr n, 2	R. Stymeist#, W. Petersen	
3, 6	Boxford, Cambridge	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, J. Barton	
7, 10; 9	P'town; N. Truro	6+, 2; 2	B. Nikula; R. Humphrey	
23, 30	Halifax, Hanson	2, 6	W. Petersen	
Black-capped Chickadee				
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	29 max 5/13	E. Nielsen	
9	ONWR	24	BBC (W. Gette)	
Tufted Titmouse				
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	24 max 5/5	E. Nielsen	
Red-breasted Nuthatch				
2, 9	Quabbin (G40), Mt. A.	8, 4	E. Nielsen, M. Lynch#	
9, 10	P.I., Somerville	2, 1	D. F. Oliver	
9, 10	Ipswich, Topsfield	1, 1	J. Berry, J. Brown	
11	Quabbin (G40), Dover	6, 1	M. Lynch#, E. Nielsen	
16	M. V., Chappaquiddick	1, 1	D. Davis#, D. Briggs	
23	Boxford, Lakeville	1, 1	C. Floyd#, W. Petersen#	
25	Halifax, Mt. A.	1, 1	W. Petersen, R. Stymeist	
White-breasted Nuthatch				
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	4 max 5/14	E. Nielsen	
Brown Creeper				
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	8 max 5/8	E. Nielsen	
9, 10	GMNWR, Hanson	4, 2	BBC (W. Gette), W. Petersen	
23	Lakeville, Boxford	2-3, 4	W. Petersen#, R. Stymeist#	
Carolina Wren				
thr	Plymouth (M. Standish)	1-4	S. Dinsmore + v. o.	
8, 10	Falmouth, Gloucester	8, 1	P. Trimble, BBC (J. Nove)	
17	Waltham, Marshfield	2, 3	L. Taylor, BBC (R. Timberlake)	
18	Acoaxet	10+	M. Lynch#	
House Wren				
3, 7	Waltham (Met. State)	1, 3	L. Taylor	
4, 7	Wayland, Spencer	1, 2	H. Parker, M. Lynch#	
9, 10	P.I., Mt. A.	2, 4	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), R. Stymeist#	
10	ONWR, Gloucester	4, 7	M. Lynch#, BBC (J. Nove)	
11, 15	Quabbin (G40)	5, 11	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
13, 16	Acoaxet, W. Newbury	5, 6	D. F. Oliver, BBC (W. Drummond)	
Winter Wren				
2	P.I.	3	BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
2	Quabbin (G40)	1	E. Nielsen	
5, 7	Dover (Noanet WR), P.I.	1, 1	E. Nielsen, J. Berry#	
7	Brookline (Halls Pd)	1	M. Kasprzyk	
Marsh Wren				
thr	P.I.	15 max	v. o.	
10	Mt. A.	1	D. F. Oliver + v. o.	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Marsh Wren (continued)				
12	Lynnfield	8	BBC (W. Van Cor)	
18	N. Middleboro	1	K. Holmes	
31	Whitman	10	W. Petersen	
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
3, 5	Mt. A., Dover	2, 2	R. Stymeist#, E. Nielsen	
7, 31	P.I.	1, 3	D. F. Oliver, E. Nielsen	
23	Lakeville	1 m singing on territory	W. Petersen#	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
1-12	Mt. A.	20 max 5/6	v. o.	
1-11	P'town (Beech F)	25 max 5/2	B. Nikula	
1-18	P.I.	40 max 5/2	v. o.	
3, 11	Waltham (Met. State)	6, 1	L. Taylor	
5, 8	Dover (Noanet WR)	6, 9	E. Nielsen	
16	Newburyport	1	BBC (W. Drummond)	
17	Marshfield	1	BBC (R. Timberlake)	
18	Nahant	1	R. Forster	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				
thr	Boxford (State Forest)	6 pr	R. Stymeist + v. o.	
thr	Quabbin (G40)	15+ max 5/15	M. Lynch#	
2	Newburyport	2	BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
7	Middleboro	1	K. Holmes	
7, 10	Ipswich, Mt. A.	2, 4	D. F. Oliver, v. o.	
9, 12	P'town, Dover	10, 2	P. Trimble, E. Nielsen	
18	Wayland, Acoaxet	2 at nest, 3	G. Gove, M. Lynch#	
16, 25	P.I., IRWS	2, 1	BBC (W. Drummond), J. Brown	
Eastern Bluebird				
thr	Plymouth (M. Standish)	2 pr n	S. Dinsmore	
thr	Westminster (High Ridge)	9 pr n	fide B. Blodgett	
thr	Quabbin (G40)	6 max 5/23	M. Lynch#	
8, 9	Spencer, DWWS	pr, 1 m	S. Carroll#, D. Ludlow#	
10, 17	Mt. A., M. V.	3, pr	G. Gove + v. o., D. Davis	
22, 25	Needham, Quabbin	1, 4 ad + 2 yg	G. Canavan, P. Comas#	
30	Shrewsbury	2	M. Lynch#	
Veery				
3-25	Mt. A.	16 max 5/23	v. o.	
5-31	Dover (Noanet WR)	7 max 5/13	E. Nielsen	
15, 23	Quabbin (G40)	1, 6	M. Lynch#	
16, 23	Boxford (C.P.)	10, 15	R. Stymeist#	
18	Ipswich (Candlewood Rd)	4	D. F. Oliver	
19	Waltham	2	L. Taylor	
20, 21	Nantucket, P'town	1 b, 1	E. Andrews, B. Nikula#	
23, 31	Lakeville, P.I.	20, 2	W. Petersen#, E. Nielsen	
Gray-checked Thrush				
15-26	Mt. A.	7+ total	v. o.	
18	Cambridge (F.P.), MNWS	1, 1	J. Barton, R. Forster	
23, 25	Nahant, MNWS	1, 2 or 3	C. Floyd#, R. Forster	
25	Newburyport	1	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
27	Plymouth	1	S. Dinsmore	
Swainson's Thrush				
10-31	Mt. A.	16 max 5/25	v. o.	
10, 11	Waltham, Dover	1, 1	L. Taylor, E. Nielsen	
19, 23	Ipswich, Nahant	8, 12	D. F. Oliver, R. Stymeist#	
24, 25	Marshfield, MNWS	4, 25	D. Clapp, R. Forster	
25, 31	Newburyport, P.I.	4, 3	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), E. Nielsen	
Hermit Thrush				
1-10, 17	Mt. A.	6 max 5/10, 1	v. o., M. Lynch#	
2	Quabbin (G40)	8	M. Lynch#	
2	Petersham	5	S. Carroll#	
2, 3	Waltham, MNWS	3, 7	L. Taylor, R. Forster	
2	P.I. (Hellcat)	7	D. F. Oliver	
5	Dover (Noanet WR)	4	E. Nielsen	
16, 23	Boxford, Plymouth	4 m, 10	R. Stymeist#, W. Petersen#	
Wood Thrush				
2, 6	Millis, Ipswich	1, 1	B. Cassie#, J. Berry	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Wood Thrush (continued)				
7, 17, 31	Waltham (Met. State)	1, 3, 3	L. Taylor	
7, 8	N. Middleboro, Brookfield	1, 4	K. Holmes, M. Lynch#	
9	Boxford, P.I.	3, 1	J. Brown, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
11-31	Dover (Noanet WR)	7 max 5/19	E. Nielsen	
17	Mt. A.	5	M. Lynch#	
American Robin				
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	17 max 5/12	E. Nielsen	
thr	Mt. A.	18-20 pr n	R. Stymeist + v. o.	
5	Otis (AFB)	50	P. Trimble	
15, 18	Marlboro	2 ad, 4 yg fledged	R. Graefe	
Gray Catbird				
3, 17, 31	Belmont (incinerator)	1, 9, 10	L. Taylor	
6, 8, 9	Ipswich	1, 1, 5	J. Berry	
6-31	Mt. A.	35 max 5/23	v. o.	
7-31	Cambridge (F.P.)	9 max 5/18, 26	J. Barton	
7-31	P'town (Beech Forest)	20 max 5/24	B. Nikula	
7	Spencer, Leicester	2, 1	M. Lynch#	
8	Falmouth	24	P. Trimble	
9	P.I.	20	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
10	Gloucester	25	BBC (J. Nove)	
11-31	Dover (Noanet WR)	6 max	E. Nielsen	
13, 16	Acoaxet, P.I.	25, 60	D. F. Oliver, BBC (W. Drummond)	
23	Quabbin (G40)	16	M. Lynch#	
30	Essex County	50+	J. Berry	
Northern Mockingbird				
thr	Mt. A.	5 pr n	R. Stymeist + v. o.	
Brown Thrasher				
2-31, 2	P.I., Marshfield	5 max, 2	v. o., D. Clapp	
7-31	Mt. A.	2-3 daily	v. o.	
Water Pipit				
2, 17	Topsfield (Fairgrounds)	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, G. Gove#	
6; 7, 9	P.I.; N. Truro	1; 2, 1	S. Dinsmore; B. Nikula	
11	Marlboro (Ft. Meadow Res.)	2	R. Graefe	
Cedar Waxwing				
11, 29	Middleboro, Mt. A.	2, 45+	K. Holmes, R. Stymeist#	
30, 31	P.I., Annisquam	60+, 40	J. Berry, H. Wiggin	

VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS

The long overdue southwest winds of late April finally arrived on May Day, and the dawn of the new day saw our first wave of passerines. In fact, southwest winds occurred on only three other days in May. It was a good flight year for most of the vireos, with increases of 3 more White-eyed, 22 more Solitary, 13 more Yellow-throated, and 5 more Philadelphia vireos than reported during May 1986. Warbling and Red-eyed vireos were reported in slightly lower numbers than in recent years; however, their totals continue to rise since the lows reached after the big gypsy moth infestation of five years ago.

A total of thirty-five warbler species, plus the two "winged" warbler hybrids, were seen. It was a late arrival; twenty-eight species made their first appearances for the year in the month of May. As in May 1986, this was an unusually high percentage of May first arrivals, probably caused by the lack of suitable migrating conditions in late April. The big waves were on May 2, 9-10, and 27. Bill and Barbara Drummond had a fantastic fallout early on the morning of May 17 at Hellcat Swamp on Plum Island. In a little over an hour they tallied nearly 670 individuals representing 21 species of warblers!

The late southwest winds probably were the most important factor why the warbler migration was off this year at Mt. Auburn Cemetery. Only 29 warbler species were recorded there this May, but it was a good year for Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, and Magnolia warblers, species which normally occur at their highest numbers at midmonth.

Warblers of special note included 1 Yellow-throated, 5 Orange-crowned, 6 Cerulean, 5 Prothonotary, 6 Kentucky, 7 Hooded warblers, and 2 Yellow-breasted Chats.

R.H.S.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
White-eyed Vireo				
2, 9	Middleboro, Ipswich	1, 1	D. Briggs, J. Berry	
8	Falmouth	2	P. Trimble	
11, 13	Plymouth (M. Standish)	1, 1	S. Dinsmore	
13, 18	Acoaxet	1, 5	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
17	Marshfield	1	BBC (R. Timberlake)	
17	P.I.	1	D. Chickering	
18, 19	MNWS	1, 1	R. Forster, D. F. Oliver	
Solitary Vireo				
thr	Quabbin (G40)	12 max 5/2	M. Lynch#	
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	3 max	E. Nielsen	
1-16	Mt. A.	2-4 daily, 12 max	5/9 v. o.	
2, 3, 8	Waltham (Met. State)	1, 1, 2	L. Taylor	
7, 9	Newbypt, P.I.	3-4, 4	J. Berry, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
9, 10, 24	P'town (Beech Forest)	3, 7, 1	B. Nikula	
17, 24	Cambridge, N. Middleboro	1, 1	J. Barton, K. Holmes	
26	Boxford	1	R. Forster	
Yellow-throated Vireo				
3, 7, 10, 15-16	Mt. A.	1, 1, 1, 2	P. Castle# + v. o.	
8	Middleboro, Worcester	1, 1	K. Holmes, M. Lynch	
10	ONWR	2	M. Lynch#	
10-27	Wayland	1	R. Forster + v. o.	
11, 16	MNWS, Hardwick	1, 3	D. Chickering#, M. Lynch#	
16, 19, 23	Boxford (C.P.)	4, 1, 2	M. Flor#, W. Drummond, C. Floyd#	
22, 30	IRWS, ONWR	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, T. Aversa	
Warbling Vireo				
2; 3, 11	Middleboro; Belmont	1; 1, 6	D. Briggs; L. Taylor	
4-31	Cambridge (F.P.)	10 max 5/29	J. Barton	
8	Spencer	1	M. Lynch#	
8-31	Mt. A.	4 max 5/23	v. o.	
10, 19	P'town (Beech Forest)	1, 1	B. Nikula	
10	Bolton, ONWR	2, 2	M. Lynch#	
31	E. Bridgewater	1	W. Petersen	
Philadelphia Vireo				
12, 15	MNWS, P.I.	1, 1	R. Heil, D. Chickering	
17, 18, 23	Mt. A.	1, 1, 1	E. Nielsen, B. + B. Klunk#, S. Moore	
19	N. Middleboro, Worcester	1, 1	K. Holmes, M. Lynch	
27, 31	P.I.	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, D. Ludlow#	
31	S. Monomoy	1	R. Humphrey	
Red-eyed Vireo				
2, 23	Quabbin (G40)	1, 18	M. Lynch#	
10-31	Mt. A.	8 max 5/20	v. o.	
11-31	Dover (Noanet WR)	11 max 5/19	E. Nielsen	
11-31	P'town (Beech Forest)	5 max 5/24	B. Nikula	
16	P.I., W. Newbury	6, 15	BBC (W. Drummond)	
18, 26; 29	Nant.; Cambr. (F.P.)	3, 1; 4	E. Andrews; J. Barton	
18, 25	Ipswich, ONWR	4, 6	D. F. Oliver	
Blue-winged Warbler				
3, 6	MNWS, W. Newbury	1, 1	R. Forster, S. Dinsmore	
7, 8, 9, 10	Mt. A.	2, 3, 7, 6	v. o.	
7, 8	Leicester	1, 2	M. Lynch#	
9	W. Newbury	3	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
9, 16, 30	Ipswich	1, 2, 6	J. Berry	
10	ONWR, Cambridge	3, 1	BBC (M. Lynch), J. Barton	
10	P'town, Topsfield	1, 3	B. Nikula, J. Brown	
13, 30	Acoaxet, ONWR	11, 7	D. F. Oliver, T. Aversa	
17, 18	Nantucket, Uxbridge	1, 3	K. Blackshaw, M. Lynch#	
31	E. Bridgewater, Raynham	1, 1	W. Petersen	
Golden-winged Warbler				
9-31	Ipswich (La Sallette)	2 m + 1 f	J. Berry + v. o.	
10	Nantucket, Harvard	1, 1	S. Perkins#, M. Lynch#	
10, 17, 31	Ipswich (High St.)	1	J. Brown	
17, 22	Yarmouthport	1	J. Aylward#	
26	W. Newbury	1	R. Forster	
24	Royalston	1	M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
"Lawrence's" Warbler				
17-19	Waltham (Met. State)	1	L. Taylor + v. o.	
"Brewster's" Warbler				
23	W. Newbury	1	R. Stymeist#	
Tennessee Warbler				
8-29	Mt. A.	19 max 5/20	v. o.	
9, 17-19	Topsfield	1, 1 or 2	J. Brown	
11, 17	Dover, Hyannis	1, 1	E. Nielsen, P. Trimble	
17, 31	P.I.	35, 2	W. + B. Drummond, E. Nielsen	
17, 18	Cambridge, Ipswich	5, 6	J. Barton, D. F. Oliver	
18, 31	Nantucket	1 b, 1 b	E. Andrews	
18, 24	Middleboro, P'town	2, 5	K. Holmes, B. Nikula	
Orange-crowned Warbler				
2	Waltham	1	L. Taylor	
4, 9	Mt. A.	1, 1	J. Barton, R. Stymeist#	
9, 19	Lynn, Worcester	1, 1	J. Quigley, M. Lynch#	
Nashville Warbler				
3-22	Mt. A.	14 max 5/9	v. o.	
7, 9-11	Topsfield (High St.)	1, 1 or 2	J. Brown	
8-14, 9	Dover, Waltham	1+, 3	E. Nielsen, L. Taylor	
17	P.I.	10	W. + B. Drummond	
25, 31	P.I.	1, 1	D. Chickering, D. F. Oliver	
18	Middleboro, Nantucket	1, 1b	K. Holmes, E. Andrews	
Northern Parula				
3-29	Mt. A.	15+ max 5/17	v. o.	
5-19	Dover (Noanet WR)	8 max 5/11	E. Nielsen	
7-18	Topsfield	1-4	J. Brown	
7-27	P'town	8 max 5/19	B. Nikula	
7-29	Nantucket	4 max 5/18	E. Andrews	
12	MNWS	35	R. Heil	
8	Leicester, Falmouth	2, 6	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
17, 23	P.I.	18, 4	W. + B. Drummond, K. Griffis#	
31	P.I.	4	E. Nielsen	
17, 18	Cambridge, Ipswich	4, 10	J. Barton, D. F. Oliver	
Yellow Warbler				
2; 3, 17	Millis; Belmont	1; 1, 8	M. Kasprzyk#; L. Taylor	
4-31	Cambridge (F.P.)	32 max 5/29	J. Barton	
6-31	Mt. A.	5 max 5/25	v. o.	
7	Spencer	7	M. Lynch#	
8	Falmouth, Brookfield	24, 4	P. Trimble, M. Lynch#	
9-31	P.I.	60 max 5/17	W. + B. Drummond + v. o.	
9, 10	GMNWR, ONWR	50, 20	BBC (W. Gette), BBC (M. Lynch)	
10	Gloucester, Bolton	60, 15	BBC (J. Nove), BBC (M. Lynch)	
Chestnut-sided Warbler				
7-25	Mt. A.	10+ max 5/17	v. o.	
7-31	Topsfield	1-4	J. Brown	
7, 8	Spencer, Leicester	2, 2	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
8, 17	Waltham (Met. State)	1, 2	L. Taylor	
17, 31	P.I.	55, 8	W. + B. Drummond, E. Nielsen	
30	ONWR	14	T. Aversa	
Magnolia Warbler				
7-31	Mt. A.	25+ max 5/27	v. o.	
8-31	Nantucket	good flight 5 b on 5/29	E. Andrews	
10-29	P'town	15 max 5/24	B. Nikula	
11-29	Topsfield	1-4	J. Brown	
11, 12	Dover, MNWS	3, 21	E. Nielsen, R. Heil	
14, 17	Waltham, Cambridge	1, 3	L. Taylor, J. Barton	
17, 22	P.I.	45, 25+	W. + B. Drummond, M. Lynch#	
31	P.I.	26	E. Nielsen	
Cape May Warbler				
8-19	Mt. A.	8 max 5/10	v. o.	
8, 13	Topsfield (High St.)	1, 1	J. Brown	
10, 11	P'town (Beech Forest)	1, 4	B. Nikula	
17, 26, 29	Cambridge (F.P.)	2, 1, 4	J. Barton	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Cape May Warbler (continued)				
17, 18	P.I., N. Middleboro	12, 1	W. + B. Drummond, K. Holmes	
18	Ipswich (Candlewood Rd)	1	D. F. Oliver	
Black-throated Blue Warbler				
7-26	Mt. A.	10+ max 5/17	v. o.	
7-17	Topsfield (High St.)	1-2	J. Brown	
8, 11; 10	Dover; Gloucester	1, 3; 5	E. Nielsen; BBC (J. Nove)	
16, 17	Petersham, P.I.	6, 20	M. Lynch#, W. + B. Drummond	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
1-23	Mt. A.	70+ max 5/9	v. o.	
1-19	Dover (Noanet WR)	36 max 5/8	E. Nielsen	
2, 8, 9, 19	P'town (Beech Forest)	80+, 100, 200, 25	B. Nikula	
2, 11, 23	Quabbin (G40)	22, 18, 10	M. Lynch#	
2	Millis, Ipswich	10+, 10	D. Munafog#, J. Berry	
6-18	Cambridge (F.P.)	39 max 5/8	J. Barton	
9	W. Newbury	35	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
9	GMNWR	100	BBC (W. Gette)	
17, 23	P.I., Lakeville	35, 1 or 2 m	W. + B. Drummond, W. Petersen#	
Black-throated Green Warbler				
2, 2-29	Petersham, Mt. A.	3, 10+ max 5/17	E. Nielsen, v. o.	
2, 11, 23	Quabbin (G40)	2, 6, 6	M. Lynch#	
7-24	Topsfield	1-2	J. Brown	
8-19	Dover	9 max 5/11	E. Nielsen	
10, 17	Gloucester, P.I.	11, 42	BBC (J. Nove), W. + B. Drummond	
18, 24	Ipswich, P'town	12, 12	D. F. Oliver, B. Nikula	
31	Annisquam, P.I.	1, 3	H. Wiggins, E. Nielsen	
Blackburnian Warbler				
2, 11, 23	Quabbin (G40)	2, 4, 5	M. Lynch#	
7-19	Topsfield	1-3	J. Brown	
8, 11, 19	Dover	1, 5, 9	E. Nielsen	
9-31, 10	Mt. A., Gloucester	8 max 5/10, 3	v. o., BBC (J. Nove)	
10-29, 17	Nantucket, P.I.	1-4, 50	S. Perkins#, W. + B. Drummond	
18, 24	Ipswich, P'town	4, 10	D. F. Oliver, B. Nikula	
26, 31	Cambridge (F.P.), P.I.	3, 2	J. Barton, E. Nielsen	
Yellow-throated Warbler				
10	Mt. A.	1	R. Donovan, G. Flaherty	
Pine Warbler				
thr	P'town (Beech Forest)	6 max 5/21	B. Nikula	
thr	Concord	2 m	J. Carter	
2, 3	Quabbin (G40), Mt. A.	16, 1	E. Nielsen, R. Stymeist#	
5-19, 11	Dover, Boxford (C.P.)	5 max 5/11, 1	E. Nielsen, J. Brown	
16, 19	Lynnfield, Plymouth	1, 2	R. Stymeist#, D. F. Oliver	
Prairie Warbler				
3, 7	Saugus, N. Middleboro	3, 1	C. Jackson#, K. Holmes	
7-29, 10	P'town, Harvard	1+, 3	B. Nikula, M. Lynch#	
10, 13, 19-20	Mt. A.	2, 1, 1	v. o.	
14-16, 17	Dover, Cambridge (F.P.)	1, 2	E. Nielsen, J. Barton	
17, 19	P.I., Plymouth (M. Standish)	2, 6	W. + B. Drummond, D. F. Oliver	
20, 23	Middleboro, Milton	3, 10	K. Holmes, BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
25	Petersham	6	M. Lynch#	
Palm Warbler				
1-9	Mt. A.	25+ max 5/9	M. Lynch + v. o.	
2; 2, 8	Cambridge; Waltham	3; 3, 5	L. Taylor	
2	W. Newbury	4	BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
3	Saugus	2	BBC (C. Jackson)	
4, 8; 5	Topsfield; Dover	1; 3	J. Brown; E. Nielsen	
7, 8	Cambridge (F.P.)	3, 5	J. Barton	
7, 10	P'town	4, 1	B. Nikula	
11, 24	Quabbin (G40), WBWS	1, 1	M. Lynch#, J. Aylward#	
Bay-breasted Warbler				
8; 8, 17	Brookfield; Ipswich	1; 1, 1 or 2	M. Lynch#, J. Berry	
10-31	Mt. A.	10+ max 5/17	v. o.	
11, 14	Dover	1, 2	E. Nielsen	
11, 18	Topsfield	1, 1	J. Brown	
12; 17, 18	Lakeville; Cambridge (F.P.)	1; 3, 4	K. Holmes; J. Barton	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Bay-breasted Warbler (continued)				
17, 31	P.I.	36, 4	W. + B. Drummond, E. Nielsen	
18	Uxbridge, Ipswich	2, 8	M. Lynch#, D. F. Oliver	
19, 24	Waltham, P'town	5, 4	L. Taylor, B. Nikula	
Blackpoll Warbler				
10-31	Mt. A.	15 max 5/25	v. o.	
10-31	Nantucket	5 max 5/29	E. Andrews	
10-29	P'town	20 max 5/24	B. Nikula	
11-12	Worcester	1	M. Lynch	
13, 14-28	Dover, Topsfield	1, 1-3	E. Nielsen, J. Brown	
17, 18	P.I., Ipswich	20, 6	W. + B. Drummond, D. F. Oliver	
18, 26, 29	Cambridge (F.P.)	5, 5, 4	J. Barton	
18	Uxbridge	15+	M. Lynch#	
30, 31	Annisquam, P.I.	7, 2	H. Wiggin, E. Nielsen	
Cerulean Warbler				
11, 12	WBWS, Mt. A.	1, 1 f	D. Reynolds, M. + P. Lawrence#	
13, 19	P.I., Boxford	1, 1	J. Grugan, W. Drummond	
28, 29	Petersham, Nantucket	1, 1	J. Baird#, E. Andrews	
Black-and-white Warbler				
2	Petersham, Millis	3, 2	E. Nielsen, M. Kasprzyk#	
2-25	Mt. A.	30 max 5/9	v. o.	
2, 11	Waltham	3, 4	L. Taylor	
3, 3-31	Middleboro, Topsfield	1, 1-6	K. Holmes, J. Brown	
7-31	P'town	6 max 5/10	B. Nikula	
7-18	Cambridge (F.P.)	7 max 5/12	J. Barton	
7, 8-19	Newbury, Dover	5, 10 max 5/8	J. Berry, E. Nielsen	
9, 10	W. Newbury, Gloucester	12, 15	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), BBC (J. Nove)	
17	P.I.	26	W. + B. Drummond	
25	ONWR	10	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
American Redstart				
7	N. Middleboro	1	K. Holmes	
7, 19-31	P'town	1, 15 max 5/24	B. Nikula	
9-31	Mt. A.	25+ max 5/17	v. o.	
10-31	Topsfield	1-12	J. Brown	
10, 19	Waltham	1, 9	L. Taylor	
11, 23	Quabbin (G40)	16, 23	M. Lynch#	
11, 12; 12	Dover; MNWS	11, 3; 26	E. Nielsen; R. Heil	
13	Acoaxet	15	D. F. Oliver	
17-19	Cambridge (F.P.)	17 max 5/17	J. Barton	
17, 18	P.I., Ipswich	70, 15	W. + B. Drummond, D. F. Oliver	
23	P'town, Scituate	8, 30+	P. Trimble, W. Petersen#	
30, 31	Annisquam, P.I.	9, 30	H. Wiggin, E. Nielsen	
Prothonotary Warbler				
8, 9	Nantucket, MNWS	1, 1	E. + C. Andrews, R. Heil	
10, 18	WBWS, Uxbridge	1, 1	fide D. Reynolds, M. Lynch#	
23-24	Canton (F.M.)	1	T. Prince + v. o.	
Worm-eating Warbler				
9, 10, 17	Mt. A.	1, 1, 1	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
10, 11-31	Cambridge, Dover	1, 1+	S. + S. Denison, E. Nielsen	
13, 18	Acoaxet, WBWS	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, fide D. Reynolds	
18	Bridgewater, Uxbridge	2, 1	K. Holmes, M. Lynch#	
19	Boxford	1	W. Drummond	
Ovenbird				
3, 5-31	Middleboro, Dover	2, 20 max 5/12	K. Holmes, E. Nielsen	
6-26	Mt. A.	20+ max 5/17	v. o.	
6-18	Cambridge (F.P.)	1+	J. Barton	
7, 8	Spencer, Waltham	1, 1	M. Lynch#, L. Taylor	
8, 10	Hanson, Gloucester	2, 4	W. Petersen#, BBC (J. Nove)	
11, 23	Quabbin (G40)	9, 14	M. Lynch#	
17	P.I.	2	W. + B. Drummond	
18	Uxbridge, Ipswich	20+, 2	M. Lynch#, D. F. Oliver	
24	P'town	3	B. Nikula	
Northern Waterthrush				
2, 4-18	Petersham, Camb. (F. P.)	3, 1	M. Lynch#, J. Barton	
7-26	Mt. A.	3 max 5/13	v. o.	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Northern Waterthrush (continued)				
8, 11	Middleboro	1, 2	K. Holmes	
11	Lynnfield	1	D. F. Oliver	
12, 13, 19	Dover	2, 2, 1	E. Nielsen	
17, 20-26	P.I., Nantucket	22, 3 b	W. + B. Drummond, E. Andrews	
Louisiana Waterthrush				
thr	Boxford, Dover	5+, 1 or 2	v. o., E. Nielsen	
thr	Petersham, Milton	4+, 1 or 2+	M. Lynch#, R. Campbell#	
thr	Lancaster, Westminster	1+, 2+	S. Bolton, C. Quinlan	
Kentucky Warbler				
8	Eastham	1	fide D. Reynolds	
9	Newburyport	1 f	W. + B. Drummond	
12, 30	MNWS, P.I.	1, 1	R. Heil#, M. Lynch#	
30	Waltham, Westminster	1, 1	L. Taylor, C. Quinlan#	
Mourning Warbler				
19, 23	Belmont, Quabbin (G40)	1, 2	L. Taylor, M. Lynch#	
23, 26	MNWS	1, 1	R. Stymeist#, R. Forster	
25-29	Mt. A.	1 or 2 daily	v. o.	
28	Cambridge	1	H. Pratt#	
30	P.I., S. Monomoy	2, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Humphrey#	
31	Ipswich, P.I.	2, 4	J. Berry, E. Nielsen	
31	Topsfield	1	J. Brown	
Common Yellowthroat				
7, 9	Spencer, W. Newbury	2, 6	M. Lynch#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
10, 17	Waltham	2, 11	L. Taylor	
10-31	Mt. A.	6 max 5/19	v. o.	
11, 15, 23	Quabbin (G43)	8, 11, 33	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
13, 17	Acoaxet, P.I.	15, 35	D. F. Oliver, W. + B. Drummond	
18, 19	Ipswich, Dover	8, 5	D. F. Oliver, E. Nielsen	
25, 27	ONWR, P.I.	15, 35	BBC (D. + D. Oliver), D. F. Oliver	
29, 31	Cambridge (F.P.), P.I.	6, 25	J. Barton, E. Nielsen	
Hooded Warbler				
2, 8	Quab. (G40), Nant.	1, 1	M. Lynch#, E. Andrews	
9	WBWS, P'town	1, 1	P. Trull, P. Trimble	
16, 17	P'town, WBWS	1, 1	S. Dinsmore, fide D. Reynolds	
18	MNWS	1	D. F. Oliver	
Wilson's Warbler				
9, 10	Waltham, Lancaster	1, 1	L. Taylor, M. Lynch#	
10, 16-31	Mt. A.	3, 6 max 5/26	v. o.	
14-29, 19	Camb. (F.P.), Dover	5 max 5/17, 1	J. Barton, E. Nielsen	
17	P.I.	38	W. + B. Drummond	
19, 21, 24	P'town	1, 4, 8	B. Nikula	
Canada Warbler				
11, 14-29	Dover, Camb. (F.P.)	1, 7 max 5/26	E. Nielsen, J. Barton	
16	Petersham, Newbypt	2, 16	M. Lynch#, S. Dinsmore	
16-30	Mt. A.	13 max 5/26	v. o.	
17	P.I.	35	W. + B. Drummond	
18, 23	Ipswich, Milton	2, 2	D. F. Oliver, BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
24	P'town, Marshfield	6, 6	B. Nikula, D. Clapp	
25, 29	Nantucket	2 b, 3 b	E. Andrews	
31	P.I.	20	E. Nielsen	
Yellow-breasted Chat				
16, 25	W. Newbury, P.I.	1, 1	BBC (W. Drummond), J. Gordon#	

TANAGERS THROUGH GROSBEAKS

A total of 8 Summer Tanagers was reported during the month, four reports from Nantucket and two each from Mt. Auburn and Provincetown. This count is a little less than in recent years during May. Only 3 Blue Grosbeaks were noted, the same as last May. The absence of a good southwesterly flow, especially early in the month, is probably the main reason for these lower numbers. A female Painted Bunting on Nantucket was carefully described, though it was seen for only one day. A singing Dickcissel, very unusual for spring, was observed at Morris Island in Chatham.

The White-crowned Sparrow flight was not as remarkable as last May. A total of about 25 individuals was tallied, compared with about 78 birds in May 1986. The only unusual sparrow reports were of Lark Sparrows at Provincetown and Newburyport.

May 17 was Bobolink Day in eastern Massachusetts and nowhere was that more evident than at Plum Island where Steve Dinsmore estimated over 2000 individuals in about three hours. A late Rusty Blackbird was noted in Waltham on May 8. Orchard Orioles were reported from fifteen locations, though in fewer numbers than last May -- 33 this year, 46 last year. Pine Siskins were reported in good numbers, and observers noted several juvenile birds both in the field and at feeders. R.H.S.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Summer Tanager				
8, 18	Nantucket	1 imm (dead), 1 f	P. Gardner, E. Andrews	
22	Mt. A.	1	C. Floyd	
16, 23	P'town	1, 1	P. Trimble	
29	Nant. (2 locales)	1 imm m b, 1 m	E. Andrews, J. Perkins	
Scarlet Tanager				
1, 8	Middleboro, Brookfield	1, 1	D. Briggs, M. Lynch#	
8-31	Dover	9 max 5/14	E. Nielsen	
9-28	Mt. A.	12 max 5/17	v. o.	
9, 10	Waltham, Gloucester	1, 2	L. Taylor, BBC (J. Nove)	
11, 14	Middleboro, Sharon	1, 4	K. Holmes, D. Clapp	
15, 18	Quabbin (G40), Uxbridge	8, 5+	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
19, 19-31	Boxford, Nantucket	8, 4	W. Drummond, E. Andrews	
Northern Cardinal				
thr	Mt. A.	6 br pr	R. Stymeist#	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				
3-26	Nantucket	13 max 5/20	E. Andrews	
7, 10	Waltham	1, 7	L. Taylor	
7	Spencer	1	M. Lynch#	
9-31	Mt. A.	12 max 5/10	v. o.	
10, 11	Gloucester, Dover	3, 7	BBC (J. Nove)	
19, 24	Boxford, P'town	11, 5	W. Drummond, B. Nikula	
Blue Grosbeak				
1-3	P.I. (from April)	1 m	v. o.	
3-7, 10	Nantucket, Mt. A.	1 imm m, 1	E. + C. Andrews#, M. Kasprzyk	
Indigo Bunting				
thr	Nantucket (Ice Pd)	1+	E. + C. Andrews	
1, 3	Middleboro, Wayland	1, 1	D. Briggs, T. Hart	
12-15, 17	Wakefield, Mt. A.	1, 1	E. Kohler, M. Lynch#	
20, 31	Bridgewater, Topsfield	2, 1	K. Holmes, J. Brown	
Painted Bunting				
12	Nantucket (Brant Pt)	1 f	E. Cordoza, fide E. Andrews	
Dickcissel				
10	Chatham (Morris I)	1 m singing	W. Harrington	
Rufous-sided Towhee				
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	12 max 5/12	E. Nielsen	
2, 15, 23	Quabbin (G40)	6, 7, 5	M. Lynch#	
2, 9	Millis, P.I.	4+, 25	B. Cassie#, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
15, 23	Mt. A., Milton	10, 15	M. Lynch#, BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
Chipping Sparrow				
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	14 max 5/12	E. Nielsen	
thr	Mt. A.	12+ br pr	R. Stymeist#	
11, 15, 23	Quabbin (G40)	17, 25+, 17	M. Lynch#	
19	Plymouth (M. Standish)	12	D. F. Oliver	
Field Sparrow				
2, 25	W. Newbury, Petersham	6, 5	BBC (G. d'Entremont), M. Lynch#	
Vesper Sparrow				
2, 7, 9	Truro (High Head)	2+	B. Nikula + v. o.	
23	Plymouth, S. Wellfleet	3+, 2	W. Petersen#, J. Aylward#	
24	Gardner (airport)	3+	M. Lynch#	
Lark Sparrow				
3, 24	P'town, Newburyport	1, 1	T. + H. Vose, S. Moore	
Savannah Sparrow				
8, 16	Cambridge (F. P.), Ipswich	5, 15+	J. Barton, J. Berry	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Savannah Sparrow (continued)				
20, 30	Newburyport, P.I.	10, 10	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow				
13, 19, 26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	4, 16, 18	LCES (J. Lyons)	
14, 23	N. Monomoy, DWWS	10, 1	S. Dinsmore, D.Clapp	
20, 30	Newbypt (Plumbush), P.I.	4, 20	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
Seaside Sparrow				
8, 18, 26	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1, 2, 3	LCES (J. Lyons)	
23, 30	P.I.	2, 1	R. Stymeist#, M. Lynch#	
Grasshopper Sparrow				
31	Westfield	3	M. Lynch#	
Song Sparrow				
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	10 max 5/29	J. Barton	
8	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	9	LCES (J. Lyons)	
10	Bolton-Harvard	30	BBC (M. Lynch)	
10	Gloucester	40	BBC (J. Nove)	
24	Bolton Flats	27	M. Lynch#	
Lincoln's Sparrow				
9, 10, 18, 19	Mt. A.	1, 2, 1, 2	v. o.	
11, 17	Lancaster, Waltham	1, 1	E. Salmela, L. Taylor	
17	Cambridge (F.P.)	1	J. Barton	
18-26	P.I.	1+	E. Nielsen + v. o.	
19-20, 25	Topsfield, MNWS	1, 1	J. Brown, R. Forster	
25, 26	Nahant	1, 1	R. Forster	
Swamp Sparrow				
4, 9	Ipswich, P.I.	8, 4	J. Berry, BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
10, 11	Lancaster, Waltham	6, 10	M. Lynch#, L. Taylor	
White-throated Sparrow				
1-25	Mt. A.	150+ max 5/6-7	v. o.	
3	Saugus	25	BBC (C. Jackson)	
11, 15, 23	Quabbin (G40)	22, 3, 3	M. Lynch#	
26	Cambridge, Nahant	1, 2	F. Bouchard, R. Forster	
White-crowned Sparrow				
4-11, 8	Nantucket, Hopkinton	1, 1	E. + C. Andrews, J. Gordon	
9	Belmont, Quabbin	1, 3	L. Taylor, T. Aversa	
10	Gloucester, Rockport	3, 2	BBC (J. Nove), M. Chelemer	
11, 12-17	Stoneham, Mt. A.	4, 2+	M. Martinek, v. o.	
14, 16	Millis, DFWS	1, 1	M. Kasprzyk, R. Forster	
18	P'town, Essex	2, 3	S. Dinsmore, D. F. Oliver	
19-21	Topsfield	1	J. Brown	
19	P.I.	1	A. Williams#	
Dark-eyed Junco				
1-3	Mt. A.	11 max 5/3	v. o.	
2, 7	P'town	2, 1	B. Nikula	
6	Ipswich	1	J. Berry	
Bobolink				
7	Spencer, Leicester	6, 7	M. Lynch, S. Carroll	
7-18	Cambridge (F.P.)	20 max 5/17	J. Barton	
7	Millis	4+	B. Cassie#	
9	W. Newbury	3	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
10	Hanson	1	W. Petersen	
16	Hardwick, Ipswich	25, 50+	M. Lynch#, J. Berry	
17	P.I.	2000+ migrating	in 3 hrs S. Dinsmore	
17	Marshfield	100+	BBC (R. Timberlake)	
Red-winged Blackbird				
thr	Mt. A.	6-10 daily	v. o.	
thr	Dover (Noanet WR)	3-4 daily	E. Nielsen	
22	P.I.	50+	M. Lynch#	
Eastern Meadowlark				
9	W. Newbury	10	BBC (D. + D. Oliver)	
Rusty Blackbird				
8	Waltham	1	L. Taylor	
Common Grackle				
thr	Dover, Mt. A.	10 max, 24 max	E. Nielsen, v. o.	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	MAY 1987
Brown-headed thr	Dover, Mt. A.	5 max, 10-16 daily	E. Nielsen, v. o.	
Orchard Oriole				
3, 9, 10, 19	Mt. A.	1, 4, 5, 2	M. Kasprzyk + v. o.	
5-30	Nantucket	5+	E. Andrews + v. o.	
9, 10	N. Middleboro, DWWS	1, 2	K. Holmes, D. Ludlow	
10, 11	MNWS, Newbury	1, 1	M. Chelemer, D. F. Oliver	
11-19	Harwichport	1	B. Nikula	
16-19	Lynnfield	1	B. Cassie + v. o.	
19, 22	Boxford, W. Barnstable	1, 1	W. Drummond, B. Nikula	
23, 25-31	Lakeville, Rowley	1, 3+	W. Petersen#, J. Brown + v. o.	
25	Millis	1	M. Kasprzyk	
29, 31	Halifax, Hanson	1, 1	W. Petersen	
Northern Oriole				
1, 1-31	Middleboro, Nant.	5 or 6, 13 max 5/10	D. Briggs, E. + C. Andrews	
4, 8-31	Wayland, Camb. (F. P.)	1, 8 max 5/14	H. Parker, J. Barton	
8, 9-31	Brookfield, Mt. A.	1, 8 max 5/16	M. Lynch#, v. o.	
9; 9, 17	Ipswich; Waltham	3 m; 1, 11	J. Berry; L. Taylor	
10, 10-31	Gloucester, P'town	3, 10 max 5/24	BBC (J. Nove), B. Nikula	
11-31	Dover (Noanet WR)	14 max 5/12	E. Nielsen	
11, 23	Quabbin (G40)	9, 12	M. Lynch#	
Purple Finch				
1, 2	N. Middleboro, P.I.	1, 5	K. Holmes, BBC (G. d'Entremont)	
2	Quabbin (G40)	12	M. Lynch#	
2-24	P'town	15 max 5/9-10	B. Nikula	
3, 9	Ipswich	1 m, 2 f	J. Berry	
3-13	Nantucket	9 max 5/12	E. Andrews	
7-14, 23	Mt. A.	15 max 5/10, 1	v. o.	
11, 31	Waltham, P.I.	11, 12	L. Taylor, E. Nielsen	
House Finch				
thr	Mt. A.	5 pr n	v. o.	
thr	Annisquam	2+ pr n	H. Wiggin	
Red Crossbill				
1, 2	DFWS, Quabbin (G40)	4, 13	R. Forster, E. Nielsen	
9	Quabbin, Mt. A.	2, 15	T. Aversa, D. Arvidson#	
15, 23	Westwood, Quabbin (G40)	3, 13	E. Nielsen, M. Lynch#	
Pine Siskin				
thr	Arlington	11 max 5/20 including yg	L. Taylor	
1-26	Nantucket	6 max 5/18	E. Andrews	
1-6	Millis	2 ad + 2 yg	R. Forster	
1-30	Middleboro	2 or 3	D. Briggs	
1-16	Dover (Noanet WR)	1 or 2	E. Nielsen#	
8-11, 9	P'town, Mt. A.	3 or 4, 6	B. Nikula, R. Stymeist#	
25, 30	Petersham, Millis	1, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Forster	
Other reports of 1-5 birds from many localities.				
Evening Grosbeak				
1-23	Middleboro	12+	D. Briggs	
2	Quabbin (G40)	4	E. Nielsen	
3, 4, 7	Ipswich	11+, 10+, 2	J. Berry	
10, 11	P'town, Dover	1 or 2, 4	B. Nikula, E. Nielsen	

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ad	adult	F.P.	Fresh Pond, Cambridge
b	banded	G40	Gate 40, Quabbin
br	breeding	H.P.	Halibut Point, Rockport
dk	dark (phase)	I.	Island
f	female	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
imm	immature	Mt.A.	Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
ind	individuals	Nant.	Nantucket
juv	juvenile	Newbypt	Newburyport
loc	location	Noanet WR	Noanet Woodland Reservation
lt	light (phase)	P.I.	Plum Island
m	male	Pd	Pond
max	maximum	P'town	Provincetown
migr	migrating	Quab.	Quabbin
n	nesting	Res.	Reservation
ph	photographed	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
pl	plumage	S. Dart.	South Dartmouth
pr	pair	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
S	summer (1S = first summer)	Stellw.	Stellwagen (Bank)
thr	throughout	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
v.o.	various observers	BOEM	Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts
W	winter (2W = second winter)	CBC	Christmas Bird Count
w/	with	CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club
yg	young	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
#	additional observers	DWWS	Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum	EMHW	Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	FCBC	Felix Cutler Bird Club
B.I.	Belle Isle, E. Boston	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
B.R.	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
Buzz.	Buzzards Bay	LCES	Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies
C.	cape as in Cape Cod	MAS	Massachusetts Audubon Society
Cambr.	Cambridge	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
Corp. B.	Corporation Beach, Dennis	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
C.P.	Crooked Pond, Boxford	NEHW	New England Hawk Watch
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	PRNWR	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
F.M.	Fowl Meadow	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
		WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

SIGHTING OF AN ANHINGA (*Anhinga anhinga*) IN MASSACHUSETTS

by Richard A. Forster

Date. May 25, 1987 (ca. 12:20 P.M.)

Location. Nahant, Essex County, Massachusetts

Observers. Richard A. Forster, Carol E. Seeckts

Weather. Completely overcast but fairly bright, light sea breeze, temperature about 60 degrees F.

Optics. 10 x 40 Zeiss (RAF), 8 x 40 Leitz (CES)

When we arrived at Nahant about 11:00 A.M., it was obvious that a major landbird wave was in progress. We met Stella Garrett at Nahant Thicket, both parties having just arrived, and she said that she had just spent two hours watching warblers, including a Cerulean at Swallow Cove Road on the tip of the peninsula. We opted to go there with her before entering the thicket.

When we arrived, the trees were alive with birds -- warblers, thrushes, and flycatchers, but song was minimal due to the rather cool temperature. After Stella departed, we went to Nahant Thicket, a site that has proved to be an excellent landbird migration trap over the years.

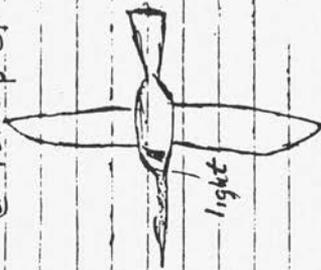
My usual approach to birding Nahant Thicket is to walk in the trail to an open area, then pish and look for birds as they approach from all directions. Quite a few birds approached, and many were in the treetops. While glancing around looking for something unusual, I noticed a large dark bird soaring overhead. I looked casually at the bird through my binoculars, and as it banked, I immediately became aware of the distinctive tail, shaped like an Anhinga's -- narrow at the base, gradually widening through its length, and fanned at the end. It appeared square or only slightly rounded at the tip.

The bird soared overhead in wide, lazy circles at a height of about five hundred feet and was under observation for about three minutes. During that time, it gained some height but was never at a great distance. As it soared and circled, the bird would occasionally flap its wings three or four times but never gave the impression that it had a purpose or was in a hurry to go somewhere. After watching it for several minutes, I ran to the car to get my telescope. During my brief absence, Seeckts told me that the bird had departed quickly in a northerly direction.

Due to the lighting conditions, the distance from the observers, and the fact that it was almost directly overhead, or nearly so, during the period of observation, relatively few field marks could be observed. The most obvious mark was the tail -- narrow at the base, long, and fanned at the end. The neck was long and thin. The body was not as heavy as a cormorant's. I looked for additional field marks. The only apparent one was that the body was dark with

Ninhuii Tulelet

@ 12:20 p 5/25/87



circling overhead continuously
for about 3 mins. - etc
flapping several times but
continue soaring + circling
most noticeable mark was
tail thin at base, formed
at end-long - body not
so heavy as spin; neck
long and thin - bill not
heavy but could not see
length - body dark but
neck + upper breast lighter
tried for dorsal surface
when it banked but could

R. A. Forster's field notes

not see - light but had
1559, cloud cover but
fairly bright

tail looked \approx 5.6m \rightarrow
the neck

400-500' high

wings seemed long and
relatively narrow

did not have bulky head
neck and body typical of
Cormorant

the neck and upper breast lighter in coloration. The bill was not heavy, but a long, dagger-like aspect was not apparent. When the bird banked, which it did several times, I attempted to note field marks on the dorsal aspect, but due to the viewing angle and light conditions, nothing could be observed.

After the bird was lost from sight, we proceeded to the causeway that leads to Little Nahant to get another view of it but could not locate the bird again.

The identification rests mainly on the distinctive profile or silhouette in flight, the distinctive manner of flight, the long thin neck, and long fan-shaped tail. (Seeckts: "The tail looked as long as the neck.") A lighter coloration on the neck and upper breast was indicative of a female or more likely a subadult, nonbreeding bird. The soaring, circling flight is typical of Anhinga, but cormorants, mainly on migration, will also circle and soar. However, the wide, lazy circling seemed much different from that of cormorants, which seem to soar during migration in a compact circle much as Broad-winged Hawks do. The slender proportions were very unlike those of a cormorant, many of which were seen before and especially after the sighting when we were attempting to relocate the bird.

Along the East Coast, the Anhinga breeds as far north as North Carolina. Anhingas have been recorded well north of their breeding range in Michigan, Ohio, and southern Ontario. There have been several recent sightings in southern New Jersey and at least one sight record from Long Island, New York. Thus, an Anhinga in this state is not totally unexpected. This report represents the first documented sighting of the species in Massachusetts.

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OPEN YEAR ROUND

A WILSON'S PLOVER (*Charadrius wilsonia*) ON NORTH MONOMOY ISLAND

by Stephen Dinsmore and Robert C. Humphrey

Date. May 31, 1987 (ca. 4:00 P.M.)

Location. North Monomoy Island, Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, Chatham, Barnstable County, Massachusetts

Observers. Stephen Dinsmore, Manomet Bird Observatory, and Robert C. Humphrey, Monomoy NWR

Weather. Clear, sunny; sun was behind the observers

Optics. 8 x 23 Nikon and Bushnell 20X - 45X spotting scope

We first observed the bird foraging for insects on the west side of the island south of Broad Creek. The bird was feeding on a large, flat sandy area at least fifty meters from the water. Throughout the observation period, the bird actively foraged for insects on higher ground and did not feed on the flats exposed by the receding tide. After noting a description and the bird's behavior (it teetered much like a Spotted Sandpiper), Steve Dinsmore photographed it.

The following description was written from field notes taken during the observation period. The general overall appearance, i.e., stocky body shape, upright posture, bill shape, and behavior, was that of a *Charadrius* plover. The bill was heavier and darker than that of the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) we had just seen. The crown was a medium brown, darkening at the forehead. The forehead below the crown was white, and this extended in an unbroken line to a point just behind the eye (i.e., a white supercilium). The posterior of the crown faded into a rusty band that extended around the back of the head from just behind the eye and above the nape. The auriculars, mantle, wings, rump, and upper tail were also medium brown. The scapulars showed some light feather edgings, giving the back a scaly appearance. The primaries appeared only slightly darker than the back. The bird had a complete breast band, very faint in the middle and thickest below and just behind the eye where it abruptly faded to medium brown. The undertail coverts, underparts, and throat were white. A white collar extended from the throat around the back of the head. The legs were dull pink and appeared long for a plover.

The combination of a single breastband, a large, dark bill, and dull pink legs eliminates other dark-banded plovers of the genus *Charadrius* -- Snowy, Piping, and Semipalmated plovers, and Killdeer.

Based on the scaly appearance of the scapulars and the faint breast band, we believe the bird to be a male in first spring alternate plumage. Females show a brown breastband in all plumages. We last saw the bird flying over the flats on the west side of the island about fifteen minutes after the bird was first sighted.

Wilson's Plovers are considered accidental in the state and are usually overshoots during spring migration. This represents the eighth record for this species on Cape Cod in recent history and only the third record from Monomoy: 6/26/29 - Truro (Austin); 5/26/42 - Monomoy (Kraus); 5/29/54 - Nauset (Verry); 5/20/62 - North Beach (Bailey); 5/28/70 - Monomoy (Petersen); 5/24/75 - Nauset (Blodget); 6/3/78 - Nauset (Nikula); 5/31/87 - Monomoy (Dinsmore and Humphrey).

CONFUSION ABOUT SPACEMASTER II

In July 1987, I learned that Bushnell/Bausch & Lomb had replaced the popular 60 mm Spacemaster II spotting scope (the stubby gray job you see most often in the field) with a 70 mm model. When I tested this "improved" version -- it has a rocker-arm focusing mechanism rather than a wheel -- I found it woefully lacking. And, due to a marketing faux pax, this new model was also called Spacemaster II. Confusing? Yes!

Together with several other members of Bushnell's Birding Council, I complained about the new model, and we asked that the old one be reinstated. In a letter to me dated October 1, Robert T. Palmisano, president of Bausch & Lomb's Sports Optics and Scientific Products Group, wrote, "As a result of your comments, and that of fellow birdwatching enthusiasts, we have decided to reintroduce the original Spacemaster in 1988."

This is good news! But, if you buy by mail order, be sure to check on what model of Spacemaster you are purchasing.

Leif J. Robinson



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MEET OUR COVER ARTIST

ROBERT SHETTERLY was born in 1946 in Cincinnati, Ohio. He graduated in 1969 from Harvard College, where he studied drawing and composition with William Reimann and Mirko Basadella. He lives in Surry, Maine, with his wife, Susan, a writer, and their two children.

In the past few years he has had shows of his work at the Ticknor Library at Harvard, the Berkeley Center at Yale, University of Maine at Machias, University of Maine at Augusta, College of the Atlantic, Unity College, the Wilson Museum in Castine, the Bohemian Club in San Francisco, Leighton Gallery in Blue Hill, Hobe Sound Galleries in Portland, Pilgrim's Inn on Deer Isle, the Hancock County Auditorium, Mountain Arts at Sugarloaf, and Maine Coast Artists in Rockport.

For the past seven years he has done the editorial page drawings for the newspaper, *Maine Times*, and for the last three years has illustrated the bimonthly *Audubon Adventures* for National Audubon. His work appears frequently in other magazines and papers including *Woodenboat*, *Sail*, and *Downeast*. Among the many books he has illustrated are *Footprints in the Swamp* by Marie Halum Bloch (Atheneum), *Panda Project* by Miriam Schlein (Atheneum), *The Rigger's Apprentice* by Brian Toss (International Marine), *In Search of the New England Coyote* by Peter Anderson (Globe-Pequot), *Morning Was Starlight* by Ernest Dodge (Globe-Pequot), *The Dragon Hunters* by Frank Graham (Dutton), *The Seed-Starter's Handbook* by Nancy Bubel (Rodale), *Waar Zijn We Aan Begonnen?* by Jan Willem Van de Wetering (Bruna), *The Changing Desert* by Frank and Ada Graham (Sierra Club), and most recently *The New Year's Owl*, a book of natural history essays by his wife Susan (Yankee Books).

For more information please contact the artist at home: Robert Shetterly, RFD 1, Box 403, Surry, ME 04684. Phone is 207-667-7212.

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August's **At a Glance** bird requires a thorough understanding of larid structure in order to make a correct identification. Fortunately, two different gull species are available for comparison in the picture -- a situation that happily prevails under many field situations as well. Clearly, the bird to the left, slightly farther away, appears larger than the gull on the right, a real size difference despite the distortion of a telephoto lens. Most importantly, the left bird seems to lack the delicacy and slenderness of the head and bill seen in the gull on the right. There is also a thinner-necked appearance to the right-hand gull that fails to show in the gull on the left. Finally, and of great importance, the mystery gull displays an exceptionally long extension of the primaries beyond the tail, giving the bird an attenuated appearance from the legs to the wingtips. Regrettably, we cannot see this profile in the other bird.

Before proceeding further in our analysis, an effort should be made to determine the age of both gulls pictured since plumage features in gulls cannot be fairly compared unless the individuals are in comparable plumages. The left bird appears to be light gray on the mantle, with dusky smudges on the head and chest (and possibly on the wing coverts), and the bill is light with a dark tip. This combination strongly suggests that it is a Herring Gull in either second-summer or early third-winter plumage. Precise determination is difficult without seeing primary and tail pattern. As for the mystery gull, its mainly dark bill with only a little pale at the base, heavily mottled sides, barred flanks, strongly-patterned back, and unspotted primaries all suggest that the bird is in first-summer or early second-winter plumage. The leg color of both birds is obviously pale or neutral in color. However, no accurate color evaluation can be made in this photograph.

To return to the plumage of the mystery gull, notice should be taken of the whiteness of the head and chest, the dusky patch behind the eye, and the dark tone of the back and wings. The bird fails to present a blonde or buffy appearance, even in the black-and-white photograph. When all of these features are considered collectively, especially the structural points set forth initially, the viewer can only deduce that the bird is a Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*). Although the bird's white head and dark back may suggest Great Black-backed Gull, the fineness of the bill, the lack of coarse checkering on the back and wing coverts, and the very long wings all argue against that possibility. The direct size comparison with a Herring Gull (the bird on the left) further simplifies identification.

The Lesser Black-backed Gull in the picture is a first-summer individual molting into second-winter plumage (as determined in life), and it was photographed in Scituate, Massachusetts, on August 2, 1982.

Wayne R. Petersen

AT A GLANCE

Photo by Bonnie Manning



Can you identify this bird?

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



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